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BY THE TIME IT'S IN PRINT, IT'S HISTORY! FRESH NEWS FOR BUSY PEOPLE...WEEKLY ON MONDAYS!

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 201 Dec. 26 2016

## COMMUNITY PUTS BEST FEET FORWARD FOR CASA

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-After the massive success of last year's event, CASA of the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District once again plans to bring down the house with the 2017 Dancing With The Stars! But for this March 5, 2017 event, they will be sharing the love, by inviting ten other local non-profit organizations to participate.

"Last year was our very first time doing this," explained Carlton Mason, Executive Director of CASA of the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. "We sold out and raised \$42,000. We had teams, a panel of judges and awards, as well as live voting by phone by the audience. It was a really great event, with no high cost, and had great community support."

The ten teams this year are made up of many different members of our community representing a wide range of organizations. Each team is paired with a choreographer to prepare two dances.

The ten organizations participating are Weehawken Creative Arts, A Kidz Clinic, Hilltop, Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club, Voyager Youth Program, Dolphin House, Christ's Kitchen, Maslow Academy / Bright Beginnings, Hispanic Affairs Project, and Partners Mentoring. "At CASA, we see the kids at the crisis end of the spectrum," Mason explained. "A lot of these nonprofits touch these kids long before we do, so it makes sense [for them to participate]."



Kaye and Dan Hotsenpiller are among this year's DWTS teams. Courtesy photo.

*Continued on page 11*

## CMU SCHOLARSHIPS, PROGRAMS BRING OPPORTUNITY



Colorado opportunity scholarships and a new partnership with the RE-1J schools are creating new opportunities for local students and families. @ CMU Montrose.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Higher education opens doors to opportunity, for students and for communities. On Dec. 19, Montrose County once again approved a [one-year grant agreement](#) with the Colorado Department of Higher Education and the Colorado Mesa University Foundation to bring funds from the [Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative](#) (COSI) to students attending CMU's Montrose campus.

Established at the State level, the program is a "good deal," for Montrose, Montrose County Government Affairs Director Jon Waschbusch said. "Every county is allocated a portion on an annual basis," he said. "Montrose County has partnered with Colorado Mesa University and the Colorado Mesa University Foundation—they provide the match, so the County is not expending any funds."

This year's allocation will be *Continued on page 4*

in this  
issue

*Montrose County  
Sheriff's Posse!*

*Art Goodtimes'  
Up Bear Creek!*

*San Miguel County  
designates historic structures!*

*Abilify is the air that I breathe...  
Life with a mental illness!*

## HOUSES OF WORSHIP - MONTROSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



**Pastor Steve Shaw talks with Children's Discipleship Director Barbara Keller who retired after serving 27 years on the Montrose Christian Church staff. Photo by Gail Marvel.**

By Gail Marvel

Jesus said, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them" (Matt 18:20 NIV).

MONTROSE-Although I didn't make any new acquaintances during my visit to Montrose Christian Church on Dec. 4, 2016, many old friends milled around the auditorium and gave a warm welcome. The church was packed with about 300 people and prior to announcements Associate Minister Spencer Powers asked the audience to move closer and make room for visitors.

Accompaniment for the 11-member praise team included three guitars, drums, a trumpet, a saxophone and a baby grand piano. Taking advantage of technology, the pianist played from a tablet rather than sheet music.

Christmas Day will be the backdrop for the Numana food packing project. Following brunch and a program the church membership will assemble 32,000 prepared meals.

This congregation serves open communion every Sunday and for the meditation,

Powers used ironing a button shirt to get the placket to lay flat as an illustration. He said, "I iron it and create more wrinkles. In a way we are all like a shirt that is wrinkled, stained, worn and ripped...we're all trying to iron out our wrinkles. Jesus took our sin upon himself, let's remember how much he changed us and made us new."

Setting the stage for his sermon Pastor Steve Shaw began, "Take out your Bibles and turn to Malachi chapter two. For those unfamiliar with where to find Malachi, go to Matthew and put it in reverse one book." From the DNA Sermon Series, the message for this Sunday was titled, "Covenant Families."

Shaw said, "What is unique about Christianity is thinking about others. There are no perfect families, no perfect parents, no perfect kids. We are all fallen individuals and wounds and scars come from our family."

Distinguishing between a covenant and a contract Shaw said, "In a covenant the emphasis is on the other party, in a contract there is an interest in yourself." In a picture of a marriage covenant, Malachi

chapter two shows Judah (nation) being unfaithful to God and breaking the covenant. In jest Shaw said, "Marriage is about our happiness...the great theologian Disney taught us that. He said we are all to live happily ever after. The problem with intimacy is it's not easy!"

Recounting his years as a youth minister, "I was a fool until I was about 25. I didn't have kids of my own...I didn't know diddly." Realizing that culture, as well as the church, segregates people by age, Shaw now makes a concerted effort to bring generations back together and has children remain in the auditorium for worship services. "People say children can't sit through a service, of course they can. It's biblical (Psalm 78:4-6). Nothing in God's Word says to separate by age. Kids are the future of the church. The disciples of Jesus wanted to send children away, but Jesus said let them stay." Society implies children are a burden, that they must fit into the culture and it takes a village. Shaw cautioned, "To abandon your children to a culture that does not know God is a mistake." The service concluded with the recognition and retirement of Children's Discipleship Director Barbara Keller, who has served the church for 27 years. Explaining her path to Christianity Keller said, "I was one of those kids who was dropped off at church." Keller did not accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior until she was an adult with children of her own. In reflecting on her greatest concern for the church Keller said, "The American culture, our church included, does not know Scripture. How can I teach others if I don't know Scripture myself? Scripture is the thing we need to do."

**Contact Information:**

2351 Sunnyside Road

Montrose, CO

970-249-5432

Pastor Steve Shaw

Sunday worship service 9:30 a.m.



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Publisher: Caitlin Switzer, Circulation 8,000+

Digital Content Producer: William B. Woody

Featured Freelance Writers: Liesl Greathouse, Gail Marvel, Rob Brethouwer, Art Goodtimes

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**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**  
MONTROSE



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY: TRASH COLLECTION SERVICE AND CITY OFFICE CLOSURES

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— City of Montrose offices will be closed on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Residential trash collections that fall on these days will be rescheduled to occur on another day of the same week. All non-holiday collection days will not be affected.

#### Trash Collection Services

Trash collection for Monday customers located south of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will occur on Tuesday (December 27 and January 3). Monday customers located north of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will be served on Wednesday (December 28 and January 4). Alternative trash collection days apply only to customers whose normal collection day falls on the observed holiday.

#### Recycling Collection Services

Recycling collection routes normally scheduled for Monday (December 26 and January 2) will be collected at the next regular pickup day: Monday, January 16.

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

#### Office Closures

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

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MONTROSE, CO 252-7337.**

## ***CMU SCHOLARSHIPS, PROGRAMS BRING OPPORTUNITY***

### ***From page 1***

\$57,000, up from \$50,000 last year. County funds must be used for the CMU Montrose Campus, Waschbusch said. "We want to see the benefit here."

Fifty percent of the students who attend Colorado Mesa University's Montrose Campus are fresh out of high school, and can save as much as \$20,000 per year by living at home, CMU Montrose President Gary Ratcliff said.

"Last year, we gave out scholarships to about 20 students," Ratcliff said. "The economic profile of our school shows that these scholarships help with the cost of education; the demographics of our Montrose campus are quite different than our Grand Junction campus. Here in Montrose, 57 percent of our students are eligible for PELL grant funding; compared to 37 percent at our Grand Junction campus."

"Our students are attending CMU Montrose and pursuing careers to make money," he said. "COSI is a terrific program through the state, and I think it is terrific

that we have matching support for students to attend here in our County."

Montrose County is fortunate that CMU has chosen to maintain a campus here, Jon Waschbusch said. "It's a great opportunity to keep some of our students here in town," he said. "A tip of the hat to the state legislature for taking this action a few years ago, and to Montrose County for their longstanding financial support of CMU."

In addition to approving the annual grant agreement for Colorado Opportunity Scholarship funds, Montrose County has provided considerable financial support for the university, including \$75,000 this year and last, he said.

Colorado Mesa University has just announced another program that will help local families save money while educating their young, Ratcliff said. Colorado Mesa University and Western Colorado Community College are partnering to bring technical education to high school students in the Montrose County RE-1J School Dis-

trict, making technical education classes available to high school students at CMU's Montrose campus when school starts next fall.

"We've got some really good programs lined up, including Cisco certified network specialist," Ratcliff said. "You can become a certified nursing assistant or EMT, and you can get your certification in early childhood education."

According to a Dec. 16 news release issued by CMU, Re-1J high school students will initially be able to study computer networking, medical preparation/certified nursing assistant and early childhood education. High school students enrolled in the classes may earn both college credit and credit toward high school graduation. "This partnership expands the career and technical programs in Montrose County and gives high school students more options to pursue a career," Ratcliff said. "The program opens a door to high school students to explore careers and a spring board to make the leap to college."

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR...FRESH NEWS FOR BUSY PEOPLE!

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*Presented By*

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March 5, 2017 Montrose Pavilion  
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Evening Performance 6:30pm

## Team 4 - Rachel Schmucker Keith Obsheatz



Rachel - Owner Dahlia Floral Design

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To have your donation or ticket purchase directly support [Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club](#), call (970) 249-6166.

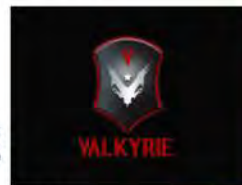
### [View the Teams](#)

## Dancing for [Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club](#)

The Montrose Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club is an important part of our community. The Club provides enriching programs that focus on social/emotional development as well as educational enhancement and a focus on leading a healthy life. They are dedicated to working towards enriching the lives of all girls and boys within our community.

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## MONTROSE PAVILION

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS ALERT

#### *Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers*

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate the suspect(s) in a theft which occurred at the Road and Bridge building located at 949 North Second Street in Montrose. Sometime between the evening of Dec. 6th and the morning of Dec. 8th, unknown subject(s) cut the fence in two places to gain access to a locked trailer. The suspect(s) then cut a lock to gain access to the trailer, where they stole multiple tools, extension cords, chainsaws, and a generator, the total value of which exceeded \$5,000.

To provide information on this crime directly to the investigator, call Investigator Burris at 970-252-4023. Anyone with information about this crime may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500 or use app P3 Tips or P3 Tips.com. Crime Stoppers wants your Information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the caller may receive a cash award.

#### **VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR MONTROSE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Montrose Regional Library District Board of Trustees seeks volunteers interested in joining them in representing the community on the Library Board as a Trustee. Direct any questions to Paul Paladino, Director, 249-9656 Or any of our current Trustees. Please send a letter of interest including qualifications by Jan. 10, 2017 to ATTN: Trustee Applicants, Montrose Regional Library District, 320 S. 2nd St., Montrose, CO 81401

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**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### AVOID DISTURBING WILDLIFE DURING WINTER MONTHS

*Special to the Mirror*

DURANGO— Snow, cold, wind, a lack of food – those are just some of the difficult conditions that Colorado's wildlife face during the winter. People may also cause problems for wild critters and Colorado Parks and Wildlife asks residents to avoid disturbing wildlife during the cold-weather months.

"Wildlife are uniquely adapted to survive the winter; and by understanding the animals' biology, people can help wildlife survive the winter," said Patt Dorsey, Southwest Region manager for CPW in Durango.

All wildlife feel winter's effects, but big game animals – deer, elk, pronghorn and bighorn sheep – are often most visible and vulnerable during the winter. During the warm months big game find abundant high-quality food which allows them to develop the fat stores they need to survive the winter. In winter, food is less

available and is of poor quality. Big-game animals burn stored fat and lose weight throughout the cold months.

"They are essentially in a starvation mode and any disturbance means they will burn extra calories they need to survive," Dorsey said.

Throughout Colorado, CPW and other land management agencies restrict access to areas with high concentrations of wintering big game. These "winter range" areas are critical for the animals' survival.

CPW asks people to understand the demands that winter places on wildlife and to minimize disturbances that stress wintering animals. If animals appear alerted to your presence or start to move away, you are too close and forcing them to burn energy. Big game is very sensitive to disturbances of any kind. Even while engaged in quiet activities such as cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, or taking photographs, people will disturb



*Courtesy photo.*

big game if they are nearby.

Another problem during the winter is dogs chasing and killing wildlife.

When dogs see deer or elk some of them react to their natural instincts and give chase. Law enforcement officers are authorized to shoot dogs that are seen harassing wildlife. CPW asks that pet owners keep their dogs secure and not allow them to run unattended.

# Wishing You a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2017



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## **SERVING OUR COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS... THE DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE!**

*By Mark Rackay*

MONTROSE-For more than 50 years, the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse has been serving our community. The posse is split into an East and West End division to better respond to the emergency call outs of our large county.

The east division has around 25 members, while the west division has around 15. All of the members are strictly volunteers, each donating their time and personal equipment to the posse.

These dedicated men and woman spend a great deal of time training. All members are trained in areas such as first aid, CPR, AED, wild-land fire fighting, traffic control, tracking, GPS, communications, wilderness survival, ice water rescue, ropes, swift water rescue, helicopter extraction and ATV, to name a few.

The sheriff of each county is required by Colorado Statute to provide search and rescue services. Members of the posse are here to answer that call by being on stand-by 24/7, 365 days a year.

Posse President Dave Fowler said, "It seems we have been called out on just about every holiday, over the years. I remember a child who got lost from his campsite with his parents on Memorial Day. We also responded to a jeep accident on the Fourth of July."

Sheriff Rick Dunlap said, "The posse saves the county well over \$100,000 a year. With a county as large as Montrose, there is no way we could provide search and rescue without the posse."

In the year 2016, the posse donated more than 3,000 hours to the community. Many hours were also spent training.

"Members are expected to take part in the training. It is a great way for all of us to learn to work together as a team. In 2016, we had over 17 separate trainings



*Members of the MCSP search for a lost hunter on the Uncompahgre Plateau. Courtesy photo.*

for our members," said Fowler.

Some notable missions the posse conducted this past year include taking part in the search for Mary Finnegan, who went missing from Montrose earlier this summer. The posse also conducted a search for a missing 57-year-old female near Buckeye reservoir. Last May, the posse rescued three stranded persons from Dry Creek when their ATV became disabled.

West End posse members rescued several people stuck on Carpenter Ridge and conducted the recovery of a male hiker near H54 Road.

The posse also provided security at the Montrose County Fair and for many of the events. Members were present for security at the Ranch Rodeo and the Senior Class Party for the graduating students of

Montrose High School.

During the week of January 16, the posse kicks off its annual fund drive. Each Montrose County household will receive a letter requesting a donation. This letter is the only request the posse makes of the community each year. Donations can be made anytime by mailing a check to Montrose County Sheriff's Posse at P.O. Box 717, Montrose, Colorado, 81402

"Thank you for supporting us. Without your help, we could not do our job," said Fowler.

*Mark Rackay is a freelance writer who serves as a Director and PIO for the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse. For information about the Posse call 970-252-4033 (leave a message) or email [info@mcspi.org](mailto:info@mcspi.org).*

## **WARRANT ISSUED FOR ARMED AND DANGEROUS SUSPECT**

*Special to the Mirror*

**REGIONAL-A** warrant has been issued for a SW Colorado man who is wanted for multiple offenses and is considered armed and dangerous. Mr. Robert William Koontz, 33 years-old, is wanted for 3rd degree assault, domestic violence and menacing. Mr. Koontz is 5'10", 135lbs. with blonde hair and blue eyes. Mr. Koontz allegedly assaulted his wife Friday night and was last seen at his Egnar residence in San Miguel County. Mr. Koontz owns a 1979 Chevrolet pickup truck, grey in color with CO expired license plate of 326 LQZ. It is unknown if he has the truck in his possession or if he escaped on foot. Sheriff Bill Masters warns, "At this time this man should be considered armed and dangerous." If located, please contact the San Miguel Sheriff's Office at 970-729-0911.



# MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE, INC.

P.O. Box 717

Montrose, CO 81402



## 2017 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Dear Montrose County Resident,

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse is made up of volunteers from our community, who donate their time and equipment, to help make Montrose County a better place to live. Our members spend many hours training so they may respond at a moments notice to any type of emergency. We maintain a fleet of rescue vehicles, ATVs and other equipment at our rescue facility. In addition, many member us their personal vehicles, ATVs and other equipment for emergency call outs.

On call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, our members are trained in many specialties such as first aid & CPR, AED, wild land firefighting, ropes & water rescue, ATV riding, tracking, GPS and radio operation, and survival skills. Aside from rescue work, the Posse also performs various community services, such as security and traffic control. Perhaps you have seen them at the Montrose County Fair, Flu clinic, Ranch Rodeo or during a parade or event. We also assist the Sheriff's Office and Police Department with crime scenes, disasters and many other duties. The services of the posse save the taxpayers of Montrose County thousands of dollars each year.

Most of us live in Montrose County because of the availability of many outdoor activities. Whether it is hunting, fishing, hiking, cycling, photography, ATV or 4-wheeling, there is something for everyone. Enjoying the great outdoors is a year round activity. But what if the unthinkable happens? What if you fall while out hiking and are injured? Maybe you are out hunting and lose your way. Perhaps you have an ATV accident on one of our many trails. Rapidly changing weather conditions can complicate any outdoor emergency. Maybe a wildfire is threatening your home or property. Unfortunately these things happen but fortunately the Posse is always there to help.

Training and keeping up with the new technology is an ongoing task that requires a large time and financial commitment. Members are required to take National Incident Management and Incident Command System classes and be certified in first responder, and first aid, CPR and AED.

All of this training, technology and equipment come with a very high price tag. We did receive a grant to help purchase a new side-by-side 4 wheeler in 2016, but it still cost us money to match the grant. We must maintain equipment and replace items such as first aid supplies, replace damaged equipment and general maintenance. Without your help, the Posse could not exist, and cannot provide these much needed services to the community.

Every year we make a single appeal to you, our neighbors, for donations to support us in providing these services. Thank you in advance for your donation, large or small. As a 501(c)(3) charitable, non-profit corporation, all donations are deductible for income tax purposes. Please mail your gift today in the envelope provided.  
Thank you for your help in the past!

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### CONTACT:

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[www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com)



**APPLY BY JANUARY 27, 2017.**

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## COMMUNITY PUTS BEST FEET FORWARD FOR CASA From pg 1

The success of the event for CASA, as well as the low costs of hosting such an event, inspired Mason to go to their Board and present the idea of inviting other local non-profits to join in at no cost to those organizations. "We gave 30 tickets to each of the ten non-profits, and 100 percent of the money raised by those tickets goes to the organization they were purchased under," Mason explained. "It is a great opportunity to support an organization you are passionate about."

Many of the organizations are hoping to use this event to not only raise money, but spread awareness about what they do for our local community.

Danelle Hughes Norman of the Voyager Youth Program, said, "This is the first time any of us had heard of CASA's Dancing With the Stars, but after watching some of the acts from last year that were posted on the site, I like the sense of fun. We decided to participate because it sounded like a really fun way to raise money for Voyager."

"We want to raise awareness of Voyager Youth Program and all the great things we do and provide; and we love to dance!" added Voyager Executive Director Lisa S. Thomason.

Keith Obsheatz, of the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club team, said, "My wife and I welcome any opportunity to help raise money for the Boys & Girls Club. Our adopted daughter was part of [the Club]

and we cannot be more thrilled with the service and support they give our community."

Renee Joyce and Sarah Young of the A Kidz Clinic team said, "We decided to participate because we all enjoy dancing and thought this would be a very fun way to get the word out about our clinic and network with other community resources. We absolutely love the work of CASA and are grateful to be a part of such an important event!"

The choreographers for the event are looking forward to having fun and making a difference just as much as the organizations and participants. The choreographer for A Kidz Clinic, Kayln Bruington, said, "I am looking forward to seeing my team progress through hard work and dedication to be more than they ever thought possible. Winning would be fantastic but giving someone a love of Dance is a life long gift along with touching and changing audiences hearts."

Hilltop choreographer Catherine Frates, explained, "I did attend last year's Dancing with the Stars. I enjoyed the variety in the dance styles and seeing people, who don't normally dance, step out of their comfort zone to participate."

Madison Fowler, choreographer for Partners Mentoring and the Voyager Youth Program, added, "I am looking forward to working with people who are excited to move, dance, and make an impact!"

The original idea for this fundraising event was inspired by an event held by another CASA director in Steamboat Springs, although some large changes were made for our local version. "We made sure that it was a lot of fun and brought in a real diverse community," Mason said. "We don't do an appeal for funds, as this is our way of giving back to the community. Our community supports CASA tremendously, so this our way of saying 'thank you.'"

The bigger overarching goal for the event is to bring awareness to all of the organizations, as well as build connections among them. "[We hope to] show that community groups who have a common goal can have fun supporting and encouraging each other," explained James Stetson of Maslow Academy / Bright Beginnings.

Benjamin Pettis, dancing for Dolphin House, added, "We would just like to enjoy this event since it's not about dancing or winning a competition, it's about the kids and people they touch."

To purchase VIP tickets, contact any of the ten organizations participating. For general admission tickets and more information on the event, visit [casa7jd.org/dwts-2017](http://casa7jd.org/dwts-2017).

When purchasing tickets online, people can specify an organization for that ticket's money to be donated to on their behalf.

## Join Our 2016 Holiday Miracle Campaign

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## MULTIPLE 'SOFT' OPENINGS PLANNED FOR NEW REC CENTER

By Gail Marvel

Summary report on the City Council Work Session of Dec. 19, 2016

### Discussion Items:

**All Points Transit Presentation** – Executive Director Sarah Curtis.

For two years All Points Transit (APT) has been in the city owned building at 431 South Second. Curtis said, "We hope to have the \$90,000 for renovations paid off in the next two years." The estimated 2016 in-kind contribution from the city for the building is \$22,000, which does not include the city's contribution of shared resources with City Public Works and Information Technology (IT). The city's Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) also partners with the organization on fund-raising events. All Points Transit wants to diversify to find other sources of income, such as sponsorships logos on the sides of busses. Curtis said, "It is a priority that we



*Recreation District Executive Director Ken Sherbenou (right) gives Human Resources Director Terri Wilcox a stack of one-day passes for city staff/employees to attend one of the soft-openings scheduled for new recreation center. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

continue to fund raise in the community." The council was updated on the number

of riders on busses, as well as those using the Dial-A-Ride service. "We are open to the public. The demand and need for service continues to increase."

Anticipated expenses for 2017 include the addition of three new busses, hiring a consultant to help with an operational analysis, and purchase of benches and trash cans.

**Intergovernmental Agreement with Montrose Recreational District** – City Manager Bill Bell.

The city has a partnership with the Montrose Recreation District and some of the services the city offers to the rec district include IT services, phone service, fertilizer and weed control (parks). Bell said, "Similar to what we do with other non-profits we give a 15 percent discount at the golf course."

Both organizations offer one another discounted rates for their boards/council, staff, employees and their families. The rec district gives city government a corporate rate at the rec center and in exchange the rec district receives a 15 percent discount at the city owned Black Canyon Golf Course.

In 2011 the rec district and the city partnered on a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant which led to shared services and cost savings. Recreation District Executive Director Ken Sherbenou said,



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*Continued next page*



## ***MULTIPLE 'SOFT' OPENINGS PLANNED FOR NEW REC CENTER***

### ***From previous page***

"Shared services is a key way we can come together as partners."

Through January multiple soft-openings are scheduled for the new recreation center; however, the openings are by invitation only. Sherbenou gave day-passes to city council, staff, employees and their families for one of the scheduled days. "The soft-opening is for close family and friends...and the city is close friends and family of the rec district."

Lunch will be provided. The public Grand Opening for the new rec center will be January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Sherbenou said, "There has been a lot of discussion in the community on rates. It will be a minimal increase (\$2) for the aquatic center."

**City Owned Property Disposal Recommendations** – Public Works Director John Harris.

Harris said, "We are asking for your approval to dispose [of items] in a variety of ways. There's not much value to a lot of this stuff." A list is available and some

items mentioned were knives, printers and used vehicles.

**Ordinance to Allow Tastings in Retail Liquor Stores** – City Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

Alcorn explained that the State has very restrictive qualifications for tastings — only between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; one ounce of beer or wine, ½ ounce of liquor; no more than four samples per person; and no more than 104 days per year. Tastings would be subject to carding participants and police department stings. Alcorn said, "A liquor store cannot afford to blow it. If you lose your liquor license, you lose your business." Council was in favor of pursuing a tasting ordinance.

**Designation of Official Posting Places** – City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo.

Postings are always on the city's web site; however, the official physical location for posting is the interior foyer of City Hall. On days when City Hall is closed notices will be posted at the exterior entrance to City Hall.

**General City Council Discussion**

As this year's Colorado Municipal League President (CML) City Manager Bill Bell's travel to and from Denver occasionally conflicts with scheduled meetings in Montrose.

Councilman Bowman suggested allowing the city manager to fly to those meetings; however, flight schedules do not coincide with CML meeting times.

Councilwoman Files reminded council that one of the reasons they purchased a four-wheel drive vehicle for the city manager was for such travel.

Council discussed who would attend a March meeting in Washington DC for the National League of Cities.

Files gave a report on the CML Policy Committee and the upcoming legislative items on the horizon which will affect municipalities.

Snow removal was discussed. Harris had not yet had time to evaluate the snow removal from the weekend storm, but there will be ongoing discussion which includes feedback from citizens.



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## CITY COUNCIL APPROVES FULL SLATE @ 45-MINUTE MEETING



*Utility Worker Dustin Fisher (center) is honored as a graduate of the Public Works Institute. (L to R) Delta Public Works Director Steve Glammeyer, Utility Worker Dustin Fisher and Montrose Public Works Director John Harris. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-A summary report on the Dec. 20, 2016 Montrose City Council Meeting.

The meeting lasted 45 minutes, most of which was devoted to awards presentations, and all ordinances were approved in rapid fire succession.

**American Public Works Association (APWA) Colorado Chapter Award Presentation**

Delta Public Works Director Steve Glammeyer presented the APWA awards.

**In the small city category, the City of Montrose received awards in:**

Disaster and Emergency – Wastewater

treatment riverbank stabilization;

The Recycling Program.

**Individual Awards:**

Utility Superintendent David Bries received the Professional Manager of the Year.

Utility Worker Dustin Fisher was recognized as a graduate of the Public Works Institute.

**Planning Commission Appointments:**

Gary A. Seitz and Joshua Freed, who both currently serve on the commission, were reappointed to four-year terms. Thomas J. Busker was appointed as an alternate commissioner.

**Resolution 2016-26** – City Attorney Ste-

phen Alcorn.

Established an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) designating the City Council and representatives as the governing authority. The Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is not part of this resolution. Alcorn submitted a petition signed by 25 people who said there was a need for redevelopment and rehabilitation of blighted areas in the city. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2396, Second Reading** – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Annexation of 16 acres on the west side of the Uncompahgre River. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2397, Second Reading** – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

The previously annexed 16 acres was rezoned to "R-3A, Medium High Density District." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2398, Second Reading** – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Annexation of 2096 Miami Road. This is city owned property that has been discussed as becoming part of the Black Canyon Golf Course complex. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2399, Second Reading** – Senior Planner Garry Baker. Rezone for the previously annexed property on Miami to "P – Public District." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2400, Second Reading** – Senior

*Continued next page*



## ***CITY COUNCIL APPROVES FULL SLATE @ 45-MINUTE MEETING***

### ***From previous page***

Planner Garry Baker.

Annexation of 14600 Marine Road Addition No. 1. Baker said, "This is one of a series of city owned properties that needs to be in the city." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2401, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Annexation of 14600 Marine Road Addition No. 2. Baker said, "This is the second part of the [previously presented] property." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2402, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker. Rezone for the two previously annexed properties, 14600 Marine Road Addition No. 1. And No.2 to "P - Public District." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2403, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker. Annexation of 804 Chipeta Road Addition. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2404, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker. Rezone for the previously annexed property Chipeta Road Addition to "P - Public District." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2405, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker. Annexation of the Chipeta Lakes Addition. No public com-

ment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2406, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Rezone for the previously annexed property Chipeta Lakes Addition to "P - Public District." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2407, Second Reading** - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Rezone for 801 S. Hillcrest Drive to "B-2 Highway Commercial District with conditions." Baker said, "The real purpose of this is to get the Elks Lodge into compliance with zoning." No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2408, Second Reading** - Finance Director Shani Wittenberg. Amend Ordinance 2362, which is an adjustment to expenditures that were over and above those anticipated at the time of the adoption of the original budget for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2016. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 2409, Second Reading** - City Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

Changes to the Municipal Code to allow alcohol to be served to private parties when businesses are closed to the public. This is a step in the process to allow tastings in retail liquor stores. No public comment, no council discussion, passed unanimously.

**Northside Park Subdivision Final Plat** - Removed from agenda and moved to the Jan. 3, 2016 Council meeting.

**City Vehicle and Equipment Purchase Recommendations** - Public Works Director John Harris.

Replacement of six Police Department vehicles, one trash truck, one street sweeper, and one hydroexcavation truck. Harris said, "We are not adding to the fleet and all bids are under budget." Harris explained the need to have the purchase orders ready to go by the first of January in order to have the orders filled before fall. Approved unanimously. Councilman Roy Anderson said, "We've spent a lot of time looking at these numbers to come to the decision."

**Staff Reports:**

**Sales, Use and Excise Tax Report** - Finance Director Shani Wittenberg. Report given through October 2016. Wittenberg noted that the city budgets very conservatively and revenues are more than were budgeted for in 2016.

**Public Information Officer Report** - City Manager Bill Bell said, "Happy Holidays... that's all I have."


**Council Comments:**

Comments on community activities included the upcoming the Police Academy, the children's shopping spree with law enforcement members, and the recent Colorado Mesa University graduates.

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## MONTROSE COUNTY HONORS DEPUTY CORONER, AIRPORT STAFFERS



**Montrose County Coroner Dr. Thomas Canfield and Deputy Coroner Patricia Blackwelder at the BOCC meeting Dec. 19.**



**Montrose County honors Airport staffers Larry Blackwell, Susan Wheater and Vendla Stockdale on Dec. 19.**

### *Mirror Staff Report*

MONTROSE—Montrose's Deputy Coroner Pat Blackwelder was honored as a Distinguished Citizen of Montrose County at the regular meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners on Monday Dec. 19. "She is by far deserving of this award," County Media Relations Specialist Katie Yergensen said. "It is amazing how much she has been able to accomplish during her time here in Montrose."

A 36-year resident of Montrose County, Blackwelder has served as Deputy Coroner for the past six years, under Coroner Dr. Thomas Canfield. She has also worked as an aviator and in home health care.

County Manager Ken Norris spoke about Blackwelder's impact on his own life. "I have known Pat for 30 years," Norris said.

Sheriff Rick Dunlap said of Blackwelder, "An asset to our agency, always professional...it's a tough job."

As Deputy Coroner, Blackwelder has combined a professional approach with sensitivity, Dr. Canfield said.

"Our patients are the families of the deceased," Canfield said to Blackwelder. "You represent the best of the Montrose County Coroner's office, and I thank you."

Also honored at the Dec. 19 meeting were three of those who helped to organize the Montrose Regional Airport's 2016 Tribute to Aviation. The extremely successful event held in September drew 12,000 people to the Montrose Regional Airport over two days, Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold said.

"We have been able to keep it free

"She may have saved my youngest son."

thanks to our sponsors," Arnold said, and listed event sponsors for the BOCC.

The three county staffers honored for their contributions to the Tribute to Aviation were Susan Wheater; Larry Blackwell; Vendla Stockdale.

"We work all year long toward this event," Arnold said, "And these three individuals put in a lot of extra time and effort."

BOCC Chair Glen Davis recognized all three as well. "No matter how busy or crowded it gets, you always have a smile on your face. Thank you."

Said Commissioner Ron Henderson, "...we are fortunate to have the people who work for our county work for our county."

Yergensen informed the BOCC and the public that a farewell party will be held for outgoing commissioners from 4 to 6 p.m., on Jan. 5 in the West End and on Jan. 6 at the Bridges in Montrose.

## 'FAITHLESS ELECTOR' REFERRED TO COLORADO AG FOR INVESTIGATION

### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER--The Colorado Secretary of State's office has referred Denver elector Michael Baca to the Attorney General for investigation. Deputy Secretary of State Suzanne Staiert noted that Baca took an oath saying he would vote for the presidential candidate who won Colorado and then "cast a ballot contrary to the oath." "This was a violation of C.R.S. 1-4-304(5) which requires: (5) Each presidential elec-

tor shall vote for the presidential candidate and, by separate ballot, vice presidential candidate who received the highest number of votes at the preceding general election in this state," Staiert wrote in her letter to the Colorado Attorney General's office.

The other eight Democratic electors voted for Hillary Clinton for president, but Baca wrote in Ohio Gov. John Kasich's name. Per a Denver District Court judge's

instruction, Baca then was replaced with an alternate elector who voted for Clinton.

The electors had earlier been warned they could face misdemeanor charges if they did not vote for Clinton at the Electoral College ceremony on Monday. [Micheal+Baca+invalid+vote+for+president.pdf](#)



## COUNTY APPROVES 2017 GRAVEL CRUSHING CONTRACT IN TWO TO ONE VOTE

### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-A contract for gravel crushing generated a flurry of back and forth conversation and public comment at the Montrose Board of County Commissioners [regular meeting of Dec. 19](#), and resulted in a divided two to one vote by commissioners.

General Business Item 5, listed on the [meeting agenda](#) under Planning & Development/Engineering, concerned the consideration and possible award of Montrose County's 2017 Gravel Crushing Services Contract worth, \$379,500, to low bidder Chauncey Luttrell of Black Canyon Aggregate, Inc.

Questions arose after County Engineer Dean Cooper presented information about the award to commissioners. Though the original bid package requested that the contract be for one year with options to renew for two years, the actual contract as awarded was for 2017 only.

"Conditions in the bid package have been changed...there are substantial differences," Commissioner David White said, noting that the information posted on the County web site and given to bidders stated that the contract would be for the calendar year 2017 with options to renew in 2018 and 2019.

"The original bid package was nine pages; today it is five pages," White said. "Today you have submitted with our packet that the award will be for the County for calendar year 2017 only. There are numerous changes throughout that basically wipe out our initial requirement that it be bid for three years."

White agreed that the County is within its rights to reject a bid for any reason. "Four companies submitted bids. However, there were three bidders that were apparently responsive, and one that wasn't, to our original bid package."

"My problem with this bid is that I see it as non-responsive," White said. "Either throw them all out and start over, or award this to the most responsive bidder."

Cooper said that while he had looked at

all options, awarding the project to the next highest bidder did not make sense financially. "It isn't in the best interests of your, my, everybody's tax dollars to do something like that."

BOCC Chair Glen Davis pointed out that to award the contract to another bidder would cost the County at least \$28,000, and that the award is going to a local company for the first time in three years. "I can't see throwing away \$28,000 in taxpayer money when we can accept the low bid," he said. "It keeps money in our community."

Commissioner Ron Henderson said that county procedures need to be "cleaned up."

"We are not playing the game fairly," he said. "Maybe we should withdraw from that kind of an argument and go ahead with what we have. Black Canyon Aggregate has suffered greatly the last three years because we gave the contract for the last three years to the outfit in Pueblo."

County Attorney Teresa Williams said that options are exercised at the sole discretion of the County. "Even if all three companies bid on all three years we still could have not awarded them contracts for 2018 and 2019. We could have gone back out to bid. We have just exercised this option up front." When the matter was opened for public comment, County resident Roger Brown spoke first, "...As a citizen and an elector I side with Commissioner White on this. I think it is grossly unfair to have what essentially have been portrayed as two different contracts, and use the justification of the second one to void the contract...the bid that went out is not the same as the original bid. I think this is very untidy and should be put on a back burner until next meeting or what have you, until all loose ends are tied up." County resident Becky Waugh said, "Just listening, I am curious why one of the four bidders did not respond according to the stipulations."

"...in a way you are comparing apples to oranges, and it's unfair to the bidders,"



**Montrose County resident Barb Bernhardt spoke against the award of a one-year contract for the County's 2017 gravel crushing services to Black Canyon Aggregate, LLC at the BOCC meeting of Dec. 19.**

County resident Barb Bernhardt said. Noting that she has been reading up on anti-trust laws, "This should be put back out to bid," she said.

"While I appreciate saving \$28,000, had the bid gone out to all four I would have no problem," County resident Derick Moore said. "...I think it should go back out to bid." Commissioner Davis reminded that the County is within its legal rights to exercise whatever option it prefers.

"It went out as a one-year bid with an option for two more; we chose to exercise our options up front and there are no options to renew."

"We have kicked that can down the road and up the road."

Henderson moved to award the contract, which passed in a two to one vote with White voting no.

## 'ABILIFY IS THE AIR THAT I BREATHE'...2ND GENERATION MENTAL ILLNESS SUFFERER CHRISTOPHER LARSEN SPEAKS OUT ON LIFE IN AMERICA

By Caitlin Switzer

UTAH—It's just after Christmas, and Christopher Larsen is fresh out of jail once again, this time in Utah. Chris feels vulnerable after 48 hours away from his service dog, and is suffering mentally and emotionally from a gap in his Abilify medication, which has just been returned by the police who confiscated it during his arrest.

"I had three glasses of wine with a friend," he explains. "It was public intoxication...I know I have to straighten up and fly right in a big way."

First though, he may need wings.

As a four-year-old child, Larsen witnessed firsthand his schizophrenic mother's first breakdown at a military base in Brindisi, Italy. As a young adult, he dealt with her suicide—and masked the symptoms of his own emerging mental illness—with heavy drinking, substance abuse and a series of caring girlfriends.

"From the time I hit eighteen and emancipation, I hardly ever drew a sober breath," Larsen said. "This was...to quiet a brain hell-bent on spinning out of control... it's like putting a fire out with gasoline, though, and the result is more often than not, jail."

Larsen was 20 when his mind first began to fray.

"I can remember the exact day that it happened," Larsen said. "Mice had chewed through a radio cord near the sink, and I was washing my hair when a spark flew right at my head."

"And that's when everything started for me."

According to the [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#), approximately one in five adults in the United States experiences mental illness in a given year. Approximately one in 25 adults in the United States experiences a serious mental illness in a given year that substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. An estimated 26 percent of homeless adults staying in shelters live with serious mental illness and an estimated 46 percent live with severe mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

Approximately 20 percent of state prisoners and 21 percent of local jail prisoners have "a recent history" of a mental health

condition, while 70 percent of youth in juvenile justice systems have at least one mental health condition and at least 20 percent live with a serious mental illness.

Still, only 41 percent of adults in the U.S. with a mental health condition received mental health services in the past year.

Though he has bounced from one small community jail to another since losing his car and belongings in Montrose earlier this year, "Never once, in all of this, have I been referred to mental health services," Chris Larsen said.

A lifelong master carpenter who studied mathematics in college, Larsen briefly found stability and happiness as a family man and snowboard instructor in Pagosa Springs after his bi-polar illness was officially diagnosed and treated in 2010. However, symptoms returned after the breakup of his marriage in 2016.

"Part of the disease is characterized by 'mind racing,'" he said.

"Try to imagine getting some sleep but your brain goes into hyper drive...I admit that even I have a built in prejudice and misunderstanding of my own disease. The mind that so triumphantly saw me through school and to the national Honor Society is the same organ that makes life unlivable and unstable at best."

"Would it surprise you to know I think of suicide every day?"

Without his meds, Larsen struggles with boundary and behavior issues that mentally healthy individuals take for granted. And even with the medication, the lack of a stable living situation can make storage and dosage problematic.

"When you don't have a medicine chest to put your meds in, it can be very hard to meter the dose and reach a therapeutic benefit," Larsen said. "And part of being bi-polar is that without my meds, I am in a dream state most of the time."

His most recent arrest left him not only without his medications for a time, but with a head injury incurred by slipping in the shower at the jail. And even when he is not being arrested, daily life for Larsen,



*Courtesy photo of Chris Larsen and Zippy by Sierra Monteferrante.*

45, now means life without a vehicle or a steady home, without income to pay for the \$1,500 a month in medication that he needs, and without the carpentry tools that have always enabled him to earn a living in the past (following his divorce, Larsen's personal belongings were stolen and sold for personal gain by a predatory employer and 'friend').

Though his housing situation is precarious—Larsen is presently staying with friends—he relies on a well-trained German Shepherd dog for protection, a gift from a Montrose family after Larsen's previous dog, Zeus, was killed in April in a highly publicized incident with the Montrose police.

"Zippy is my service dog," Larsen said quietly.

"Without him I have a really hard time for any number of reasons."

"There are really only three things that I really want or need in this life," he said. "Number one is Zippy; and after that, I need my medication; and my family. Those are the tools."

"I am not asking for a government handout; I just want the tools I need to earn a living and get my life back, you know I am willing to do the work myself."

"Abilify is more important to me than food; it is the air that I breathe."



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### NEW EQUIPMENT AIMS TO CATCH SKIN CANCER EARLY

#### *Special to the Mirror*

TELLURIDE-Early skin cancer detection saves lives, and last month the Telluride Regional Medical Center added a new tool to their arsenal that can aid early diagnosis during regular primary care visits. With funding from the Telluride Medical Center Foundation, a dermascope has been added to the medical center's quiver and should enable providers to better diagnose skin cancers and differentiate benign skin lesions from malignant ones.

The tool, according to Dr. Kent Gaylord, a primary care provider trained to use the dermascope, is essentially is a magnified lens with a polarized light source that allows practitioners to magnify lesions and also look past the upper surface of the skin to see down into the dermis.

"Looking at a mole with the naked eye can be like trying to see the bottom of lake without polarized sunglasses," said Dr. Kent Gaylord who recently received special training for the dermascope.

Primary care providers expect to diagnose skin cancers at earlier more treatable stages, and also differentiate benign skin lesions from malignant ones, which could help patients avoid un-

necessary skin biopsies and visits to specialized providers in Montrose, Durango, Grand Junction or further.

Eric Johnson, nurse practitioner and Primary Care Practice Manager at the Telluride Regional Medical Center, recommends annual skin screenings for everyone living in Telluride.

"We are physically closer to the sun, and there is more ultraviolet light. Particularly in the winter, people don't seem to think about it as much, but our sun exposure is greater because those rays bounce back up from the snow."

Individuals with blonde or red hair, freckles and a history of chronic sun exposure, sunburns or tanning bed use, and those with melanoma in the family are at greater risk for melanoma.

In its early stages, melanoma can be treated with surgical removal, and is often

first found by regular skin screenings.

"Some melanoma cancers show up on non-sun exposed areas," said Johnson. "And with melanoma especially, it's important to catch it early."

Though in recent years, newer types of immunotherapy and targeted therapies have shown a great deal of promise in treating advanced melanomas, still, skin cancer still takes approximately 80,000 lives a year in the U.S. alone.



**Dr. Kent Gaylord examines Amy Tokarz with a new skin cancer screening tool. Courtesy photo.**



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ISSUE 77 Dec. 26, 2016

## ART &amp; SOL

## 2 DEEP CREEK STRUCTURES ADDED TO SAN MIGUEL COUNTY HISTORIC REGISTER

*Three generations of David Lavenders helped inspire designation*

*Special to Art & Sol*

TELLURIDE—Two structures of importance to the history and heritage of San Miguel County have been placed on the County's historic register by the Board of County Commissioners. The Carr Structure and Aldasoro Barn are now designated as local landmarks.

In support of their voluntary nomination of the structures, the structure's owners will receive a \$1,000 grant toward stabilization and preservation efforts.

"The Carr Structure was built in 1897, and the Aldasoro Barn was built between 1929 and 1943," San Miguel County Parks and Open Space Director Janet Kask said. "Both are located on Deep Creek Mesa. The current owner of the structures has a long-standing family history and ties to Telluride, and plans on stabilizing and preserving the structures."

Adjacent to a parcel owned by the Lavender family since the 1970's, the property on which the structures rest has changed hands a number of times over the past 100 years, and was part of the Collins family ranch in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Today,



*Aldasoro Barn, built between 1929 and 1943. Courtesy photo Morgan Smith and Sarah Lavender Smith.*

the property is owned by Morgan and Sarah Lavender Smith.

"Historic structures, once gone, are forever lost," San Miguel County Commissioner Amy Levek said. "So much of the character of eastern San Miguel County is shaped by its historic buildings that when we have an opportunity to save what is

left, it's critical to act.

"Morgan Smith and Sarah Lavender-Smith, the owners of the two structures on Deep Creek are to be commended for their efforts at saving the ranching structures on their property," Levek said. "It's so heartening. I'm glad that the county can help them save the buildings,

*Continued next page*



## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & RECREATION

### **2 DEEP CREEK STRUCTURES ADDED TO SAN MIGUEL COUNTY HISTORIC REGISTER** *From Previous page*

**Three generations of David Lavenders helped inspire designation**



*The Carr Structure, built in 1897. Courtesy photo Morgan Smith and Sarah Lavender Smith.*

so future generations understand the County's history."

Landowner Sarah Lavender Smith shared her own thoughts on the preservation of these high country structures.

"Morgan and I feel privileged and grateful to be able to steward this land and preserve these structures, respecting the region's architectural heritage and also paying homage to our ancestors," Lavender Smith said. "These historic structures connect us all to the past and remind us daily of the rugged spirit and hard work of those who came before us."

Much of the inspiration for purchasing the property and spending time here comes from her own memories and family members, Sarah said.

"My grandfather David S., was born and raised in Telluride, worked in Camp Bird Mine and chronicled the region's history," she said.

"My dad David G. (now resting in Telluride's Lone Tree Cemetery), was an active member of Telluride's community who bought the neighboring parcel and built a cabin there when I was a child.

Finally, "My brother David W., along with

his wife Karen, has sustained our connection to this corner of Last Dollar Road by living here while they serve the community as educators.

"We also appreciate and feel influenced by the neighbors on Last Dollar Road who in previous years thoughtfully and generously preserved the Collins barn, the Breckenridge barn and other ranch structures from the 19th and early 20th centuries," Lavender Smith said.

The iconic structures hold meaning for many people, including Sarah herself. Today she and Morgan live much of the year near Oakland, California.

However, Sarah recalls spending her summers in Telluride as a child, because of her father's ties to the community and the land.

"The Diamond Ranch Lot parcel that we bought across the road always was special to me because it functioned as an extended back yard," she said.

"It's where my sister and I would explore and ride the Aldasoros' pack of horses.

"I have some vivid childhood memories of exploring and playing house in the two structures that we now own and intend to preserve!"

For more information, please contact San Miguel County Parks and Open Space Director Janet Kask at [ja-netk@sanmiguelcountyco.gov](mailto:ja-netk@sanmiguelcountyco.gov).

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## COMMUNITY NEWS: ARTS & RECREATION

### **WEST END TRAILS ALLIANCE LAUNCHES WEB SITE**

*Special to Art & Sol*

WEST END-The West End Trails Alliance (WETA) is very pleased to announce the launching of its' web-site, [www.westendtrails.org](http://www.westendtrails.org). WETA, founded two years ago, is committed to recreational, non-motorized trail advocacy in the West Ends of San Miguel and Montrose Counties, plus the southwestern portion of Mesa County, all in southwestern Colorado. In pursuit of this advocacy, WETA has inventoried more than 30 trails, with plans for more, in the above mentioned areas. The trails, comprised of cross-country, historic cattle, single track and two track routes, are suitable for a variety of users, including mountain bikers, hikers, runners and birders.

Check out the easy to use website, which is based largely on maps, descriptions and downloadable data. The trails can be sorted by user type. There are also pages that tell about WETA and WETA's geographic area, and ones that list resources to assist visitors, both new and repeat, to the region. The downloadable info will load easily into your phone or tablet for ready use on the trail.

WETA thanks all the sponsors that have made the website possible: The Paradox Community Trust, The Town of Naturita, San Miguel County and San Miguel Power Association. Next up, a field scale set of topographic trail maps of the WETA area, due out in early Spring 2017.





## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CONSERVATION

### SAN MIGUEL COUNTY ACQUIRES 125-ACRE CONSERVATION EASEMENT IN WILDLIFE MIGRATION CORRIDOR



**San Miguel County has acquired a 125-acre conservation easement through donation. Courtesy photo.**

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

NORWOOD-San Miguel County has once more increased the local acreage that will be preserved for future generations and for wildlife habitat, thanks to the acquisition of a 125-acre conservation easement. The land, located south of Norwood, has been donated to San Miguel County in a cooperative effort with the [Montezuma Land Conservancy \(MLC\)](#).

"San Miguel County is pleased to acquire this donated land conservation easement, as it protects an important wildlife migration corridor identified for elk and mule deer," San Miguel County Parks and Open

Space Director Janet Kask said. "It also borders another, already procured conservation easement, which secures additional open space and upholds the Board of County Commissioners' goals for land conservation. The preservation of this property will continue to provide opportunities for the general public to appreciate its scenic values long into perpetuity."

The partnership between the County and the MLC allows both entities to maximize the benefits that conservation efforts bring to constituents of both, MLC Executive Director Jon Leibowitz said.

"Montezuma Land Conservancy is honored to once again partner with San Miguel County in an effort to conserve important lands that benefit the entire community," Leibowitz said. "This project protects a portion of Ed Joe Draw – an important wildlife corridor – as well as scenic open space for community members who use the adjacent National Forest.

"A half mile of the forest boundary will forever be protected by this conservation easement," he said. "MLC and San Miguel County have identified Wright's Mesa as a critical area for conservation, and we

hope to continue preserving this important resource in San Miguel County."

The acreage encumbered by the conservation easement will have no rights of subdivision or reserved building areas. Ed Joe Draw runs through the northwest corner of the property, which borders United States Forest Service (USFS) lands to the South.

"It's awesome to see more land preserved on Wright's Mesa through conservation easements," San Miguel County Commissioner Amy Levek said. "I'm happy that County staff can help property owners maintain use of their property in a way that also helps save significant open space."

"We're delighted to secure another key property off Ed Joe Draw on Wright's Mesa to help preserve wildlife corridors," said Commissioner Art Goodtimes. "Our Open Space program has been a huge success in providing an important mechanism for conservation in San Miguel County."

For more information, please contact San Miguel County Parks and Open Space Director Janet Kask at [janetk@sanmiguelcountyco.gov](mailto:janetk@sanmiguelcountyco.gov).



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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS: SPORTS & RECREATION

### LEARN TO TRAP AT MONTROSE WORKSHOP JAN. 11

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE— If you've ever wanted to learn the basics of live-trapping small animals or if you want to improve your trapping technique, plan to attend an informational workshop sponsored by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Montrose, 6-8 p.m., Jan. 11. The class will be held at the CPW office in Montrose, 2300 S. Townsend Ave.

This is an introductory course for participants to learn the basics of successfully setting cage traps.

Small game and furbearer populations are healthy in western Colorado, providing trappers unique opportunities for capturing animals. The workshop will also be helpful for landowners who may want to know more about how to use traps to help protect their property from nuisance animals.


Wildlife officers will lead the presentation on cage trapping. They'll discuss animal biology, trap location, trap sets, use of lure/bait/attractants, skinning, fleshing, stretching and more.

The class is free but will be limited to 25 people. Registration is required. To register, call the Montrose CPW office at 970-252-6000.



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# Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

## OF AIRPORTS & THE PARK SERVICE

**MTJ OR TEX** ... As the Telluride Regional Airport changes managers, it's a good time to look again at the road not taken, and see what lessons we might take away ... Resort tourism requires moving lots of people around the country as seamlessly as possible. Given our distant location (which is, let's not forget, part of our lure), transportation is a critical regional issue for central market Montrose and the towns and counties of the surrounding San Juans ... Years ago, the Telluride region chose -- by the narrowest of votes -- to allow a commercial airport on Deep Creek Mesa. And though its runway sagged, its cliff drop-offs, bad weather, overflights and its off-again, on-again commercial status dogged its progress, the airport survived, even thrived. Current Airport Manager Rich Nuttall has done a great job of keeping the operation solvent -- selling fuel and responding to the airport's true value as a private plane runway for the region's mostly-unoccupied luxury villas and their jet-setting owners ... But imagine if Telluride community leaders 30 some years ago had had the vision to cooperate with Montrose, both the county and the city. What if they partnered to strengthen the Montrose Airport as a regional hub and destination gateway? What if they imagined that Telluride and Crested Butte might one day consider collaborating on flights into the region? ... Instead, we have two competing airports, ticket guarantee inequities, and separate marketing approaches on getting tourists to the slopes ... In competitive resort markets it sometimes pays off in the long term to collaborate for externals, like transportation, and focus more narrowly on subsidized housing and local infrastructure and amenities.

**PRAYER AT THE CANYON'S EDGE** ... "Oh hawk, translate my longing into wind that it may blow through the canyons calling for for its love ... Oh juniper, translate my longing into roots that break through solid rock, finding the sustenance they need, even against all odds ... Oh clouds, trans-



*Did you hear about the gunfight at the Cashin Copper Mine on La Sal Creek last month? Montrose Sheriff Deputy Bruce Schmalz suffered hand wounds after killing bad guy Willy Ray Score of Loveland in a shoot-out. Courtesy photo.*

late my longing into rain that drenches parched earth, causing even the driest of twigs to blossom." --Kyra Kopentonsky, Fall Creek.

**PARK SERVICE** ... Even if many of us are suspicious of the federal government, we still revere the U.S. Park Service. They are America's "best idea," to quote famous Western writer Wallace Stegner. Or are they? ... A recent exposé in the Dec. 12, 2016 issue of *High Country News* casts some serious doubt on that wholesome image ... Turns out investigative reporter Lyndsey Gilpin found lots not to like about working for this iconic federal agency -- if you're a woman. Interviews of over 50 people -- "park rangers and scientists, to superintendents and a former Park Services director" -- revealed "an agency that has failed to protect its workers from sexual misconduct" ... And it turns out it's been a festering issue just below the public radar for many years. A 2000 employee survey found that "over half of female

rangers and three-quarters of female park police had experienced sexual harassment on the job" ... Nor is it just the sexual harassment that many Park Service employees are exposed to. Of the 61 former or current employees who talked to Gilpin, 21 "said they were retaliated against for reporting misconduct" ... It was pretty telling that the U.S. Park Service refused to respond to queries from *High Country News* about Gilpin's story. While U.S. parks may be a great idea, how they're managed and what you can expect if you're a woman ranger appears in a less than positive light at this point. And it's hard to see such issues getting fixed under the incoming administration.

**TWILIGHT WALK** ... Finally they're gone. The honkers took off for the tropics after pecking around till mid-December. Left just ahead of Colorado's second fall storm before full-on winter ... Solstice just past on the western slope of the Southern Rockies. Wrights Mesa studded with



## Up Bear Creek From page 26

ponds & irrigated wetlands. Trickleing Lone Cone's flow down to the San Miguel very deliberately. Doing what the beaver used to do. Slowing things down. Putting everything on the line and holding water precious. Just like Americans did up at Standing Rock ... "I'n' it?" McRedeye sez. "We shape the land & the land shapes us."

**ED MORLAND** ... It was with sadness I learned that former Region 9 Economic Development District Director Ed Morland had passed away last month after complications from eye surgery. He was a very dedicated community member always looking for ways to help folks and systems in the far southwestern tier of counties.

**WILD WEST END** ... Did you hear about the gunfight at the Cashin Copper Mine on La Sal Creek last month? Montrose Sheriff Deputy Bruce Schmalz suffered hand wounds after killing bad guy Willy Ray Score of Loveland in a shoot-out ... That's the most action out at the remote Montrose County mine since the the notorious Bedrock Gang decapitated Cashin watchman Slim Hecox in 1921. The mineowner, a woman who lived in Chicago, was so incensed she hired the Pinkertons to track down the killers. They did, and Slim's head was reinterred with his graveyard body.

**BLOOPER** ... "Arlen Bock offered his monthly motion to adjourn forthwith. There was only dissenting vote." —*Dove Creek Press* (Nov. 24, 2016 issue)

### THE TALKING GOURD

### (Un)happy Holidays

No one's ready, no one's eager,  
In fact, we're all a little afraid.  
It's happened before, that's the problem,  
A would-be strongman, & crazy promises,

& crowds of believers, blind believers.  
Christmas cards at the post office,  
Every day, same as always—  
But it isn't the same, is it?

Merry Christmas? Maybe, why not?  
But we can't say: Happy New Year,  
With a straight face. We shake our heads

In disbelief, knowing it's true.  
It isn't *Kristalnacht* either, not yet,  
But it isn't over. It's up to us . .

--Lito Tejada-Flores  
Crestone



Some things never go out of style.  
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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: SPORTS & RECREATION

## GET OUT FOR A FIRST DAY HIKE AT RIDGWAY STATE PARK

### Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY – If you want to start the New Year off on the right foot – and the left foot, too, – come to Ridgway State Park Jan. 1 for a First Day Hike. Now in its sixth year in Colorado, First Day Hikes are sponsored by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and feature guided hikes for all ability levels at 27 state parks throughout the state. The program is aimed to help Coloradans get off to a healthy start in the new year.

Rangers at Ridgway State Park will offer four guided hikes throughout the day. Hikers should dress for the weather conditions, be prepared for snowy and icy trails, and bring water and a snack. Pets are allowed, but they must be on a leash and

any poop must be scooped. All hikes will take one to two hours.

Here's a brief description of the hikes for Ridgway:

9 a.m., Twin Fawn and Pinon Park trails, 1-2 miles, moderate-to-difficult. Enter the park at the main Dutch Charlie entrance, and meet at the visitors' center.

10:30 a.m., Dallas Creek Nature, 1 mile, easy-moderate.

Enter at the Dallas Creek entrance on the south side of the park, and meet at the parking lot.

1 p.m., Oak Leaf Trail, easy-moderate.

Enter the park at Pa-Co-Chu-Puk, the north entrance to the park, meet at the fisherman's parking lot at the bridge.

2:30 p.m., Forest Discovery Nature Trail, easy. Enter at the Dutch Charlie and meet at the visitors' center. This hike is only about a half-mile long and is ideally suited for small children.

Hikes will only be cancelled in the event of extremely inclement weather. For more information, call the park at 970-626-5822.

The hikes are free but park visitors must possess a valid parks pass to participate. The daily pass for entry costs \$7 per vehicle; annual passes are available for just \$70.

For more information about hikes throughout the state, go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>.

## WANT TO TRY ICE FISHING? CRAWFORD STATE PARK OFFERS FREE USE OF GEAR

### Special to Art & Sol

CRAWFORD – Ice fishing is growing in popularity and Colorado Parks and Wildlife wants to make it easy for people to try this great outdoor activity. Starting Jan. 1 at Crawford State Park you can check out, at no charge, ice fishing kits and give the sport a try. "We want to help introduce aspiring ice anglers to the joys of catching fish over frozen water," said Scott Rist, senior ranger at Crawford State Park. "And ice fishing is a great way to introduce youngsters or friends to fishing."

The park owns four kits and each in-

cludes the basic equipment necessary to get started: four rods designed for ice fishing, tackle, an ice scoop, depth finder, and an ice auger upon request. That's enough gear for a whole family or a group of friends. The kits were purchased by CPW using a grant from the Foundation for Colorado State Parks. If you want to take advantage of the opportunity, go to the park's office during regular business hours on weekdays and weekends. You must possess a valid Colorado fishing license. All equipment must be used at the park and returned at the end of the day.


CPW reminds everyone that whenever venturing onto ice to use caution, bring a partner and always drill test holes to determine ice thickness. It is recommended that ice be four inches thick to be considered safe. Each angler should carry a cell phone, wear a life jacket, and carry ice-safety picks and 50 feet of rope. Stay away from cracks, pressure ridges and slushy or darker areas that indicate areas of thin ice.

To learn more about ice fishing and safety, visit [www.cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/IceFishingSafety.aspx](http://www.cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/IceFishingSafety.aspx).

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## NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

### JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

The third and final article in our series on holiday music will be a general overview of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Bach is where we find the foundation of what is generally called classical music. Contemporaries of J.S. Bach such as Claudio Monteverdi and Christoph Gluck had their say and made their contributions, but none as great or as pervasive as those of Bach. Prolific is only one of the adjectives used to describe the compositional outpost of this most famous of Baroque era composers.

Let us begin with a discussion of sacred music, as it is with the music of the church that J.S. Bach is associated and best known. We begin here as we are on the tail end of the holiday season and for so many this time of year are a period of faith, family, reflection, and giving. An employee of the church, J.S. Bach was required to produce music for the church that would be performed in church. His deadlines were continuous and it is the cantata that was his frequent musical offering in service of the divine. Off the top of this writer's head, there are in excess of 200 cantatas that still survive, with the first being composed when Bach was in his early 20's and the last several years prior to his death in 1750. These cantatas were based on the Lutheran liturgy in addition to special cantatas that were composed for special occasions such as weddings. Lifetimes have been spent studying and performing these works. A career could have been made on these alone and would still likely have put J.S. Bach in the forefront of composers of his era and those years and centuries that were to

follow.

When speaking of sacred works, two compositions must be mentioned even without a full discussion. The two pieces are massive in scale and are cornerstones of large choral compositions. These pieces will stand alone on performance programs and offer something for the orchestra and choral lovers as well as those dedicated to the words, traditions, and sounds of what is true Christian music. These pieces are the *Mass in B minor* and the *Christmas Oratorio*.

Now that we have mentioned the sacred and the needs of the season have been met, it is now time to turn our focus to works that based less on the divine and the spiritual and more on pure popularity with audiences and works that are more familiar to our ears.

The perception of J.S. Bach as a portly man wandering around in a dusty wig with his nose turned towards the heavens is something that should be avoided. The music of Bach is quite formal but it also lends itself to melodies that should inspire visions of dancing if not the very act itself. Bach played rigid and straight is doing a disservice to the intent of the composer and to the true grandeur of the music itself.

You are walking down a busy street and you randomly stop a person and ask them to name something that J.S. Bach recorded. The likely answer is going to be the *Brandenburg Concertos*. These are six compositions that have snuck into popular culture merely by name alone. There are sounds and passages within the concertos that listeners will find familiar. In the time of Bach, this was a composition that

grabbed the hearts and minds of audiences and left them leaving a performance with "that damn tune" stuck in their heads. It is catchy phrases, music that is paced quickly, and that offers a stimulating experiences both musically and visu-

ally that leads to it later being heard in cartoons and on the tip of tongues of strangers walking down the street.

The works for solo instruments that came out of the pen of J.S. Bach and flowed onto paper are perhaps something of the most inspiring, complicated, and amazing music every composed.

The unaccompanied *Cello Suites* and the partitas for solo violin are just examples. While still keeping in the tradition of solo music but adding a small orchestra for accompaniment, the *Piano Concerto No. 7 in G minor BWV 1058* will grab your ear from the very first note and will not ever let go.

The music is catchy like a pop tune, demands movement of the body of the listener, and offers complexity on the scale of advanced mathematics.

A few J.S. Bach recommendations and links:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyOf\\_L4cNHc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyOf_L4cNHc)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCicM6i59\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCicM6i59_I)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KYRdRnnBYw>



J.S. Bach. Courtesy photo.



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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: GIVING BACK!

## 70 KIDS BENEFIT FROM SUCCESSFUL TOY & GIFT DRIVE!



*Special to Art & Sol REGIONAL*-After amazing generosity from the Montrose and Delta communities we successfully distributed toys and family gifts to over 70 children. Thank you to everyone that contributed towards the Alpine Bank & Cherry Creek Radio toy drive partnership with The PIC Place (Community Dental Clinic).

From right to left: Allison Nadel, Chely Aparicio, Lori Bachmann, Elizabeth Guerra, Melanie Hall, Nikki Corn. In front, members of the Olathe Elementary School Difference Maker Club, Lizzie Corn and Sadie Corn.

## 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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- **SAFETY:** For older adults, home can often become a dangerous place without proper repairs.
- **SUPPORT:** Sometimes we all need a little help from our friends.
- **CARE:** When living at home is no longer an option, we can help.
- **CONNECTIONS:** When you outlive all of your friends and family, who do you turn to?

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## AVOID HOLIDAY PLUMBING DISASTERS THIS SEASON!

*Special to Art & Sol*

DENVER - The Division of Professions and Occupations (DPO) at the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) warns that discarding the fat from turkeys, hams and roasts as well as vegetable scraps through your pipes may result in an emergency plumbing call. Use paper towels to wipe grease from pots, then throw them into the trash. Or, pour grease into a container, let it solidify, then discard the container; Use a sink strainer to prevent food from passing through into the pipes; If using a disposal, make sure to turn it on and run the water for at least 20-30 seconds after discarding scraps; Avoid putting stringy or fibrous waste into a disposal; Run the water thoroughly after using the disposal; If there are numerous house guests, wait about 10 minutes between showers so slow drains can clear. And if you must call a plumber, DPO encourages you to check [askDORA.colorado.gov](http://askDORA.colorado.gov) and click "Verify a License" before putting in a work order to ensure the plumber is licensed and in good standing.



# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: GIVING BACK!

## TEAMING UP TO BRING TOYS TO COMMUNITY!



*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**-NuVista Federal Credit Union partnered with Proximity Space Co-Working, Northside, and Johnson Elementary Schools to provide special gifts for 60+ Montrose students this Holiday Season. "We knew there was a need among kids in underprivileged families since Toys for Tots is no longer operating in Montrose," said Chelsea Rosty, VP of Marketing and Community Relations at NuVista, "so we made our best effort to fill that gap." The Credit Union has a good relationship with Northside and Johnson due to the Financial Literacy classes that NuVista has provided to local schools for nearly a decade. The Credit Union contacted the schools about identifying students who would be best served by a toy drive and the schools agreed to participate. NuVista created Gift Tags for the students to fill out with three gift wishes. The schools took it from there, distributing the tags and helping the students fill them out. The tags were then hung at NuVista's Montrose branch and Proximity Space Co-Working for community members to pick up. And, once again, the Montrose Community showed its generosity. Over the next few weeks gifts were delivered to both drop locations almost daily. Thousands of dollars' worth of Barbies, Legos, scooters, nerf guns, clothes, shoes and more appeared at NuVista and Proximity Space. Many people went above and beyond, purchasing all the gifts that were asked for, as well as providing snow boots or coats for the students. "I was simply blown away by the generosity," said Korey Hehn, Community Relations Specialist at NuVista. "It was humbling to see the people of this community give without holding back. These kids are going to be so blessed." NuVista and Proximity have always been dedicated to giving back to the community, however the Holiday Toy Drive provided overwhelming proof that it's the people in the Montrose Community who take care of one another.



*Top left, Korey Hehn of NuVista Federal Credit Union poses next to a car full of presents; at right, Korey Hehn feigns exhaustion after finishing wrapping all of the gifts brought in by community members for NuVista's Toy Drive. Courtesy photos.*



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

### DECEMBER ONGOING-

**MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER LUNCH & LEARN:** \$3 lunch & Learn, admission to program, is free. Lunch \$5. Programs are Dec. 8 and Dec. 12 @ Noon.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:alpinephotoclub@aol.com).

**FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC**-LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, Montrose County Courthouse (Leslie German self-help center) at 1200 North Grand, Noon to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

**FREE JAM SESSION AND SING ALONG**, Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

**MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**-"Montrose County Historical Society Presents" is held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. The public is invited to free programs based on topics of regional history. For more information please call 249-2085.

**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-

**Dec. 26**-GARDEN OF LIGHTS AT THE MONTROSE BOTANIC GARDENS-Come enjoy illuminated garden paths and displays, horse drawn wagon rides, music activated light shows and the new Community Tunnel of Lights! Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Check the website for details. [www.montrosegardens.org](http://www.montrosegardens.org).

**Dec. 28**-Ari Hest Holiday Concert @ Healthy Rhythm Gallery, 68 South Grand Avenue. 7 to 11 p.m.

**Dec. 29**-Montrose Regional Library presents, Ye Olde Toy Shoppe. 45 minute puppet show for all ages @ 10 and 11 a.m.

**Jan. 11**-The CSU Ag outlook and strategy forum will be held in Montrose at Friendship Hall from 11 am to 2:30 pm and lunch will be provided. **Registration is required** and fees are \$30 online and \$35 by phone. To register online go to <https://2017agoutlook.eventbrite.com> by phone call (970) 522-7207 and ask for Rebecca.

**Jan. 11**-Learn to Trap: Attend an informational workshop sponsored by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Montrose, 6-8 p.m., Jan. 11. The class will be held at the CPW office in Montrose, 2300 S. Townsend Ave. This is an introductory course for participants to learn the basics of successfully setting cage traps. The class is free but will be limited to 25 people. Registration is required. To register, call the Montrose CPW office at 970-252-6000.

**Jan. 20-21**-Please join us for the 5th Annual Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum: Healthy Land, Food, People at the Montrose County Fairgrounds on Jan. 20 and the Montrose Pavilion on Jan. 21, 2017. The Food and Farm Forum has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops.

**Jan. 20-22**-Telluride Fire Festival, Telluride.

**Feb. 6**— Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ [sue@suehansenspeaks.com](mailto:sue@suehansenspeaks.com) or Benziger @ [phebenator@hotmail.com](mailto:phebenator@hotmail.com).

**March 5**-CASA of the Seventh Judicial District Dancing with the Stars 2017. Montrose Pavilion, 2 p.m. (tickets \$15) and 6 p.m. (tickets \$35). **For tickets visit** <https://tickets.montrosepress.com/>.

**May 1**— Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ [sue@suehansenspeaks.com](mailto:sue@suehansenspeaks.com) or Benziger @ [phebenator@hotmail.com](mailto:phebenator@hotmail.com).

**June 14-16**-San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days, Montrose, Colorado.

**Aug. 7**— Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ [sue@suehansenspeaks.com](mailto:sue@suehansenspeaks.com) or Benziger @ [phebenator@hotmail.com](mailto:phebenator@hotmail.com).

**Nov. 6**— Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ [sue@suehansenspeaks.com](mailto:sue@suehansenspeaks.com) or Benziger @ [phebenator@hotmail.com](mailto:phebenator@hotmail.com).



# Give Back Days

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Come enjoy a delicious meal and we'll donate 20% \*  
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**Every Wednesday...Every Month...All Day (11 am - 10 pm)**

*Over 200 entrees to choose from!*

**1st Wednesday: The Homestead at Montrose**

**2nd Wednesday: All Points Transit**

**3rd Wednesday: Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club**

**4th Wednesday: Valley Manor Care Center**

**5th Wednesday: Community Options Inc.**

(Note: 5th Wed dates are: Mar. 29, May 31, Aug. 30, Nov 29th, 2017)

*After dining, attach the coupon to the bill  
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bill will be donated to the  
designated charity.*

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(970) 252-1111 Fax**

\*Coupon must be present

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970-275-0646

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*Christmas Eve 2016 at the Montrose Water Sports Park. Have a safe and prosperous New Year!*



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