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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 205, Jan. 23 2017

DELTA COALITION MOVES FORWARD WITH ENGAGE INNOVATION CENTER



The space @ 124 E. 1st St. will be acquired by the Delta Schools and repurposed as the ENGAGE Innovation Center.

By Caitlin Switzer

DELTA- A community vision for a regional business hub in the heart of Delta will now become a reality.

A coalition comprised of Delta County Economic Development (DCED); the Delta County Joint School District; Delta Montrose Technical College; and the City of Delta has been successful in acquiring the former City Market building at 124 East 6th Street in Delta.

Executive Director Trish Thibodo of Delta County Economic Development (DCED)

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CONDUCT @ JAN. 17 BOCC MEETING ATROCIOUS, SHERIFF SAYS

Three Minute Rule Waived for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Turnout was higher than usual as Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Chair Keith Caddy called the BOCC meeting of Jan. 17 to order. Following approval of consent agenda items, Citizen Gadfly Roger Brown asked the BOCC to reinstate payable reports on the internet, and the floor was opened to the public for comment on non-agenda items. Caddy asked speakers to be brief, but waived the three-minute rule that usually applies to comments from the public.

Bill Ramsey spoke first. "The reason I am here is I have heard Mr. Davis say on two occasions how great it would be to have the turnout we had on those particular meetings... as long as you guys treat us with respect we are going to respect you as well.

Dennis Olmstead spoke. "It's a pleasure to see new faces on the County board...I suggest an immediate stop order

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Montrose County Commissioner Roger Rash questions a speaker at the BOCC meeting on Jan. 17. Mirror staff photo.

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*Gail Marvel's
Houses of Worship!*

*4H Helps Youth
Learn, Grow, Lead!*

*Parent not allowed to
view bus videos!*

*Grand Junction Women's March
Photos by William B. Woody!*

HOUSES OF WORSHIP: ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH OF GOD



The nine-member praise team lead worship in song at the Abundant Life Church of God. 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-Formerly from the metro area, Pastor Eric Archuleta, preached at Abundant Life Church for three months before assuming the role of pastor on Dec. 11, 2016, "My family will get moved over by the first of January."

About 60 people were present for worship and the excitement with a new pastor was palpable. Linda said, "We are so excited!" Latisha said, "Thanks for coming today, I know you'll enjoy the service!" Pastor Archuleta shook hands and greeted those in the audience.

The accompaniment for the nine-member praise team included a keyboard, two guitars, drums, and bongo drums. During the 30-minute song service the praise team moved the congregation to participate with clapping, raised hands waving and toe tapping to the beat of the music.

Song selections included, "Diamonds," "You are so Good," and "My heart will sing no other name." During the song service

words and phrases used as exclamation points could be heard throughout the audience, "Thank You Lord, Praise You Lord, Hallelujah and Amen!"

In his opening comments Archuleta said, "Abundant Life is more than a name...it's a vision, a passion, an experience." His voice filled the auditorium, "If you can't project your voice, then God didn't call you to preach! George Whitefield [1714-1770] would preach in a field with 30,000 people. As God uses your voice it becomes stronger." Announcements included thanking the men of the church for helping members move into new homes and laughter rippled through the congregation when the pastor announced that yet another family was moving the following weekend, "I'm really excited about that!"

Those with prayer needs were invited to the front of the auditorium and the pastor prayed with each person asking for health and healing, "God does tremendous miracles."

Two weeks before Christmas the ambience of the auditorium was festive; however, the message was not about the Christmas story, or about Advent. Lacking

any obvious theme or structure the pastor tossed out well over two dozen Scriptures to the audience, "Biblical ignorance is a lack of biblical teaching. You will be amazed at what is in the Bible...and you'll be amazed at what is NOT in the Bible."

With his well-worn and much loved *Bible* in hand Archuleta said, "All the books in my library are not the inspired Word of God...the *Bible* is the Word of God." Inserting a caveat that spoke to congregants as well as to God he said, "Let no one be exempt from your Word today."

After giving attendees directions for locating the book of Ecclesiastes in their *Bible* and giving a brief background, the pastor read Ecc. 4:1 and said, "King Solomon saw the oppression of the people. They had no comforter, but the Spirit of God is still in man. Today there is global corruption." The pastor joked, "The comforter is not that big blanket on your bed...not for the Christian. The Comforter is the third person of the Godhead. He dwells with you and within you."

Taking a biblical rabbit-trail the pastor interjected, "The foundation of all sin is unbelief. Satan has no power over you when you believe in Christ. You can be influenced and harassed by Satan, but he cannot possess you. You never see anywhere in Scripture anyone who was demon possessed after they were saved."

The pastor concluded his message with a challenge for 2017, "People of the church are people of the Word of God. If you don't read your *Bible* how can God speak to you? Read it through at least once. Don't quote man, quote God. I want to see you grow by leaps and bounds."

Contact information:

Abundant Life Church of God

2430 E. Niagara

Sunday worship service 10:30 a.m.

Montrose, CO 81401

Pastor Eric Archuleta

970-249-7843



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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

HEMP ADOBE OF MONTROSE ACHIEVES RURAL JUMP START DESIGNATION



Chief Executive Officer Kevin Hodge and Chief Operating Officer Patti Devine-Beckwith of Hemp Adobe, the first company in Montrose County to receive Colorado Rural Jump Start designation. Courtesy photo MEDC.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On Thursday, Jan. 19 the Colorado Economic Development Commission approved Hemp Adobe, located in Montrose, as a Colorado Rural Jump Start Company. The Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) oversees the Rural Jump Start program.

Hemp Adobe, a business with 15 patents pending, uses industrial hemp in construction building materials — wallboard and roofing. Described as Disruptive Technology, the process used by Hemp Adobe is a more advanced technology. The product,

which is lighter in weight, is resistant to fire, water, rot, mold and pests.

In August of 2016 Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) began working with Hemp Adobe to secure tax incentives offered through the Rural Jump Start program. According to MEDC Executive Director Sandy Head, “The process started with MEDC, who then contacted Colorado Mesa University and together they introduced the company to the State and OEDIT.”

Partners who applied for the Rural Jump Start designation include Montrose Coun-

ty, the City of Montrose and the towns of Olathe, Naturita and Nucla. Head said, “In 2016 Montrose County became the second county in the State to be approved for the Rural Jump Start program. The county and local communities all passed resolutions of support for companies that we could bring in.”

Although MEDC has worked with other interested entities, Hemp Adobe is the first company in Montrose to meet all the criteria needed to qualify for the Rural Jump Start program. The company anticipates being operational in six months, with four new hires in the first year and 25 employees by 2020.

Head said, “We’ve been trying to increase profitability for agriculture. Hemp is a crop farmers can grow and it grows in alkaline soil. This will be huge for the ag community.”

Hemp Adobe products will be sold nationally and the company has Letters of Intent (LOI) for eight, 4,000 sq. ft. apartment buildings in Palm Springs; an affordable housing pilot program in Virginia; and a housing development planned for the Denver area. Chief Executive Officer Kevin Hodge said, “I know foreign countries need affordable housing, but we’re about America First.” The machinery needed for the business will cost between \$350,000 and \$500,000 and the owners are pursuing investment capital. Hodge said, “First we have to find a space large enough that we can make the materials we need to construct our own shop. We have to get certificates and proper training on the machinery, but we’re looking at July for an open house rollout.”

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MONTROSE ELKS LODGE: ELK TRACKS!



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Welcome to Elk Tracks, a periodic update of what is taking place at our local Montrose Elks Lodge, located at 801 So. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401. Bingo January 24, 2017 6:30 PM - Progressive Game #2 is worth \$388.00 and must go at \$500.00. **Progressive Game #6 is worth \$7,727.00** and must be won in 53 numbers or fewer or the prize posted will be awarded. Arrive early for a good seat. Open to the Public.

On January 17, 2017 Bingo Game #2 paid out \$500 to 1 Winner and Game #8 paid \$525 to 1 Winner. When enough people show up and play Bingo at the Elks, the Jackpots will continue to pay well. For good clean fun join us to play Bingo at Montrose Elks Lodge every Tuesday evening. Doors open at 5:30 PM and Card sales start at 5:45. An "Early Bird" set of 5 quick games begins at 6:30 and the main Bingo session starts at 7 PM.

Pictured: Bingo \$500 Winner on 1-17-17

Western Slope Soil Health Conference

WHEN

February 23, 2017 / 8:00a—5:00p

February 24, 2017 / 8:00a—1:30p

WHERE

The Delta Center for the Performing Arts and Education

833 Grand Avenue, Delta CO 81416

Featuring: Jon Lundgren & Keith Berns

Local Speakers: Katie Alexander . Steve Woodis . Jerry Allen . Reed Irwin . Patrick O'Neil . Paul Maudlin . Jeff Schwartz . Frank Stonaker . Thomas Cameron . Jim Parker . Lance Swigart . Jenny Beiermann . Ray Ward . Harrison Topp . Gary Maskus . Arlin Geigley . Randy Hines . David Harold . and more speakers are being added.

ADVANCED TICKETS

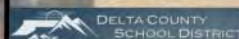
\$20 College Student w/valid ID

\$40 General (Early registration until Feb 8, 2017)

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Alpine Bank



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 Evening Performance 6:30pm

Team 6 - Ben & Becca



Becca - Photographer

Ben - Technical Support Specialist for the City of Montrose

Choreographer: Kate Florian

To have your donation or ticket purchase directly support [The Dolphin House](http://TheDolphinHouse.org), call (970) 240-8655.

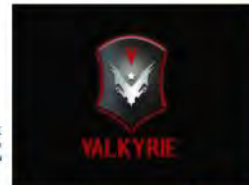
Dancing for

The Dolphin House

The Dolphin House is a nationally accredited Child Advocacy Center with a mission to serve and support victims of child abuse in the 7th Judicial District and provide them help, hope and healing. The facility is child-friendly and provides victims a safe place to tell a difficult story during the necessary investigation of child abuse. Our warm home-like environment offers numerous supportive services that enables the child victim and his/her non-offending family members begin their healing process.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS SAVES LIVES

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE- The Telluride Regional Medical Center hopes to use Cervical Health Awareness Month as a chance to raise awareness and drive more local women to protect themselves from HPV (human papillomavirus) and cervical cancer.

HPV is a very common infection that spreads through sexual activity. It's also a major cause of cervical cancer.

The medical center offers HPV vaccines and Pap exams as part of a patient's regular annual exam, and now thanks to the addition of Dr. Christine Mahoney who joined the primary care team last year, additional expanded women's services including colposcopy, endometrial biopsies, IUDs and osteopathic manipulation.

"We're encouraging women to take charge of their health in 2017 by making sure they are up-to-date on their Pap test," says Dr. Mahoney.

A Pap test detects irregularities that can lead to cervical cancer. "Prevention is our goal," she added.

Cervical cancer is most often caused by certain types of the HPV. According to the CDC, approximately 79 million people are currently infected with HPV, and 14 mil-

lion persons are newly infected each year in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, if found early, cervical cancer is one of the most successfully treatable cancers. "And yet, not all women are getting screened," said Dr. Sharon Grundy, medical director of primary care at Telluride's medical center. "It's important that our entire community know that we provide health care here, regardless of anyone's ability to pay," said Dr. Grundy.

"We have payment plans, sliding scales and sometimes even grant money to help make healthcare affordable."

The HPV vaccine is recommended at the age of 11 or 12 for both boys and girls by the American Academy of

Pediatrics. The HPV vaccine works best if given before a person becomes sexually active and can be given between the age of 9 through 26 for certain individuals. Dr. Grundy recommends women begin Pap testing at the age of 21 with follow up every three years for a normal Pap result. To schedule an annual exam, or for more information about women's services, call the Telluride Regional Medical Center at 728.3848.

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see something, say something

DELTA COALITION MOVES FORWARD WITH ENGAGE INNOVATION CENTER From pg 1

said Friday that the Delta County Joint School District has approved the purchase of the empty building, which once housed Chaco Sandals, for \$150,000 from the Mercy Foundation of Tampa Florida. The facility will become the ENGAGE Innovation Center, a business incubator with an expanded campus for use by students of the Delta-Montrose Technical College, which will now change its name to Rocky Mountain Technical College.

In addition to classrooms, the ENGAGE Innovation Center will house DCED and the local office of the Region 10 League

for Economic Assistance & Planning.

"It is my understanding that the sellers would like a quick close," Thibodo said, adding that the next steps will be to apply by Feb. 1 for a Department of Local Affairs grant to be used for engineering and design. Operational grants will also be sought as the project moves forward.

"We are developing next steps and plans, and will need to garner community support," Thibodo said. "The ENGAGE Innovation Center can really position the Technical College as a leader throughout this region."

A public institution, [Delta-Montrose Technical College \(DMTC\)](#) is governed by the Delta County Joint School District 50-J Board of Education, and funded with local, state and federal dollars. DMTC's service area includes Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties. The efforts of Delta County School Superintendent Caryn Gibson contributed greatly to the success of the building acquisition, Thibodo said. "I think Caryn saw a vision of the role the Technical College could play," she said. "She really made this happen."

COMMUNITY HEALTH & ACCUPUNCTURE CLINIC JAN. 25 IN MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Attend a Community Health and Acupuncture Clinic with Dr. Yuliya Jirnov, DOM, Lac @ 121 N. Park Ave. Montrose, on Wednesday, Jan. 25 from 11am - 1pm \$25. For more information visit our web site www.comeforhealth.net or call 970-318-0198.

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ATLANTIC



CONDUCT @ JAN. 17 BOCC MEETING ATROCIOUS, SHERIFF SAYS From pg 1

Three Minute Rule Waived for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items



Ridgway Valley Enterprises General Manager Steve Putnam addresses the BOCC and the crowd last Tuesday.

on the arena project, and a complete, detailed cost and investment business analysis."

Commissioner Glen Davis attempted to address concerns regarding the County's Indoor Arena and Road & Bridge Facility projects, calling the indoor arena project "East end money with West End impact."

"To my knowledge there were six public meetings (on the arena project)" he said. "When county commissioners work on a project for 18 months they want to move forward with it...keep in mind this project's off the ground and running." He spoke of the impact and cost of cancelling the arena project. "The steel has already been ordered."

Commissioner Rash began to question Commissioner Davis before the public. "How can you order steel if the design plans are not completed...do you have the documents showing the steel has been ordered?"

Jim Anderson then held the floor for nearly 15 minutes. "The last time I was here I asked a few questions...I honestly couldn't put up with the County Commissioners. They were rude and obnoxious and I didn't think they were serving the best interests of the public," Anderson began.

He called the county's bid process faulty,



Montrose County Sheriff Rick Dunlap and citizens Tricia Joy and Roger Brown listen at the BOCC meeting of Jan. 17.

and scolded County officials for not sharing information on the contractor's profit margin. "The presentation by the County Manager was the biggest crock I ever seen or heard...I'm not against the building, I'm against the County and their process."

At one point, Anderson later asked former County Commissioner Ron Henderson to come up and respond to questions. "Mr. Anderson, you can't control this," Caddy said, advising Henderson that he was not obligated to answer questions. "I am going to ask some questions," Anderson responded, asking Henderson if he had been consulted on terms and conditions of two employment contracts.

Henderson said no; Anderson responded. "All right so now we need an investigation on these documents." He pointed at Davis and said, "You're done bullying people!" As Caddy asked him to give Davis a moment to speak, Anderson made a show of storming out.

General Manager Steve Putnam of Ridgway Valley Enterprises, contractor for the Arena and Road & Bridge projects, spoke as well. "I would like to answer any questions you two (new commissioners) may have...the RFP's for these two projects actually call for a design-build system and then a firm, fixed price contract," Putnam said.

"...as a local contractor who has been in this community for more than 30 years, we are going to ensure that this communi-



Commissioner Glen Davis brought out his honorable discharge certificate after repeated attacks on his service record.

ty gets the project they deserve at a very fair and reasonable price...the insinuation that somehow this County is getting fleeced as a result of these contracts we've entered into is totally false."

Steel buildings have been ordered for both projects; as a design/build contract steel building engineering is part of the design process, Putnam said. "Fifteen percent price increases have been announced for March," he said.

"We had to order the buildings to avoid those price increases...We are well along the road on both of these projects."

Commissioner Roger Rash interrogated Putnam on the subject of design drawing approval, and County Manager Ken Norris explained that final design drawings had not yet been approved. "I will be looking for an accounting of every process," Rash said. "Where we're at, and at what phase we're at, what's been approved, not approved... this will be investigated."

Tricia Joy spoke. "I certainly came here with no intention of speaking, but I would say today is the beginning of a terrible unraveling of our county government. We have seen commissioner candidates here who are being run by an invisible government," Joy said. "...you're going to have good contractors like Ridgway Valley Construction want nothing, nothing to do with Montrose County because of this attitude right here."

"...I am not seeing any order here."

Commissioner Davis discussed the history and evolution of the indoor arena project, and the current Fairgrounds facility,

Continued next page

CONDUCT @ JAN. 17 BOCC MEETING ATROCIOUS, SHERIFF SAYS From pg 8

Three Minute Rule Waived for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Friendship Hall. "...When we open the building over there...it will be complete," he said. "It was done with the idea of maybe we could do something that would improve the economic conditions of this County to a certain extent that under State statute we can do."

"Please be open-minded about what you learn and see," Mike Wilson told commissioners, acknowledging that legitimate issues with the arena project should be looked into. "If you're going to get rid of something that can create economic development for this community, at least present me some alternatives as to how we're going to move things forward, to keep this being a vibrant community where our families can grow up, our kids can get jobs, and people can live, and enjoy, and respect each other."

Other citizens spoke, including Bill Bennett. "I look forward to your open government," he told the BOCC. "...I would hope that you would not cancel the arena or the road and bridge thing. I just think there is a better way to do it." Bennett accused the BOCC of rushing the projects, and made other suggestions concerning ongoing county issues, such as making the airport road public, and dropping lawsuits such as that with Montrose Memorial Hospital. "Perhaps now we can achieve a civil society with civil discourse," Bennett said. "His (Davis') bullying from a position of authority has been reprehensible; a splendid example of atrociously poor leadership." He accused Commissioner Davis of lying about his service record.

"Leopards never change their spots, bullies never stop bullying, and liars never stop lying. Mr. Davis should resign from the BOCC; if he won't quit he is going to be recalled."

"Excuse me..." Davis said.

"If I want to hear from you will I will twist your nose," Bennett said in response.

Davis spoke when Bennett had finished. "You have chosen to stand at this podium before and call me an SOB, you have done

everything you can to destroy me, along with the help of a former county commissioner." His voice began to rise as he spoke. "...I'll put my record up against yours any day of the week," Davis said. "...You can believe what you want to sir. But to stand at the podium and call me a liar, and you want respect from me?"

"You and I will meet outside someday sir," Davis said, "because you've called me something in here that this man (Sheriff Dunlap) can't do anything about. And I will keep looking until the opportunity presents itself."

As Bennett continued to insult Davis' Air Force service record, Davis silently retrieved his certificate of Honorable Discharge from his office and placed it before him.

BOCC Chair Caddy recognized Sheriff Dunlap.

"Mr. Chairman," Dunlap said, "I am not speaking as sheriff but as a citizen of this county. And frankly this is atrocious, what is occurring right now. This is absolutely atrocious that we would allow this to go on in a public meeting.

"Name calling and all of this needs to stop...you talk about a civil society and then you stand up and call people names?" Dunlap said to applause. "Give me a break."

Bennett apologized for calling Davis a "super squirrel" during his comments, before stepping away from the podium.

Linda Dodge called the arena project, "A must for our community...The Ranch Rodeo is a big draw for folks from out of town, but that's just a small sample. The facility will be large enough to host tractor shows and boat shows. Please let's not table this; let's keep moving forward. And shame on you for trying to change the vote once it has been cast."

During her turn at the podium, Heidi Hill praised the three-minute rule that is normally in place. "...this meeting has been an embarrassment. It's totally out of control. I was glad Mr. Dunlap said something.



Audience members listen as a parade of speakers steps up to the podium at the Montrose BOCC meeting Jan. 17.

People are acting like they are 12 years old."

Thirty-year 4H leader Valencich noted the arena project has been planned for more than 20 years. "Glen, don't defend yourself anymore," she said to applause. "We don't have to go there. I am embarrassed. I am so embarrassed."

Finally, "This is going to be the only meeting where the three-minute rule will be removed," Caddy promised. "I wanted to see everyone get it out of their system because this is the last time I am going to tolerate a lot of the stuff that's going on.

Following the time for public comment on non-agenda items, a number of citizens left, and the BOCC meeting continued, with [the first four agenda items](#) unanimously approved. Commissioner Rash asked for and was granted extra time to review the resume of Jim Free, a possible appointee to the Weed Commission and the Uncompahgre Valley Pest Control District; thus Item 5 was postponed until the [next meeting](#).

After executive sessions to allow the BOCC to consult with and be advised by legal counsel on hospital litigation and contracts, the BOCC meeting of Jan. 17 was adjourned.

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4H HELPS YOUTH LEARN, GROW, LEAD

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-For more than 100 years, 4H has been challenging young people to learn, grow and lead. The first youth program was founded in 1902 in Clark County, Ohio.

Today, 4H serves close to six million young people across the United States, and works in 100 other nations as well. Here in Montrose County, the program is

very healthy these days as well.

"We had 280 members last year and hope to top 300 this year," Montrose County 4H Administrative Assistant Stephanie Conley said. "We have experienced a pretty good increase of new members—roughly 10 percent more than last year. And we are not just seeing our traditional families, but also new members. New families are moving to the area, and they hear great things about the program and want to become part of it too."

Conley said that she spent 10 years in 4H as a youth, and studied agriculture and youth programs in college.

"I love what I do."

The deadline for returning [Tri-River Area 4H](#) members to re-enroll is Feb. 1. New members may register through May 1, she said. Annual weigh-ins are beginning as well, with beef weigh-in scheduled for Feb. 11. And for those who would like to learn more about projects and local clubs, Back to 4H Night will be at Friendship Hall at the Montrose County Fairgrounds on March 16 from 4 to 8 p.m.

"All of our clubs will be here on Back to 4H Night," Conley said, "for a big kickoff and showcase. There will be a petting zoo, and there will be the shooting sports and



Back to 4H Night 2017 is March 16. Courtesy photo TRA4H.

archery tents too."

Though many people think of livestock when they think of 4H, the program is actually far broader. "The opportunities are pretty limitless when it comes to participation in projects," Conley said. "One kid in Mesa County did a complete restoration of a 1976 Mustang Convertible."

As young people advance in the program, there are chances to gain leadership skills, and to visit Washington, D.C. for a week to learn about citizenship, leadership development, and receive diversity training.

"They get to visit the nation's capital and experience the sights and sounds you haven't experienced in a history class," Conley said. "Participation is all that limits you in 4H."

A strong area of focus for the local [Tri-River Area Extension 4H program](#) is STEM education, in the form of supporting local schools with curriculum and resources. Agent Nicole Covington works with local schools to support Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) learning. "Our goal is to provide the schools with enrichment activities to be used in and out of school. We have curriculum and resources here that teachers can check out or buy at low cost," Covington said. "We



have many materials that align to elementary and middle school standards."

Recent areas of study have included embryology and robotics, she said. "Kids love to watch chickens hatch, and to hang out with the chicks in class for a few days. Not all of them have experienced that sort of thing before."

"We want to make sure we reach all kinds of youth, not just 4H members," Covington said. "This is a new idea that 4H has been doing all across the country."

Montrose 4H Extension Agent Brandon Creamer said that the County's planned indoor arena and events center will benefit the local program in many ways. "We are very excited about the project," Creamer said.

"It will be a great asset to 4H, because there is so much we can do; we can hold horse shows, we can hold sales, we can do jackpot shows. We can have meetings and events."

"It will make more opportunities accessible to our 4H community."



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The Montrose Mirror

THE PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER: EYEWITNESS TO AMERICA'S CHANGE, 1/20/2009



Me at the event. Courtesy photo.

By William Woody

Note: No matter who the President of the United States happens to be, the opportunity to attend a presidential inauguration in Washington D.C. is an opportunity of a life time. It is a reminder of our strong and beautiful Democracy.

WASHINGTON, D.C.-It was just past 1 a.m. when I first saw the United States Capitol building aglow at night, and I realized the events of the young day would sear into my mind for the rest of my life. Working for months to secure press access to the inauguration of America's first black president was a long and difficult process, but it was about to pay off.

I awoke Jan. 20, 2009 at 12 a.m. to start my journey to the National Mall from my friend's house in Fairfax Virginia. Riding the subway at that hour were a mixture of Obama fans, swing shift workers, homeless people and some who had obviously just left the bar. The city was still asleep. As I walked towards the National Mall there was complete silence. The Lincoln memorial was vacant, as was the Vietnam Memorial Wall. The homes lining the streets were dark; a mixture of capitol and D.C. police in full tactical gear were out roaming with K-9s.

When I saw the Capitol building dressed in flags I began to walk faster. Hauling 70 pounds of photography gear through the cold D.C. night to reach the inaugural press check-in scheduled at 2 a.m. Miss it, and I would be out in the masses.

An unprecedented bout of press requests were approved for Barack Obama's first inauguration. I was representing several Wick Communications' newspapers and the *Montrose Daily Press*.

After passing through an extensive security entrance I found my designated place on the west side of the Capitol building in high rise scaffolding overlooking the inaugural podium.

It was about 3 a.m. It was very, very cold.

*** Retrospect

President Obama was the first U.S. president whom I have documented from primary to the White House. I photographed him several times over a nine-year period. Months earlier at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver, the hot press ticket was Obama's speech at Invesco stadium. I was able to get press access to the central camera stand directly in front of the stage on the 50-yard-line. It was the best seat in the house. To my left, photographers from the *Washington Post* and Reuters, to my right were photo

staffs with the Associated Press, *The Denver Post* and *New York Times*.

I remember thinking, "wow, the *Montrose Daily Press* is here too." In front of a crowd of more than 80,000, Obama delivered his address to the nation. Towards the end of his speech I stopped shooting to look around. People were crying uncontrollably. Obama's ability to tap into emotions, whether at a small rally or before an entire nation, was something to witness. And I will never forget the faces I photographed from his rallies and campaign stops over the years. I knew following his speech in Denver he would win the presidency. So it was after the DNC that I began planning my coverage of his inauguration.

Back in D.C. on that cold January morning I spent hours checking and re-checking my equipment, making sure my camera batteries were warm, and tearing through many bags of hand warmers. When I paused to look up, I saw the first light of dawn begin to pour over the Capitol building. Then to my right I noticed the National Mall begin to fill with spectators. The cold played havoc on my gear. The first battery I put into my camera died after 11 frames. I only brought two back-up batteries for the two cameras I was operating.

Over the next few hours I photographed invitees as they made their way their seats around the podium. There were former presidents, Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush and his family and Bill and Hilary Clinton, along with Members of Congress and the Supreme Court and dozens of VIPs. They were all bundled up in heavy coats and hats. We all were.

The inaugural ceremony began at 11 a.m. The Mall at that time was full with an estimated 1.8 million spectators. The temperature was about 28 degrees. The wind chill pushed it down to the single digits. To my left was the photographer from *The Guardian* newspaper of London. To my right, to my surprise, was Heinz Klutmeier, the legendary German sports photographer from *Sports Illustrated*. Klutmeier, a hero of mine, is famous for his "Miracle

THE PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER: EYEWITNESS TO AMERICA'S CHANGE, 1/20/2009

From previous page

on Ice" picture of the U.S. Hockey team celebrating their historic Olympic win over the Russians.

Kluetmeier even took my picture that day, I'm glad he never charged me his day rate.

I got to see many of my heroes of photo-journalism in action that day. I felt humbled to have worked beside them, even if it was only for a day.

I remember smiling and saying to myself, "how in the hell is the *Montrose Daily Press* this close to five living presidents." The press access I received was normally reserved for large-market media companies. I was lucky, but considering the amount of work I put in, I was also humbled. Obama's speech that day is something I will never forget. Being so close to the podium I remember not hearing a single thing he said. His every moment, his every word, was documented in the deafening sound of thousands of camera

shutters flickering non-stop throughout his entire speech.

Hours after I had filed hundreds of photos throughout the Wick network, I got to sit back with my feet up, eat Chinese food and watch his speech before America on a C-Span rerun.

I will never forget that day, the cold, or the 2,200 images I recorded. And I will be forever grateful to my superiors at Wick Communications and the team of the *Montrose Daily Press* who helped present my coverage to the readers.

And as we welcome the 45th president to the White House this weekend let's all pause to reflect what a great country we

live in. No other country respects the transfer of power like the United States of America. Note: William Woody is a 25-year news veteran currently living in Grand Junction. Follow him on Instagram and Twitter at: wwoodyCO



Vice President Joe Biden ushers President Barack Obama to the podium to deliver his first inaugural address Jan. 20, 2009. Photo by William Woody.



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

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

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

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

Valley Manor Care Center Memory Care Community

1401 South Cascade Ave., Montrose

Led by Brandi Garcia
Certified Dementia Care Validation Instructor

970-249-9634 or 970-275-6115

Email: bgarcia@voa.org

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16,000 COPIES OF MONTROSE VISITOR GUIDE SENT TO MONTROSE ZIP CODES, BOWMAN ANNOUNCES RIDE THE ROCKIES TO COME THROUGH CITY IN 2017

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Summary report of the Montrose City Council meeting held on Jan. 17, 2017.

2017 Official Montrose Visitor Guide – Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph.

Joseph unveiled the 2017 Visitor Guide and explained that the reduced size and fewer number of pages will reduce mailing costs. The entire guide was produced in-house and 16,000 copies for zip codes 81401, 02 and 03 are in the mail. Joseph said, "This is beyond a doubt the best publication we've come out with yet." Direct revenue of \$42,000 from advertisements help off-set the cost of the guide.

Youth Council Report to City Council – 11

members and one alternate.

In their first quarterly appearance before City Council the youth took turns updating the council on their programs and activities. Updates included a school drive for school supplies, the upcoming Teen Opportunity Expo, Crime Stoppers involvement and production of a video to inform and educate people on the proper way to drive through a roundabout.

Ordinance 2410, second reading – City Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

The ordinance allows liquor stores to hold liquor tastings. Alcorn said, "This is highly regulated by the State." The State requires servers to be certified and the city will hold a server training class Febru-

ary 1st at 5 p.m. Registration can be done online through the city web site. For additional information contact Montrose City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo, 970-240-1422. Council voted unanimously to approved the ordinance.

Bid Approval – Public Works Director John Harris. The replacement of the Black Canyon Golf Course driving range netting and posts, in the amount of \$61,150, was approved.

Bid Approval – Public Works Director John Harris.

Design work for the South Hillcrest Extension Project, in the amount of \$127,930, was approved. This is for design work only, not construction. At a previous meeting HOA representatives voiced concerns with increased traffic in their neighborhoods. Harris said those concerns are being mitigated and will be eliminated if possible.

Bid Approval – Public Works Director John Harris.

Design work for the Miami-Hillcrest roundabout, in the amount of \$106,291.10, was approved. This is for design work only, not construction.

Staff Reports:

Sales, Use, and Excise Tax Report – Finance Director Shani Wittenberg.

November 2016 compared to November 2015 shows total collections up 7.7 percent. Year-to-date collections for the Recreation District (.3%) are \$1,410,589. Year-to-date collections for Retail Enhancement funds are \$285,489.

Public Information Officer – City Manager Bill Bell.

Bell reiterated the next liquor server training class will be held on Feb. 1st.

City Council Comments:

Comments included the opening of the Rec Center and the participation of eighth-grade students in a design project for Columbine School. Councilman Dave Bowman announced that the Office of Business and Tourism secured Montrose as a stop-over for Ride the Rockies. "On June 15 approximately 600 to 800 bicycle riders will be coming through and stopping in Montrose."

Bowman encouraged businesses to prepare for the opportunity and the influx of people.



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.... CO-OP RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

CITY DISCUSSES 2017 ANNEXATION PLAN, FLEET PURCHASE RECOMMENDATIONS @ WORK SESSION



Montrose City Council Work Session Discussion Jan. 16. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE- City Council Work Session Jan. 16, 2017

Discussion Items:

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

Harris introduced each vehicle and discussed bids and warranties. Vehicles included replacements and an increase in the fleet. Bids that exceeded the budgeted amount were offset by bids that came in under budget. Councilman Dave Bowman asked, "Any idea why Ford [local] isn't bidding any of this?" City Manager Bill Bell speculated, "In the past locals didn't bid because it was too much paperwork."

2017 Plan of Annexation – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

State statute requires a Three-Mile Plan around the city that identifies future growth. Baker said annexations are prioritized: Those areas served adequately by city utilities (sewer, water). Private landowner's requests. Highway corridor properties. Eligible enclaves. Growth tiers.

Referring to priority number four Councilman Roy Anderson asked, "Do existing enclaves have any cost to the city?" Baker said, "Nominal. Those in the county are not subject to city sales tax...the city would lose sales tax on a washing machine [purchase]."

Referencing the 2008 Comprehensive

Plan City Manager Bell said, "There will be a full update on the comprehensive plan next year that will include the public [input]."

Hillcrest Drive Subdivision, Vacation Ordinance, and Quit Claim Deed – Senior Planner Garry Baker and Director of Innovation and Citizen

Engagement Virgil Turner. Baker explained there has been discussion for a long time on a land swap with Hillcrest property owners Noonan. In exchange for 0.9 acres from Noonan, the City will give Noonan 0.5 acres.

Turner said, "What we're doing here is

providing Noonan with a more viable piece of property...a piece of property that we don't intend to develop. The property we receive gives the city a recreation connection. It's a win-win."

Urban Renewal Plan for the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Project - City Manager Bill Bell.

Bell said, "This is the last step for the city to take in the plan of development." As a special district the county has yet to finish their negotiations with the city; however, the city has received approval from all other special districts.

General Discussion:

Anderson questioned why the city is open for Martin Luther King Day (MLK) and the message it sends by not closing on that day. The city manager explained it is an employee group decision between taking off MLK Day (January) or Columbus Day (October). "We respect their right to choose their own holiday."

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

- **FOOD:** In the most affluent country on earth, seniors have to choose between food and medicine.
- **SHELTER:** Imagine having to find a decent, secure place to live on an income of \$800 per month.
- **SAFETY:** For older adults, home can often become a dangerous place without proper repairs.
- **SUPPORT:** Sometimes we all need a little help from our friends.
- **CARE:** When living at home is no longer an option, we can help.
- **CONNECTIONS:** When you outlive all of your friends and family, who do you turn to?

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

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



www.voahealthservices.org
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1-844-VOA-4YOU Toll Free Assistance Line

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KEVIN LARSON FOUND GUILTY ON ALL FIVE CHARGES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-People v. Kevin Larson, Montrose Court Case No. 2014 CR 110 – Guilty Verdicts. On Friday, Jan. 20, 2017, a jury consisting of twelve citizens from Montrose County found defendant, Kevin Larson guilty on the five charges that were filed in this case. The verdict was read in the Montrose District Court before the Honorable Keri Yoder. The five charges occurred during the time period of August 1, 2012, through May 14, 2014, and are as follows:

Count 1: Sex Assault on a Child, Pattern of Abuse, C.R.S. 18-3-405.3(1),(2)(d), a class three felony.

Count 2: Sexual Exploitation of a Child, C.R.S. 18-6-403(3)(a), a class three felony.

Count 3: Pandering of a Child, C.R.S. 18-7-403(1)(b), a class three felony.

Count 4: Patronizing a Prostituted Child, 18-7-406(1)(a), a class three felony.

Count 5: Internet Sexual Exploitation of a Child, C.R.S. 18-3-405.4(1), a class four felony.

This trial began January 17, 2017, and it lasted through Jan. 20, 2017. The evidence presented was through the testimony of the child victim, lay witnesses, and law enforcement officers.

This verdict is the result of hard work from the entire Sex Offense Prosecution Team, including Seth Ryan, Lane Thomasson, and Denetta Dunlap, and our partners in law enforcement, specifically Montrose Police Detective Abby Boston. We recognize the amount of not only time, but energy and investigation that is required in cases involving sex offenses and we appreciate all of the efforts of the Sex Offense

Team and Law Enforcement.

A case involving a charge of sex offense requires extraordinary work, energy and investigation.

This work is greatly enhanced when the sex offense involves a victim who is a minor child.

Mr. Larson was remanded into the custody of the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and will be held there until sentencing. The sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2017, at 4 p.m. in the Montrose District Court.

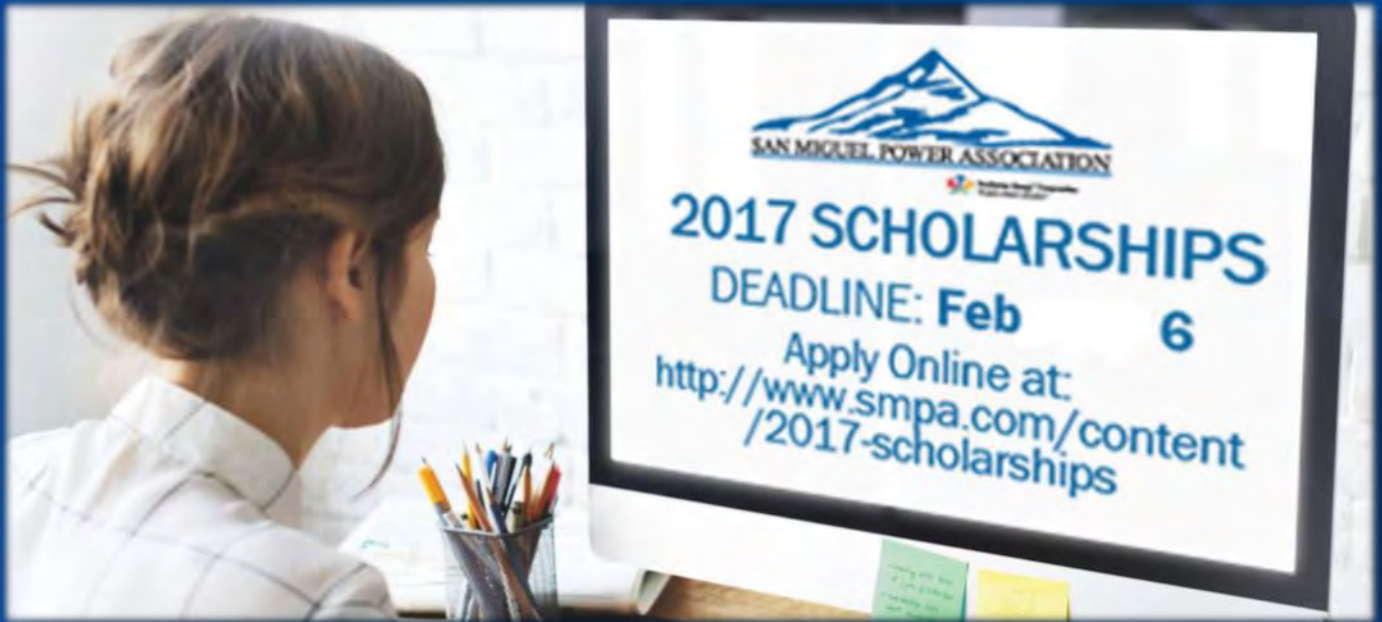
The court can impose probation or may commit the defendant to the Department of Corrections for a period of two years to twelve years to life. The defendant will be required to participate in sex offender treatment and to register as a sex offender.

The Mirror:

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



www.montrosemirror.com



This year, San Miguel Power will award up to \$27,000 in college scholarships to students who are dependents of SMPA members. We award up to 16 scholarships to deserving graduating seniors seeking a college degree or vocational certification.

2017 SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS FEB. 6

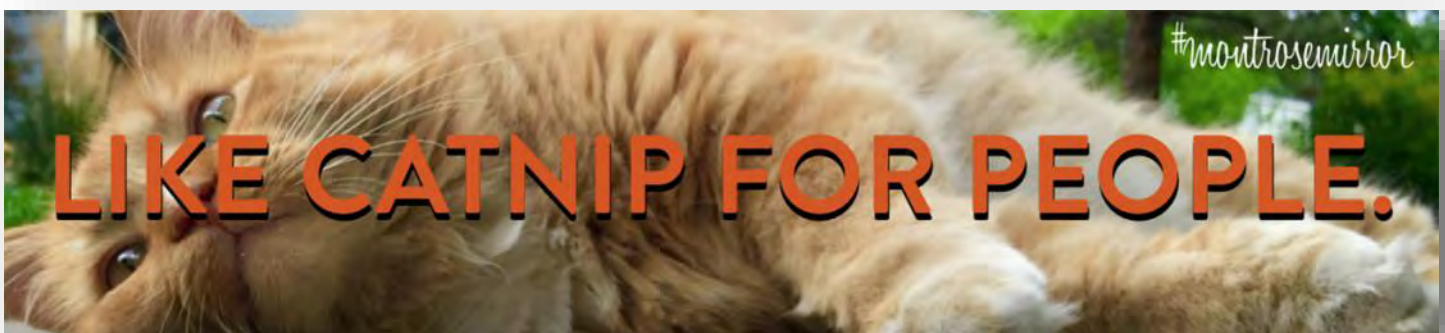
REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PILE BURNING CONTINUES THROUGH WEEK OF JAN. 27

Special to the Mirror

GMUG— Fire officials on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests plan to prescribe burn piles of slash and residue from project work beginning on Jan. 19 through the week of Jan. 27. On the Ouray Ranger District, approximately 100 small machine-built piles (approximately 50 acres) will be burned off near 25 Mesa Guard Station off National Forest Service Road 503 on the Uncompahgre Plateau. In addition, six small piles will be burned in the Amphitheater Campground near Ouray. Firefighters will ignite piles to burn slash and other debris and continue to monitor the burning for safety and the effectiveness of removing project debris and excess fuels.

Fire managers have developed prescribed fire plans and obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for each of the planned burns. Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information see <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS IN DELTA COUNTY

ALPINE BANK SUPPORTING WELLNESS – LIVE WELL, WORK WELL

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – In recognition of the 10th Anniversary of Alpine Bank in Delta, the bank and staff are planning various monthly activities throughout the year. There will be a bigger celebration occurring during the month of July, the actual month the bank opened in 2007. Stay tuned for announcements of additional events and activities.

To kick-off the festivities, we are excited to contribute a \$3500 donation to the Delta County Memorial Hospital Foundation. The funds will be used to support the Foundation's Wellness Program. Alpine Bank believes in Wellness and Preventative Care. Currently, the bank offers a robust wellness program to staff that includes reimbursement for various annual exams for medical, dental and vision, blood draw and flu shots. Additionally, new in 2017 the program includes an Alpine Fit program that will incorporate fitness challenges and other health events and activities.



"The Delta County Memorial Foundation is pleased to accept Alpine Bank's generous donation of \$3,500.00 which will be applied towards the Foundation's wellness program" said Lucinda Stanley, DCMF Board Member. "With the continued changes in health care, the role of the Foundation is continuing to grow and evolve."

The donation to the foundation to sup-

port Delta County Wellness is a \$500 donation for each full time employee at our Delta branch as a way of broadening our reach of the importance of wellness to the greater community, for a total of \$3500.

"Having completed our first 10 years in Delta, our thoughts are centered on the community and how we can give back." says Barbara Wolfe, Alpine Bank Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager, "We are honored to make the wellness program at DCMH, Alpine Bank's first donation of the New Year."

About Alpine Bank

Chartered in 1973, Alpine Bank is an employee-owned organization with assets exceeding \$3 billion.

With headquarters in Glenwood Springs and 38 banking offices across Colorado, Alpine Bank employs nearly 600 people and serves more than 130,000 customers with retail, business, wealth management*, mortgage and electronic banking services.

Alpine Bank has a 5-star rating for financial strength by BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation's leading bank rating firm. The 5-star rating is BauerFinancial's highest rating for financial institutions. Learn more at www.alpinebank.com.

*Alpine Bank Wealth Management services are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not guaranteed by the bank.

2017 Health Fair Early Blood Draws

Montrose Pavilion
February 1, 2, 3, & 4
6:30-9:30 a.m.

Additional Locations for Early Blood Draws

January 28th
4H Event Center in Ridgway 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.

January 30th
American Legion Hall in Olathe 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Appointments may be made online for all three locations at
www.MontroseHospital.com
January 15-26

12 hour fast required. Drink lots of water!
We will NOT bill your insurance. Checks and cash only.

Blood Tests Offered

- Chemistry & Lipid Profile ~ \$45
(includes iron binding and TSH)
- Hemoglobin A1C ~ \$35
(additional screening for diabetes)
- PSA for Prostate Health ~ \$30
- CBC ~ \$20
(complete blood count)
- Vitamin D Screening ~ \$40
- Vitamin B-12 ~ \$40
- Male Testosterone ~ \$45

Health Fair 2017 is
Saturday, February 25

The lines are long, so MMH offers early blood draws to make it more convenient for you.

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Montrose Memorial Hospital complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PREDATOR REDUCTION MULE DEER POPULATION STUDY PRESENTATION

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY—On Feb. 7, 6:30-8 p.m. there will be a Predator Reduction Mule Deer Population Study Presentation at Ridgway Community Center/Town Hall, 201 N. Railroad St. Ridgway, Colorado 81432. Over the next three years, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will attempt to increase the mule deer population in two regions of Colorado by reducing the number of mountain lions and bears. Join Chuck Anderson, CPW's Mammal Research Leader, for an educational 40-minute presentation on this project that is part of a long-term wildlife study. The project was initiated in 2008 to address mule deer/energy development interactions and to identify improved approaches for development planning and evaluate habitat treatments as mitigation option to benefit mule deer. The public is invited to learn about the study and ask questions.

Organizing the event is Northern San Juan Broadband, a chapter of the Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

For more information please contact northernsanjuanbroadband@gmail.com.

START OFF THE NEW YEAR WITH CLASSIC SKIING AT POWDERHORN MOUNTAIN RESORT!

Powderhorn celebrates 50th anniversary season with special insider's experience at resort

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION—For 50 years, Powderhorn Mountain Resort has been serving up skiing on the beautiful Grand Mesa, located just 45-minutes from Grand Junction, Colorado. From the early days, with just a single rope tow, to present day, featuring the new Flat Top Flyer high-speed detachable quad lift, Powderhorn continuously provides some of the best tree skiing in Colorado.

"Powderhorn is a hidden gem," explained Mistalynn Meyeraan, spokesperson for the Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau. "Those who've visited know that they feature great snow, friendly staff and minimal lift lines. Add to that our incredibly reasonable lift ticket prices and the fact that we're only 45 minutes from the amenities of Grand Junction, Colorado and you'll understand why we're a destination that should be visited to be fully appreciated."

There is a new program being offered in 2017 to help both Powderhorn loyalists and newcomers alike learn more about the mountain from the perspective of their professional Ski Patrol.

Ski Patrol Ski Along at Powderhorn

No one knows the ins and outs of a ski resort better than its Ski Patrol—after all, it's their job. But few really get to see

what it's like to serve on the mountain.

For an unparalleled insider's experience, book Powderhorn's new Ski Patrol Ski Along. You'll ski with a professional Ski Patroller and learn some of the tools of the trade such as safety and transporting and caring for guests on the mountain.

"We've developed the "Ski Patrol Ski Along" program to serve as a local guide to educate guests of all ages about the roles of ski patrol and their importance to the resort," said Ryan Robinson, Marketing and Sales Manager at Powderhorn. "Plus, this program allows our professional patrollers to become a mentor to others, while imparting knowledge for those looking to possibly work in the ski industry," said Robinson.

There are two Ski Patrol Ski Along experiences: the two-hour package is \$75 per person; the four-hour package is \$95 per person. For more information or to book, call 970-268-5158.

Powderhorn Mountain Resort has partnered with the Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau to offer a new ski and stay package in 2017, allowing guests to customize their stay. Choose between 15 hotels and one to five days of skiing. Affordable flights from several locations, paired with affordable hotel and ski packages means guests can ski more and worry

less. <http://www.visitgrandjunction.com/ski-stay>

For more information on Powderhorn Mountain Resort and the various vacation options available, visit

www.visitgrandjunction.com. Want to see more of Powderhorn Mountain Resort's journey? Check out the [50th Anniversary video](#) for interviews and images from the swinging 60s to today.

About Powderhorn Mountain Resort

(www.powderhorn.com.) – Situated deep in the heart of the Grand Mesa on the storied Western Slope of Colorado, Powderhorn is a scenic, family-friendly ski, snowboard, and mountain bike destination featuring 1,600 acres of terrain suited to a variety of abilities and preferences.

Powderhorn is known for extending exceptional value to each guest, thanks to improvements at the resort and a mountain focused on creating a one-of-a-kind, year-round experience. Western Colorado is known for its wide-open spaces, distinctive topography and friendly local residents.

To learn more about Powderhorn Mountain Resort, visit www.powderhorn.com or call 970-268-5700.

Join the conversation at www.facebook.com/skipowderhorn and www.twitter.com/skipowderhorn.

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A MORE IMPORTANT TIME TO STAND UP...

Young Montrose Woman Joins National Women's March, Protest



Sara Anders Rinne in Montrose, above, photo by William Woody. Other photos courtesy of Sara Anders Rinne.



By William Woody

GRAND JUNCTION — More than one thousand women from across the Western Slope descended on downtown Grand Junction Saturday, Jan. 21 to participate in the national and global protest of President Donald Trump amidst signals from congressional Republicans that health care access for women could be restricted.

The Woman's March grew into the millions world-wide Saturday with protests in 600 cities across the globe — one day

after Donald Trump was sworn in as the nation's 45th President.

Women from Montrose were among those attending marches in Grand Junction, Denver and Washington D.C. — the epicenter of the movement. Saturday's march was the largest protest of Donald Trump since he began his bid for the United States presidency. The Grand Junction march was the largest on the Western Slope.

Montrose resident Sara Anders Rinne attended the Women's March in Washington D.C. Saturday. She sat down with the Montrose Mirror days before her departure Friday.

"His rhetoric," she said of President Trump. "The way he is normalizing hateful, bigoted, misogynistic thoughts and tendencies. And if there has ever been a more important time to stand up, this seemed like the time to do that."

Anders Rinne was a Colorado state delegate in 2016 representing Montrose County Democrats.

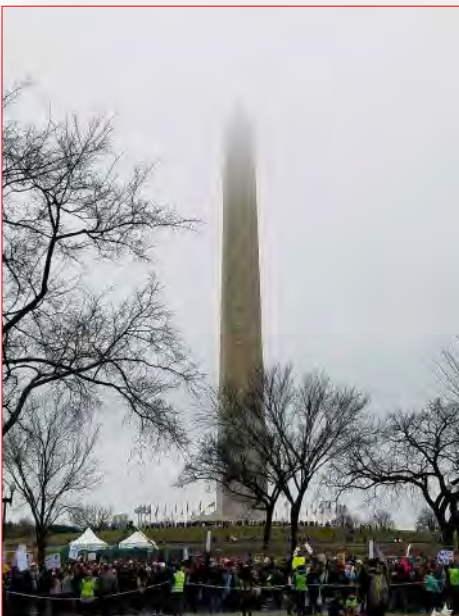
D.C. officials confirmed late Saturday afternoon that nearly half a million had gathered in areas around the U.S. Capitol. That unofficial number is more than the

total of people who gathered for Trump's inauguration the day before. With American flags still hanging on the Capitol building from Trump's inauguration, eyes Saturday turned to Trump and Republicans and their plans for health care — in particular — women's health care.

"His presidency is going to have more impact on me and my family than anything that has ever happened before," Anders Rinne said. "His policies and priorities are going to be challenged. Remember, 65-million people in this country didn't vote for him."

A bad cellular network prevented an interview with Anders Rinne from D.C. Saturday. However, she later posted on social media that the march was "peaceful, inspirational, emotional, powerful!"

The Grand Junction march began at about 12:50 p.m. in the parking lot of the former R-5 school and traveled about a mile along Main Street to the Two Rivers Convention Center.



TO THE STREETS: GRAND JUNCTION WOMEN'S MARCH!



At left, Montrose resident Linda Gann speaks to a large crowd Saturday afternoon before a march through Grand Junction.



Interview & Photos by William Woody

GRAND JUNCTION-Under light rain, women in pink were joined by men and children holding signs as the march drew pictures and applause from curious onlookers.

"I am here in support of this amazing national movement and here to stand up for women rights and the rights of all Americans," Gail Houseweart of Hotchkiss said.

After songs and speeches of activism the march disbursed just after 2 p.m. after about 70 minutes.

Along with women's rights, concerns over issues of free speech, public lands, freedom of the press, and cuts to education were also voiced.

To search social media for posts from Saturday's Grand Junction march use hashtags: #WomensMarchGJ #WomensMarch

Follow William Woody on Twitter and Instagram: wwood-yco

Contact via email: woody.freelance@gmail.com



REDUCING BUS RIDERSHIP SAVES MONEY FOR DISTRICT, RAISES STRESS FOR PARENTS

Heavy Traffic at Schools 'Has Nothing to Do With Me,' First Student Manager Says

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE—It's no secret to local parents that patience is required when dropping off and picking up students at elementary and middle schools in Montrose—parking lots are maxed out, and tempers can flare.

And yet, the most [recent chart available](#) on the Montrose County School District RE-1J web site, a five-year history of transportation mileage [published in 2014](#), shows a steady decrease in student use of the bus transportation system here.

According to the Safe Routes to School Partnership, school bus transport is being impacted by school budget cuts nationwide. Still, "the average school bus transports 54 student passengers, replacing approximately 36 family vehicles," the [Safe Routes Partnership](#) notes. "Each parent that replaces a bus ride with driving their child to school uses approximately 180 additional gallons of fuel per year, spends an additional \$663 on fuel, and puts 3,600 miles on their car."

However, school buses also cost money. Safe Routes statistics state that, "based on the average per-pupil expense and the average number of children per bus, a **school district saves an estimated \$37,000 per school year by eliminating one bus route.**"

Eliminating bus routes may save money for school districts, but to lose bus service can be devastating to a young family. Just ask Montrose Mom of five Betty Summarell, whose second grade son was kicked off his school bus recently for rowdiness.

"According to the slip, he had been warned several times over the prior few days to and from school," Summarell said. "But since Winter Break I have been taking them to school in the mornings, so my kids were only riding the bus home after school."

"But when I called the Bus Barn, the guy that answered the phone was rude," she said. "He told me he had it on video but would not permit me to see the video."

Now, Summarell must drop her children off at Johnson elementary by 7:20 a.m. or risk being tardy because of the long drop-

off line at school and the distance from the school to her East Montrose neighborhood.

As a mom of five who often drives her own children, Summarell said she understands the need for well-behaved young riders. Still, "I depended on the bus to get my kids to and from school on time and safely. Now I am adding more traffic to the road and another car in the pick-up and drop-off line at the school," she said.

Though other parents of students who ride the same bus have complained of situations similar to Betty Summarell's son, and of a driver in his late 70's who cannot seem to maintain order, the responsibility for student behavior rests almost entirely on the student. Though there are [rules governing driver conduct](#), in the end a school bus driver's primary duty is to drive students to school and back safely. And being loud is reason enough for a green slip.

"Any commercial driver, whether he drives a school bus or a big rig, has to have a Department of Transportation card," a Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies spokesman informed the Mirror. "They are required to pass a physical; if a doctor approves their health and ability to drive there is no cutoff age to drive a school bus."

Here in Montrose, [First Student](#) is the bus contractor, and Scott Harold is bus barn manager for RE-1J schools.

"We have a pretty regimented training program, and we follow all Department of Transportation requirements," Harold said. "There is no limit when it comes to driver age." When asked about the impact of decreasing bus ridership on traffic at local schools, "I really don't have any comment; it has nothing to do with me," Harold said.

In addition, both the School District and First Student are Equal Opportunity Employers, making it illegal to discriminate against school bus drivers. "As long as a person can perform the duties of the job described in the job description, and pass the test and pass the safety measures,



Parents whose children are suspended from school buses are not allowed to view incident videos. Mirror Staff Photo.

they are eligible to be employed," Montrose County School District RE-1J Assistant Superintendent Kirk Henwood said.

For Betty Summarell and other parents and guardians whose kids are no longer allowed to ride a school bus, the loss of school transportation is exacerbated by Johnson Elementary School's location, which leaves parents no option but to drive through the pickup loop or compete for space in the over-full lot. With safe routes to school and accessible sidewalks lacking, few students walk to school here. There are no neighborhoods nearby to allow parents to park on side streets and walk over. And though the current Johnson facility is relatively new, it also has the largest elementary population in the district with more than 500 students.

"In the afternoon, I have to either get there 45 minutes early to pick them up and wait, or sit in a long line of cars that is backed up nearly to the main highway," Summarell said. "This is a big inconvenience for me as I have a car that is not in the greatest of shape and I don't have a lot of money for gas for it."

The only advice school officials can offer is to leave home a little later.

"I know that when I am sitting someplace, it seems to take much longer," Henwood said.

"We are constantly looking at traffic and bus patterns to keep kids safe. In the case of Johnson Elementary, a lot of parents show up early; that's a parent choice," he said.

"But if parents would come a little later they would not have to wait hardly at all."

"Eye of newt, and toe of frog ..."



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ISSUE 81 Jan. 23, 2017

ART & SOL

FOR THE FUTURE...TREASURE THOSE "GRAND" RELATIONSHIPS WITH GRANDPARENTS, GRANDKIDS!



Liesl Greathouse and her paternal grandmother.
Courtesy photo.

By Liesl Greathouse

REGIONAL-I, currently 25, started my journey of realization about the importance of grandparents over a year ago when my last grandparent passed away. It made me realize in retrospect the massive effect grandparents have on people's lives, whether they or their grandchildren fully

realize it.

I was blessed to be able to grow up with some of my grandparents, but most were gone too soon. My maternal grandmother died when I was born, so no relationship ever had a chance to be formed. My maternal grandfather passed away when I was young due to lifelong bad habits. My paternal grandfather died in his 80s when I was in high school, but I lost out on getting to know him and the great wealth of information that I knew he had even when I was too young to understand. My last grandparent, my paternal grandmother, passed

away in my early 20s, after a slow decline over a decade and ending in a form of dementia. Each of them holds a branch on my family tree, some stronger than others, but all are still there. Sadly, the ones I feel like I would have connected with the most died before I could really know them or even before I could meet

them. Sad how life works like that sometimes.

I talked with some people who had also felt the pain of losing grandparents as young adults.

"My parents had me at 40, so my parents are now 76," said Heather Eckman Stark, 36. "My maternal grandpa died when I was in high school and my paternal grandpa died when I was in middle school," she explained. "My paternal grandma died when I was 26, but I never knew my maternal grandma."

Callie Carey, 37, lost her grandmother when she was 25, who was a huge influence for her. "My granny was a driving force in my life," Carey said. "She taught me how to read and crochet. I spent almost every weekend at her house."

Hannah Carter, 24, saw how the loss of grandparents affected her family tree. "I never knew my grandpa on my mom's side," she said. "He passed when my mom was in her teens. I lost my grandma on my mom's side when I was in 5th grade...That was the only grandparent that I really had a relationship with. As for my grandparents on my dad's side, that is a different story. I never got to know them. I only remember meeting them

Continued next page

TREASURE THOSE “GRAND” RELATIONSHIPS From pg 24

twice in my life. My grandpa passed in November of 2009...[and] my grandma passed in May of 2010...I remember seeing a new side of my dad days after his mom had passed. I had seen him sad before, but I had never seen him in mourning.”

So why are grandparents so important? Why do I feel such a loss in my family now? Because they hold the special place of being teachers, friends, and mentors. The things that grandparents pass onto their grandchildren can take various forms, from useful skills to life lessons. I learned from my paternal grandmother the love of home-cooked food and from my paternal grandfather a love of history. Even though I never met her, through the influence my maternal grandmother had on my mother, I learned how strong the love can be between mothers and daughters.

“I didn’t know my grandpas very much, but my paternal grandma was alive when I could actually know her,” Stark said. “I learned from her the passion of music (she played the organ at church), and how to be light-hearted even in stressful situations (she always made funny faces when she was in the hospital and made the nurses freak out!). I learned the love of finding rocks on her beach in Minnesota, the love for family and Christ.”

“The greatest thing that I learned from my grandma on my mom’s side was how to crochets and make zucchini bread,” Carter said. “I couldn’t tell you how to crochets today, but I make some mean zucchini bread.”

But as our society has changed over the past few decades, the shift in generations is resulting in different looking family relationships.

A couple facts show what these shifts have actually been: Between 1970 and 2007, the average age for a woman to have her first child rose by 3.6 years. During the same period, life expectancy for a 65-year-old increased 3.4 years. Combine those things with the fact that, according to the latest federal research, while women in the U.S. overall are having fewer babies, mothers between 40 and 54 are

having more. The increasing age of motherhood underscores a dramatic shift that’s been taking shape for decades. In 1972, about 180,000 children were born to mothers 35 and older.

By 2008, that number had more than tripled, to 603,113.

Many people are waiting longer to have children, some even much longer, resulting in grandparents that are already well into their elder years before their grandchildren come along. That has definitely shifted things in many ways, both as a society and as families.

What do we miss out on when we love our grandparents? We miss a connection to a period in time we never lived through, a whole different perspective on life and our world today, as well as additional members of our family to connect with.

“I never was able to have a relationship with my dad’s parents,” Carter said. “It is sad to know that I will never be able to know them. By the time that I was old enough to decide for myself to create a relationship, they had passed. You learn a lot about your family’s history from your grandparents. I won’t get the chance to learn their life story.”

“I often feel like I’ve missed out by my granny not being here,” Carey said. “She never really got to know my youngest son and even my oldest boys didn’t get to know her because of [her] dementia.”

“We can learn so much from them,” Stark added. “They open our eyes to the real concerns. They lived through a lot more situations than we have.”

Today, if actual death does not take our grandparents from us, Alzheimers and other debilitating diseases often will. While they may physically still be with us, they are mentally gone and so is any chance of having a true relationship with them, or at least one they will remember. With my paternal grandmother, as her dementia progressed, I never really knew if she knew who I was or really connected that I was the little girl she watched grow up.

My experience with dementia is one

that, sadly, many families face. According to the Alzheimer’s Association, “One in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer’s or other dementia...The number of Americans living with Alzheimer’s disease is growing and growing fast. One in nine people age 65 and older has Alzheimer’s disease.”

The Association also explained that, “Alzheimer’s disease is officially listed as the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States...Although deaths from other major causes have decreased significantly in the last decade, deaths from Alzheimer’s disease have increased significantly-71 percent. In 2013, over 84,000 Americans died from Alzheimer’s according to official death certificates; however, in 2016, an estimated 700,000 people with Alzheimer’s will die, and the disease likely will contribute to many of those deaths.”

While societal shifts and increases in dementia and disease continue to affect families, grandparents still hold a key role in their grandchildren’s lives.

“I think it’s extremely important for grandparents to be involved,” Carey said. “They offer so much love, guidance and support.”

“The wisdom we can gain from them [that we have lost] has hindered our society,” Stark said. “The communication between families is dwindling. There aren’t meals as a family any more [because] people are too busy. Older generations still like sitting down to a meal as a family.”

“They are our family’s legacy,” Carter added. “They are the ones that pass down the stories to the younger generations. Grandparents are able to teach us things that our parents aren’t able to. You have a special connection with grandparents that your aren’t able to have with anyone else in the world.”

Grandparents, treasure your relationships with your grandchildren. Pass on your knowledge and love, give them a hug or even just a phone call, because that connection will not last forever.

And those family ties can make all the difference in the world as to how the next generation will be.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: SENIOR RESOURCES

2017 BEACON GUIDE: YOUR GUIDE TO AGING WELL IN MONTROSE AND DELTA COUNTIES IS AVAILABLE NOW

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-The BEACON Senior Newspaper has released The 2017 BEACON Guide, the annual guide to aging well in Montrose and Delta Counties and a trusted resource for area seniors, their families and those who assist them. This year, The BEACON Guide has expanded to offer more resources and valuable content to help local boomers and seniors age gracefully on the Western Slope.

The 2017 guide features hundreds of listings for local, state and national resources and hard-to-find phone numbers. From finding leisure activities to planning your retirement, and from home health care to moving to an assisted living facility, The BEACON Guide will help you navigate your golden years. The guide also includes listings for clubs, genealogy resources, veterans' resources, support

groups, volunteer opportunities and more.

As the local senior community grows, so does The BEACON Guide. Listings are added each year, and staff has taken great care to make sure each is accurate and up to date. Each phone number is called and personally verified year after year. Widely distributed throughout Montrose and Delta Counties, The BEACON Guide can be found at numerous doctors' offices, senior centers, hospitals and more. For even more convenience, a virtual edition of The BEACON Guide is available online at www.BeaconSeniorNews.com.

This senior-friendly version may be turned page-by-page with a click of the mouse. To request a physical copy of The 2017 BEACON Guide, or for our Mesa County edition, call 970-243-8829. Businesses may call and request copies of the guide in bulk, and a BEACON staff member



will personally deliver them.



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Michele Gad is a Certified DelGiacco Neuro Art Therapist, who assists individuals with cognitive or mental health challenges to live life as fully and independently as possible. She developed FAME in 2010 to better assist her clients. Sessions are specifically designed to meet client's individual needs, goals, abilities, and level of commitment...and have fun!

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

LOST IN MOTHERLAND: WRITING TO DISCOVER WHO WE ARE(N'T) WITH ROSEMERRY WAHTOLA TROMMER

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Motherhood changes things. Amidst the blessings and the challenges, we transform. As one mother put it, "With my first child, I lost my interests. With my second child, I lost my identity." How do we lean into motherhood's paradoxical blend of miracle and loss? What happens when we ask, "Who am I?" Weehawken Creative Arts invites you to come explore these questions and conclusions in their upcoming workshop led by highly-rated instructor, Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer on Jan. 28th. Weehawken's workshop, "Lost in Motherland: Writing to Discover Who We Are(n't)" invites mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, mothers of all ages to come play and explore their experience through writing. The class will be taught and led by poet Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer. Trommer "never fails to bring sensual joy and rich music," says Utah's poet laureate emeritus David Lee. She is Colorado's Western Slope Poet

Laureate (2015-17) and a TEDx speaker, and she served two terms as San Miguel County's first poet laureate (2006-2010). She has authored and edited thirteen books, including: *Even Now: Poems & Drawings*, *Holding Three Things at Once*, (finalist for the Colorado Book Award) and *If You Listen* (winner of the Colorado Independent Press Assoc. poetry award). Trommer is widely anthologized, including *An Elevated View: Colorado Writers on Writing*, *Poems of Awakening*, and *Red Thread*, *Gold Thread: The Poet's Voice*. Her work has appeared on *A Prairie Home Companion*, in *O Magazine*, on back alley fences, on rocks she leaves around town, and in dozens of literary journals including *Rattle*, *Clover and Spectrum*. Her poetry was chosen for the 2016 Shared Visions project, in which composer Paul Fowler arranged "Yet Another Layer" for the Ars Nova Singers. Trommer has taught and performed poetry for Think 360, Craig Hospital, Hospice, 12-Step pro-

grams, meditation retreats, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Weehawken Arts, Camp Coca Cola, SpiritFest, Business & Professional Women, Wellspring of Imagination, and for hundreds of libraries, colleges, festivals, schools and groups. She directed the Telluride Writers Guild for 10 years and now co-hosts the Talking Gourds Poetry Club. The "Lost in Motherland" workshop will be held on Jan. 28th from 9 am until 1 pm at Weehawken Ridgway (1075 Sherman St.) and will cost \$85. All students should bring their own preferred writing materials. Register in advance through Weehawken Creative Arts at www.weehawkenarts.org (adult arts classes tab) or by calling Weehawken at [970.318.0150](tel:970.318.0150). A minimum number of students must be met in order to guarantee the class, so interested students are encouraged to register several days in advance. More information @ www.weehawkenarts.org or [facebook.com/weehawkenarts](https://www.facebook.com/weehawkenarts).

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & NATURE

CPW: LYNX DIED OF NATURAL CAUSES

Special to the Mirror

DURANGO—A lynx that was found dead on a ski slope Jan. 8 at the Purgatory Ski Resort died of natural causes, Colorado Parks and Wildlife announced Wednesday. The lynx was seen by dozens of people at the ski area and a video of the cat was viewed on social media nearly 1 million times.

A necropsy of the 11-year-old male found a tumor in the animal's throat that prevented it from eating. Although not common, tumors are found in wildlife.

While the news was greeted with regret by many people, this lynx is symbolic of the success of CPW's reintroduction program.

"The cat lived a long life in the wild and spent its time in some of Colorado's most incredible backcountry," said Scott Wait, senior terrestrial biologist for CPW's southwest region. Wait was involved with the reintroduction from the start and continues to work on long-term monitoring efforts.

Lynx from Canada and Alaska were transplanted to Colorado starting in 1999. Most were released near the Weminuche Wilderness in southwest Colorado. The area was chosen because it contains few roads compared with other areas in the state. All the cats that were released were fitted with radio collars and tracked by researchers. This allowed CPW to monitor them, watch for mortalities, find their

dens and locate newborn kittens. A microchip was implanted into all the kittens — the same type pet veterinarians use — so that researchers could identify the animals later if they were found. To the delight of biologists, a chip was found in this lynx and it revealed the cat was born in the Bear Creek area near Telluride in 2005. The cat's mother was one of the original lynx released in the reintroduction program. A record number of lynx dens, 16, were found that year by CPW biologists.

In 2009, the cat was captured as part of a research effort and fitted with a GPS collar which revealed that it was living in the remote area between Telluride, Rico and the Purgatory ski area. The collar eventually fell off the animal.

"The lynx lived in what is the best type of habitat for its species, high elevation and thick spruce-fir forest. This shows that much of Colorado's high country is suitable lynx habitat," Wait said.

A long-term monitoring project in southwest Colorado that uses snow-tracking and remote cameras has shown that lynx are occupying ideal habitat and are doing well in the wild. Frequent lynx sightings in many mountain areas also provide anecdotal evidence that cats are now part of



This is a photograph of a lynx as it was released by CPW as part of a reintroduction program in 2006 near Creede, Colo. Courtesy photo.

the Colorado landscape. Because the cats are elusive and live in remote areas, CPW cannot accurately estimate the population of the large felines.

Even though the lynx was in its last days when it was seen on the ski slopes, the sightings provided a rare opportunity for people to see a large cat in the wild, said Patt Dorsey, CPW's southwest regional manager. "We talk a lot about the importance of wildlife, but when we get to see extraordinary animals in the wild, it gives us a much greater appreciation of their beauty and of the importance of conserving the natural world," Dorsey said. To read more about lynx, go to the CPW web site at: <http://cpw.state.co.us>.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & NATURE

GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS @ MONTROSE LIBRARY

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Great Decisions, America's largest discussion program on world affairs, will meet Thursday evenings Feb. 2 through March 23, from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Montrose Library Meeting Room. Developed by the Foreign Policy Association, the program intends to engage communities and broaden public involvement in foreign affairs. The Foreign Policy Association provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year. Participants will view a related DVD and then participate in a discussion, led by Barbara Krebs of the League of Women Voters. A briefing book is available at the library for check out or purchase. Call the library at 249-9656 (ext. 3) to register or for more information.

KAFM HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL GALLERY 88.1 LIVE AUCTION!

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-A feast for the eyes! Just what you would expect when KAFM Community Radio and the art community meet. KAFM Community Radio hosts the second annual **Gallery 88.1 live auction**, a celebration of local art and artists, Jan. 21 to 28, 2017. This year's auction on Jan. 28 is sponsored by Studio 2138's owners Andre Delgalvis, fine art photographer/author and Susan Delgalvis, painter.

Art can be previewed on the KAFM website with a link to the artist's home page and their bio. A preview open to the public will be on Friday Jan. 27 from 5 to 7 PM. If you are unable to attend this event absentee ballots are available online at kafmradio.org and at KAFM radio at 1310 Ute Avenue during office hours. Pre-bids can also be made during the week of exhibition. A percentage of the auction proceeds from the art work will go to support

KAFM Radio.

"We're so thankful for the support of our local art community," noted Ramona Winkler, the Executive Director of KAFM Community Radio. "The *Gallery 88.1 Live auction* will be an amazing event that allows us to provide 365 days of coverage for our regional art community.

Contact Betty Ries at (970)241-8801, extension 0 for more information about the *Gallery 88.1 live auction* event.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

OCPAG PRESENTS VALENTINE'S SALON CONCERT @ CENTENNIAL RANCH FEB. 12
Acapella Group 'Heartbeat' to sing "Love Songs and the Songs We Love"...accompanied by chocolate



Special to Art & Sol

OURAY- Eight women, 20 songs, one voice. The Ouray County Performing Arts Guild is delighted to launch its 2017 season with a Valentine's salon concert featuring Telluride's famous all-female acapella group Heartbeat at Centennial Ranch in Colona on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12.

The afternoon event will include an hour-long acapella program, "Love Songs and Songs We Love," and a selection of light hors d'oeuvres and luscious chocolate desserts at the beautiful Dashwood House at Centennial Ranch in Colona.

Heartbeat's roots go back to 1995, when a small group of women gathered in the Telluride school attic to sing. No name, no instruments, just song for song's sake. More women joined. The songs grew more challenging from simple rounds to more complicated rhythms and harmonies. The women grew closer. Heartbeat was happening. From their first concert at the Telluride Post Office, Heartbeat has gone on to perform at such events as the Telluride Bluegrass and Jazz Festival, Win-

tersing concerts and many fundraisers in the Telluride and Ridgway valleys as well as Bluff and Paonia. Heartbeat's size and focus have changed over the years, but the group's purpose has remained the same: to sing for the pure joy of singing.

Today the group includes eight talented women from San Miguel and Ouray counties: Suzan Beraza, Jen Sher Birrittella, Nancy deCastro, Donna Burd Fernald, Judith Kohin, Ulli Sir Jesse, Deb Stevens and Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.

Reservations are required for this very special event, and can be made by calling OCPAG president Sue Hillhouse at [970-626-2970](tel:970-626-2970). Tickets are \$35 for OCPAG members, \$40 for non-members. Light hors d'oeuvres, lots of wonderful desserts and tea/coffee/nonalcoholic punch will be served by Secret Garden Catering.

The program starts at 3 p.m. but patrons are encouraged to come early to enjoy Centennial Ranch and Dashwood House before the program gets underway.

The Ouray County Performing Arts Guild (OCPAG) is a not-for-profit organization

bringing quality events in music, dance, theater and other genres to Ouray and Ridgway.

Its purpose is to sponsor presentations and performers of the highest caliber in the performing arts for the enjoyment of Ouray County's residents and visitors.

Other upcoming OCPAG events include "Appalachian Spring" featuring pianist Susan Ellinger and violinist Rachel Lee Friday at the Wright Opera House on Sunday, March 12; the Colorado Children's Chorale at the Wright Opera House on Monday, April 24; "Acoustic Ninja" Trace Bundy at the Wright Opera House on Monday, May 29; Trio Solisti at the Wright Opera House on Thursday, June 29; the Peter Davison Vaudeville Family Show at the Wright Opera House on Sunday, July 2; the San Juan Chamber MusicFest from Aug. 15-22 in Ridgway, Ouray and Montrose; and Apollo Chamber Brass at the Wright Opera House on Saturday, Sept. 9.

For tickets and info, please visit www.ocpag.org.



NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

A SIMPLE, STRAIGHT THROUGH LISTENING EXPERIENCE

Classical music and opera, combined with the works of William Shakespeare, are a combination that was destined to be. Not even mentioning the storyline as a foundation, the areas of costumes, lighting, acting, and stage fighting are all epically operatic. To continue our exploration of Shakespeare as presented in classical music and opera, we turn now to the 28th and final opera of Giuseppe Verdi, *Falstaff*, which had its premier in 1893. Combining elements from *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Henry IV, Part I and Part II*, this opera is full of humor and out-of-this-world music. For our purposes, our discussion will begin with a simple scenario, starring you, the online reader.

For the last 81 weeks you have been reading an online article published in a local online newspaper. For the first 60 weeks you were not only skeptical, but also a bit bored. However, you lost a bet and as the loser you took an oath to continue reading the weekly article no matter how much your mind, body, and soul screamed at you to do anything but that. Somewhere around week 74 a friend of a friend bestowed upon you two orchestra center tickets to a professional production of *Falstaff*. Just as you start to roll your eyes and let out an extended, wispy, sigh of disappointment, you suddenly think to your self, "Hey, I've heard of an opera before...almost weekly in fact!" You make the life changing decision to actually attend the opera and take the best friend of your choice. After all, it can't last forever, right? You decide to do things correctly and get some background on what you will be hearing. You are going but you are not going to go not knowing what to expect. A wise man provides you with the following pre-opera course of study.

The first thing to do is to simply listen to a full recording of the opera whose name is printed on the tickets hanging on the refrigerator. Simply getting the sound into your ears and onto your brain will vastly

improve your experience. Simply listen at a volume that allows you to hear everything going and not so low that you miss small and quiet entrances from the orchestra. Every note is important and is one variable in the overall equation of the entire work. A simple straight through listening experience will provide you with more information than you would believe. We will re-visit listening as it is the most important part of the program and the only part that will be repeated.

Reading, and lots of it, is the next step in the preparation process. Find the libretto for the opera and read it straight through as if you were reading a play. A quality libretto will be arranged so that on the left hand page will the words in which the opera will be performed, most frequently this will be Italian. On the right hand page will be the exact dialogue in English. Seeing the languages side-by-side helps to get a feel for the flow of the words and how they are arranged within the libretto. After reading the libretto it will be a great idea to read the liner notes included in the CD or in the vinyl. The font is likely to be very small and the amount of information included in liner notes is most often vast, especially when the recording is of a high quality. If time allows, read anything and everything that you can get your hands on prior to attending the live performance.

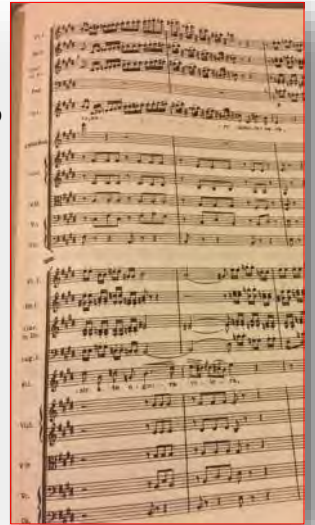
At this point things are going fabulously and you are actually excited, almost giddy in fact, to take the next step, which is a big one. Sitting through an actual performance of the opera. Now, this will be done in the privacy of your own home and you will be able to pause at any point to take some deep breaths and compose yourself. There are many outlets where a determined opera novice can find a great video recording. Some labels you may want to look for are DECCA, Deutsche Grammophon, and anything produced by the Metropolitan Opera. The foundation of knowledge you have built will start to

pay off as you watch the music and the words come to life on a stage. You do not need to remember everything and you will not remember everything.

The goal is to simply begin to feel comfortable with what you have

taken on and realize that you do not need to understand every word in order to understand the story...and experience the wonderful ride that is opera.

The next step is optional and should only be taken if you have a basic understanding of how to read music. Sit yourself down with a glass of wine and go online and find and purchase a copy of the opera in full score. The publisher DOVER offers the best product and you will be able to find a used copy for approximately \$14 which should include shipping. Wait a couple of days and once the score arrives it is time to take a few precautionary steps. Find the first page and look to see how the orchestra is laid out on the page in front of you. You are very likely to see the high woodwinds at the top of the page, piccolos and flute, then clarinets, oboe, English horn, bass clarinet, and bassoon. Next will be the strings, violin I and II, viola, cello, and bass. The brass will next from top to bottom followed by percussion. Take your finger and follow the line for the 1st violin and then see if the music loops down below or if it is continued on the next page. The parts of the singers will appear as expected and there could be multiple pages before you see the first singing line. The melody line and the instrument on which



Continued next page

A SIMPLE, STRAIGHT THROUGH LISTENING EXPERIENCE

From previous page

it is played will be quite easy to identify. This will help you keep track of where you are within the score. Warning, do not try to follow all parts at all times as you will crash and burn in a most gruesome way.

The final steps involve more research and investigation. Find out who will be singing

at the production you will attend and read their bios and become familiar with whom they are where they have studied and performed. This will help you see the performers as human make the transition they make on stage all the more amazing. As you go through this process it is an

outstanding idea to re-listen to the score on CD, satellite, or vinyl between each step.

The opera will be like a layer cake and you will discover something new each time you listen. A chore becomes a joy in no time at all.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

TAKE A MUSICAL VACATION WITH OUTER VIBE @ THE RADIO ROOM

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The KAFM Radio Room proudly presents Outer Vibe Jan. 31 @ 7:30 p.m. Outer Vibe is a musical vacation where everyone enjoys a slice of paradise delivered by the band's feel-good nostalgic and energetic concert experience.

"Clint Eastwood drinking a pina colada at a Dick Dale concert" is how the band describes the sounds and styles of their 2015 full-length release "Full Circle," a collection of songs they often describe as cinematic surf disco.

"Full Circle" is a follow-up to their 2012 album "Hoka Hey", which independently achieved much success, achieving top 5 request at radio in Michigan, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas and licensing from ABC News's "Good Morning, America" and West Michigan's Baker College in 2013. "We come from the cold heartland of Michigan, and it really influences our songwriting," said bassist Andrew Dornoff. "We write songs about island weather, to keep us in that mood and to keep us happy. We like to say that we take people on a musical adventure. The experience is what they can count on with us. "Some of the songs are going to be very similar to those three- or four-minute recordings," said guitarist Nick Hosford. "Other songs may go to very different places. It's our chance to show people as opposed to just telling them on the recordings." "The live show is what we do," said drummer Noah Snyder said. "The recordings are just a formality to get people to come and see



the live show, because that's really the knockout punch." The band insists that its music needs to be experienced at a live show. A typical set promises to be as high energy as improvisatory, and certain songs aren't necessarily going to sound the same as they do on the album. -- *Nathan Weinbender The Spokesman-Review*

Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door \$12 for students with ID (must be purchased in person) and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext. 0 or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

[Radio Room Concert Series](#)

Radio Room concert series are held in the KAFM Radio Room, located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO. The Radio Room is a live music venue in an intimate environment, with only 75 seats and great acoustics. KAFM Community Radio is a public access radio station serving Mesa County in Western Colorado. KAFM has been on-air since 1999 and is programmed by a passionate staff of over 150 volunteers.

[Lifelong Learning Series](#)

These are lectures and presentations that we present in the Radio Room on a regular basis. They are part of a lifelong learning initiative involving storytelling, theatre and lectures.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

RIDGWAY SPACE TO CREATE INITIATIVE TO KICK OFF ONLINE SURVEY

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-On Tuesday, Jan. 31, from 5 to 7:30 pm, at the Sherbino Theatre (604 Clinton St.) in Ridgway, the local creative sector has a chance to provide input on the upcoming Space to Create project during a fun kickoff of its online survey. Ridgway was recently selected by Space to Create Colorado partners to build a facility downtown to provide affordable workforce housing and working space for creative sector entrepreneurs. The online survey to gather data about the needs of individual creatives, creative businesses, and creative organizations in the region will go live on Jan. 31st. A Space to Create Fact Sheet is available at: www.ridgwaycreativedistrict.com/space-to-create/. The definition of "Creative Sector" is quite broad and includes archi-

tects, digital designers, craftspeople, and other contributors in a wide range of fields, as well as those more commonly considered artists.

The goal of the Space to Create initiative is to stimulate community and economic development in the local region by providing long-term affordable and financially sustainable working space and housing for creative sector employment.

To that end, the Town and its Space to Create volunteer group worked with Artspace, the nonprofit developer and technical consultant for the project, to create an online survey specifically for the project. The survey will collect statistical information to inform the design of the facility, to be located on the corner of Clinton St. and N. Laura Streets. Responses to the survey will inform the design of

the building, including features, amenities, and uses for the space. Data gained will also help build support and funding to make the new space a reality. From Jan. 31 to March 28, 2017, the Ridgway Space to Create survey will be available online at www.RidgwayS2CSurvey.com. To kick it off, Space to Create will hold a "Survey Soiree" on Tuesday, Jan. 31, from 5 pm to 7:30 pm at the Sherbino Theatre (604 Clinton St.) in Ridgway. At the event, there will be information, food, a cash bar, and creative entertainment. Representatives from Artspace will give brief perspective on the initiative in Colorado and answer questions about Space to Create Ridgway. Computers will be available for participants to take the survey, and *all are encouraged to bring their own laptops or tablet devices*.



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Please visit our website www.comeforhealth.net
Call us: 970-318-0198***

SHERBINO THEATER TO PRESENT THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES FEB. 17-18

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-On Sunday, Jan. 29, the Sherbino will host an organizational meeting for a one-weekend benefit production of "The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler on Feb. 17 & 18 at the Sherbino in Ridgway. "The Vagina Monologues" is open to all; all ages, all experience levels. There is no theater experience necessary. There will be just one dress rehearsal in Ridgway prior to the production and the date of that rehearsal will be determined at the meeting on the 29. The volunteer Director of the production is Sara Doehrman, with support from the Sherbino. Ninety percent of proceeds from the performances will be donated to Hilltop Domestic Violence Services and 10 percent will go toward the V-Day 2017 Spotlight fund. Those who cannot make this meeting but wish to take part can send an email to info@sherbino.org or call the Director, Sara at [970-708-4027](tel:970-708-4027).

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

JANUARY ONGOING-

AWANA EVERY WEDNESDAY: @ Rosemont Church 1598 E Niagara Rd Montrose CO. FREE Awana Clubs for Preschool—6th Grade. EVERY WEDNESDAY beginning January 18, 2017. We will have snacks/meal, certified teachers & tutors. 2:15- 3:30 pm - Homework/Tutoring/Study Time. Middle and High school students are welcome! 3:30- 5: pm - AWANA for Grades Preschool - 6th grade. 5- 5:30 pm - Meal provided for all Awana kids & adults present. Register/more info at 970.249.4887, email: office@rosemontbaptist.org or at www.RosemontBaptist/Awana.

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 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m.

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

THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets every second Tuesday at St. Mary Catholic Church in the St Paul Room, 1855 St Mary's Drive, Montrose. The Public is welcome to attend. For more information, email alpinephotoclub@aol.com.

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

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

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

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

MONTHLY-

Jan. 25-Attend a Community Health and Acupuncture Clinic with Dr. Yuliya Jirnov, DOM, Lac @ 121 N. Park Ave. Montrose, on Wednesday,

Jan. 25 from 11am - 1pm \$25. For more information visit our web site www.comeforhealth.net or call [970-318-0198](tel:970-318-0198).

Jan. 27-29-Grand Opening Weekend [Montrose Community Recreation Center](http://MontroseCommunityRecreationCenter.com).

Jan. 28-Montrose Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala, Montrose Pavilion, Cocktail reception @ 6 p.m., Dinner & award presentation @ 7:15p.m., After Party, gaming & Dancing @ 8:30 p.m.

Jan. 31-The KAFM Radio Room proudly presents Outer Vibe Jan. 31 @ 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door \$12 for students with ID (must be purchased in person) and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext. 0 or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Feb. 2-March 23-Great Decisions, America's largest discussion program on world affairs, will meet Thursday evenings Feb. 2 through March 23, from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Montrose Library Meeting Room. Developed by the Foreign Policy Association, the program intends to engage communities and broaden public involvement in foreign affairs. The Foreign Policy Association provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year. Participants will view a related DVD and then participate in a discussion, led by Barbara Krebs of the League of Women Voters. A briefing book is available at the library for check out or purchase. Call the library at 249-9656 (ext. 3) to register or for more information.

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 or Benziger @ phebena-tor@hotmail.com.

Feb. 7-6:30-8 p.m. Predator Reduction Mule Deer Population Study Presentation at Ridgway Community Center/Town Hall, 201 N. Railroad St. Ridgway, Colorado 81432. Over the next three years, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will attempt to increase the mule deer population in two regions of Colorado by reducing the number of mountain lions and bears. Join Chuck Anderson, CPW's Mammal Research Leader, for an educational 40-minute presentation on this project that is part of a long-term wildlife study. The public is invited to learn about the study and ask questions. For more information please contact northernsanjuanbroadband@gmail.com.

Feb 11-HRMS Presents "Gabrielle Louise: A Concert for The Heart", Live at Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery (Montrose) 7pm, more information and tickets here • <https://www.facebook.com/events/179631289179722/>.

Feb. 12-'Heartbeat' Acapella Valentine's Salon Concert - Sunday, Feb. 12, 3 p.m., Centennial Ranch, Colona. Presented by the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild. Tickets \$35 members/ \$40 nonmembers, by reservation only. Call Sue Hillhouse, [970-626-2970](tel:970-626-2970).

Feb 14-Alpine Photography Club Meets on Tuesday, Feb. 14 @ 7 p.m. @ Colorado Mesa University, 245 S. Cascade Ave., Montrose in Room: 203 (second floor). Presentation: Horse/Western Photography by Barb Young. All are welcome to attend.

Feb. 22-The City of Montrose Youth Council "Teen Opportunity Expo" (TOE) 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Montrose High School cafeteria. Area youth ages 13 to 19 are invited to attend this free event to visit with local business and organization representatives for summer jobs, volunteering, and internships. Interested local businesses and organizations can obtain more information or reserve booth space by contacting the City of Montrose Youth Council Coordinator Tina Woodrum at [970-240-1415](tel:970-240-1415), or by accessing forms at the following links: CityofMontrose.org/YouthCouncil.

Feb. 23-24-Western Slope Soil Health Conference, Delta Center for the Performing Arts & Education 833 Grand Ave.

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/>.

Mar 31-HRMS Presents "Nathan McEuen: Live at The Gallery", Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery (Montrose) 7p, more information and tickets here • <https://www.facebook.com/events/362656074100817/>

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

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and deposit it in the box labeled
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Above right, Centennial Plaza; at left kids practice for the Montrose Elks Club Hoop Shoot Saturday, Jan. 21.

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