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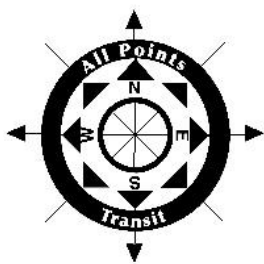
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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 57 April 3 2013

USE WATER WISELY NOW, OFFICIALS SAY

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—Although winter snows brought welcome precipitation—and powder snow-- to the high country, snowpack levels in the Gunnison River Basin have dropped to just 72 percent of an average year when it comes to snow water equivalent and just 69 percent when it comes to accumulated precipitation. Although the Western Slope is not facing the dire circumstances of communities located along the bone-dry Front Range, an awareness of water as a finite resource will be essential as we move into the spring and summer seasons, officials say.

The large scale predictions of the [Climate Prediction Center](#) indicate below normal precipitation levels through June; however, predictions of the local National Weather Service Office in Grand Junction show that odds favor near to above normal precipitation levels for April, followed by drier than average levels in May and June, according to National Weather Service Forecaster Jim Pringle.

"We'll just have to wait and see what happens," Pringle said.

Although the Gunnison Tunnel was scheduled to open Monday, UVWUA Manager Steve Fletcher acknowledged that irrigation



Gary Mitchell teaches his grandson Marshall Pike, 11, to fly fish in the Uncompahgre. Photo Barton Glasser.

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LOCAL LEADERS WEIGH IN ON CITY'S PROMOTIONAL PLANS



City Manager Bill Bell discussed tourism promotion efforts at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli last month. Image courtesy Cara Fandel for Howling Wolf Photography.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—When the City of Montrose announced in January that it would be withholding the tourism promotion and retail enhancement funds that had previously been administered through the Montrose Association of Commerce & Tourism, the news caught many locals off guard; after all, it was the City of Montrose that had helped to facilitate creation of Montrose ACT in a consolidation of the former Montrose Chamber of Commerce, Montrose Visitors Bureau and Montrose Area Merchants Association in 2010.

Since the announcement was made at the Jan. 21 Montrose City Council meeting, city staff have met with individuals, businesses and community groups to determine how best to use the funds, which total roughly \$630,000 (\$400,000 in tourism promotion funds and \$230,000 in retail enhancement funds). A community meeting held on

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Pete Coors at
CMU-see ad!

Local photos...
Altrusa Lunch!

New advertiser...Alpha
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info!

Liesl Greathouse
visits garden stores!

HULA HOOPS ROLL OUT AT MARKET, FESTIVALS, EVERYWHERE



A svelte David Swedlow demonstrates hula hooping technique during an event at the Region 10 Enterprise Center in 2011. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—The arrival of warm weather means more than just the start of another great farm market and festival season here in Western Colorado. It also means it's time to break out the hula hoops!

For those who grew up in the 1960's, the hula hoop will forever be linked to the Wham-O toy company and its commercials. However, the popular hoop toys have actually been around much longer, according to the web site, Inventors.about.com, which notes that hoops could be found in Great Britain as early as the year 1300 A.D. and that early hoops were made from such materials as wood, bamboo, metal, grasses, and even vines. Wikipedia asserts that people have been using hoops for exercise and play since the fifth century in Ancient Greece, and that Native American Hoop Dancing is a tradition that incorpo-

rates multiple hoops and dancing to tell a story.

For modern Americans, the hula hoop craze can be traced directly to Wham-O Toy founders Richard Knerr and Arthur Melin of Los Angeles, who began manufacturing marlex plastic hoops in 1958 and obtained a patent on March 5, 1963. According to inventors.about.com, Wham-O trademarked the name "hula hoop" and sold 20 million hoops during the first six months, for \$1.98 apiece.

Here in Western Colorado, former Sherbino Theater owner and children's theater specialist Shannon McCarthy is among those who have popularized the home-made festival style hoops, selling them from the Sherbino and at local festivals for years, and teaching hula hoop making workshops to those interested in creating their own from hardware store materials.

Artist Sarah Brewer has also helped to

build enthusiasm for hooping in Montrose, by sharing hoop dancing videos, performing with hula hoops in the St. Patrick's Day parade, and by bringing hoops to the ReneWest Interactive Art Crawl and to the Montrose Farmers Market.

For Montrose Farmers Market Manager Abbie Brewer, a mother of four and an advocate for healthy lifestyles, the hoops are a great fit.

"We will definitely be doing some hula hooping at the Market this year," Brewer said. "I am not sure of the exact dates and times, but those who have hoops are always welcome to bring them out! It is about active living and having fun—kids really enjoy hula hooping a lot. We are really working with LiveWell Colorado, which encourages healthy eating and active living, and hula hoops are one way we can get people at the market to be more active."

With three or four bands already lined up to play at the Market when it moves outdoors, hoopers and shoppers will have music to inspire them, she noted.

"This year marks our 35th anniversary, and we are planning a special booth for kids, called Kids Corner" Brewer said. "We are putting together hands-on activities, like bean bag tosses, and educating kids about seasonal fruits and vegetables."

For Ridgway aesthetician and longtime resident Shari Braund, hula hooping has been a way to stay young and fit.

"I started when I was 40, 12 years ago," Braund said. "I hoop whenever I get a chance—it has helped me in so many ways!"

"Hoops have been my partners at music festivals when I did not have anybody to go with, they have helped me build my creativity, and helped my heart rate and my waistline. Hooping is great practice for belly dancing, and helps to release tension—it keeps me in touch with my feminine side."

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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LOCAL LEADERS WEIGH IN ON CITY'S PROMOTIONAL PLANS *continued*



Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph speaks at the coffee forum at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli. Image courtesy Cara Fandel for Howling Wolf Photography.

March 11, entitled the Montrose Tourism and Business Enhancement Focus Group event, drew a healthy crowd to the Montrose Pavilion for industry-specific discussions and breakout focus groups.

As the city continues to explore the possibilities, which include handling its own tourism promotion efforts in-house, creating its own visitor guide, and perhaps establishing a yurt "visitor center" in Demoret Park, community members have been eager to join the discussion and offer ideas of their own. Among those who have taken part in and followed the discussions closely is hotel owner Jodi Holland of Affordable Inn (1480 South Townsend).

"I think, in general, that the decision to separate from the Montrose ACT was long overdue, for numerous reasons," Holland said. "(Montrose City Manager) Bill Bell did an amazing job when he came here, and did not change anything at all for the first year—he wanted to see what was broken before making any changes. And I am also grateful for the opportunity; the city is reaching out now to get ideas from the lodging industry. It was encouraging to see that they wanted input, and have asked us to share ideas and brainstorm."

Holland says that she feels optimistic about the direction the City is taking with regard to tourism promotion and retail enhancement.

"I think what they are saying is what they are going to do," she said. "With the right people and community support, we can achieve success. I am grateful to be part of the change, and I hope that this gives some tools to our community that we can really use. We all need things to get better—none

of us want them to get any worse! And not one business in Montrose is expendable; perhaps this plan will help give them longevity and economic survival."

Longtime local business owner Jim Elder of ElderAdo Financial (1100 South Townsend) shares Holland's sense of optimism.

"I am excited about the new people involved," Elder said. "I thought Jenni (Montrose ACT Executive Director Jenni

Sopsic) was doing a good job—but the city is bringing in a whole team. I like Bill Bell, and I think Rob Joseph has the business experience to organize and put things together. Kristin Modrell is excellent with outreach and PR, and they have a good IT guy too. Combined, they make a very good team."

Elder said he attended a recent city presentation at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli, and liked the ideas that he heard. One improvement that he feels would keep Montrose from being "dead in the water" would be faster, more reliable Internet service.

"We need something," he said. "And high-speed Internet encourages white collar jobs—let's bring in a few thousand of those! They provide more income, and they are non-polluting."

Although he is perhaps best known for his public support of education and innovative ideas, Montrose resident and philanthropist Jim Branscome believes that at least part of Montrose's economy should continue to focus on what has always drawn visitors to the region—hunting and outdoor recreation. Although he based his career in New York City, Branscome and his family have had ties to Montrose since 1980.

"In the 1980's, when we came here during hunting season the hotels here were always full," he said. "Almost all of the ranches would take reservations. Hunting is one of the things Montrose is most known for around the world—when we travel, it is one of the subjects people mention most often when they learn where we are from.

"The other subject is Telluride."

Appealing to hunting and fishing enthusiasts is still important, he said, and is part of a strategy Branscome calls "micro-targeting."

"Colorado has raised its license fee, and hunting is in decline," Branscome said. "But people still come here from all over the world. When I go to WalMart in the fall, I see license plates from all over—we need to learn to cherish what we already have, and micro-target these guys."

Micro-targeting involves more intensified promotion at a micro-level, Branscome said.

"I think we need to do more micro-targeting of people who could potentially move here," he said, noting that the social mobility phenomenon that helped drive the economy in recent decades took a severe hit during the economic downturn.

"The (Welcome Home Montrose) Wounded Warrior program is awesome, and may help us to move forward with a whitewater park here," Branscome said. "Another target population could be application developers—Verizon will be rolling out 4G here shortly; all they have to do is flip a switch. It will be amazing for folks with smart phones, because you can tether to other devices. There is no reason application developers can't live here, and enjoy what we all enjoy.

"We should be targeting them the same way that the hospital attracts people," he said, "by advertising the things that God, Teddy Roosevelt and Wayne Aspinall gave us.

"You can ski, kayak and snowshoe here—and the air service is excellent," he said. "I have commuted for seven years between Montrose and New York." The development of 3D printing has also opened doors of opportunity, he said.

"You can produce prototypes, one at a time," he explained, "everything from car parts to medical devices. Forty years ago, if you had an idea you had to draw it, and take it to an industrial firm to produce a prototype, and then you had to find a manufacturer. With 3D printers, all of the middle steps are eliminated—and they are available now for \$1,800 to \$5,000."

A first-rate K-12 education system is also important when it comes to appealing to young professionals, Branscome said, adding that Montrose County Schools should be equipped with the updated technology that students need to achieve success.

USE WATER WISELY, OFFICIALS SAY

Continued from page 1



Austin Smith, 13, fishes the Uncompahgre River in Baldridge Park. With the Front Range facing severe drought conditions this season, and California hungry for every drop that flows downstream, locals are urged to be water wise in 2013. Photo by Barton Glasser.

water, which will be running at 50 percent this year, will be running at 50 percent this growing season, will be tightly managed.

“Unfortunately, our storage is down going into the season,” Fletcher said. “Last year, we were at 100 percent storage going into the season, with second fill. This year our storage is at 80 percent going in, with no second fill.”

Many growers are setting ground aside this year, he noted, and all are planning ahead for a very dry year. Those who rent water on a year-to-year basis from UVWUA will not be able to do so this year, he said.

“If you have a share that is allocated to the ground, you can use it,” Fletcher said. “But contract, or rented water, won’t be renewed—we can only make the water go so far.”

Although spring rains could ease the situation, Fletcher added he expects to make administrative calls on both the Gunnison and Uncompahgre rivers this summer.

“We won’t do it until we absolutely have to,” he said, “but we will undoubtedly call out both rivers sometime over the summer.”

“We are definitely in the second year of a drought,” Colorado Division of Water Re-

sources Division 4 Assistant Engineer Jason Ullman said. “Snowpack conditions in the Gunnison River basin are not good, only around 70 percent of average in many areas. The best areas of the basin appear to be on the west end of the Grand Mesa and the Uncompahgre Plateau. Unfortunately, not much of the water used for irrigation in the valley comes from the Plateau.”

Storage levels are much lower than they were during the drought of 2002, he said.

“For instance, we started 2002 with over 512,500 acre-feet in storage at Blue Mesa Reservoir, and this year we began April with 333,813 acre-feet in storage,” Ullman said.

“In fact, given that April-to-July runoff is forecast by the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center at only 53 percent of normal, we could end the year in Blue Mesa at a lower point than we have seen since it filled in the late 60’s.”

Temperature will play a role in just how dry things get. Ullman pointed out that cooler weather could prolong runoff, which would benefit irrigators, but that sudden heat could be less favorable, causing snowpack to melt too rapidly.

“Even if we have record snow the rest of the year, we will have runoff significantly

below average in all areas of the Gunnison and Uncompahgre basins,” Ullman said, “meaning that there will be more calls and administration required by our office. It will be a tough year for the Gunnison basin, and really all of Colorado, since the entire state is currently running at snowpack levels well below average, (resulting) in low spring runoff forecasts.”

Local communities do not have the “teeth” that Front Range municipalities have when it comes to enforcing water restrictions, noted Project 7 Water Authority Manager Adam Turner. Established in 1977, Project 7 is a cooperative effort that encompasses seven local entities: the municipalities of Montrose, Delta and Olathe, as well as The Tri-County Water Conservancy District; Menoken Water District; Chipeta Water District and Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA).

“I believe that we will have plenty of water for domestic water users,” Turner said. “We would like you to be judicious when it comes to using house water on your lawn—when ditch water runs short, people tend to water with the hose, which could put a strain on the drinking water system, because it is all coming from the same pot.”

“We have no tools in place to enforce water restrictions here,” he said, “so we just ask people to be aware, and not to waste water.”

Statewide, average water use runs around 165,000 gallons per capita per day, Turner said, and local water users tend to fall right in line with that average.

“We are not super high on use over here,” he said.

“People here are pretty aware. Of course the numbers go up in the summer in the cities, where there are no ditches, but our users tend to stay around 165,000 to 185,000 gallons per capita per day.”

Worldwide, there are people who live on a few liters of water per day and are happy to get it, he noted.

“The Front Range is really in trouble this year,” Turner said, “and California will use every drop that we don’t claim.”

“It’s kind of like being caught between an 800 lb. gorilla and a freight train—so we are trying to share the pain.”



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET SEEKS VENDOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2013

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The 35th annual Montrose Farmers' Market is currently seeking applications from vendors for the upcoming season. Applications will be accepted thru May 15 for farmers, bakers, art and craft producers, non-profits and musicians. The 2013 Montrose Farmers Market will be open every Saturday at 8:30 am to 1 pm starting on May 11 thru Oct. 26th, at the Uncompahgre Events Plaza in Downtown, Montrose.

The Montrose Farmers' Market offers a unique variety of farmers, growers, bakeries, prepared food wine, cheeses and local artisans. The Summer Season membership fee is \$85.00, plus \$15.00 for each booth space. A vendor meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th at 9:00 am at the Uncompahgre Events Plaza- 433 South 1st, in

Montrose, Colorado.

Each year, new western slope vendors are added to strengthen existing product offerings and to provide exciting opportunities for the community to support local growers, food producers, and artisans.

Market applications are being accepted now, details below

- Applications will be accepted through May
- Vendors must be a resident of The Western Slope of Colorado
- A limited number of Craft Vendors will be excepted
- No more than four non-profit organizations will be invited to participate each week
- Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses looking to reach a local market

Additional information, as well as the applications, can be found at

www.montrosefarmersmarket.com.

About the Montrose Farmers Market:

In addition to organizing markets on Wednesday and Saturdays during the summer, the Montrose Farmers Market has recently added an on-line ordering system to the Market.

All approved vendors of the Market have the opportunity to participate. A Celebration of Mothers, National Pizza Party Day, Father's Day, National Pollination Week, A Fruit Festival, Garlic Festival and a 35th Market Birthday Celebration will be added to the Market activities this year along with a new Kids Corner that will provide hands on activities for children about growing food, eating healthy and being active.

HONORABLE MENTION

To Caleb Kullman of Kullman Ironworks, LLC...for bringing creativity and functionality to so many public projects—from benches to bike racks—in Montrose!

To NowMontrose, for agreeing to sponsor the Montrose Farmers Market in 2013!

To Emily Smith, for giving so much time to Welcome Home Montrose and the Warrior Resource Center...

To Wil Harmsen, for opening his new business, Cornerstone Home Mortgage, at Main and Townsend!

To local artist June Estep, for taking her always excellent window paintings to an even higher level this year. The Easter design on the front of Daily Bread Bakery on Main is absolutely breathtaking!

To the Colorado Mesa University Women's Basketball program, for winning the RMAC and NCAA REGIONAL tournaments and making it to the Elite 8!

DDA LOOKS AT MINI PARKS, UPGRADED RECYCLE/TRASH BINS



Artisan Caleb Kullman of Kullman Ironworks displayed his work at the Hwy 50 yard sale in 2012. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—The Montrose Downtown Development Authority continues to make progress toward its goal of establishing

Downtown Montrose as a center for commerce, community and culture, said DDA Executive Director Scott Shine, who was hired to run the newly-created organization in July of 2011.

Shine said that he is pleased with the continuing excitement and enthusiasm in the Downtown district, and looks forward to a summer season packed with opportunity.

"I feel like we have been able to build momentum and support," Shine said. "A strong Downtown is positive for our community. Main in Motion has been restructured, and is on track for another successful year, and our business loan program is up and running. We have already approved two loans, and there are three more in the works. We have set up a design committee as well, with people like (ironsmith) Caleb Kullman and (architect) John Elo."

The design committee is currently exploring the establishment of "parklets," Shine said.

"These are temporary, inexpensive floating decks—they can fit on the back of a flatbed truck, and be parked either in a

parking space or on a corner."

The parklets include tables, chairs and greenery, he noted, and can be moved every few months. Several businesses have already expressed interest in having a parklet parked outside of their location, he said.

"This will be a great summer project," Shine said, "adding more visual interest and sidewalk seating."

Shine said he hopes to debut the first parklets by the end of May.

Other new projects include upgraded trash and recycling receptacles, to be created by Wayne Brown of Prospect Steel.

Brown and his team have created a number of the larger metal sculptures seen around town, including the Montrose Mouse on display at River Landing Shopping Center.

"With his background, I know he will come up with a unique design and do a great job," Shine said.

To learn more about upcoming DDA projects and events, visit

www.montrosedowntown.com, or call 970-901-9667.

BECOME YOUR OWN BANKER!

You are invited to hear Nelson Nash, author of the BEST SELLER *Becoming Your Own Banker*, at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse on April 13. For details visit www.nelsonnashmontrose.eventbrite.com.



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BEST SELLING FINANCE AUTHOR TO VISIT MONTROSE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—He grew up in California, and has worked in 50 countries around the globe. For financial advisor Matthew Nocas, the appeal of Montrose comes down to one thing.

"I live here because I enjoy it," he said. "I grew up in Santa Barbara, and I have lived in Texas, Athens, Atlanta...all over. I decided to live where I wanted to play."

Next week, Nocas will share some of the secrets that have helped him achieve the financial freedom to live and work where he chooses. On April 13, Nocas and his firm, Alpha & Omega Financial Services, will present a day long workshop with financial guru [Nelson Nash](#). Nash, whose book *Becoming Your Own Banker* is now in its fifth edition and sells roughly 10,000 copies per month according to Nocas, teaches others how to use the "infinite banking" concept to create wealth and a secure financial future.

"I met Nelson Nash ten years ago when I was working in Kansas City for a very, very large charity, managing large amounts of money," Nocas recalled. "He became my mentor, and by becoming my own banker, I put into practice what he preached."

This is a rare opportunity, as Nash, who

is 82, rarely comes to Colorado's Western Slope, Nocas said.

"I usually host him in other parts of the country," Nocas said, "I am going to see if we can't help people in this community think a little differently about money. Do you want to play Ping Pong, or chess? You can keep playing ping pong and dodging bullets, or you can play chess. If chess is your game, Nelson Nash is for you—it has to do with intellectual capital and educating yourself."

Having worked in many countries including Greece, Nocas believes that the difference between a rich country and a poor country--or city or county--is a mindset.

"If you keep doing the same things and expect different results, you will remain in the bottom percentile," he said. "You have to change your thinking. Nelson wrote his book for people making \$20,500 a year; without changing your cash flow, at retirement you can put \$1,000,000 in the bank."

Nocas said that he tells people to "unlock their money, and use it like the banks do."

"It's a completely different philosophy," he said. "The average financial manager wants you to put your money at risk on Wall Street; to lock it up. Benjamin Franklin said that knowledge is the best invest-

ment. Nelson Nash's book is only 95 pages, and three and a half hour read. It's the best book on finance I have ever read—he is not a TV personality."

"Take your time, read Nelson's book, and you will be leaps and bounds ahead of the rest."

After living in so many places, why does Montrose, Colorado make economic sense to Nocas?

"Texas was the most economical," he said, "and Greece was the most beautiful. I was also highly regulated; it was as hard to do business there as in California."

"What I save on taxes living here is a new car every year," he said. "When it comes to quality of life, this has to be the very best." To learn more or to sign up for the Nelson Nash Seminar on April 13, call 970-275-5475, or sign up online at

www.nelsonnashmontrose.eventbrite.com



Matthew Nocas of Alpha & Omega Financial. Courtesy photo.

Valerie Meyers' Weekly Monday



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Delta County Republicans Set Lincoln Day Dinner

Special to the Mirror

HOTCHKISS -- The Delta County Republican Party has scheduled its annual Lincoln Day Dinner on Saturday, April 27, at the Hotchkiss Elks Lodge, 190 E. Bridge St., Hotchkiss, according to a party spokeswoman. Keynote speaker will be the Hon. Scott Tipton of Cortez, who recently began his second term as United States Repre-

sentative from Colorado's Third Congressional District.

The event will begin with a Social hour from 5:30-6:30 p.m., with dinner to follow. Daveto's Restaurant of Delta is catering, and will serve a delicious beef tenderloin meal. The event will also include both a silent and a live auction. This is the premiere annual event for the Delta County Re-

publicans, and limited seating is now available. This event has sold out often in years past, so those interested should get their tickets early. Tickets are \$40 each, and can be reserved by contacting Sue Whittlesey at 970-835-7600. Please make your reservations by April 20.

Advance reservations will be considered a guarantee of payment.

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM TAKING DONATIONS FOR YARD SALE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Montrose Historical Museum is accepting donations for the annual yard sale. If you are cleaning out your garage, basement or closets and need a great place to donate the items, we are the place. We do not accept appliances, electronics or clothes, but everything else is welcomed. Please call Sally at 970-249-2085 for drop off times and information.

Montrose BOCC Hears, Represents Citizens on Sage Grouse Efforts

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted to approve comments in response to the proposed listing of the Gunnison Sage-grouse as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The United States Fish and Wildlife Service published rules to advance the listing in January of this year.

This comes following last week's special BOCC session to approve the addition of BOCC Chairman **Ron Henderson**'s signature to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with 10 other affected counties. Montrose, in conjunction with Gunnison, Saguache, Dolores, Montezuma, Delta, Ouray, San Miguel, Hinsdale, Mesa and San Juan (Utah) counties agreed to consider cooperative efforts to use local authority to address the Gunnison Sage-grouse.

These efforts would be geared towards preventing the federal mandates that would result from the proposed listing. Montrose County is dedicated to keeping this a local issue.

"Montrose County is concerned because once the species is listed, this becomes a federal issue beyond the control of the locally affected areas," said Chairman Henderson. "We'd prefer to keep this issue within the reach of our constituents."

Individuals who own private property with a federal nexus, such as a NRCS grant, would be subject to land-use consultation as part of maintaining their involvement in such programs. If the endangered listing is approved, private property owners would be restricted from conducting activities that would disturb the birds.

"Our Board is working diligently to represent the interests of their constituents on

this issue. This listing would have long term implications on public lands management and the agricultural community. Agriculture and industries associated with public lands are key components of the local economy. Addressing this issue through local channels provides a better opportunity for the affected parties to address concerns related to the species and the economy," said Government Affairs Director **Jon Waschbusch**.

"In my career I have dealt with numerous federal agencies and issues. I have never seen a more aggressive policy that amounts not just to a taking of private land, but in my opinion, elevates it to forcing of public use policy on private lands—I would question the constitutionality of that," said County Manager **Rick Eckert**. The initial public comment period on these proposals ends on April 2, 2013.

**THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR...YOUR
SOURCE FOR BUSINESS NEWS IN YOUR COMMUNITY!**

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CASA of the 7th Judicial District Annual Benefit Introducing Judi Boyce, Former CASA Kid



Courtesy Photo: Mahala Gaylord, The Denver Post. Used with permission. Former CASA kid Judi Boyce, pictured here with her service dog, Puck, was removed from her home at the age of seven along with her five siblings and placed in foster care. Boyce had a dedicated CASA volunteer who stood by her the entire duration of her seven-year case.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--CASA of the 7th Judicial District (Court Appointed Special Advocates-CASA) will host their "Ray of Hope Annual Benefit" at the Montrose Pavilion on Saturday, April 13th, from 6-9pm. The benefit is held annually in April, during National Child Abuse Awareness Month and will include elements to both inform and enjoy. The 7th Judicial District is comprised of Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, San Miguel, Ouray, and Hinsdale counties.

The event will include a raffle, a live auction, and a dessert dash. Desserts are being donated from throughout the 7th Judicial District. Each table selects a 'dasher' to choose a dessert, and the table with the highest total bid has first chance to choose a dessert, with the second highest being called a few seconds later, and so on. Development Director Stacey Ryan said, "It'll be fun, fast, and furious—it'll be a DASH!"

Pine Cone Catering Company is catering the event, and a quartet of young musicians from the Valley Youth Orchestra will entertain dinner guests. The Valley

Youth Orchestra has representatives from the same counties as the 7th Judicial District and operates under the Valley Symphony Association.

Executive Director Karen Tuttle said, "The highlight of the evening will be an interview with former 'CASA kid' Judi Boyce, who was removed from her home at the age of seven along with her five siblings. While in foster care for seven years, Boyce had a dedicated CASA volunteer who stood by her the entire duration of her case—a hallmark of a CASA volunteer. Her advocate continued to stay in touch even after Boyce found a permanent home with an adoptive family. As an adult, Boyce has chosen to be "a face" for the CASA program, which strongly emphasizes confidentiality of the children they serve. "A lot of people don't know what CASA is unless you've been in 'the system,'" Boyce explained. "CASA volunteers make sure you're safe and happy wherever you are. Kids need to know they haven't been forgotten; CASA volunteers make sure that they aren't." Originally from New Jersey, Boyce is a medically

retired sailor who moved to Montrose to intern at the City of Montrose as part of Welcome Home Montrose's "Dream Job Program."

The event's guest speaker will be State Representative Don Coram. "CASA serves abused and neglected kids from all the communities of the 7th Judicial District," Coram remarked. "It's important for us to come together to take care of our own, most vulnerable population and celebrate the successes of our own CASA program."

Tickets are \$50 per person. A "Table of 10 Friends" is available for \$450. Sponsorship packages are available at 10-Speed, Tricycle, and Red Wagon levels. Corporate tables are also available. To attend, sponsor, volunteer, or donate to the event, call CASA at (970) 249-0337 or info@casa7jd.org.

CASA serves abused and neglected children who have been removed from their homes and find themselves in the courts and child welfare systems through no fault of their own. CASA's mission is to *help break the cycle of child abuse and neglect, and to advocate for safe, permanent, nurturing home for children, utilizing highly trained and dedicated volunteers.*

After extensive training and under the direction of the presiding judge, CASA volunteers participate as independent child advocates, formalizing their observations and recommendations in written court reports to assist in the complex and difficult decision-making processes directly affecting the child. CASA is a respected agency with a 95.9% judicial satisfaction rating, and judges express great need for more CASA volunteers for their cases.

CASA is affiliated with the National CASA Association and CASA in Colorado. CASA began serving the six-county area that comprises the 7th Judicial District in 2000.

To learn more about CASA's mission and child advocacy efforts, for information about becoming a CASA volunteer, or to donate or otherwise support the program, call CASA at (970) 249-0337 or email info@casa7jd.org. For information about National CASA, visit their website at www.casaforchildren.org.

NEW LIFE IN LOMO...RENEWEST ART CRAWL !



*IMAGES COURTESY
CARA FANDEL FOR HOWLING
WOLF PHOTOGRAPHY.*

*Below, Singer Rachael Boschein, guitarist Jeff
Whiten and fiddler David Klein perform at Ame-
lia's Hacienda.*

*Above, the Masquerade competition at
Amazing Glaze. Left to right are Krystina
Maixner (art crawl co-organizer), 10-year-
old Martin Kennedy (brother to Krystina's
boyfriend) and shooter Nathan Greninger.*



*At left, Artists display Pysanky, a traditional
form of Russian egg painting, at Sushitini. Pic-
tured are Anna Johnson and mother Julianne
Johnson (who also works at Art Partners).*

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

INDUSTRY TRADE GROUP FIGHTS TO KEEP NOMINATIONS SECRET

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – The Western Energy Alliance, a fossil fuel industry trade group, has filed to intervene in a lawsuit that seeks to bring transparency to oil and gas leasing on public lands.

U.S. District Court Senior Judge Richard P. Matsch has already [ruled](#) on February 13 that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) must release documents about the leasing process. The trade group is now seeking to become a party after the judgment in an attempt to gain standing for an appeal to the Tenth Circuit.

“This demonstrates just how badly the energy industry wants to keep the public in the dark about oil and gas leasing on public lands,” said Jim Ramey, director of the Paonia-based Citizens for a Healthy Community, which originally brought the lawsuit along with the Western Environmental Law Center (WELC). “This industry trade group is trying to prop up a bad policy instead of supporting transparency and open government.”

The BLM recently [filed](#) for and was [granted](#) an extra 30 days to release the withheld information, in keeping with the government’s 60-day appeal deadline. As of now, the government has yet to decide whether or not to appeal the February ruling, which concluded that the BLM broke the law when it concealed the identity of companies who nominated public lands for gas drilling leases. The government has until April 15 to release the names of the parties that nominated controversial lands in Western Colorado’s North Fork Valley for oil and gas leasing, or to appeal the District Court’s decision.

“Maybe the industry benefits when the BLM keeps the oil and gas leasing process secret, but the public gets the short end of the stick,” said WELC attorney Kyle Tisdell, who represented CHC on this case. “The BLM should respect the District Court’s well-reasoned decision and change their policy to bring full transparency to the agency’s oil and gas leasing process on our public lands.”

In his ruling, Judge Matsch explained that the BLM’s argument to maintain industry secrecy “runs directly contrary to the purpose of the public sale process. Competition in bidding advances the pur-

pose of getting a fair price for a lease of publicly owned minerals. Moreover, the identity of the submitter may be relevant to the plaintiff and others who may raise concerns about the stewardship records of that potential owner, a factor relevant to the environmental impact of the proposed sale.”

The issue of ensuring open, competitive bidding is at the heart of the controversy. “Transparency in the leasing process is the very best way to avoid corruption and make sure the public gets a fair price,” commented WELC attorney Tisdell.

The North Fork Valley is home to a thriving agricultural and tourism economy. Conventional agriculture, organic farming,

ranching, vineyards, and tourism-based businesses have all grown in recent years. Fracking and other drilling activities threaten the water and air quality that all of these businesses depend on, and local residents have mounted energetic opposition to proposed leasing and drilling. When the BLM announced plans to lease nearly 30,000 acres of public lands surrounding the North Fork Valley for drilling and fracking, thousands of residents submitted comments opposing the plan and more than 150 filed formal protests of the decision. The BLM has deferred the sale twice since the initial lease sale announcement, most recently on Feb. 6, 2013.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY®
PRESENTS

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GUEST SPEAKER:

NORM BIRTCHER, GENERAL MANAGER
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IS AGAIN IN OPERATION

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013 - NOON
MONTROSE LIBRARY, COMMUNITY ROOM
The public is invited to attend. Q & A period to follow.



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

For more information, go to www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org.

OUT AND ABOUT...THE ALTRUSA SPRING LUNCHEON



Above, Yvonne Meek created her table around a custom-made reproduction of the Eiffel Tower by husband Harris Meek...at right, Rose Price put together an inspired fantasy of a table, complete with dragon, for the luncheon on March 23.

Take Control of Your Health Presentation

How is the medical disease treatment system working out for you? Interested in a better way? Then you will not want to miss this presentation on non-invasive, drug free alternatives to better health! Presented by Presidential Marketing Directors with **Youngevity** Lance and Susan Gubler from St George, Utah. They will also present protocols developed by **Dr. Joel Wallach**, the Founder of Epigenetics (the study of how nutrition or the lack thereof actually alters and changes our genes, thus creating or reversing illness)

- This is a free event open to all! -

- Wednesday. April 17-7:00 pm, The Country Lodge, 1624 E Main Montrose!



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OPINION/EDITORIAL

Dear Editor:

A whole bunch of folks and I attended the Wednesday morning "community improvement" coffee hour again this past Wednesday morning at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli to hear Montrose City Manager Bill Bell and several members of his team describe the new concept to promote Montrose as a marketable destination for visi-

tors to our outstanding region. With emphasis on collaboration, transparency and performance-based budgeting, he described a program that we can all support. While some feel it is much more fun to throw rocks at most governmental activity in this highly volatile time in history, I must admit, between the current City Council and an outstanding City Manager,

I actually have confidence in our future (at least on the local level). The bottom line is if you care about our community, participate.

These people actually listen and consider your comments and opinions and they can all use your help.

John W. Nelson, Montrose

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2013 Annual Power of Knowledge Tournament Tests Brain Cells

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY--San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA) held its 18th annual Power of Knowledge Tournament on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at the Naturita Elementary Middle School. Twenty-three teams from area schools competed for the top three spots in the middle school, high school, and elementary divisions. Ouray, Telluride, Nucla, Naturita and Norwood sent teams to this year's competition.

The tournament consists of five rounds, with teams competing in both written and oral exams. This year, each team took a 50-question written test to determine their placing going into the oral rounds. The remainder of the tournament consisted of four, 40-question oral rounds where teams competed against each other to answer questions that were read aloud. SMPA is proud to announce the following winning teams:

Elementary Division: First Place: Ouray Green – 70 points; Team Members: Geny McArdle, Kacie Meraz, Georgia Pieper, Rae Sustana; **Second Place:**

Naturita 1 – 66 points; Team Members: Logan Weimer, Jacquelyn Terrell, Tyler Wytulka; **Third Place: Ouray Blue – 61 points;** Team Members: Hayden Hart, Kaiden McFarland, Tammy Iverson.

Middle School Division: First Place: Telluride – 86 points; Team Members: Kevin Ensor, Jack Creel, Jaden Evans; **Second Place: Ouray Mountaineers – 84 points;** Team Members: Mariah Crandle, Nathalie Guzman, Kimberly Aguirre, Evan Vann; **Third Place: Naturita 1 – 82 points;** Team Members: Tabitha Andersen, Noah Smith, Coby Grierson, Renny Andersen.

High School Division: First Place: Ouray A – 89 points; Team Members: Nicholas Pieper, Jessica Neiuhaus; **Second Place: Telluride – 78 points;** Team Members: Lizzie MacMillan, Brian Ensor, Jackson Blanks, Dalton Metz, Amber Furnee; **Third Place: Ouray B – 72;** Team Members: Sam Rondinelli, Eli Crandle.

The tournament concluded with the awarding of trophies. All participants received a complimentary SMPA

Knowledge Rocks Mohawk headband. SMPA thanks the many volunteers who made the event possible and the Nucla 7th grade class for serving breakfast and lunch. A special also thanks goes to Vicki Phelps, Naturita Knowledge Bowl Coach, for the work she put into finding volunteers and getting the school ready for the event. For more information contact Becky Mashburn at (970) 626-5549 ext. 212 or becky@smpa.com.

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo.

It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 14,000 meters and supports local communities with \$200,000 annually in property taxes and \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates.



A HISTORY OF THE UTES...A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW



Tipis at the Ute Indian Museum. Photo by Sarah Berndt.

By J. Berndt

MONTROSE—I can't claim to be a historian, but I have recently become fascinated with learning--something that would have been helpful in school. I recently took a drive over to the Ute Indian museum. I hadn't been inside the place since I was around seven years old on a school field trip, where I first saw the dioramas depicting the lives of the early Utes. I looked at them with the same enthusiasm as I once did; they are fascinating and I'm sure with a few drinks I could convince myself that I could build one of my own; but anyway... It's so easy to overlook the more touristy spots in Montrose if you live here. The museum is a pretty sweet place with plenty to keep you busy for an informative hour or so, with videos, artifacts, pictures and a gift shop. Quickly you will begin to realize the importance of this land to the Ute Indians--originally their home and rightfully still should be.

Christopher Columbus wrote in his log, "They do not bear arms, and do not know them, for I showed them a sword, they took it and cut themselves out of ignorance. They have no iron. Their spears are made of cane.... They would make fine servants.... With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want."

This comment was not directly about the Ute people themselves but about the na-

tives who called North America home before the ships landed on our coasts. The Native people who knew nothing of castles, torture, war, or slavery at this point. When settlers came, they wanted to build permanent structures on the land, and the natives first learned to fear mankind, not the gods; the settlers pushed inland forcing the natives to sign their lives, land, and dignity over. With sturdy weapons and a willingness to use them, the settlers were able to storm through the new-found land, taking what they wanted.

The early Ute people inhabited the majority of Colorado and Utah, as well as parts of New Mexico and Arizona. The neighboring Pueblo Indians referred to the Utes as the "Mountain People." The early Utes were shorter and darker skinned than a lot of the other natives in North America, and were respected and feared by the surrounding tribes. The Ute's ancestors can be dated back 10,000 years or more. Presently there are six major groups of Utes: Uintah, Uncompahgre, White river, Kapota, Moache, and the Weeminuche.

As we all know, the winters here can be somewhat passive-aggressive, and the natives had to and did survive. They came together as a group, drying fish as well as snakes, caterpillars, lizards, and preserved crickets to get them through the winter in case meat was scarce. The natives knew nothing about hunting for sport; to them it

was a way of life. The Utes would set up small camps on known game trails, where they would have a place to store food for the determined hunters. They would build a platform, usually over the small tepee where they could watch for packs of animals or approaching Buffalo Soldiers.

When the Spanish began colonizing North America they brought horses with them, changing everything for the Utes--even though the Spanish forbade the Indians to ride horses in the beginning. Now the Natives had a practical way to transport tepees for the first time. Dogs were also used by the Utes as pack animals but obviously could not pull the weight that a horse could.

And while we're on the subject of tepees--I found it quite fascinating that it was solely the woman's responsibility. She would make it, set it up, take it down as well as move it. The door always faced north and no man could just walk into the tepee unless they were invited, like ladies night at the nail salon hosting a "Tupperware" party.

The Utes soon became frustrated with losing their land, like any of us would. They began to burn down structures and fight back for the first time. The Utes didn't want the settlers to building permanent structures on the land they had hunted and gathered on for many, many years. They told the miners to come, get what they wanted and leave.

The Utah Utes had a somewhat different struggle than the Mountain Utes. They had to deal with a man by the name of Brigham Young and his teachings. He was a little different (more "special") than most of the settlers and still carried on the same set of rules; if the Indians would conform to the way he and the newcomers thought they should live, they would be treated fairly. But quoted in the book, *When the buffalo free the Mountains*, by Nancy Wood, Mr. Young said, "Feed the Indians, for it is cheaper to feed them than to fight them. Treat them kindly, and trust them as Indians, and not as your equals. Never let them come into your house...treat the Indians kindly, now is the time to finish your forts and make them double strong." In the book of Mormon he referred to the Indians as "Seeds of Abraham." When the United States government and the Mormons started having troubles of their own, however,

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Lewis Kennedy Announces Candidacy for DMEA Board of Directors

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - Erica Lewis Kennedy officially announced her candidacy for the Delta-Montrose Electric Association's (DMEA) Board of Directors Monday.

"My candidacy for the DMEA board comes from my want to serve my community," Lewis Kennedy said. "DMEA has had many successful programs recently and I would love to work to continue and grow sustainable projects into the future." Citing the hydroelectric and solar programs, she stated she is impressed with local innovation.

Lewis Kennedy is running for the District 4 seat.

"It is with both feet I jump into this candidacy. In former public service roles, I have proven my ability to listen to constituents while making informed and demanding decisions. I have a strong background

in finance, budgeting, policy, legislation and communications."

Lewis Kennedy, a two-time former City of Montrose Mayor, took a special interest in capital improvement and utility construction during her six-year tenure on the Montrose City Council.

"I am truly fascinated by utilities and their inherent importance to a community," Lewis Kennedy said. "Trust me, I get it, when the toilet doesn't flush or the lights aren't coming on, we have a problem."

Lewis Kennedy would love to bring a mix to the DMEA board. The incumbent for this seat has decided not to run again. If elected, Lewis Kennedy would be only the second female on the board and the youngest member.

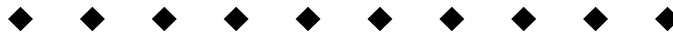
"I would like to serve the board with a different voice, I have a young family. I understand the economic restraints and

concerns of those trying to build a future for our children. If the voters so decide, I would be honored to bring this perspective to the table," she added.

Lewis Kennedy owns ELK Media LLC, a public relations firm specializing in economic development and public health projects. She works with clients throughout the nation. She is a 1993 graduate of Montrose High School and a 1997 graduate of Baylor University where she studied journalism and biology.

Lewis Kennedy's current and former community service includes: two-term City of Montrose Mayor; Maslow Academy of Applied Learning Board of Directors; Welcome Home Montrose steering committee, youth soccer coach and Montrose County election judge.

For more information, Lewis Kennedy can be contacted at 970- 596-3580.



A HISTORY OF THE UTES...A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW continued

the Utes were left with only scraps of someone else's fight and the loss of their land.

Right here in Montrose, you will find the grave of one of the most celebrated Ute, Chief Ouray, whose picture can be found next to other Colorado pioneers at Colorado State Capitol. He was known for his fairness to the whites and for the protection of his tribesmen. However, when he signed treaties with the settlers, the Utes lost more and more land. Deep down a lot of the Utes didn't have much trust in Ouray because he was part Spanish and Apache, as well as Ute.

"All we can do is lie down and give in," he said as he signed the third Ute treaty. He thought about the safety of his people, who were forced to relocate to the west side of the Continental divide, given sixteen million acres, "forever theirs." Within

11 years the gold-seekers came and took them out.

It was the Brunot Agreement in 1873 that finally stripped the Utes of four million more acres of land, only to mine two hundred million dollars in mineral wealth. This went on until the Utes were left with nothing that they once had. This is what Chief Ouray said, "I realize the destiny of our people. We shall fall as the leaves of the trees when winter comes and the land we have roamed for countless generations will be given up to the miner and the plowshare and we shall be buried out of sight. My part is to protect my people and yours, as far as I can, from the violence and bloodshed and bring them into friendly relations."

Even though I do believe Chief Ouray had the best intentions for the safety of his people, anyone who has witnessed the de-

struction of his or her people for so many years can be a little more susceptible to bribery. There are many who say he was bought out, given a Victorian house in Montrose and a salary of a thousand dollar a year. Ouray spoke English, Spanish, and Ute, making him a perfect candidate to be the spokesperson for the Utes--but most Utes could not get in on the conversations because of the language barrier.

He knew at this point that the Natives had been overpowered and wanted the bloodshed to end; Ouray's was the first of the seven bands to yield their land, and as the years went by more and more was lost.

I have not even touched the surface of these amazing people and their culture. Their traditions will always live on, and now we can do nothing but learn from the mistakes of others, and resolve never again to repeat the past.

SEEING GREEN...A LOOK AT GARDEN CENTERS IN MONTROSE



Pansies and Johnny jump-ups on display for early season planting at Camelot Gardens. Photo by Clay Greathouse.



Camelot Gardens carries a variety of indoor plants for home and office. Photo by Clay Greathouse.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE--With Montrose gardeners biting at the bit, local garden centers are gearing up for spring with fresh flowers, gardening tools and yard decor. Two such garden centers include San Juan Gardens and Camelot Gardens.

San Juan Gardens started 25 years ago as a tree farm. In 1997 it expanded into selling shrubs and perennials as well, and has continued to grow ever since. Owner Gayle Goodhue said, "We are a full service garden center. We grow almost everything we sell. We believe our locally grown component is important. The plants that we grow are good survivors because they are used to the soil." San Juan Gardens also offers consulting services for ideas and to help solve gardening problems.

As compared to when they first started San Juan Gardens, Gayle has seen a resurgence in vegetable gardening, with more and more people wanting to grow their own food. Also the economy has changed what people buy. "People definitely want to beatify their yards, but they do it by getting smaller, less expensive items," Gayle explained. There has also been a larger interest in water wise gardening, with a shift to buying drought-tolerant native plants. "People are more conscious

of water use," Gayle said. "It is good to see that people care."

According to Gayle, Montrose is a great area because a wide range of plants can grow here. "Our best-selling trees include the Colorado Blue Spruce, Aspens, Crab Apple Trees, and many other fruit and shade trees," Gayle explained. "For shrubs, people can grow Potentillas, elderberries, roses, junipers, sages, and I've barely scratched the surface. Our perennial flower list alone is 12 pages long."

Many people do not realize that they can have flowers blooming from Spring all the way into Fall. Gayle suggests that people visit a nursery once a month and see what is in bloom. Buying the plants that are in bloom and planting those each month spreads blooming flowers out over a longer period of time.

Gayle's number one advice to new gardeners is to not over water their gardens. "Plants need oxygen, and too much water blocks plants from being able to breathe," Gayle explained. "People end up killing their plants with kindness." She also advises people to add good mulch to their soil and choose native plants that grow well here.

Gayle loves working in the gardening business because of the chance to meet new people. "I tell everyone that I am

really in the people business; plants just happen to be the vehicle for that," She said. "I have met people from all over the country who move here and want to learn what grows here so they can make their home attractive."

Gayle also loves being able to work in a business that cares about the environment. She said, "I really like being outside in nature, to be able to watch a small plant grow into something beautiful."

For more information, call 249-2052 or visit San Juan Gardens at 12225 65.30 Road in Montrose, open seven days a week.

Sitting on five acres, with 18,000 square feet of retail space under glass, Camelot Gardens includes a gift shop and has a vegetable market in its parking lot in the Summer.

In addition to custom growing 800 hanging flower baskets, it also sells a large variety of plants, patio furniture, yard decor, a huge line of soil and soil amendments, gardening tools, pottery from around the world, and even tropical foliage.

For around 20 years, Camelot's owner Sheree Wanner has prided herself on Camelot's service and selection.

"We spend a lot of time making certain we have the best stock and variety of new

SEEING GREEN...A LOOK AT GARDEN CENTERS IN MONTROSE *continued*



The greenhouse at Camelot Gardens offers a colorful escape during the colder months, and bright blooms tempt gardeners as spring arrives. Photo by Clay Greathouse.

plants,” She explained. “We attend conferences and other events, so we make sure that we do our research.”

With most of her staff having worked at Camelot for 15 years or more, Sheree believes that they are a wealth of knowledge. “I have the greatest staff, who are genuinely concerned with making customers succeed in gardening,” She remarked.

Over the years, Sheree has seen a shift in the attitude towards gardening. “A lot of people are now interested in organic gar-

dening,” She explained. “Especially in this economy, people are growing their own vegetables. There has also been a greater shift towards outdoor living with patios and outdoor kitchens.”

At Camelot, the easiest and most popular plants sold include marigolds, pansies, geraniums, Russian Sage and columbines. “We like to help people pick out something new to make their yard look different,” Sheree said.

For any new gardeners that come in, the

staff at Camelot works to help them as much as possible. “We start by asking them about their home and yard, such as if it is sunny or shady, how much maintenance they want to do annually, and what their favorite colors and textures are,” Sheree said. “We spend a lot of time with a new customer.”

People of any gardening level will find informational pamphlets at Camelot, with lists of perennials, shrubs, deer resistant plants, drought-tolerant plants, and plants that grow well over 7,000 feet.

As a nurse by trade, Sheree loves to help people become successful and make her employees happy. “I enjoy being a part of the community and donating to various organizations,” She explained. She is also proud that for nine years Camelot has been named one of the Top 100 Garden Centers in the nation by Today’s Garden Center.

Sheree’s favorite part of her business is the people. “I love it when Spring hits and customers start coming in, even just to say hi,” She said. “It is a social place, so we talk and visit and people wander. I also enjoy it when customers come in and they are able to find something that makes them happy.” For more information call 249-6109 or visit Camelot Gardens at 16612 S. Townsend Avenue in Montrose, open seven days a week. For anyone looking for help in growing their own food or just making their home beautiful, these two garden centers in Montrose provide some of the best plants, tools and resources to make any garden a success.

WESTERN COLORADO BOTANIC GARDENS ANNOUNCE SUMMER HOURS

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION--The Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, South 7th Street and Riverside Parkway, will convert from winter hours to regular hours April 2nd.

The Gardens will be open through the end of the year Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 AM until 5 PM, closed on Monday. The public is invited to an early Earth Day/Arbor Day open house celebration at

the Gardens on Sunday, April 14th. New this year is Botanical Bucks Day. The first Friday of every month, admission will be \$1. Contact the Gardens at 970-245-9030, or visit www.wcbotanic.org.



Just in thyme for spring ...

The Mirror

Homegrown content with flavor.

DIRECT SALES CAREER FAIR OPENS DOORS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—For some entrepreneurs, one small business is just not enough. Amy Harmsen, who owns Canyon Gallery (Main and Townsend) with her husband Wil, has found a second career in direct sales to be the perfect fit, allowing her to generate extra income while maintaining the flexible hours needed to continue working in the gallery and spending time with the kids.

Now, Harmsen wants to take her small business, a Send out Cards distributorship, to the next level—and she doesn't want to go there alone.

"I have been doing this for just under a year, and it is quite a wonderful business," Harmsen said. "Send Out Cards is an online card and gift shop that allows you to send an actual snail-mail card with just a click. It's so easy, and the ability of a card to brighten someone's day is amazing!"

In talking with other local direct sales professionals, Harmsen believes that there is opportunity to band together and increase revenues. So she has organized a direct sales career fair, to be held at 6 p.m. on April 10, at the Warrior Resource Center at 11 Park Avenue. So far, ten local direct sales company reps have signed up to take part.

"Home-based businesses are better off working together," she said. "We can help each other grow, and learn, and stick to

our goals. Accountability partners can help us achieve those goals."

Although she herself has always loved sales, Harmsen said that many who get into direct marketing are afraid of selling—at first.

"Direct sales help us grow ourselves," Harmsen said. "We learn public speaking and organizational skills, and often what starts as a part-time business becomes full time, and allows you to make your own schedule."

With a tough job market and high unemployment levels, direct sales can provide greatly needed additional income as well, she noted.

"You can also set your own hours, which is so important for someone with a family," she said.

The Direct Sales Career will help dispel myths about the industry, and offer ideas for those who want to get a foot in the door.

"We will talk about the benefits of direct sales, and share local success stories," Harmsen said. "After all, several of our Downtown business owners had successful careers in direct sales before opening their storefronts. We will have time for mingling, and light refreshments like coffee and tea. Vendors will have tables out, to share their products with people who are interested—the whole key to direct sales is that you have to very much believe in your product."



The Direct Sales Career Fair is free to the public, and will open eyes to other sources of income, Harmsen said.

"It's really no different than a corporate hierarchy," she said, "except that there is no cap on what you can earn with direct sales."

"You can continue earning even after you retire, thanks to residual income, and you are not competing with your own group—when you succeed, you are helping others succeed."

Direct Sales professionals who wish to take part in the career fair are encouraged to call Harmsen at 970-209-3578.

GOLF SCRAMBLE TO BENEFIT MHS SAFE SENIOR GRAD PARTY!

Cobble Creek is hosting a Golf Scramble to benefit the MHS SAFE Senior Party on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Registration begins at 8am with Tee time at 9am. The cost is \$65.00 per player or \$320.00 per team and includes golf, lunch, carts, prizes, and a chance to win a 2013 Ford Focus.

Contact Troy Youngren at golf shop at 240-9542, Tammy Carroll at 249-2198, or Michelle Keltz at 249-3653 to register and or to be a hole sponsor.

*We hope to see you there,
and thank you for supporting this graduation fundraising event!*

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WOLVERTON AWARDED BOETTCHER SCHOLARSHIP



Emily Wolverton. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Emily Wolverton, a senior at Montrose High School, has been named one of only 40 2013 Boettcher Foundation Scholarship Recipients. Boettcher Scholars are awarded “full-ride” merit-based scholarships to attend a college or university within the State of Colorado.

Recently announced by Tim Schultz, The President and Executive Director of the Boettcher Foundation, the list of Boettcher Scholars includes some of the most promising young people from across the state. In fact, just to be eligible to apply, each student had to be in at least the top 5% of their class and have a combined score of at least 1200 on the Critical Reading and Math sections of the SAT or a score of at least 27 on the ACT. “The goal of the Boettcher Scholarship program,” explained Schultz, “is to keep the best talent in Colorado here by connecting them with the outstanding opportunities offered by our in-state institutions. We know that these students will become leaders on their campuses and continue serving others with their gifts, thereby contributing to the greater Colorado community.” Now in its 60th year, the Boettcher Scholarship program has awarded more than 2, 200 scholarships, with over \$3 million paid out

each year. This places the program among the largest merit-based scholarship programs in the nation.

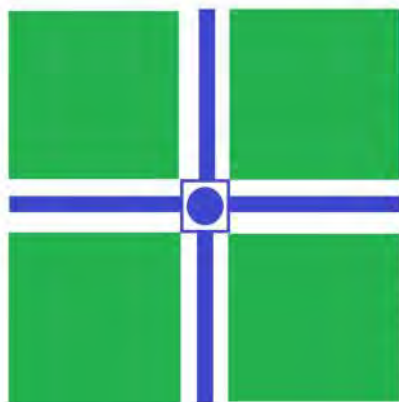
The “full-ride” scholarship Emily has been awarded includes virtually all college expenses to attend the Colorado school of her choice: full tuition, fees, a book allowance and an annual stipend for living expenses. The award is granted for eight semesters at either a public or private four-year college or university in the state- but only as long as the Scholar maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

“The selection process to earn this competitive award is extremely rigorous” notes Scholarship Program Director Katy Craig. “Over 1300 students apply each year and only 40 are awarded scholarships. Emily really stood out for us with her accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. We’re proud to have her representing the Boettcher family.” To learn more about the Foundation go to

www.BoettcherFoundation.org.

Style to boot.
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The Mirror

True Southwest Landscape Style takes it's cue from the Moors and it's healthy



Char-bagh (four square garden)

By—Rick Spalenka, ASLA, PLA, RN, Licensed Landscape Architect

What does a Southwestern landscape style have to do with the Moors? The Moors are not the people who just moved in down the street from out of state. No, Moorish gardens were introduced to southern Spain in the 8th century, 10th century, 13th century and again in the 14th century when southern Spain was under Muslim rule. The garden styles were employed by the Moorish (Hispano/Muslim) rulers for their palace gardens incorporating the styles of the Persians that dated back to 500 BC. Because of the hot, dry climate typical of southern Spain and North Africa, gardens were created **to provide relief**. Water was a precious commodity and was required for the survival of plants and for it's cooling effect. Gardens were created to follow Muslim religion and the needs of irrigating the

plants. The **char-bagh** (four square garden) is practical for flood irrigation from a center water source, usually a fountain or pool filled by springs. The four radiating irrigation rills or canals represent the four precious liquids mentioned in the Quran of honey, wine, milk and water, the four rivers flowing from Paradise. The word "paradise" comes from a Persian word meaning "walled area" referring to the earlier hunting grounds of the Persian rulers.

Elevated walkways were constructed around each of the four squares as well as around the entire four square complex and the water was allowed to flood the sunken planted areas, frequently planted in orange or lemon trees. The complex was either bordered on one side by a palace or surrounded with archways and balconies where one can move freely from interior rooms to the center "patio." It was the intent of the garden designers to make garden users feel as though they were in the garden while they were inside the palace. This garden style can be visited in the Moorish gardens of Se-



Char-bagh style 4 square



Patio garden without the canals or rills

ville, Cordoba, and Alhambra, Spain and in the Islamic gardens in Marrakesh, Morocco. When Spaniards invaded the New World they brought with them this style of garden that was appropriate for the hot, dry climate of Central America and the Southwest portion of North America. Many public and private gardens in California have this "Hispanic" style that fits well with both the climate and the Hispanic architecture. Over time the rills were no longer needed for irrigation but the center fountain remained. Americans adopted the word "patio" from this garden style and many of today's patios have the center fountain.

As I have mentioned in previous articles, the garden style you choose should fit the architectural style of your home. Just like a Hacienda would look out of place in New England, a French inspired English colonial garden would look weird in Montrose. If you are blessed with a true Southwestern style



home with stucco walls, clay tile roofs and U-shaped building footprint than a Moorish styled patio may be just the right choice for your outdoor paradise. Many of the "Santa Fe" style gardens you see in magazines, on line images, and "Table Books", in my opinion, are more like Gertrude Jekyll's British cottage gardens than true "patio" gardens.

Gertrude Jekyll (1843-1932) was a well known landscape garden designer who took the English style "Capability Brown" natural English garden and made it garden art. Not art into the garden but the garden itself became "art." When I look at "Santa Fe" gardens I see the same methodology of creating garden art out of drought tolerant plants and it's called the "Southwestern landscape." Poppycock. It's nothing more than a "Kincaid Cottage Garden" in the desert, albeit, quite often attractive.



*Are these "Southwestern Gardens" or a Gertrude Jekyll garden in the desert? It's very attractive.
Photo taken from the web.*



Gertrude Jekyll garden

If you want a "xeriscape, water-wise, drought tolerant, **viewing garden** in our hot and dry conditions than this type of garden is what the doctor ordered but let's not call it the Mexican, Southwest, Moorish, Patio style of garden. It's a cottage garden.

One of the types of Japanese gardens is the viewing garden. The others are the stroll garden, the Tea garden and the dry garden. Each garden type has a purpose. The garden above is a **desert viewing garden**, which is a good "therapeutic" design but not the ideal design. There is a "pergola" in the above photo which may be a transition from the house to the garden. This feature is often used for this transition and should be the main goal of your garden design. **We need to be in our garden more than just view them.** I want to encourage outdoor living in your garden and the "patio" is an ideal **transition from your home to the outside natural world**. Which many garden designers actually say is the true definition of the "**garden**." We are shackled to our "screen" toys; the iPod, iPad, other smart phones, computers, big screen TVs and video games. We've gotten so dependent on these high tech marvels that we no longer connect to the natural world because we can't "find the time." We have opportunities to find stress relief from our daily hassles and we don't take advantage of them. Dr. Eva M. Selhub MD writes in her new book, ***Your Brain on Nature—The Science of Nature's Influence on Your Health, Happiness, and Vitality*** that we of the Western world are losing contact to nature with very serious consequences. Her main mantra is to get out and engage in "**shinrin-yoku**" or the **forest bath**. Being in the outside natural world has necessary therapeutic benefits that urban dwellers, especially those who have lost contact with trees, are pathologically missing. The Persians, Moors, Chinese, Japanese, Italians, French, English, and Florence Nightingale knew this. Julie Moir Messervy has an excellent book, ***Contemplative Gardens***, that, with superb photos, quickly covers the history of gardens and how past garden designers recognized the power of the garden. Your own "patio" in the true "Moorish" tradition may be the substitute for Prozac to find some stress relief that you can't find anywhere else.

Note: In addition to being a Licensed Landscape Architect in Colorado and Virginia, Rick Spalenka is also a Colorado Registered Nurse with a BSN in Nursing and has a Masters degree in Urban Studies. Rick served this last year as Chairman of the Healing and Therapeutic Design Professional Practice Network (H&TD PPN) of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

THIS WEEK AT THE WARRIOR CENTER...WELCOME HOME MONTROSE!



THIS WEEK'S NEWS AND EVENTS

(MONTROSE CO 3-29-13) This week we are honored to spotlight some of our dedicated volunteers! You may recognize **Ginger McGee and Donna LaChapelle** from the Warrior Resource Center, where they welcome guests with a friendly smile and helpful attitude. These two weekly volunteers also assist with routine tasks and data entry chores at the reception desk. Thank you Ginger and Donna!

We also want to spotlight the **Veteran & Family Service Coordinator for Welcome Home Montrose, Gary Gratton**. A veteran and a tireless volunteer, Gary has given an extraordinary amount of time and energy to the program this week, as he works to organize the many wonderful donations that are pouring into the Warrior Resource Center. Gary has been with Welcome Home Montrose from the start, and has also logged countless hours researching and compiling numerous resources for the benefit of our veterans and their families. Thank you Gary!

We are grateful as well to veterans **Heath and Jesse McCombs** of [Max Archery Express](#) for heading up the archery part of our program. Heath is currently seeking individuals and businesses willing to sponsor the cost of one wounded warrior guest for Welcome Home Montrose No Barriers Week. That cost is \$355.00 (without airfare). Heath has engaged 11 families who are now working together to sponsor two with a goal to add as many individuals as possible. Thank you Heath and Jesse!

Thanks also to **Vince Farnsworth** who has donated the use of his photograph for the No Barriers week poster (attached)! This work and other beautiful pictures of our area can be seen on display at the Canyon Gallery at Main and Townsend Downtown. Thank you Vince!

Looking for an opportunity to spend time at the Warrior Resource Center? We still have space for volunteers willing to work at the reception desk during two-hour shifts. Please call 970-765-2210 top by or fill out a volunteer form online. **Thank you also to our media partners** for the wonderful coverage! [Read the Denver Post newspaper article](#)

[about No Barriers Week](#); [Important news for those with PTSD](#).

Presentations to Columbine and Centennial Middle Schools:

On March 26, Welcome Home Montrose board member Pat Blackwelder, Navy Seaman (Ret) Judi Boyce and her service dog Puck, and WHM founder Melanie Kline presented "What is a Wounded Warrior?" to approximately 150 sixth graders at Columbine Middle School on March 26th. The 30-minute presentation explains who serves our country, explores what happens to them during their deployments, follows them during the rehabilitation process at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, and talks about what it is like coming home. Students learn from the examples of brave service members as they conquer physical and mental challenges, inspiring others with their determination and bravery. Arranged by long-time local educator and City Council member Carol McDermott, the school visits are intended to raise awareness and build a sense of understanding toward those who serve, and empower kids to step up and say thanks when they have the chance. Students also gain insight into the experiences of service members' families. If the family member of a classmate is deployed, it can be frightening and upsetting. Students gain tools that can be used to help others, and have the chance to connect and share the experience with peers and fellow service families.

No Barriers Week Donations:

More of the wonderful volunteers who called this week to donate time, money, meals, supplies for No Barriers Adventure week include the following: **Janice Wheeler and Dennis Schultz** have offered to guide a hike and offered the use of the **Turn Of The Century Saloon**; **Loren Henderson and Menudo's** restaurant have offered breakfast burritos for all days not covered by someone else; Henderson and **the Elks Club** have offered the use of the Elks' building as hospitality and base location. They are concerned about the lack of parking at 11 South Park and want to make the week easier for everyone; **Lee Burkins** confirmed that he will be holding Tai Chi classes at the WRC during the No Barriers week; **John Carls** has offered emergency services as needed; **Scott Shine** has offered to guide a canoe trip From Escalante To Dominguez Canyon; **Black Canyon Car Club** has offered a parade, rides or a car show; **Camp Robber Cafe** has offered to

provide lunch for everyone one day; **Walgreens** will donate cases of bottled water for the week; **Debbie Ferris** has offered craft supplies and instruction; **Qdoba** restaurant will cater one of the events; Phil at **Horsefly Brewing Company** offered to cater one of the events; **Vince Farnsworth** has donated the use of his beautiful image of the Black Canyon for our advertising; **Dan Hicks** will head up the team of local kayak enthusiasts willing to instruct our guests on the river; the **OES/Masons** will host Friday morning breakfast; **Mary, Dennis & Lars Erickson** have offered boating (motor and canoe); **Terri Leben** has offered to host a breakfast or lunch and to volunteer her time; **Kathy Hamm** offered equine Therapy for our guests; and **Timberline Bank** will sponsor the \$1,000,000 Hole in One competition. Thank you to everyone who volunteered this week. If you don't see your name, it will appear soon. We are trying to enter everything into the system as fast as possible.

Needs/Wish List: Small Boats; Preferably Flat Bottom, Kayaks and power boats (for the Ridgway Fishing Tournament); Fly Fishing Gear; Propane Showers; Cots--Army Or Otherwise; Outfitter Wall Tents; Business Resources; -- Embroidery/Silk Screen; Shirts Hats, Backpacks; Supplies For Backpacks; Sponsorship Of Soldiers; financial support of \$355 Per Soldier.

The Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, locally known as Welcome Home Montrose, is a grassroots community initiative inspired by the determination and courage of Corporal Todd Love, his father Gary Love, and USMC Sergeant (Retired) Jared Bolhuis. Our goal is to make Montrose Colorado a "no barriers" city and invite America's wounded troops to live in this community where they can have the opportunity to thrive. Programs established to date include the Warrior Resource Center at Park Avenue and Main Street, the Dream Job Program, and Business Window Sticker Program. Please contact us to learn how you can contribute! Our corporate office is located in Timberline Bank (1561 Oxbow Dr.), and can be reached at 970-765-2210.

Welcome Home Montrose is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and runs entirely on donations of all kinds at the Resource Center and on the website, www.WelcomeHomeMontrose.org.

ARTS AND CULTURE

REGION 10 WELCOMES SCHOOL DISTRICT ART SHOW APRIL 22-MAY 3



A work by Weldyn Allen from last year's Montrose County school district art show. Mirror file photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—It's time for trees and flowers and April showers...and here in Montrose, another sure sign that spring has

arrived is the Fifth Annual Montrose County School District Re-1J Art Show, to be unveiled at the Region 10 Enterprise Center April 22-May 3.

"Art is the soul of our culture," MHS Art Teacher and organizer Ann Marie Fleming said. "We continue to take the pulse of our spirit and nurture the inner lives of our young people by celebrating the arts, and our district should be honored for its continued commitment to art and music even as we move forward and emphasize improvement on student test scores."

The show will be open each day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and this year's entrants will have the chance to compete for prizes for the first time.

"There will be first, second and third place ribbons in two categories, two-dimensional and three dimensional

works," Fleming said. "We will also award a prize for People's Choice winner this year."

To learn more about the 2013 Re-1J Student Art Show, contact Fleming at afleming@mcsd.k12.co.us.

A non-profit organization, the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning was formed in 1972 and serves six-counties (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale and San Miguel), operates an Enterprise center (300 North Cascade) administers the Enterprise Zone Business and Contribution tax credit programs, oversees the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Community Living Services, coordinates Regional Transportation planning, and offers a loan program for small business. To learn more call 970-249-2436 or visit the web site at www.region10.net.

Artists, Adventurers and Scientists to Present at 35th Annual Mountainfilm

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE – In addition to screening leading independent documentary films, Mountainfilm in Telluride is distinguished each year by the scope of its non-film presentations. World-renown journalists, photographers and explorers, along with experts in such distinct fields as foreign policy, environmental science and social justice join athletes, activists and artists on the Mountainfilm stages each year. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the festival and diversity will, once again, be a hallmark of the event. "We're very fortunate to have so many great films to screen every year," said festival director David Holbrooke. "But our special guests are what make our weekend so absolutely special."

Holbrooke pointed to six of this year's guests, among dozens, as emblematic of Mountainfilm in Telluride's depth and diversity: two, each, from the worlds of adventure, science and photography.

Explorer, author and sustainability activist, Jason Lewis is a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society and The Explorers Club. In 2007, he

became the first person to circumnavigate the Earth without the use of motors or sails. The 46,505-mile journey took a total of 13 years to complete.

Erden Eruc's climbing partner Göran Kopp died in Eruc's arms in 2002. The experience inspired Eruc to take on the challenge of circumnavigating the world solely by human power. In 2012, he completed his journey, which took 5 years and 11 days, from start to finish, and became the second-ever person, after Jason Lewis, to do so.

Daniel Nocera is a leading scientist in the realm of energy conversion in biology and chemistry. The focus of his work has been on providing energy for the world's poorest people and cultivating sustainable energy supplies for the future. In that vein, he helped develop a potentially groundbreaking method for generating hydrogen from water using solar power, which is known as "artificial photosynthesis."

Ecologist, author and cancer survivor, Sandra Steingraber is an internationally recognized authority on environmental links to cancer and human health. Steingraber's highly acclaimed

book *Living Downstream: An Ecologist's Personal Investigation of Cancer and the Environment* presents cancer as a human rights issue.

Tim Laman is a field biologist and wildlife photojournalist whose pioneering research in the rain forest canopy in Borneo led to a PhD from Harvard and his first National Geographic article in 1997. Since then, he has pursued his passion for exploring wild places and documenting little-known and endangered wildlife.

Photographer Kevin Connolly grew up rafting rivers, skiing and climbing mountains. But Connolly is different from most of his fellow outdoor enthusiasts: He was born without legs. Connolly took an extended trip around the world, traveling mostly by propelling himself with his arms on a skateboard. Along the way, he documented people's reactions to both his mode of transportation and his physical defect.

For a full listing of Mountainfilm's confirmed 2013 special guest presenters, please visit the festival website, www.mountainfilm.org. To join the conversation, please visit the Mountainfilm in Telluride blog, follow us on Twitter and become a fan on Facebook.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

STATE EXTENSION APPLIES TO FILING, NOT TO TAXES DUE

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO--If you can't file your 2012 Colorado individual income tax return by Monday, April 15, 2013, you may take advantage of the state's automatic six-month extension of time to file. There is no form, paper or electronic, to fill out to notify the Department of Revenue that you are taking the extension. There's no extension for tax due--the extension applies to filing Colorado income tax information, either on paper or electronically, not to any state income tax you may owe. If you expect to get a refund this year but do not make the April 15 filing deadline, you can still file

your state income tax on or before Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013. But, if you owe state income tax, 90 percent of the tax liability must be paid on or before April 15 to avoid penalties. Any remaining balance due would be subject to interest only. What are my payment options? Pay Online. Visit Revenue Online, www.Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline. Look under "For Individuals" and choose Make a Electronic Payment. Through Revenue Online you can pay tax by credit card or echeck. The system will calculate the total tax owed, plus interest and penalty. The day you make the payment it is noted in your account. No

waiting for the department to process your check; OR Mail in a check with the "2012 Extension Payment Voucher for Colorado Individual Income Tax" (DR 158-I). The Colorado 104 income tax booklet is located on the Colorado Taxation Web site at www.TaxColorado.com. To ensure your mailed payment is credited to your account, include your Social Security number(s) on the payment voucher. If you do not use the payment voucher, be sure to include your SSN(s) on the payment and indicate that the payment is for 2012 income tax. Otherwise, a non-filer notice may be issued.

DELTA STREETRODDERS AWARD SCHOLARSHIP



DELTA—Representatives from the Delta Street Rodders recently awarded a \$500 scholarship to Delta-Montrose Technical College Automotive Technician student Christopher Prough. Prough, from Cedaredge, is a first semester student in the Automotive program at DMTC. Pictured left to right are Mike Clothier, Delta Street Rodders president Sam Vasicko, Stan Clark, Dennis Kunz, Christopher Prough, Mike Fox, and Larry Rhine. The Automotive program at DMTC takes two semesters to complete. It covers all aspects of automotive technology including brakes, automatic and manual transmissions, electrical and electronic systems, engine repair, heating and air conditioning, and suspension and steering. Delta-Montrose Technical College is a public career and technical college in Delta, Colorado. It offers 57 secondary and postsecondary certificates in 12 different programs. All certificates can be earned in two semesters or less, with many of them only one semester in length.

ARTS AND CULTURE

GO "SPRING FORMAL" FOR FIRST FRIDAY STROLL !

Special to the Mirror

DOWNTOWN MONTROSE--Here's your chance to get all dressed up Montrose! The First Friday Stroll theme this month is **Spring Formal**. Ladies who "dress up" qualify for discounts at many galleries and stores that are open Friday, April 5th, 5:30 to 8 pm. Enjoy Art, Food, Drinks, Shopping, Music and Demonstrations. There will also be Prom Reservation Specials.



stimulating & rejuvenating or relax with a mini message all at Tiffany, etc. Friday evening.

The Canyon Gallery will be hosting a



Dark Knight by Wil Harmsen

Wine Tasting with the Pour House. They will feature three wines from Don Sebastiani & Sons produced under The Crusher label. Come by and give the Chardonnay, Petite Sirah, and Red Wine Blend a try. All the ladies dressed up the "Spring Formal" theme will receive a beautiful long stemmed rose! Our "Image of the Night" is Dark Knight by Wil Harmsen. This 24X30 Framed Piece will sell for only \$189.50! We will also be having a drawing for a Pink Crystal Cuff Bracelet by Terror Creek Designs!



Around the Corner Art Gallery is presenting more than 20 new pieces of art in an exhibition called LUMINOSITY. It's a juried show featuring many of the gallery artists, as well as other artists throughout the Western Slope. It will be fun to see how these talented artists interpret lumi-

nosity.

Mingle with the 20 artists at the opening reception. Wine & refreshments will be served. The LUMINOSITY show runs through the month of April. Discounts for ladies who get dressed up Friday evening.

Join **Amazing Glaze** for their upcoming "First Friday" workshop on April 5th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm! In this class you'll be creating a bird bath/feeder for spring! Also makes a great Mother's Day gift. This workshop is limited in size so pre-registration is required! Please call or stop by to inquire about their workshops! 970-252-7225.

Pollux is having specials on accessories for Prom. Also, discounts if you dress up on Friday.

Dahlia's Floral will have corsages and boutonniere displayed, so you can order early for Prom on April 20th.

Creative Corner will also be open from 5:30 to 8 pm.

SheShe will be serving light apps and beverage; enjoy music, and the unique and exquisite work of local artist Lucy Boody. Here is a little about our artist: Function and Fashion using fiber art. Lucy Boody uses a form of wet felting, AKA Laminate or Nuno Felting, to create one of a kind wearable accessories. Scarves, Infinity Scarves and Shawls are created by melding exotic wool, usually Super Fine Merino Wool Roving, and ultra sheer 100% silk fabric together using soap, water and pressure. The result is stunning and unique. Come see for yourself. There is simply nothing like it. Meet us Downtown for the First Friday Stroll's fun, food and festivities. Remember it's "Spring Formal" on Main Street in Montrose! April 5th, 5:30 to 8 pm.

A+Y Design will have an artist reception and demonstration for and by Jennifer Morrison Godshalk. Jennifer is an imaginative, diversified artist. She paints contemporary paintings utilizing abstract, expressionism, impressionism, and realism genres. She is driven by an incredible passion for self-expression through her love of contemporary paintings.

Samantha Holzmiester, of **All About You Salon** will be doing "updo" demonstrations in the gallery as well. A+Y will have live music and discounts offered to those that dress up in their formal wear. Carlson Vineyards of Palisade will also be here serving complimentary wine.

D'Medici Footwear will be serving wine and tasting of sushi...

Magic is Happening This Spring at **Tiffany, etc.** See the beginning of our long awaited remodel and watch the progress daily! Speaking of Face Lifts, Main Street Essentials is visiting Tiffany, etc & offering their amazing & refreshing talents. Receive a free NuFace Demonstration, feel professional results in only 5 minutes,

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ARTS AND CULTURE

Welcoming Spring with a Flurry of Poetry at Arroyo's

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE--It's that time again for our monthly gathering at Arroyo's Fine Art Gallery & Wine Bar, Tuesday, April 2nd, at 6 p.m. Spring will be the theme, and there's a lot of wonderful poets with spring pieces, from ee cummings and Lew Welch to most of the poets I know Bring poems of your own on spring, or spring poems by poets you admire. Cele-

brate National Poetry month with a fine cab and some lyric valuables.

And not to forget that the Third Annual Karen Chamberlain Poetry Festival will be happening this weekend, March 29-31, in Carbondale at the Thunder River Theatre. Nationally respected Colorado poet Reg Saner will be honored for a lifetime of poetic achievement, and a new Poet Laureate of the Western Slope named. For more

info, go to <www.facebook.com/events/489560751099181> Talking Gourds Poetry Club is a joint venture of the Telluride Institute, Wilkinson Library, Between the Covers Bookstore, Telluride Arts and San Miguel County poets. Members meet monthly, on first Tuesday evenings, at Arroyo's Fine Art Gallery & Wine Bar at 220 E. Colorado Ave., 970.239.2006, beginning at 6 p.m.

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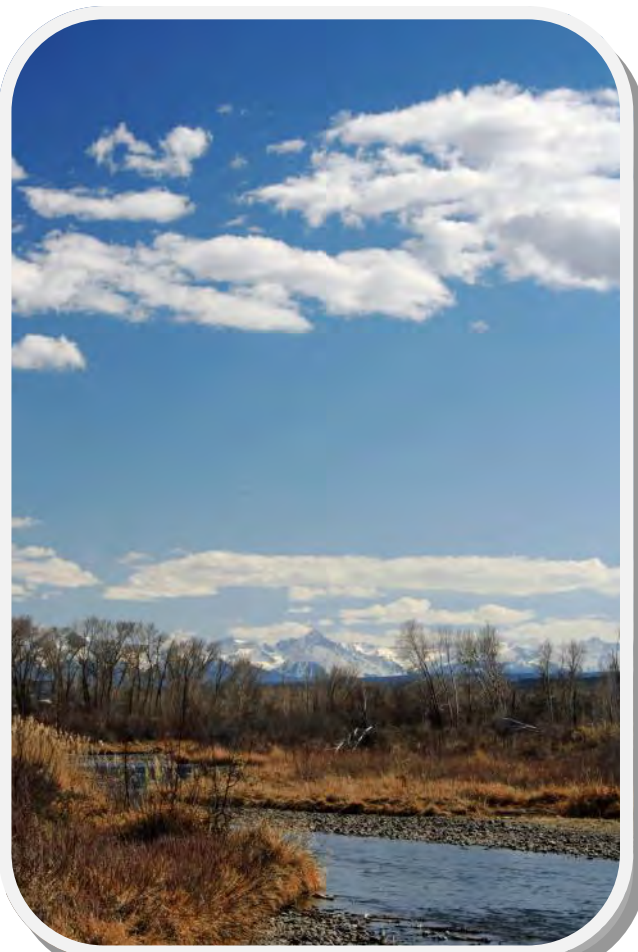
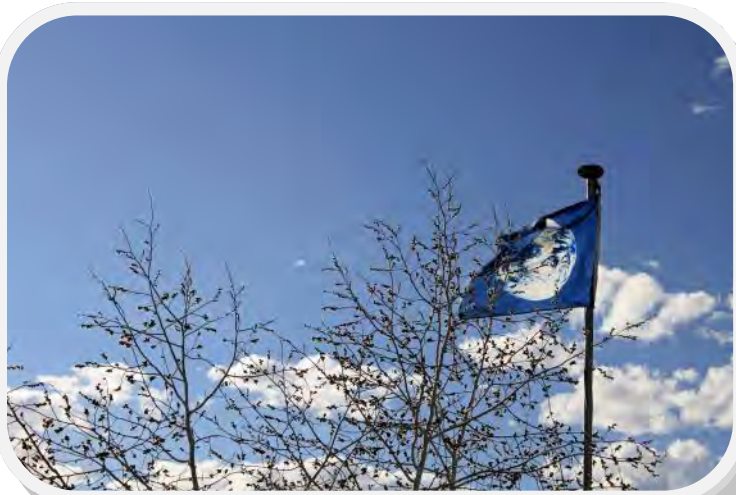
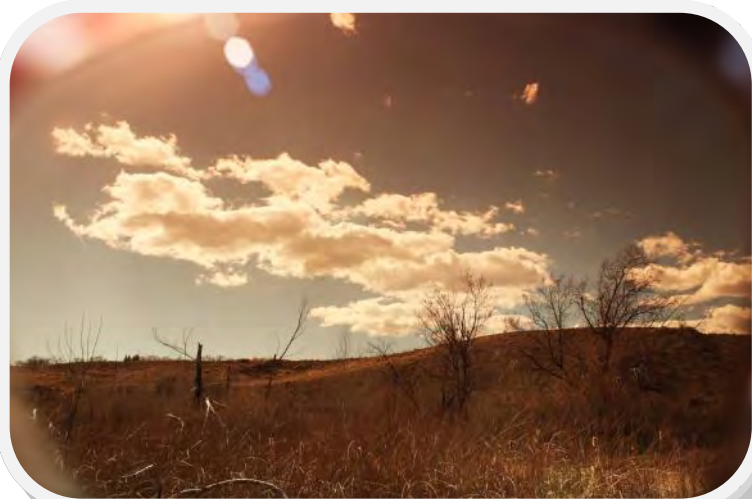
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SPRINGSCAPES BY SARAH BERNDT

Thanks to Sarah Berndt,
owner of
The Riddled Raven, located in
Sampler Square in Montrose!
24 South Grand Avenue

*Spring's mercurial beauty is captured in these photos
of Grand Mesa, the Uncompahgre River, a budding
aspen and another local landscape.
Photos by Sarah Berndt.*





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE WITH SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

Last week brought life in the legislature face to face with the real world on a couple of different fronts.

We began the week with two funerals, one for Tom Clements, the head of Colorado's corrections system, who was murdered by a recently released inmate, and the second one for David Brophy, the beloved father of our colleague, Sen. Greg Brophy, of Wray.

Each service was a fitting tribute to men who had lived life differently, but very well. Both had touched many in a positive way, lending a helping hand to those around them. It was a sad start to the week, but a privilege to share in those moments with their families and friends and to collectively pause in our busy lives to reflect on their contributions and to honor those who will be missed dearly.

The next couple of days in the Senate were spent reviewing and debating the contents of the Democrats' proposed Colorado budget. While the budget is prepared by a bipartisan committee, the majority party controls the outcome.

This is the seventh budget bill that I have studied and voted on. More often than not, I've voted for the budget bill, but this year,

I did not. My vote wasn't based on political rancor or party line adherence, but, as the supporters of the bill stated, a budget reflects priorities and values.

Where I part ways on this year's budget is that I didn't see a budget with a fiscally sound approach to possibly better economic times. I did not see a proposed budget that acknowledged what supporters would admit to on the floor, but not in the budget planning. That is, the federal government is cutting back funding to state programs, yet we're growing them as if the spending faucet is still turned on full force.

Blame or credit whichever side of the aisle in Washington, D.C., but sequestration is taking effect now. While the precise consequences are still to be determined, there's no argument that, in a state like Colorado with a significant federal presence, there'll be those consequences.

At my request, the budget committee staff quickly identified at least \$9.2 million of federal cuts hitting Colorado this year. If I hadn't brought an amendment seeking to reduce the budget by this amount, there'd have been no discussion or even acknowledgment that this is happening. My amendment lost and I was disappoint-

ed, although not surprised, at how quietly and quickly these expenditures were presumed absorbed into the budget.

The trend of cuts to federal funding of their programs pressed upon the states, without any corresponding relief from federal mandates for these programs, I believe, will accelerate in the coming years and we should apply fiscal discipline in preparing for that. This proposed budget did not do that.

Additionally, Colorado's implementation of the new federal healthcare laws begins in earnest this year and the associated costs will be very large and complex. Promises of costs savings are based on fuzzy math and hopes, not proven numbers.

Yet one more factor leading to my vote was that this budget spends admittedly one time receipts as if they, too, will continue to flow indefinitely from the taxpayers' faucet. Water is not the only shortage Colorado faces in the coming years and we should budget accordingly.

Ellen S. Roberts, State Senator
State Capitol, 200 E. Colfax Ave., Denver
CO 80203
Office phone: [\(303\)866-4884](tel:3038664884)

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FOR MIRROR AD RATES AND INFORMATION!



Go MHS!

Looking for a Varsity Sporting Event?

***NOWMontrose.com** lists varsity sporting events for Montrose High School, as well as, Delta County high schools. Check out this valuable resource on NOWMontrose.com, your source for activities, events, business listings, and all things Montrose.*

NOW/Montrose.com

Live, Enjoy & Explore!

WHEN YOU WANT IT...AND YOU WANT IT NOW!

CANDIDATES SOUGHT FOR SMPA BOARD

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL--The Board of Directors for San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA) announces the vacancy on their board for a candidate to represent District Two. The vacancy is due to the recent death of long time Director Wes Perrin. District Two encompasses the Town of Telluride from east of South Tomboy and North Townsend Streets, north to Tomboy Rd and east to approximately one half mile from Royer Lane.

The Board invites persons interested in filling this vacancy to submit the following:

- letter of interest explaining why you would like to serve
- current resume
- short bio (no more than two pages)

The Board will then appoint the best candidate to represent District Two until the next scheduled election in June of 2015, at which time the District Two seat will be up for election.

Eligible persons must be a member of and bona fide resident of District Two. The appointee must be willing to attend regularly scheduled board meetings and to

attend local, state and national meetings where the interests of SMPA are concerned. They must also meet all other eligibility requirements per SMPA policy and by-laws.

In addition, the appointee must be willing to uphold the mission of SMPA, which is to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. They must also be able to demonstrate their willingness to remain loyal to SMPA, representing the entire membership in a fair and impartial basis for the good of and the best interest of all members.

Interested candidates may submit a letter of interest, a current resume, and a short bio to:

Attn: Kevin Ritter, General Manager/CEO
P.O. Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432

Or the documents can be dropped off in person at the Ridgway Office:
720 North Railroad Street
Ridgway, CO 81432

Letters of interest, resumes, and bios

must be received in SMPA's office by close of business on April 19, 2013. For more information, or to ask for further clarification pertaining to your eligibility, please call Toni Bertorello, Executive Secretary at [970-626-5549 ext. 210](tel:970-626-5549).

The SMPA Board of Directors will interview candidates at their meeting scheduled for April 23, 2013, in Ridgway. A final decision on the vacancy appointment will be made at this meeting. The appointee should be prepared to take the Oath of Office and be formally sworn in at that time.

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 14,000 meters and supports local communities by offering approximately \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates.

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



AUTHOR NELSON NASH TO PRESENT AT COBBLE CREEK APRIL 13

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-- Best Selling Author and Speaker Nelson Nash Presents: Becoming Your Own Banker on Saturday, April 13th at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse in Montrose from 8:30 AM to 4 PM. In today's volatile financial world, Nelson Nash talks about a safe haven for your hard earned

capital and teaches you the concepts of "banking" on a secure future. This one day seminar will have special appeal to individuals, families and business owners. For more information and registration, navigate to: www.nelsonnashmontrose.eventbrite.com or call Alpha and Omega Financial Ser-

vices at 970.275.5475. About: The financial advisors at Alpha & Omega financial services have been offering time tested advice to clients since 1972.

We specialize in empowering individuals and families increase their net worth, achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

CALL 970-275-5791 FOR AD RATES AND INFORMATION.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PARTNERS TO BROADCAST 24TH ANNUAL AUCTION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The 24TH Annual Partners Auction will be broadcast from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, on Real Country KUBC, Colorado Country 94 KIX and Sunny 103 Light Rock. All three stations will broadcast the auction simultaneously.

Partners has served youth in our tri-county area for more than 25 years. We have matched hundreds of youth in structured and supported mentoring matches

with adult volunteers. The Auction is our most important fund raising event of the year and it enables us to continue our work with children who are faced with the most difficult circumstances. You can support Partners and the children we serve by bidding on auction items, donating auction items, sponsoring an Auction board, and volunteering to help during the Auction on April 16.

Auction items up for bid will be posted on the Partners website at [www.partners-](http://www.partners-west.org)

west.org and on www.coloradoradio.com beginning April 1, 2013. Bids will be accepted on line until noon on Monday, April 15th. Bidders will be able to pay for their items online by credit card by going to the Auction page on the Partners website and hitting the Donor button.

For additional information on this event, please contact: Partners 315 South 7th Street, Montrose, CO 81401, www.partners-west.org, Juli Messenger 970-249-1116, or follow us on Facebook.

TOWN OF OLATHE PLANS SPRING CLEANUP

The Town of Olathe Spring Clean-Up will begin April 15th and continue through April 19th. Clean-Up Week gives customers of the Town's trash service the opportunity to tidy up both the inside and outside of their property. Public works crews will pick up items large and small that are left near, but not blocking, their regular trash collection location. Please contact Olathe Town Hall at 970-323-5601 to get a complete list of what will and will not be picked up or for further information.

NOWMontrose.com

Live, Explore & Enjoy!

NOWMontrose.com is the web portal for all things in and around Montrose, Colorado!

Our mission is to provide current information for a diverse community and resources via the Internet that will allow Locals and Visitors to easily "Live, Explore, and Enjoy!" all that is Montrose, Colorado and its surrounding areas in an innovative and powerful way.

NOWMontrose.com provides comprehensive listings for businesses, shopping, and restaurants.

Contact us: info@nowmontrose.com or at 888. 882. 2427

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

First Friday Strolls Montrose Downtown—Monthly from 5:30 p.m.-8p.m. Artist Demonstrations, Free Wine Tastings, and in store promotional events!

ReneWest Interactive Art Crawls—West Main District, third Thursdays of every month.

Montrose Indoor Farm Market—1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month, Centennial Plaza.

April 3—Forum at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli (1521 Oxbow Dr.), 8 to 9 a.m. Coffee is \$1.

April 3—CMU presents Entrepreneur Day, 4 p.m. at Montrose Pavilion. Keynote speaker is Pete Coors. Call 970-249-7009.

April 6--Montrose Woman's Club is sponsoring their annual Flea Market in Friendship Hall at the Fairgrounds from 8 AM to 4 PM. Breakfast and lunch will be available. No admission charge. Proceeds go to local charitable organizations.

April 6--A free "Medicare 101 and More" program is scheduled, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Delta Public Library, 211 W. 6th St., Delta. This program, titled "Are You New To Medicare?" will be hosted by Mabel and Judy, who will help those attending understand more about Medicare and the available benefits. This program is presented by the Retired Senior Volunteer Program-Colorado West, Inc. (RSVP), AeroCare, the Colorado Health Foundation, and the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). For more information, contact RSVP Colorado West at 970-249-9639.

April 9--Horsefly Brewing Company is hosting a Community Tap Night from 6 - 9 pm to support the Montrose Lacrosse Foundation. \$1 from every drink sold will benefit the foundation. Lacrosse players will be available with their gear so you can handle a stick and learn more about the fastest growing sport in the nation! For more information please contact Coach Jim Plumbhoff at 970-964-8696.

April 10—Montrose Botanical Garden Society is sponsoring Kent Kinsy of Misty Mt. Sprinklers on Water Conservation and sprinkler systems at 7 pm at the Centennial meeting room Downtown. Free to all, for more information contact Sally 970-417-1524.

April 10-Direct Sales Career Fair, Warrior Resource Center at 11 Park Avenue. 6 p.m. Free admission. Call 970-209-3578 for info.

April 11-League of Women Voters Present, "Montrose Forest Products," at noon, Community room at the Montrose Library. Open to public.

April 13-- In today's volatile financial world, Author Nelson Nash talks about a safe haven for your hard earned capital and teaches you the concepts of "banking" on a secure future. Hear Nash in person at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse in Montrose from 8:30 AM – 4 PM. This one day seminar will have special appeal to individuals, families and business owners. For more information and registration, navigate to:

www.nelsonnashmontrose.eventbrite.com or call Alpha and Omega Financial Services at 970-275-5475.

April 13—Golf Scramble to benefit MHS Safe Senior grad party. Registration begins at 8am with Tee time at 9am. The cost is \$65.00 per player or \$320.00 per team and includes golf, lunch, carts, prizes, and a chance to win a 2013 Ford Focus. Contact Troy Youngren at golf shop at 240-9542, Tammy Carroll at 249-2198, or Michelle Keltz at 249-3653 to register and or to be a hole sponsor.

April 13—Casa of the Seventh Judicial District Ray of Hope annual benefit event, 6 to 9 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. Call 970-249-0337 for information.

April 14--The Montrose Community Band will hold a free concert at 3 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. The concert is entitled American Highlights and features foot tapping songs including The Great Locomotive Chase, American River Dances, and the Suite of Old American Dances. For more information please visit <http://www.montroseband.com/> or call 970-596-1188.

April 15-19--The Town of Olathe Spring Clean-Up will begin April 15th and continue through April 19th. Clean-Up Week gives customers of the Town's trash service the opportunity to tidy up both the inside and outside of their property. Public works crews will pick up items large and small that are left near, but not blocking, their regular trash collection location. Please contact Olathe Town Hall at 970-323-5601 to get a complete list of what will and will not be picked up or for further information.

April 16—All Points Transit Executive Director Terri Wilcox will make a quarterly presentation to the City of Montrose during council meeting, Old Elks Building, between 5 and 7 p.m.

April 25-Second Annual Dine Out for Kids. Participating businesses to donate a percentage of proceeds to CASA of the Seventh Judicial District and Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club.

April 24--The Coalition for a Drug Free Montrose County presents "SAFE KIDS AMERICA - "TRENDING DRUGS AND THE TEEN BRAIN," with Guest speaker: Deputy Chad Williams, Mesa County Sheriff's Department, from 7 to 8:30 PM in the D.M.E.A. COMMUNITY ROOM, 11925 6300 Rd, Montrose. Free to the public, space is limited to 100 attendees. Please RSVP at www.safekidsamerica.org.

April 26 - Cobble Creek's 3rd Annual "Compassion Bash" Fundraiser to benefit The Helping Hand Fund, a component fund of the Montrose Community Foundation. 6 pm at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. Fashion Show for guys and gals, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, dancing, raffles and grand prizes! Tickets are \$20 and are available at She-She Boutique and the Cobble Creek Pro-Shop. Contact 964-4947 or info@cobblecreek.com for more information.

May 3—Western Colorado Botanical Gardens and Western Colorado Center for the Arts of Grand Junction present children's class-Birds and Their Habitat. info@wcbotanic.org.

May 6--A free Medicare computer training program is scheduled, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Colorado Mesa University's Montrose campus, 234 S. Cascade Ave. This training is sponsored by Montrose County, the Colorado Health Foundation, the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), and AeroCare. The program will help participants navigate the extensive Medicare website. It is open to the public, but space is limited, and is expected to fill up quickly. To register or for more information, call RSVP Colorado West at 970-249-9639.

May 9—David Berkeley concert on behalf of Welcome Home and the Warrior Resource Center, at Turn of the Century (121 NW Fourth St.).

May 10-11-Tenth Annual Montrose Wine & Food Festival.

June 8—Museum of the Mt. West Tribute to Western Movies Days! Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. The Museum is seeking vendors at this time and memorabilia pertaining to the movie and or the outlaws. Call 970-240-3400 for details.

June 11-17—Welcome Home Montrose No Barriers Week. Call 970-765-2210 for information or to get involved.

June 17-19—Western Slope Rural Philanthropy Days "The Journey to Success" comes to Ouray! Contact 970-708-1059 for info.

June 22--Fifteenth Annual Montrose Golf Tournament for Hospice, Bridges of Montrose.

We'll help you...



*the rising
cost of energy!*

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS:

Let DMEA's BEAT (Business Energy Assessment Team) give your facility a Comprehensive Energy Assessment at a fraction of its usual cost!

~~\$5,000⁰⁰~~

~~\$3,000⁰⁰~~

Through this special offer, most businesses can participate for as little as...

\$375⁰⁰

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An Energy Audit creates a portrait of the energy demands that matter to your operations--as well as those you can do without--and it can lead to skinny electricity bills and fat tax breaks.

- Elsa Wenzel, PC World



Contact the Montrose Mirror:

Post Office Box 3244

Montrose, CO 81402

970-275-5791

Email Us: Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

At right, Nancy Morton Kaiser puts the final touches on her table at the Altrusa Spring Luncheon at the Montrose Pavilion March 23.



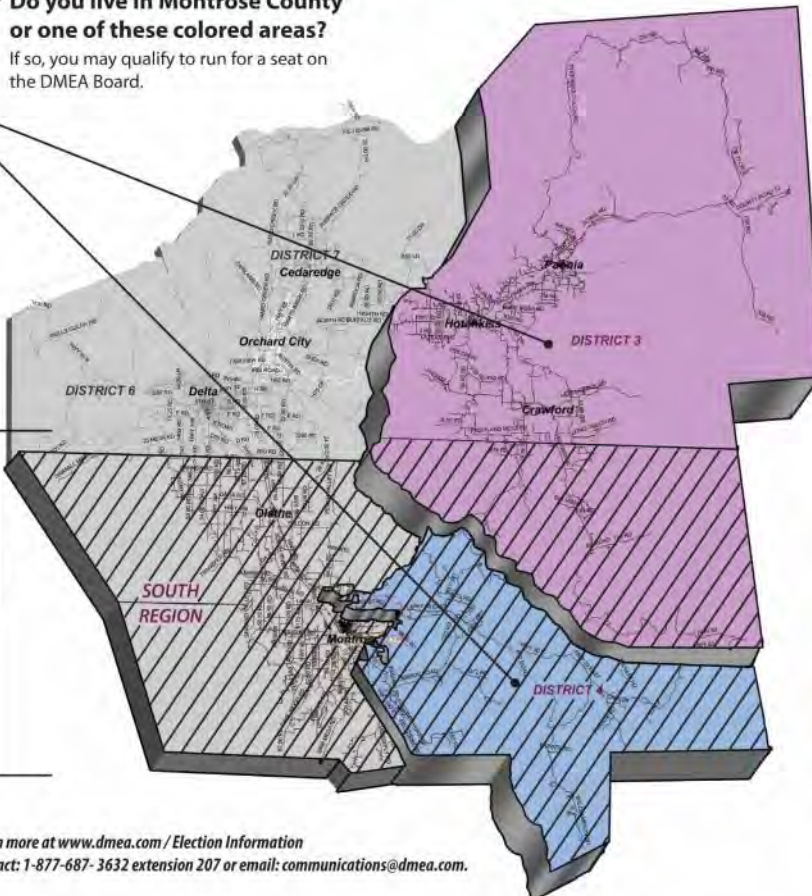
Left, Brent Carlile of Montrose enjoys the arrival of spring to the fullest as he waits for one of the kids at Oak Grove Elementary School.

...ever thought about serving on the DMEA Board of Directors?



Do you live in Montrose County or one of these colored areas?

If so, you may qualify to run for a seat on the DMEA Board.



Delta-Montrose Electric Association

is an electric co-op. It belongs to you and your fellow member-owners, but its success depends on just and prudent guidance from its Board of Directors.

Each year there is an election to determine the representative from three of the nine board districts. In 2013, seats are up for election are: **District 3, District 4, and the South Region** including all service territory South of the Delta-Montrose county line.

- DMEA employees and their families and a few other exceptions are ineligible to become candidates.
- There are no filing fees.
- Candidates must have resided in their districts for a minimum of 45 days.

2013 Board Candidate Key Dates:

- **Monday, April 1, 2013** Candidate petition packets available at DMEA (11925 6300 Rd, Montrose).
- **Tuesday, April 30, 2013** Petition deadline (15 member signatures) & candidate profile information deadline.
- **Monday, May 20, 2013** Ballots, candidates' backgrounds, and other materials mailed to DMEA members.
- **Thursday, June 13, 2013** Deadline voted ballots to be received by mail.
- **Friday, June 14, 2013** DMEA annual meeting. An announcement of the election results comes at the end of the annual meeting.

Learn more at [www.dmea.com/Election Information](http://www.dmea.com/Election%20Information)

Contact: 1-877-687-3632 extension 207 or email: communications@dmea.com.

