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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 74 Dec. 18 2013

The "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" Issue

TIS THE SEASON TO DRIVE SAFELY!

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Healthy early season snowfall has resulted in joyous prospects for skiers and snow sports enthusiasts...but for drivers in Montrose, which presently has no night-time taxi service, 'tis the season to be aware, notes Montrose Police Chief Tom Chinn.

"The bottom line is that people really do need to learn to navigate in snow and ice," Chinn said, "and every year we have to re-learn. And holiday times are interesting times-- if you are going out and plan to consume ANY alcohol-type beverages, find someone to drive who has not had any alcohol at all."

While holiday parties and icy conditions make sober driving essential now, "People need to be careful all year," Chinn said. "One drink will certainly affect anyone; and with Colorado's legal limit of .08, one mixed drink or a beer in one hour will result in a DUI."

The cost of one arrest for Driving while Under the
Continued on page 8



Main Street is dry, but many local roads are still snow-packed. Pay attention to conditions, and if you plan to drink, find a designated driver—there is currently no taxi service in Montrose.

FINAL MRCOG OF 2013 BRINGS LEADERS TO THE TABLE



New Montrose DDA Director Wade Nichols, shown above at a recent Heidi's Deli Forum, was among those who came to share information at MRCOG. Photo by Cara Fandel Photography.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—In the spirit of the season, it was a chance to share--from organizational accomplishments such as the Montrose Library's award-winning summer reading badge program, now being implemented statewide, to the imminent availability of food in previously food-free areas of the Montrose Regional Airport, to major issues that cross governmental and regional boundaries, the deceptively brief agenda sparked a lively, wide-ranging discussion.

It was the final quarterly meeting of the Montrose Regional Council of Governments (MRCOG) for 2013, and representatives of local boards and municipalities met at Friendship Hall Dec. 12 to share not only accomplishments, but opportunities and goals. After a lengthy recounting of the grants currently being pursued—or not pursued-- by various entities, a recurring subject of discussion was economic development, and the coordination of efforts among local agencies.

"We talk to each other," said

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Directory!*

FINAL MRCOG OF 2013 BRINGS LEADERS TO THE TABLE from page 1



At a recent Region 10 educational seminar, Mandy Miller of Miller Marketing teaches local business owners what to include and what not to include when designing an e-ad. Photo by Cara Fandel of Inspiration through Imaging.

Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Director Sandy Head, adding that as an organization designated by the state to promote economic development, MEDC posts local opportunities and facilities on the state's web site, and continues to look at ways to take the local business community "to the next level."

"Now we are collaborating on broadband efforts," she said.

Head also stated that Blue Star Recyclers of Colorado Springs, which coordinates a Vocational Electronics Recycling Network, has opted out of establishing a presence in Montrose.

"We had an engaging meeting in October," Head said, "But their board has decided to withdraw their efforts to serve rural communities like Montrose, because if they cannot generate 10,000 pounds of e-recycling each month they can't sustain funding for the program."

Now, e-recycling efforts in the area are being handled by both Reclametals and

Montrose Habitat for Humanity, she said, and the discussions with Blue Star have resulted in increased awareness of both opportunities and possibilities.

"Looking at the big picture, VERN is a no—but we gained from this," Head said.

Michelle Haynes of Region 10 spoke about the non-profit's progress over the past year, and the exciting prospects for 2014.

"Last year, we added our Small Business Resource Center (SBRC) with the help of the City," Haynes said, noting that in addition to classes and educational resources, Region 10 also offers one-on-one small business counseling through the newly established Region 10 office of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). "We are focusing on existing small business, and on growing and expanding what we have here," Haynes said. "Our Connect2Dot program helps local contractors go after CDOT projects, which keeps money in the region and is benefi-

cial to small businesses. We hope to expand this over the next year. We have also completed a transit needs study, and are looking to increase our funding to bring in a regional transit coordinator."

Both MEDC and Region 10 are involved in the ongoing initiative to bring Broadband to the region.

Head commented that health and wellness providers are increasingly moving toward electronic medical records and recognizing the need to coordinate such efforts among providers, making broadband even more essential to a healthy economy.

"It impacts every piece," Haynes said, noting that Region 10 is seeking out-of-cycle funding through the Department of Local Affairs for implementation of a regional Broadband "blueprint."

Region 10 is also establishing a grants service program for small organizations that might otherwise not pursue appropriate grant opportunities because of the administrative burden, Haynes said.

Montrose County manager Rick Eckert stressed the importance of keeping Western Slope water safe from the thirsty Front Range. "We are currently exploring the County's water rights in the San Miguel Basin," he said, "with the potential of engineering and a feasibility study...we are trying to keep as much water here as we can. I hear of State plans to take water from Blue Mesa, and we are on top of that—but it's going to be a fight. There are only 21 days of water here without the Gunnison Tunnel, but it would be best to have at least a year's worth of water on this side." After noting that ever-increasing consumption by Denver and Colorado Springs has made the stakes higher than ever before, and that the Western Slope must avoid the "Buy and Dry" scenario that has ruined other communities, he spoke of the ongoing need for sustainable agriculture. "Without agriculture, what would we do?" Eckert asked. "Agriculture is important to our state."

THE MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

“Angels” Make Handmade Bunnies for Partners



Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL--Residents and Friends of Anciano Towers presented 50 handmade “bunnies” to the families served by Partners Mentoring of Delta, Montrose & Ouray. This project is part of the Retirement Housing Foundation’s Project “H.A.N.D.S.” (Helping Angels Nationals Donated Support). The organization’s mission is to allow residents to create special items to be given to individuals in need.

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KAFM COMMUNITY RADIO FINDS ROOM TO GROW



By Caitlin Switzer

GRAND JUNCTION—In the beginning, it was about finding room for alternative music and local voices amidst the crowded world of commercial radio.

A group of locals who shared an idea and a dream banded together to start a locally-programmed, locally-owned and operated community radio station in the Grand Valley in 1992. After years of hard work and hope on the part of this small group of volunteers, the 16-watt station first took to the airwaves on March 5, 1999. In their own words, the idea was to provide “a place where local folks can program alternative music genres ignored by the commercial stations, a place that is accessible by all people and organizations with something to contribute to their community, a place where all viewpoints are welcome, and treated with respect.”

Today, it’s also a great place to take in a show. Home of the “Radio Room” concert venue, KAFM is stronger than ever—and expanding its presence outside the traditional studio.

“The FM dial is full in Grand Junction in a way that makes it highly unlikely that our signal at 88.1 can ever increase to anything more than our current 16 watts,” notes the [station’s web site](#). “...When we moved into our present location at 1310 Ute Avenue and saw the potential of that big old ugly building, we realized we could be more than just a radio station. What has evolved over time is the idea that while radio is the source of our core mis-



Above left, Peanut Butter Lovesicle plays the Radio Room Jan. 10. On March 26, Eilen Jewell (above) headlines KAFM’s 15th Anniversary show. Courtesy photos.

sion, we can be much more.”

That “much more” includes the Radio Room venue, which remains one of the region’s best-kept secrets—but if KAFM Events and Outreach Coordinator Cash Kiser has anything to do with it, that is about to change.

“This year marks the 15th year for Grand Valley Community Radio, and we are stepping up the action,” Kiser said. “We will be doing more shows, featuring local, statewide and national touring bands.”

The Radio Room has a capacity of 75, Kiser said. “Grand Junction has an outstanding music scene, but it’s mostly bars and restaurants and the Mesa Theater & Club,” he said. “We are seeking to capitalize on the fact that we have this great little venue, and such wonderful acoustics.”

There will be four shows in January and three in February as the station seeks to expand beyond its traditional listening audience to entice a younger demographic and raise funds to continue its mission. On Jan. 10, the Radio Room welcomes national act Peanut Butter Lovesicle—featured at the 2013 Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival—with Bronco Country and Wave Baby as openers.

On Jan. 18, the Liddells will perform

with Steve Kilcrease. On Jan. 21, traditional favorite Tony Furtado will play, and on Jan. 25 Photo Atlas and a special guest will appear.

Expect a packed schedule in February as well, Kiser said, and added that the station’s 15-year anniversary show on March 26 will feature a Western Slope favorite, Boston-based songwriter Eilen Jewell.

“We have a lot going on,” Kiser acknowledged. “We are really excited about seeking to better represent our community. We are open to bringing in younger shows, and fresh energy to the valley.”

Concerts are digitally recorded and broadcast live either whole or in part. Each year, KAFM produces a compilation CD entitled, “Live at the Radio Room.”

KAFM’s efforts to reach “beyond radio” also include a Lifelong Learning Series and The Gallery at the Radio Room, which features exhibitions throughout the year and highlights some of the area’s finest visual artists. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., during Radio Room events, and by appointment. To keep up with KAFM and 2014 Radio Room shows, visit the web site at www.kafmradio.org or call 970-241-8801.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



"WE'VE GOT YOUR SIX" PLEDGE DRIVE CONTINUES!

THIS WEEK'S NEWS AND EVENTS

(Montrose, CO 12-13-13) We are pleased to welcome **counselor Michelle Kay** to the Warrior Resource Center on Mondays. She works with military families and veterans, and offers her services on a sliding scale.

Korean War Veteran Jim Scheu and his wife Barb Scheu have created a stunning American Flag quilt on behalf of Welcome Home Montrose and our veteran community. We will proudly display this beautiful work of art at the Warrior Resource Center!

Deeply Digital of Montrose has been assisting us in finding and installing the computers that we need to run this organization, and running cable at the WRC. We greatly appreciate your dedication and the many hours you have put in on behalf of our veterans!

The Montrose Genealogy Society shared information with our veterans week last about the services they offer free of charge, and the program went very well.

Thank you to everyone who has shared photos and memories with us...we are deeply touched and most grateful.

The "We've got your Six" pledge drive continues! The Warrior Resource Center is funded completely with private donations, and does not belong to any branch of the government. Your support is essential as we move forward in our mission to support America's wounded warriors. It is so easy to make a difference, and it can be done simply with a credit card or through automatic

payments set up through your financial institution! Below are some facts you may not know about Welcome Home Montrose and the Warrior Resource Center:

We take donated items and give them directly to military families;

We offer shared office space for professionals to work with veterans one-on one;

We maintain a database of individuals who provide recreational services to veterans;

We coordinate the Eagle Head Cane Project and host a presentation of canes on the first Thursday of each month. More than 115 canes have been hand-crafted by wood carvers and wood turners as gifts (and often surprises) for veterans in Montrose County since 9-11-2012; and

We need more carvers to take part in this successful program...no experience necessary!

UPCOMING

The next **Eagle Head Cane presentation** will be held Jan. 9 at the Warrior Resource Center.

The much-anticipated Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA) Airlift at the Montrose Regional Airport will be Sunday, Dec. 15th. There is a collection box at the Warrior Resource Center for donations; the organization will be bringing food to veterans on the Western Slope. Please contact Kenn Kline at the Black Canyon Jet Center for more information.

Massage Therapist Mary Tittes of

Hotchkiss has been donating her time to give gentle massages and reflexology treatments to veterans here at the Warrior Resource Center. She spends an entire afternoon here once or twice each month, offering four slots each time and spending as much as an hour with each client. These appointments go quickly, so be sure to stop by the Warrior Resource Center and sign up for yours!

The Warrior Resource Center will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 23 through Jan. 6. However, we will open for veterans' coffee hour on both Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Our next **military spouse's luncheon** will be held from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Warrior Resource Center, on Friday, Dec. 20. All military spouses are welcome!

With the suicide, divorce and unemployment rates so high in our military population, Montrose means to set the standard for other cities to follow in how to serve those who stepped up to serve all of us. By strengthening our services, identifying and filling our gaps, creating programs and removing the barriers in our infrastructure, we are preparing a place for our wounded warriors to visit and hopefully, to stay. 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.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY BEGINS SEWERLINE REPLACEMENT AND EXTENSION PROJECT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The City of Montrose will begin a sewer line replacement and extension project on Dec. 16, 2013. This project will take place on: Sunnyside Road west of Sherwood Drive; South 12th Street east of Mesa Avenue; Mesa Avenue between Niagara and South 12th Street.

Every attempt will be made to maintain undisturbed traffic flow in both directions throughout

the project area, especially during peak traffic hours. However, periodic temporary lane closures may be necessary to maintain a safe clearance between traffic and construction equipment. Access to adjacent residences, businesses and Columbine Middle School will be maintained at all times throughout the project.

If at all possible, motorists should use alternate routes to avoid the construction area. Motorists and pedestrians who do travel through

the construction area are being asked to respect any coned-off areas.

The purpose of this project is to increase sewerline capacity consistent with recommendations in the city's Sanitary Sewer Master Plan. Construction will extend into the spring of 2014.

Any questions regarding the project may be directed to Scott Murphy, City Engineer, at 970-240-1498.

Montrose Manor B&B Hosts Holiday Open House and Fund Raiser

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Voices of the Wild Foundation, Inc. is hosting a Holiday Open House and Fund Raiser on December 17, 18 & 19th at the Montrose Manor Bed & Breakfast from 4pm to 8pm.. Montrose Manor has been decorated in full holiday splendor for your enjoyment. Bring your family and friends to help support animal welfare while touring this spectacular home listening to holiday music and en-

joying special treats.

To attend a donation of \$1 for children 5 and under, \$10 for children ages 6-16 and \$25 for all those age 17 and above is requested. Montrose Manor Bed & Breakfast is located at 60169 LaSalle Road, Montrose. Reservations are not required. For questions call (970) 240-6960.

Voices of the Wild Foundation, Inc. is a 501 c 3 non-profit charitable organization that provides a sanctuary where domestic

and exotic animals who have been mistreated, abandoned and/or voluntarily surrendered can regain and maintain their physical and mental health and live out their lives in peace and with dignity. Voices of the Wild Foundation is in the process of completing the relocation of its animals from Page, AZ to Montrose, CO. The foundation's website is: www.banjoko.org. (Banjoko is an African word that means stay with me and wander no more).

DELTA-MONTROSE VO-TEC LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY RECEIVES GRANT FROM NRA FOR GUN SAFE

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—The Law Enforcement Academy at Delta-Montrose Technical College recently received a grant from The NRA Foundation to purchase a gun safe to store equipment needed for Academy skills training. The NRA Foundation has awarded thousands of grants since it began in 1990.

Pictured with the new safe are: standing left to right John Jones-DMTC Director, Frank Kramer – Academy Instructor, students Zach Adams, Coulter Poma, Matt Childs, Bruce Schmalzs, Paul Frey – Academy Director, Academy Instructors Chuck Searcy and Chad Beach; kneeling left to right students Stephen Burris, Eric Girasia, Lyle Wright, and Cedaredge Police Chief Dan Sanders – Instructor. The Academy at DMTC is a Colorado P.O.S.T. approved



training program. It is a sixteen week program that runs three times a year.

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.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MMH Wellness Calendars Available

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Montrose Memorial Hospital has published a **2014 Wellness Calendar** for our community. The bright, informative calendar has monthly wellness tips and information on services available at Montrose Memorial Hospital. Beginning Monday, December 16, the free calendars will be available at the front Information Desk at MMH Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. until they are gone.

CSU EXTENSION CONTINUES ANNUAL SEEDLING TREE PROGRAM

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—CSU Extension's annual Seedling Tree Program sales will run through March 2014. Visit one of the Extension offices in Delta, Mesa, and Montrose County for applications. Please call Ginny Price at 970-249-3935 with any questions, or email: gprice@montrosecounty.net.

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TIS THE SEASON TO DRIVE SAFELY! Continued from page 1

Influence runs between \$10,000 and \$15,000, he said.

"A DUI is very expensive and time consuming," Chinn said. "A lot of people are not caught, but a lot are—and an accident that results in injury or death can be hard to live with...just some food for thought."

Also food for thought are the sobering statistics—Montrose Police had counted 551 accidents by the end of October 2013, compared to 535 for all of 2012. In years past, celebrants who had a few too many could count on a reliable local taxi service, operated for several years by Telluride Express.

Prior to that, the area was served by a private local taxi company. However, in May of 2013 Telluride Express ceased operating its local taxi service, and no provider has yet stepped in to fill the void.

Region 10 Executive Director Michelle Haynes noted that a very successful local ride program has been established in Gunnison, and could perhaps serve as a model for Montrose.

Founded in 1994 after a fatal, alcohol-related auto collision involving two Western State College students, the non-profit Safe Ride of Gunnison County, Inc. first hit the road first with a rented, 15-passenger van that operated on Friday and Saturday nights, according to the [Western State Colorado University](#) web site.

Though Gunnison has a population of around 6,000, the program provided 8,000 free rides in its first year alone and today averages around 10,000 free rides per year. Today, Safe Ride operates from 7 p.m. until 2 a.m. on Wednesday nights as well, and is cooperatively run by Western State Colorado University and the Gunnison Police Department.

Funding is provided through a variety of governmental sources, including the City of Gunnison and Gunnison County, according to the WSCU web site, and the WSCU student government association and local businesses contribute as well.

"It appears to be a very good service," said Haynes, "and local bars and restau-

rants help pay for it—they put tip jars out to help collect donations. And it is not only for drinkers, either, but provides rides for visitors as well."

Such an impressive community effort shows a practical recognition of the nighttime economy, she said.

"If we want people to stay and play here in Montrose, this is another service that would be appropriate to bring up here," Haynes said. "Region 10 can help with the conversation."

Before she joined regional Dial-A-Ride and city bus service operator All Points Transit as Executive Director earlier this year, Sharon Fipps worked for a transit agency in Corvallis, Oregon.

"In Corvallis, the busses ran until 2 a.m., to serve people who drink, night workers, and students," Fipps said.

"It took about three years to get good ridership. There was at least one local taxi service as well.

"A community of this size would do well to have one or two taxi agencies," she said.



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Alpine Bank's Green Team Celebrates a Decade of Energy Savings

By Cameron M. Burns, CLEER

CARBONDALE--When employees at Alpine Bank started looking at reducing the bank's environmental impacts in the early 2000s, no one knew what might be possible in terms of energy reduction—if anything at all. Today, a decade later, a third of the 36 branches in Alpine's network have achieved energy savings topping 40 percent, and most of the rest are saving between 10 to 40 percent of their previous energy use.

Alpine Bank's environmental efforts began in 2003 when bank employees formed an initiative to reduce the bank's impacts. The idea soon grew into a dedicated employee-driven "Green Team." The team decided to strive for ISO 14001 certification, a rigorous, internationally-recognized environmental management standard. In 2006, the team earned this global distinction with its comprehensive action plan that included ways to save energy, water, and paper—and devised ways to minimize impacts of vehicle fleets, cleaning products and more.

All told, in the decade since Alpine Bank started on a path to reducing its environmental impact, Alpine Bank's facilities manager John Evans estimates the bank has saved about \$250,000 on its energy, water, paper and courier fuel reductions. "What is so amazing is that this was downright daunting at first, and we had more questions than answers," said Evans. "As it turns out our capital investment in upgrades was minimal, we realized huge results, and much of the work was far easier than we thought it would be."

Another unintended and positive result of the bank's green initiative was the introduction of the popular Environmental Loyalty Check Card, a program that has reinvested \$918,000 in grants that support local environmental nonprofits since it was introduced in 2004.

All told, 14 branches cut energy use by 30 percent or more, and 21 branches cut energy use by 20 percent or better. There are more astonishing success stories, illustrated by some branch locations that chose to fully engage with the Green Team and its recommendations:

- Between 2006 and 2012, the Breckenridge branch cut energy use by 63 percent;
- Telluride cut energy use by 55 percent;



Alpine Bank Facilities Director John Evans checks the insulation. Photo by Cameron M. Burns.

and

- Dillon cut energy use by 47 percent.

Alpine Bank has also added Clean Energy Economy for the Region's (CLEER), a Carbondale-based clean energy non-profit, Energy Navigator to several of its branches and buildings, allowing Evans to monitor energy use in those facilities.

Alpine Bank's Central Operations building monitors its electricity use and submeters the electricity needs of its sizable data center. Energy Navigator helped verify that heating and cooling was being well managed with programmable thermostats and helped facility managers engage with bank workers to continue to trim energy use at the site.

The Central Operations' data center recently received a major "free cooling" upgrade. Anytime the outdoor temperature is cool, costly air conditioning units are automatically turned off and fresh air is used to keep servers cool.

Energy Navigator verified a 25 percent savings from this upgrade and the GarfieldEnergyNavigator.org website also provides humidity data to help facility managers remotely monitor equipment performance each day.

"When it's cold enough the free cooling system operates 24 hours a day and saves us 25 percent," said Evans. "The AC units

come on when the outdoor air is above 50 so the savings is reduced on warmer days. So during the coldest months we can save up to 4,200 kilowatt-hours per month—worth up to \$460 at 11 cents a kilowatt-hour."

Alpine Bank's Grand Junction bank branch and office tower recently received new computerized heating/cooling controls, and Energy Navigator is providing charts of 15-minute electricity and gas use to help facility managers tune controls for maximum energy savings.

Evans credits Alpine Bank VP David Miller, Green Team Chairman, for leading the Green Team to its various achievements, which have included national, regional, and local environmental awards for individual bank locations and Alpine Bank as a whole. Not only that, but the organizational culture has transformed to one of environmental responsibility and sustainability, an ethos that is becoming top-of-mind with each of Alpine Bank's 500 employees.

"You know, the really fascinating thing about this is that saving resources and reducing carbon emissions can be relatively easy, inexpensive, rewarding, and offer a good ROI," said Evans.

"Plus it's the socially responsible thing to do."



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PLOWING, PAVING, PARKING...AND PLANNING AT MONTROSE PUBLIC WORKS



Dry sidewalks and streets made it easy for Downtown shoppers to head out on Dec. 14.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Heavy snowfalls earlier this month may have caused headaches for commuters across the region, but here in Montrose, record precipitation on Dec. 4-5 also signaled opportunity. For City of Montrose Public Works Director John Harris, the storm—which dropped more than ten inches of early season snow on the City—offered a chance to try out the department's newly-implemented snow removal strategy.

“For the first time, we drafted some official snow removal procedures,” Harris said. “We now have tiered routes, with major arterials taking top priority, and then emergency services such as the hospital and fire stations.”

The new procedures and definitions have been placed on the City's web site as well, Harris said.

“I think things went really well this time,”

Harris said. “We held a debriefing after the storm to review how things went, and to determine where we can improve.”

Public Works will continue to review snow efforts throughout the season with the goal of continued progress, he added.

“We are doing more long-range planning these days,” Harris said. “We need a paving plan as well—in fact, today I am meeting a representative from a pavement assessment software system, which would enable our long-term planning efforts.”

Expect the City's new parking committee to convene sometime after the holidays, he noted, and reminded in-town residents that the City offers a program for homeowners whose parcels of the “urban forest” need trimming. “We have a very popular program that our streets division has had for many years,” Harris said. “Our tree-trimming assistance fund will pay 50 percent of the cost for removing or cutting



Though the roads are mostly dry, traces of early, heavy snow remain around town—and on the old Menoken School Bell at City Hall.

back dangerous branches—so if you have a large tree with a limb that hangs over the spot where you park your car, for example, we will pay half of the cost for a licensed tree trimmer.”

The program, which spends all of the \$15,000 allotted each year, is available throughout Montrose, but is most heavily used in the City's residential core, he said.

Projects that Harris believes will have a positive impact on Montrose include the proposed expansion of the Colorado Mesa University Montrose to include a pedestrian plaza on South Cascade between south Second and Third streets.

“Having a college right in town is great for the community,” Harris said, “and the expansion is very positive for our future. They have such a beautiful campus in Grand Junction that it excites me to think about what we could see here in Montrose—and the beauty of it is that someone else will be paying for it.”

In the meantime, city residents with public works concerns should feel free to call the department directly at 970-240-1480, he said. “Any time the public has an issue or concern we want to hear about it,” Harris said. “If you think you are being neglected, just call me directly and we will get something resolved. We appreciate knowing what is going on, and there is always a solution.”

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

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

MIRROR IMAGES



Above, Emily Smith (left) and Misty Miller of the Welcome Home Montrose Warrior Resource Center (11 South Park Avenue) display the beautiful American flag quilt created for the WRC by Barb Scheu, whose husband Jim is a veteran of the Korean War.



Shoppers took advantage of slightly warmer weather to head Downtown for Merriment on Main Dec. 14.

At right, while the City of Montrose builds its elaborate (and lonely) visitor center at the Elks Civic Building Downtown, April Graesch and her amazing crew at the Shell Food Plaza (at the crossroad of the San Juan Bypass and Main St.) continue to welcome hundreds of travelers a day to Montrose—even in the “off” season. From restrooms to fuel to a snack for the kids, you can find it all right here. And Graesch, who has managed the Shell for four years, has yet to be seen without a smile at any time of day. “I love my job,” she said. “We sure do see a lot of folks come through here.”



Below, Lauren Bell of Networks Unlimited presents a Constant Contact Seminar at Region 10 Dec. 19. Photo by Cara Fandel Photography.



Harry Switzer hit the “slopes” with a snowboard on a sledding hill near the Dave Wood Road. Photo by Brad Switzer.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE ASTRA CUTS, MAKES WREATHS



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--ASTRA of Montrose CO. members made Christmas wreaths for donation of \$25 each, which was then used to purchase Christmas gifts for 33 Tandem Families. This year a board game, Stackgammon, was included in the gifts to encourage family fun togetherness. ASTRA is the teen version of Altrusa International of Montrose. Pictured above: Tree trimming at noon on Nov. 24 was moved to member Sandra Tyler's home site on Dave Wood Road. Tramping through the snow both on the ground and in the air, the cutting of boughs was done by left to right above: Hope Morris, Weldyn Allen, Mandy Wick, Sonja Horn, Caitlin O'Meara, Emma Cooper, Heather Fredrick, Anika Shea, Macy Webb-Alexander, McKenna Sjoden, Sandra Tyler, teacher advisor, Kathleen Pirani, and Tracie Rief.

Courtesy photo.

ALTRUSA PRESENTS DECEMBER APPLE AWARD TO OAK GROVE'S MARLA FOCKLER



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Dr. Sheryl Solow, far right, introduces Oak Grove Elementary Principal Dana Burwell, far left, and Marla Fockler, center, Oak Grove Elementary Teacher and December Apple Award Recipient. Dana Burwell provided members with comments from her colleagues. Marla was described as being an outstanding educator, being excellent at avoiding battles between her students, having great humor, her leadership, her goals to improve the school culture, and her involvement with the Oak Grove Garden and other projects at the school. After the comments of the principal, Dr. Solow awarded Marla Fockler with a certificate and local Montrose Bucks to spend as she desires.

Have a wonderful holiday!

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALTRUSANS VOTE TO INCREASE HOPEWEST DONATION



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The 52 members of Altrusa International of Montrose, CO., Inc. recently voted to increase their donation pledge for HopeWest Center, formerly known as Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado, to the amount of \$10,000.



**When rolling out your
New Year,
remember—there is no health
without mental health.**

**THE CENTER
FOR MENTAL HEALTH**
Providing Help, Hope & Healing
www.centermh.org

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS MAKE "CENTS" FOR BUSINESSES



Real Estate Broker Diana Atha wants to take good care of clients, friends and family in 2014. Courtesy photo.

Sonja Horn of Fabula believes that excellent customer service is as important as an exciting array of products. Horn believes in re-evaluating her business each year and looking for ways to improve. Photo by Clay Greathouse.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE--With a New Year just around the corner, it is time to set up resolutions and goals. Three local business owners have done just that, with different ideas of where they want to be in 2014.

Local Diana Atha works as a real estate broker at Keller Williams Realty and has been an agent for eight years. She is one of the Top three Realtors in Montrose for 2013 in terms of volume. Her focus is on creative Internet marketing and home staging techniques.

Looking at 2014, she has one crucial goal in mind. "I want to continue to take good care of my clients, friends and family," she said. "Referrals are valuable, so I want to up my service to them. Doing that sort of thing eventually comes back to you."

Diana has a couple specific plans for meeting that goal. "I am going to host a Past Client Appreciation Party, something I have never done before," she explained. "I also want to focus on regular communication with buyers and sellers. Most complaints about other real estate agents have to do with them not being communicative. I want to set up regular times to get feedback from my clients."

Diana has a few favorite parts of her business. "I like staging and decorating a house to sell it for as high as possible," she said. "I love finding great deals for buyers

and I love sitting at a closing with first time home buyers and feeling their excitement."

Diana's advice to others is to focus on their strengths and hire out their weaknesses, and to build relationships, which is the best and most fun way to get business. "I love Montrose, Ridgway and Ouray," she said. "They are incredible places to live, and it is fun to buy, sell and help people live their dream here."

Her office is located at 2350 S. Townsend Avenue in Montrose. For more information, call 970-252- 8528.

Sonja Horn is the owner of Fabula, which focuses on home decor, kitchen accessories, specialty toys and gifts for any occasion.

Sonja has big plans for the New Year with her store. "I want to have my website finished and running by the end of January," she said. "We are also moving our location across the street, so there will be increased space. We want to make it a really neat experience and be able to display things nicely. We want it to be a good move, so we are able to make a really nice, beautiful store, and create even more of a shopping experience."

An ongoing goal in her business is to continue to find fun, unique items that people are looking for. "I always try to ask myself when shopping for my store 'is

it different enough?'" Sonja said. In addition, she will continue to focus on finding products that are made in the USA.

Sonja's favorite part of her business has been the contact with her customers, something that has carried on from her former job as a nurse working with her patients. "I am a social person," She explained. "I appreciate all my customers and I love to sit in my office and hear people, who don't know that I'm sitting there, say how much they like my store."

As Fabula has only been open for a little over a year, Sonja still feels like she is learning all the time. But she does have this advice for business owners: "Be sure that you are passionate about your business," she said. "It is also really important to have your customer service be top notch and to reevaluate your business every year and see what you can do to improve it."

Fabula is located at 306 East Main St. in Montrose. For more information, call 970-765- 2274.

Megan Daly works as an independent hair stylist, renting a booth at K. frizz salon. She has worked as a hair stylist for seven years. This past year has been her first time as a small business owner working for herself, so it has been a new experience.

While continuing to grow her business is an important resolution, Megan also has a few specific goals she wants to pursue. "I want to get more into natural options in hair colors and products, choosing things that will not compromise a person's health," she explained. "I want to offer things that are in the alternative and natural area, while still being salon quality."

Megan also wants to put her skills to work to help those in need. "I want to

Continued next page.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE HABITAT NOW TAKING HOUSING APPLICATIONS



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Habitat for Humanity of Montrose is now accepting applications for housing. We are a not-for-profit Christian organization, open to all persons, and dedicated to helping qualified families build affordable homes in partnership with Habitat volunteers.

Three major criteria for Habitat housing applicants include present living conditions, family income and a willingness to partner with Habitat. If you and your family currently reside in a home that is unsafe or unsanitary, that does not have adequate space and has issues with heating, electricity, plumbing or structural de-

fects; if you and your family have lived in Montrose County for one year or longer, and your household gross income is less than 60 percent of the county's median gross income but more than 30 percent; and if you are willing to work with and meet requirements established by Habitat Montrose, you could qualify for a Habitat home.

We are taking applications at the HFHMC office, 1601 North Townsend, from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Call 970-252-9303 ext. 2 for information, or visit us online at www.habitatmontrose.org. Required documentation includes a Colorado Driver's

license, social security card, proof of income, and proof of residency (utility bills will suffice).

Over the past 20 years, Habitat for Humanity of Montrose County has empowered 42 local families to help build and move into homes of their own. Habitat for Humanity is always in need of volunteers to help with construction, special events and at the new ReStore. To volunteer, please contact us at re-store@habitatmontrose.org or 970-252-9304. To learn more about Habitat for Humanity in Montrose, email colleen@habitatmontrose.org, or call 970-252-9303.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS MAKE "CENTS" FOR BUSINESSES

Continued from page 16

help women who have suffered from domestic abuse by giving them a life makeover with hair and makeup, to help boost their confidence," she said.

As part of K. frizz salon, Megan wants to help it grow as well and gain a good reputation in Montrose. "We want to be where people can go to relax and feel at peace," she said. "We want to be known for our integrity."

Megan's favorite part of her business is two-fold. "I love when people come in and are fed up, thinking that they have the worst hair ever, and I am able to help transform it and make the client feel like a new person," she explained. "Also, I love doing hair colors. With mixing it, I love to feel like a mad scientist and be able to change someone's hair drastically or create just a subtle difference."

Megan's experience leads to some specific advice for new business owners in her field. "Definitely for people looking into a salon-type setting, you have a ton of choices so take advantage of education and



Megan Daly of K. frizz Salon believes that by transforming someone's outer appearance, she can help transform lives. Photo by Clay Greathouse.

things provided by vendors," she said.

"Also, a good business plan is extremely helpful." Megan can be found at K. frizz salon, located at 1425 Hawk Parkway suite 3 in Montrose. For more information, call

970-249- 0131.

Whether you work in real estate, own a store, or are a hair stylist, hopefully 2014 looks bright and will be a good year to fulfill your New Years resolutions.



Food Safety Classes

This 3-hour class is for food service workers
and covers the basic concepts
for safe food handling.

2014 Montrose Schedule

January 14th, 2014
February 11th, 2014
March 11th, 2014
April 8th, 2014
May 13th, 2014
June 10th, 2014
NO July class
August 12th, 2014
September 9th, 2014
October 14th, 2014
November 18th, 2014
NO December class

Pre-registration is required by calling 970.252.5000.

Classes are held at a *new location*:
Friendship Hall at the Montrose County Fairgrounds
1001 North 2nd Street
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

The cost to attend is \$10 and a photo ID is required.
Successful participants will receive a food handler's card.

*For additional information or
to schedule a class at your location,
call 970.252.5000*



DELTA CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING FALKENHOF CANINES CELEBRATES EXPANSION



Special to the Mirror

DELTA--Falkenhof Canines celebrated a facility expansion with a ribbon cutting ceremony with board members and Ambassadors of the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce. Pictured at the Dec. 10 ribbon cutting are board president Josh Applegate from Farmers Insurance; board member Kylynn Wilson from Crossroads Assisted & Independent Living; Falkenhof Canines owner Marion Lewis; board member Lynn Shirk from HopeWest & Hospice; and Ambassador Christina Busch from Richards Consulting and Accounting. Also pictured are Marion's dogs Akira, Sabrina and Moni. Marion has upcoming obedience classes. She also does agility training and grooming. Find her at www.delta-dogtraining.com.

HONORABLE MENTION

To our beloved friend and Fort Lewis College classmate Elayne Silversmith, Librarian at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian...
...Right On!

To Mirror contributor Liesl Greathouse, the youngest professional writer we know—and one of the best! Thank you for all of the excellent local stories!

To filmmaker Stormy Pyeatte, for the amazing video of Ouray's Zina Lahr that has gone around the world and touched lives everywhere. If you have not watched it yet, [click here](#).

To all Arapahoe High School students, teachers, staff and alumni, of every year...wherever you may be. We are Warriors. #prayforclaire...

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS 2013 GRANTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Giving back to the community continues to be the guiding mission of the Montrose Community Foundation. Through a granting program that has spanned more than two decades, the Foundation has returned more than half a million dollars to the support organizations serving our local community.

The Foundation provides broad-based support while implementing a community agenda. Through the Foundation's Forever Fund, an endowment fund actively managed by volunteer professional advisors, the interest and dividends are returned to the community during the annual competitive cycle. The 2013 Cycle includes grant funds to twenty-four nonprofit organizations.

Recognizing the difficulties facing many individuals in the community, the Foundation is awarding grants to the following organizations serving basic human needs: Christ's Kitchen to fund the operational expenses associated with feeding nearly 100 people lunch each weekday, Sharing Ministries Food Bank to contribute funding toward the more than 5,000 food boxes being distributed locally, The Lions Foundation for new screening equipment to conduct early eye exams on very young children, Region 10 to provide preventative dental care to individuals with disabilities, and Western Regional EMS Council to supplement the cost of providing community CPR classes. The Foundation's reach also stretches to western Montrose County in funding the West End Family

Link Center connecting resources with families in need.

Through a philanthropic partnership with the City of Montrose, providers of housing-related services were the strategic focus of a portion of the granting funds. Through this initiative, grants were awarded to Haven House to fund continued operations of the transitional living shelter north of Olathe, Habitat for Humanity for capital investments in cost-saving measures that will allow more of operational funds to be directed to building additional homes, and Hilltop's new Transitional Living Program that provides community-based case management and independent housing services to youth adults.

Knowing that children hold the key to the future, the Foundation is supporting the following youth programs: Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club for the Jr. Chef Program, Maslow Academy of Applied Learning to purchase educational instruments for the music department, Girls on the Run to fund engaging and well-rounded programming for young girls, Montrose RE-1J Schools to create the Power Center that will provide outreach to the Hispanic students in their families at Montrose High School. Students in the West End of Montrose County will benefit from an enhanced science program through funds distributed to the Pinhead Institute for this purpose.

The Knowledge Bowl Program at Centennial Middle School also received grant funding from the Russell Cook Memorial Fund that fosters initiatives that engage local youth in positive relationships that

lead to success in their adult lives.

To support seniors in our community, the Foundation is providing funds to All Points Transit to aid in the Dial-A-Ride Program which provides transportation to and from medical appointments. The Foundation is also pleased to support Volunteer of America's Senior Community Meals that provides meals to seniors at a central location and through home delivery.

Acknowledging that many community concerns are both sensitive and difficult to address, the Foundation supports initiatives to provide awareness and generate sustainable solutions. In this vein, the Foundation is pleased to support Center for Mental Health offering suicide prevention programs for area middle and high school students, CASA Voices for Children providing an adult advocate for children involved in the court system, Coalition for Drug-Free Montrose County for awareness and prevention efforts, and The Dolphin House for abuse and prevention education programs for front-line providers of youth services.

The Foundation continues to invest in the social infrastructure of the community through capital grant funding.

HopeWest is receiving funds for the kitchen of their new facility. Museum of Mountain West's renovation of the Historic German Lutheran Church will receive additional funding. The Whitewater Park Project through the City of Montrose will also receive funding and the support of the Foundation.



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The Mirror

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MCMU WRAPS UP MUSIC AT NOON WITH PERFORMANCE ON DEC. 18

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The Montrose United Methodist Church's "Music at Noon" series will wrap up Wednesday, Dec. 18 in the church sanctuary, located at 19 S. Park Ave.

The final performance will feature Pastor

Steve Reinhard and his wife, Tracy. The Reinhard's are both musically trained. Pastor Reinhard is an accomplished guitarist, pianist and singer. Mrs. Reinhard, a singer and drummer, is the music teacher for Cottonwood and Northside Elementary Schools.

There is no charge for the presentation, which will begin at noon and last approximately one-half hour. Those wishing to bring a sack lunch to eat during the performance are encouraged to do so.

For further information, call the church office at 970-249-3716.

DELTA CHAMBER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Special to the Mirror

DELTA--The Delta Area Chamber of Commerce recently launched its newly redesigned website, and is excited for the community to take advantage of the information and resources available at the touch of a button.

With the high numbers of mobile users, one of the main goals was to make the website, www.DeltaColorado.org, mobile-friendly. Those using smartphones and tablets will now find the website easier to navigate.

The website has a full ongoing events calendar, as well as information about community events like Second Saturday Street Fairs, Deltarado Days and the Parade of Lights. Also posted on the site are job openings, coupons and hot deals from Chamber members. Every Chamber member is also listed with contact information.

A new blog section on the site will showcase monthly Member Spotlight features, and each board member is listed on the site with direct links to email them.

"We are here to listen," said Josh Apple-

gate, the Chamber board president.

"We at the Chamber want to be an active, integral part of the local community. Giving people 24-hour-a-day access to our member information, events and job openings is important to us," said Kami Collins, director of the DACC.

"We invite you to go online to www.DeltaColorado.org and see what your Chamber and your community are up to."

The Chamber can also be found on Facebook, or by calling 970-874-8616.

68 percent of every dollar spent in a Delta store stays in Delta!

Keeping your money in town supports your community!

Many stores in Delta will be open late on Fridays in December.

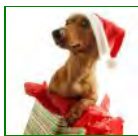
**Check out sales and specials at
Main Street Mercantile – Heirlooms for Hospice – Clubb's –
2nd Edition – Tara's –
Shears to You/The Perfect Touch - & More!**

**I SHOP
DELTA**

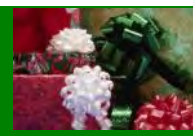


**DELTA AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

SHOP MONTROSE FOR THE SEASON!



2013-2014 SHOPPING GUIDE



AROUND THE CORNER ART GALLERY



Around the Corner Art Gallery is a Downtown destination for art lovers.

MONTROSE--Step into Bob and Pat Brown's Around the Corner Art Gallery, located at 447 East Main Street in Mont-

rose, and you will find yourself swept up into a world of vivid color, with exciting works of art in all mediums. The atmosphere is welcoming, and the Browns and their staff greet all who enter like old friends. This is a place where the spirit of creativity lives and breathes, and where people of all ages feel immediately at home. The emphasis is on local art, created by gifted local artists and artisans. From fine oil paintings and watercolors to inspired photography, to works in bronze and beautiful ceramics and even one-of-a-kind jewelry, there is something here for all price ranges, and all tastes. Those whose works are represented include revered Western Colorado talents, and rising stars. The Browns opened the Gallery five years ago, after the building in which it is located was tastefully remod-

eled by local entrepreneur Ralph Walchle, who still owns the space. Over the years, Around the Corner Art Gallery has become a community gathering place, with exciting shows and events that draw the community Downtown to appreciate the best that the local arts community has to offer. Visit the [web site](#) to browse the catalog of artists, and to find out about upcoming shows and receptions. Challenge yourself to appreciate something new, or cherish old favorites—it's up to you...this is your local gallery! Perhaps you will be inspired to take a class, and discover the artist within. Check out the latest courses [here](#). Around the Corner Gallery can be reached at 970-249-4243. Hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 11 to 4 on Sundays throughout the Fall season.

TIFFANY, ETC.

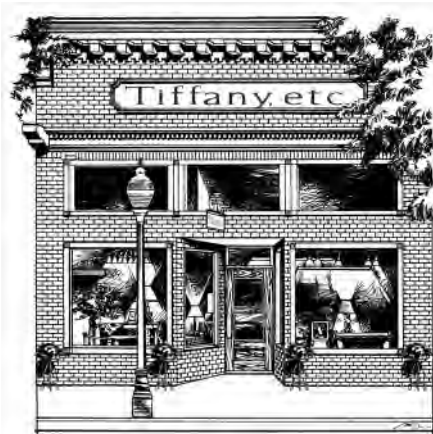
MONTROSE--Go ahead—find a little something for yourself when you do your holiday shopping at Tiffany Etc. this season. Like the perfect bedroom set, or that gorgeous yet comfortable couch you have had your heart set on for months!

Tiffany Store Manager Lorna Santonastaso and Owner Glee Westcott shop throughout the year for the beautiful, useful, and high-quality items that make this Montrose boutique a regional shopping destination. Over the past 30 years, Tiffany owner Glee Westcott has established a reputation for superb customer service and an array of merchandise that evokes a holiday experience year-round. From special treats like the sought-after Poppa's Corn for the holiday season (Tiffany Etc. has been the main retail outlet for this locally-made product for 26 years), to home décor and accessories, candles of all shapes and

sizes, jewelry, unique apparel, artwork and even furniture, the store is a treasure chest packed with colorful, high-quality merchandise that captures the essence of Western Colorado.

"We have gift items for everyone, and we sell custom-design furniture, with fabric chosen by our clients or with interior design help from Lorna or me," Westcott said. "We have many different styles, from contemporary to lodge and Western-style to traditional. We also have accent pieces to complement any style."

Other fun, seasonal items include elk and deer "poop" candies, and a fabulous variety of stocking stuffers for all ages. Our email catalogue keeps our customer up to date on new merchandise and store events. It always pays to stop by Tiffany Etc. on Mix-n-Match Sundays for Glee's weekly special event. Tiffany Etc. is located at 439



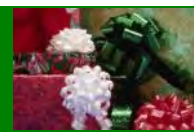
Tiffany Etc.. Has been a year-round shopping destination for more than 30 years.

East Main Street in Montrose, and is open seven days a week. They can be reached at 970-249-7877.

SHOP MONTROSE FOR THE SEASON!



2013-2014 SHOPPING GUIDE



A+Y DESIGN GALLERY



MONTROSE--Yes, this is an art gallery, with exciting and vivid pieces by more than 20 local artists. It is also a place where you can relax, refresh and restore your soul over fresh coffee while shopping or just hanging out with friends. From the new seating area, to the great selection of gifts in all prices ranges, Adam and Yesenia Duncan's A+Y Gallery is your Down-

town destination—and it's fine to bring the kids along! Sip a delicious affogato during the winter months (hot, fresh coffee infused with gelato), and admire Adam's astonishing custom furniture designs. Check out the Big Colorado Love items if you can—this straight-from-Telluride specialty line flies off the shelves almost as soon as it arrives.

Upcoming specials include several ornament-smashing holiday events, with discounts from ten to 50 percent, so be sure to stop by on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 30.

"Everything here is hand-crafted, and we really believe in supporting local artists," Yesenia Duncan said. "We also welcome small gatherings—just give us a call to schedule your next meeting here. And be sure to order our Gelato sliders for your next holiday gathering or office party!"

The constantly evolving collection encompasses everything from small, exquisite jewelry items to large, breathtaking sculpture, so it's a breeze to find gifts to fit every taste and budget. When you shop at A+Y Gallery, you are not only supporting a small family business in Montrose--from October through December, 10 percent of sales will go to benefit Hilltop Community Resources, a non-profit that serves Montrose and the surrounding region. A+Y Gallery is also a drop-off point for donations to the American Red Cross typhoon relief effort.

"By shopping small, you can make a big difference!" Yesenia Duncan said.

A+Y Gallery is located at 513 East Main Street, and can be reached at 970-240-7914.

Hours are Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Delta County Living

Your Online Guide for Activities,
Adventure, and Living In
Delta County, Colorado

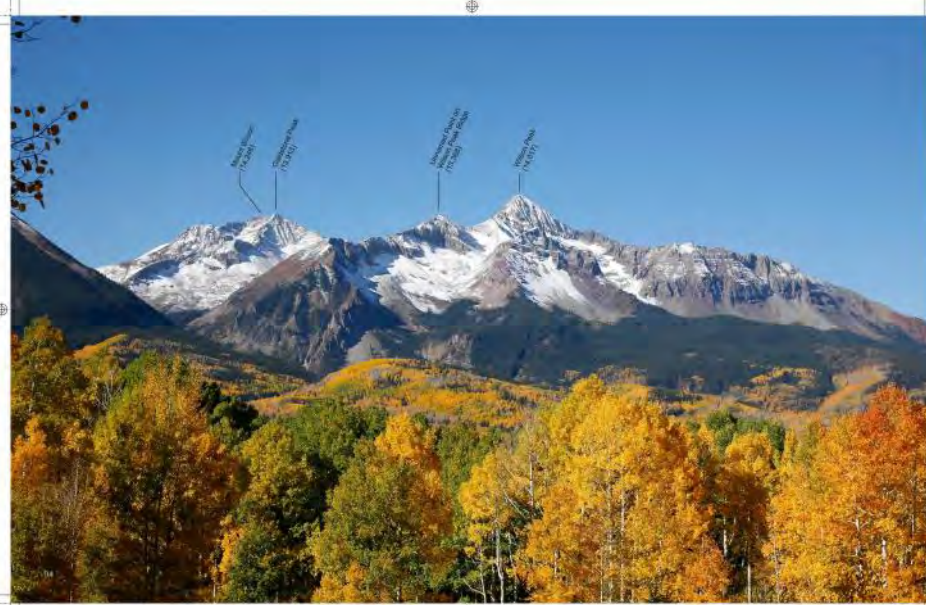
www.deltacountyliving.com

deltacountyliving@gmail.com



ARTS AND CULTURE

Give the Gift of Telluride Mountain Lore this Christmas!



Montrose Author Jeff Burch describes his passion for mountains as a “hobby gone bad.” His newest book is “*The Peaks of Telluride*.” Courtesy image.

By Caitlin Switzer

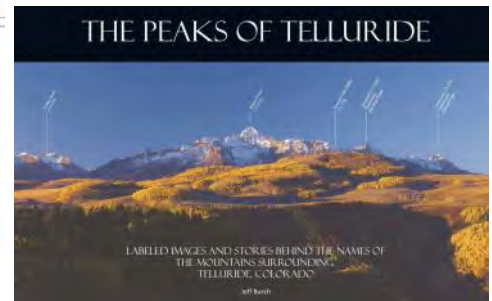
REGIONAL—Anyone who has checked out the popular work, *Peaks of the Uncompahgre*, by authors Jeff Burch and Don Paulson knows how captivating it can be to leaf through a collection of labeled images and local mountain lore. Now, Burch has released a brand new book, *The Peaks of Telluride*, a collection of more and bigger labeled images as well as stories behind the names of the mountains surrounding Telluride—just in time for the holidays.

“One thing I learned from the first book, is to make the pictures much, much bigger,” said Burch, who has also been heading up a campaign to restore the name of Telluride’s Bridal Peak. The new book includes the story of that peak, along with stunning, color photos of local mountain ranges, individual peaks and detailed US Geological Survey maps.

Burch, who spent 30 years with the U.S. Forest Service, including 22 working in the

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National forests, refers to his fascination with local mountain names and lore “a hobby gone bad.” He released his very popular first poster, *View Looking South from Montrose*, in 2001. The poster can still be purchased in local shops and through Burch’s photography business web site, www.coloradothirteeners.com.

Today, the passion that first inspired him has only grown stronger. *The Peaks of Telluride* is designed to entice, educate and inspire—and it does. Divided into nine chapters with three appendices and a reference section, the book is written in a friendly, conversational style that begins with the basic premise that the mountains surrounding Telluride have an almost mystical appeal that transcends space and time. Burch also observes the repeated efforts of human beings to associate themselves with the mountains in an attempt to achieve immortality.



The new book has bigger, better photos. Courtesy image.

“In the course of this research, it has become apparent that there have been five major phases in the naming of these mountains,” Burch writes. “It is remarkable, at least to this writer, how each new wave of settlers vainly assigns their own new name to age-old mountains, lakes and rivers, with little regard for names by which previous peoples called them.”

The five phases of naming included the nomenclature established by the Native Americans, that of the early Spanish explorers, names given by the F.W. Hayden and A.D. Wilson surveys, which attempted to accurately map the West, names given by miners, and eventually names established by mountaineers and local “occupants.”

Burch’s discussion of the now “Unnamed” 13,510 foot Bridal peak is a fascinating look at how a historic name can be lost through simple omission from USGS documentation. *The Peaks of Telluride* is that rare find—a gorgeous coffee table book that can also serve as an exhaustive reference source. Dean Rickman’s layout is accessible and user-friendly, and the panoramic and single-frame photos richly capture the viewpoint of the observer.

The self-published book can be found at shops in Ridgway, Ouray and Telluride, at Walgreen’s and Hastings in Montrose, and online at www.coloradothirteeners.com.



**Baby, it's cold outside!
Give warm fuzzies this
winter season!**

Warming Up *the* Community with **21 Montrose 40**

Coat Drive

**Gently used coats, gloves,
hats, scarves, sweatshirts,
snow boots, warm socks and
blankets are most needed**

**Drop off at these locations in Montrose
November 19–December 19**



**HOME LOAN
INSURANCE**

2731 Commercial Way, Suite 3



**MESA
Moving & Storage**

2200 Industrial Drive

MONTROSE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1519 East Main Street



**SHERWIN
WILLIAMS.**

110 West Main Street

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ROTARY HONORS STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Photographed L:R: Rotarian Howard Davidson, Student-Allison Foulk, Parents Nancy & Robert Foulk.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA COUNTY YOUNG LIFE SEEKS NEW DONORS FOR PROGRAM

By Ty Gallenbeck and Kami Collins

DELTA--It's tough being a kid in today's world. For those kids lucky enough to have a strong support system, life is still tough. But what about those kids whose support systems aren't as strong? Where do they turn to?

Last school year, more than 500 Delta County students made a connection to a caring adult role model through Delta County Young Life. "A kid comes to club because they have a relationship with one of our adult leaders," said Ty Gallenbeck, the Area Director for Delta County Young Life. "The Young Life volunteers and leaders could very well be the only adult who has ever shown a loving interest in these kids."

Young Life's adult volunteer leaders are successful at building relationships with kids because they enter their world. They spend time on school campuses, get to know kids, and spend time together at Young Life camps and other off-campus activities. "Our adult volunteers are accepting of all kids for who they are, despite their beliefs or their current lifestyles," Gallenbeck said. "We love them for who they are, and we're excited to see who they will become."

The Young Life program has been in Delta for about 20 years. Over the years, more students have been introduced to a Christ-centered life through the "organized chaos" that is Young Life. Currently, each week about 60 kids meet for the Delta club meetings. Between high school students and WyldLife students (those in grades 6-8), over 237 students attended a Club meeting or event at the Young Life House in 2013.

The mission of Young Life is to reach every kid. "So that means our goal is to continue to expand our outreach," Gallenbeck said.

In the last year, staff and volunteers have added a club in Cedaredge and have made a push to involve more Latino students. Now, about 30 percent of the weekly attendees are Hispanic. Between the Delta and Cedaredge clubs, about 110 students attend weekly.

Students who attend Young Life are plugged into area churches to continue their spiritual education and relationships. Volunteers have been able to get four times as many students into churches as they were doing four years ago.

This past summer, during the annual camping trips, volunteers took 19 high school students and 11 middle school students on trips – the largest number of Delta area kids who've attended a Young Life camp in four years. And while all kids had a life-changing experience, 14 of those students made a first time commitment to have a relationship with Jesus Christ.

"These are kids who have never gone to church. That's why I love Young Life... it's designed to reach out to unsaved kids," Gallenbeck said.

In the coming year, he and his volunteers plan to continue to reach out and build relationships with special needs kids, teen moms, and into the North Fork Valley. "There are thousands of unreached kids in Delta County," he said. "We want every adolescent to have the opportunity to meet Jesus Christ and build a relationship with him."

If their mission is to grow, they are succeeding.

Delta residents Cheryl and G.W. King have seen Young Life grow. Both their sons have attended the club in Delta. The Kings believe so much in the work Gallenbeck is doing that they became monthly givers to the organization and also sit on the advisory team.

"In our small town, if we can get any

activities that kids enjoy, where they are in a supervised environment that keeps them out of trouble, we have to support it," said G.W. "This is one community project that kids love to go to and it gives them stability. This is why we are a monthly contributor. We know how much good it does for the kids."

Because of the work of the staff and volunteers and the incredible growth Young Life has seen in the last four years, the goal of the advisory team is to reach new supporters. Currently, over 400 families, businesses or community groups give annually to Delta County Young Life. The advisory team hopes to find 75 new monthly donors of \$35 or more a month.

"The more support we get at all levels – volunteer leaders, adult advisory team, donors, prayer support, church partners, the more people who are involved – the more we are able to reach more students. That's the bottom line," Gallenbeck said.

"Delta County is a community that deeply cares about their students," he continued. "That's evident of the long history of Young Life. This is an organization that people care about and value. We appreciate that, and we thank our current supporters. They know that Young Life Club could be the only time, even if it's only once, that some of these students get to experience the love of Christ in a way that they understand."

"We could not do that without our supporters." If any of this has touched you even a little, we encourage you to get involved as a volunteer or as a monthly giver. Ty Gallenbeck can be reached at 970-216-5680; the Young Life House is located at 1009 13th St.; our website is www.YoungLife.org; or find us on Facebook at DC YoungLife. Monthly giving can be mailed to the House, or made online by selecting Delta County.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Paonia Chamber Holds Annual Meeting



Colorado Tourism marketing grant received by the Paonia Chamber, and spent many hours advising Paonia non-profits and businesses on effective strategic planning.

A special honorary award went to Pete Poulos of Pete's Barber Shop, who passed away this year after decades of cutting hair on Grand Ave, and a "Volunteer of the Year" award went to Pete Hylton for his dedication to helping recruit new Chamber members.

Four new Board members representing downtown businesses and non-profits were elected for a two-year term. "I am very excited about the new additions to our Board, both because of who they are as individuals and because of who they represent," said Chamber of Commerce President Alexis Halbert. "Representation on the Board of our primary businesses sectors is key to the Chamber's work and long term viability."

New Board of Director members include Doris Danielson of RE/MAX Mountain West, Carrie Gillenwater of First Colorado Bank, John Mattox of the Backcountry Bistro, and Kit Stephenson of the Delta County Libraries.

Mike Drake formerly of Painted Sky RC&D was re-elected after an appointment to the Board in 2013, and Frederick Zimmer of Elemental Design Construction was also re-elected.

Though he did not seek re-election, Jim Brett will continue to update the Chamber website, and the Chamber thanks Karen Good for her service on the Board. Alexis Halbert and Jon Schultz were elected in 2012, Alexis to her second two-year term, and Jon to his first and they will continue to serve on the Board in 2014.

Annual award winners (from left to right): Elaine Brett, Rob Miller (of Pickin' Productions), Karen Good (of Elsewhere Studios), Tina Walker (representing the Cherry Days Forever Committee), and Alexis Halbert (President of the Paonia Chamber of Commerce).

Special to the Mirror

PAONIA--The Paonia Chamber of Commerce held its annual members meeting on Monday, Dec. 9 at the Paradise Theatre. The Chamber Board received many award nominations highlighting businesses, non-profits and individuals who have made a significant contribution to Paonia's business and social environment in 2013.

The "Business of the Year" was a tie. Awards were given to Elsewhere Studios for their artist in residency program and for involving the Paonia community in building the remarkable public art wall the alley behind Grand Avenue. Pickin' Productions also won for drawing together people from all sectors of the community, generations, beliefs and economic status to Town Park for high quality, free music on

four nights each summer.

Although it is still working on filling its non-profit status, the new Cherry Days Forever Committee was recognized as "Non-Profit of the Year" for taking up the torch to produce Paonia's beloved Cherry Days festival.

The Cherry Days Forever had an incredibly successful first year at producing Cherry Days and brought together the diverse elements of the Paonia community to produce a festival that the whole town truly enjoyed.

"Citizen of the Year" went to Elaine Brett, who volunteered her time as the primary advisor and consultant for the North Fork Heart & Soul Project, has helped to lead the charge keeping the Paradise Theatre open, co-wrote the \$10,000

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COMMUNITY UNITES TO OFFER LUIS ESTRADA SWIM SCHOLARSHIP



Special to the Mirror-photo courtesy Susan Bony

MONTROSE--The accidental drowning of Luis Estrada touched many people in a variety of ways. The decision to create a Luis Estrada Swim Lesson Memorial Scholarship through the Montrose Recreation District was a logical progression to help memorialize this fine young man and to help prevent this tragedy from occurring again. Luis Estrada's parents giving out the first swim lesson vouchers from the Luis Estrada Memorial Swim Lesson Scholarship program to representatives of CASA of the 7th Judicial District and Partners. These two non-profit programs work with children and found within their client base children who would like swim lessons but cannot afford them. Individuals or businesses are encouraged to support economically disadvantaged kids participation in the Montrose Recreational District's programs by also donating to this effort. Pictured are: back row (l to r): Memorial fund Donors Dr. Parker (W.S.O.), Dr. Singh (W.S.O.), Alma Buis (CASA of 7th Judicial District), Julie Messenger (Partners), Luis Estrada, Erika Estrada and Ken Sherbenou (Montrose Recreational District) Front row: Dr. Parker's son, Sara Lokey (MRF), Alberto Estrada and Diego Estrada.

Valerie Meyers' Weekly Monday



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ARTS AND CULTURE

FRACTALIA, STENCH TO PLAY LOCAL SHOWS



The Western Slope's greatest band? Decide for yourself when Fractalia returns to Turn of the Century in Montrose on New Year's Eve. Courtesy photo.

NOTE--If there is one thing that brings people together, it's the holidays, and with the arrival of the holidays come two of the longest-running bands to emerge from the desolate very-late 90s music scene here in town. Montrose is the home of Fractalia and Stench, two bands that will always be remembered because they will always come back home. This year, only a week apart, you can catch a glimpse of the both Stench and Tales From Ghost town at Suds on Dec. 21st, and Fractalia New Years Eve at The Turn of the Century. Here are their stories (abridged).-Jamie Berndt

Fractalia

By Bailey Vince

MONTROSE--The conception of beauty through chaos. This perhaps best describes the nearly 15- year-long musical journey of Western Slope band Fractalia. Founded around 2000, the group's initial inspiration drew from the concept of fractal geometry through a use of self-similar polyrhythmic patterns to build its elaborate sound structure.

Through this early hypnotic and often improvisational sound, Fractalia soon established itself as one of Western-COLORADO's most formidable original acts. First-place titles in Durango and Grand

Junction battles of the bands further affirmed this reputation, the latter securing them an opening slot on stage at 2007's Rock Jam. The following year Fractalia members released the album "Fractal World" under the name Sons of the Ad-dicted on the Phantasma label. Just as fractals can be analyzed in countless naturally occurring phenomena, so too has their self-proclaimed "fractal music" continued to undergo seemingly infinite manifestations over the years.

Yearning for more large-scale recognition, Fractalia's core members left their Western-Slope home and relocated to Denver in 2010. Further accolades earned there include an additional first-place title in a city-wide battle of the bands held at the historic Cervantes Ballroom. In spite of this and other accomplishments, the band struggled to establish its musical identity in an environment increasingly dominated by rap and electronica. Frustrated, band members decided the best course of action would be to take some time off to pursue individual projects. Fractal founder Stosch Dembitsky relocated to Santa Fe, immersing himself in a fresh music scene and fronting a new band Alstoschorama. Bassist Joel Waller chose to come back to the



Nick Hagen of Stench. Courtesy photo.

Western-Slope, breathing new life into the local psychedelic music scene that he and Fractalia helped to establish. Norwood and Telluride locals might know him from projects like Improv Malicious, Jason Hunter Band, Zippermouth and others. Drummer Bailey Vince stayed in Denver, pursuing his interest in electronic production and establishing the now infamous Fractalia Remix Project.

The band is so excited to come back home, and perform for all of our close friends and family. This is the environment which has nurtured and encouraged our creative expression since the project's inception, now well over ten years ago. We've come a long way since those early years, and none of it would have been possible without the tremendous support from this community. We grew up here and deep down we're just the same local kids with big dreams. Come be a part of our Fractal Family- let's relive some cherished

ARTS AND CULTURE

FRACTALIA, STENCH TO PLAY LOCAL SHOWS

Continued from page 30

memories and create some new ones. Together we can re-kindle the Fractal Flame.

Stench

By Jamie Berndt

MONTROSE--I can remember it all, not like it was yesterday but close enough. I remember the phone call that would bring the three of us together. Rafe and I had been banging on a few different instruments for a month or so when we decided that the next best thing to do is start a band. With logos already drawn up and a handful of band names (Stench was not one of them), we were ready. We knew this kid from school, Nick Hagan, and were sure that we had something in common, punk rock. We called Nick knowing that he played bass, so Rafe put down the guitar and got a drum set and I put down my bass and picked up his guitar, and together we learned how to play a few songs (some that we still play today). The three of us molded well, Nick stepped in with an endless amount of lyrics and the exact amount of energy that every front man needs, and for us it worked. I can't speak for everyone, but for us it did.

We tried to play out as much as three 16-year-old kids could, not a simple task in

Montrose, the town of lost (bored) children. We played a lot, and when we couldn't we would find somewhere. There are a few stories, some appropriate, some not. One in particular will always stand out in my mind...

There was a night sometime before 2005 that we are most proud of... We were supposed to play a show that night but it got canceled. All our equipment was already loaded up and we weren't about to head home just to unload again. We decided that we would still play a show somewhere... So we parked outside of Riverbottom park at midnight. Hauled all of our amps and speakers past the gates on skateboards, plugged in to the gazebo in the middle of the park and played a full show till two in the morning. There were only about 10 to 12 people there, didn't matter--it was sublime. We were sure that the police would find their way down and put an end to the night, and had little concern about the consequences if they were to show up. That was a night we will always remember.

Over the years we have grown wiser, a little more mature, but still manage to hold onto the aggression and immaturity it takes to play in a punk band. Nick, who relocat-

ed to Montana a few years back, braves the weather and drives down to Montrose every December, while Rafe and I must dust off our instruments and get back in the punk rock state of mind for the annual show.

Remembering back to trying to plan for the 10th Annual Rock for food, we were going to have a BIG show. We would get bands that would never even think about playing here in Montrose. But that never happened, the 10th was just like every other one, close friends, some fresh ears, and personal. In a way I think we agreed on just doing what we have always done and that's play what we do best, our music. It might be sloppy and the feedback from the cheap equipment might make you want to run for the door, but it's who we are and the sounds we make. Who knew that when we started Stench that we'd still be able to pull it together every year, to finally make it to the 14th Annual Rock for Food.

Even though I don't put all my focus into playing music these days--it was my youth, and I will always be proud of what we have done as a band even if the idea of "making it" was not the hand we were dealt.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMTC Nursing Student Receives Scholarship

Special to the Mirror

DELTA--The BK chapter of P.E.O., a philanthropic educational organization, presented the first Alice Penick Memorial Scholarship to Delta-Montrose Technical College Practical Nursing student Lori Szabo. Szabo has been in the healthcare profession for six years with training and experience as a CNA, MA, home health, and hospice care. She is currently completing her first semester of the Practical Nursing program at DMTC. The Alice Penick Memorial Scholarship is given to a nursing student to honor Alice Penick's years of work as a nurse. Penick, who passed away in February 2013, was instrumental in starting the hospice program in Grand Junction in the late 1970s, and was also involved in starting the hospice program in Delta. She was a member of the BK chapter of P.E.O. P.E.O. is an international philanthropic educational organization promoting educational opportunities for women. It was founded at Iowa Wesleyan College in Iowa, in January 1869. The Colorado State Chapter was the fourth state chapter of P.E.O. and was organized



on January 23, 1903. 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.

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

Dec. 12-24—Twelve Days of Christmas! Downtown Shopping Scavenger Hunt, Window Display Voting, great prizes for participants, <https://www.facebook.com/downtownmontroseholidays> .

Dec. 17—Ridgway Moonwalk—Culinary Arts! 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are required and available in advance at Cimarron Coffee and Books in Ridgway or Buckskin Booksellers in Ouray. Tickets will be available at the two starting locations on 12/17: Land and Ocean Costa Rican Restaurant (185 Sherman St. – same as Highway 62), and the Ouray County Plaindealer office (133 N. Lena St.).

Dec 17--Woman's Club of Ouray County Christmas Program - San Juan Room, Ouray Community Center at 1p.m. Features "Discovering Christmas through Youthful Voices" under direction of Allyson Crosby from the Ouray School. WCOC Woman of the Year announced. Members and guests asked to bring: (1) cookies or other Christmas treats to share during refreshment time and to prepare Christmas plates for our county shut-ins, (2) an unwrapped children's gift for the Elk's Santa Drive, and (3) canned fruit, green beans, or corn for the Ouray County Food Pantry. Info: Vivian Ferguson 325-0228 or Donna Hudson 325-7254. More info: <http://womansclubouraycounty.org/>.

Dec. 17-19—Voices of the Wild Fundraiser, Montrose Manor Bed & Breakfast., 60169 Lasalle Road. 4-8 p.m. Tour Montrose Manor, enjoy holiday décor, music appetizers and friends. Come one night or all three. Ticket prices vary by age. All donations tax-deductible.

Dec. 18—Community Tap night for the family of renowned artist Zina Lahr, Horsefly Brewing Company, 6 p.m.

Dec. 18—Kickoff meeting for Montrose Recreation District for Community Rec Center Campaign. 6 p.m. at the Montrose Regional Library.

Dec. 18—Final Music at Noon Performance at Montrose United Methodist Church, in the church sanctuary, located at 19 S. Park Ave. The final performance will feature Pastor Steve Reinhard and his wife, Tracy. The Reinhard's are both musically trained. Pastor Reinhard is an accomplished guitarist, pianist and singer. Mrs. Reinhard, a singer and drummer, is the music teacher for Cottonwood and Northside Elementary Schools. There is no charge for the presentation, which will begin at noon and last approximately one-half hour. Those wishing to bring a sack lunch to eat during the performance are encouraged to do so. For further information, call the church office at 970-249-3716.

Dec. 19—Montrose Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Networking Social, 5:30 p.m. at Sushitini. Call 970-249-5000 for information.

Dec. 21—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local Handmade gifts.

Dec. 21—14th Annual Rock for Food benefit ,featuring Stench and Tales from the Ghost Town, at Suds —n— Grub.

Dec. 25—Merry Christmas!

Dec. 25—There will be a Free Community Christmas Day Dinner at 2 p.m. in Baldrige Hall at the Montrose United Methodist Church, 19 South Park Avenue. The dinner is free and the community is welcome. To volunteer, or to make reservations, please call the church office at 970-249-3716 or email [@office@montroseumc.com](mailto:office@montroseumc.com).

New Year's Eve—Fractalia to play at Turn of the Century.

New Year's Eve—Anders Brothers to play at Montrose Elks Lodge. \$8 cover. Safe rides home provided from 10:30 to 1 p.m. courtesy of Ric and Jodie Simon.

Jan. 4—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jan. 9—Montrose-Delta League of Women Voters Responsible Journalism Seminar, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Montrose Library Community Room. "Telling it Straight in the Age of Spin."

Jan. 11—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Feb. 1-2—Second Annual Black Canyon Hunt & Outdoor Expo, Friendship Hall. For more info call 970-249-0787.

Feb. 1—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Feb. 15—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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Scenes from the 2013 Montrose Parade of Lights on Dec. 7. This year's parade honored veterans and all who serve.



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