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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 80 March 19, 2014

The STEP FORWARD Issue

IT'S OFFICIAL! BRIDAL PEAK NAME RESTORED



Bridal Peak is once again the official name of the peak tagged above, thanks to Author Jeff Burch. Courtesy Photo.

Mirror Staff Report

TELLURIDE—It's official! The name of Telluride's historic Bridal Peak has been restored, thanks largely to the efforts of local author and mountain historian Jeff Burch. Located on the Eastern rim of Bridal Veil Basin, the peak is important to the history of the region, but its official name had been lost over the years, though it was clearly labeled as Bridal Peak in the 1962 *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*.

In a letter dated February 13, 2014, Burch notes that "The U.S. Board on Geographic Names voted today to restore the name Bridal Peak to the 13,510 foot summit just north of Columbine Pass, at the head of Bridal Veil Basin. Quoting an email just received from USGS: 'the proposal was approved unanimously. No controversy and very little discussion. The name Bridal Peak will be added to GNIS in the next couple of days and should appear at the public page a day or so after that. The BGN will send out official notification letters in approximately two weeks.'

"This is the culmination of our effort over nine

Continued on page 5

LEADERSHIP, VISION KEEP LIBRARY AT HEART OF COMMUNITY

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--Yes, construction is messy and intrusive, and parking will be at a premium while Colorado Mesa University's new Cascade Avenue quad, expected to be complete this summer, is being built. However, the Montrose Regional Library—which shares its space with CMU—could not be more pleased with the expansion of Colorado Mesa University's Montrose Campus.

"We have always had a very cooperative relationship with CMU," Library Director Paul Paladino said. "The quad will provide more outdoor space, and I know that the vision is to offer some outdoor classes. I am pretty sure they will let us hold a story time or a program out there too."

Paladino has served as library director for 22 years, and sees the big picture when it comes to this year's campus expansion.

"Parking is a perennial issue here, and has been since we built this building, which is wrapped around the old Morgan School," he said. "We spent a lot of time on the building—the sales tax passed in 1994, but we did not build until 1996, so we had a



Despite temporary construction and parking issues, the Montrose Regional Library could not be more supportive of Colorado Mesa University's expansion.

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*Bite into the Big
Burrito!*

*CMU Campus
Expands!*

*A look at Cold War
Patriots...by Lies!*

*Cara Fandel...On
the Boardwalk!*

*Eagle Head Cane
Ceremony photos!*

INNOVATION, VISION KEEP LIBRARY DYNAMIC FROM PAGE 1



Montrose Regional Library Executive Director Paul Paladino.

a couple of years to kick ideas around. CMU has been with us from the start—we partnered with the idea of leasing space to them.”

At the time, the partnership made perfect sense, and it still does, he noted.

“We looked around and found the only entity with less money than we had,” Paladino said. “They were located east of town, in the complex where the John Deere outlet is. I remember that one of the classrooms had purple shag carpeting.”

The library itself was designed by Montrose Architects Patrik Davis and John Elo, whose former building (245 South Cascade) is now being incorporated into CMU’s campus as a student center, to be safely accessed across the new quad.

As its partner entity grows, the Montrose

Regional Library is also exploring new ways to grow and serve the local community.

Paladino said that his own five-year vision presently involves maintaining the welcoming, comfortable “feel” of the library, while at the same time breaking new ground in the ways that they serve readers.

“As libraries, we collect and organize stuff, information of all types,” he said. “Our job is to connect people with this stuff. So we are constantly looking at what barriers exist to getting books into kids’ hands.”

“Research shows that whether you go to jail, how much you will earn, and how good your life is going to be directly correlate to your fourth grade reading scores,” he said, “and to how many books are in your home when you are under five. If you can get 500 books into the hands of a kid age 0 to five, he will do very well.”

The Montrose Regional Library is now exploring a trend that has started in the library community, of becoming not just collectors, but publishers, Paladino said.

“Good editors are in short supply, but the Internet has created more writers than ever before,” he said. “In the past, self-publishing has been considered ‘vanity’ publishing, but that concept is changing with the arrival of e-books.”

Local writers who are connected and knowledgeable about a subject or a place can now easily write their own articles and books, he noted.

“The best advice has always been to write what you know,” Paladino said. “We are following a model that actually started in Douglas County, of searching out and being open to locally published literature. Now, the state has taken on the concept and is experimenting to create a platform.”

Colorado’s libraries have always been innovative, he said.

“We tend to be forward thinking and cooperative,” he said. “We are one of the first and only states where libraries share items—we have a Colorado library card that every library belongs to, so that someone from here can walk into the Denver Public Library and check out a book.”

“Now, we need to solve the e-book issue, and we are solving it,” he said.

Paladino said he could see the pride that the people of Montrose took in their community when he first arrived in town.

“I saw the Pavilion, the Airport, the Aquatic Center,” he said. “These things are evidence that people see this as a great community.”

The Montrose library’s development officer, Amy McBride, has done an outstanding job of conveying the library’s sense of excitement and possibility to the public through columns and other innovative means. Though not all rural libraries have such a visible development officer, McBride’s outreach efforts are so perfectly in synch with the local community that it’s now difficult to imagine the library without her.

“Amy embodies the spirit of Montrose,” Paladino said. “We do have an attitude here of, ‘get it done.’ If there is something we need to do, we do it.”

His five-year vision also includes a few other goals, he added.

“It would be nice to have figured out the universal problem, of how to engage teens who just come in here to be seen,” Paladino said. “I hope we can remain creative and innovative, finding and meeting the needs of our constituents.”

“I want this to be a dynamic environment.”

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



THE MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

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

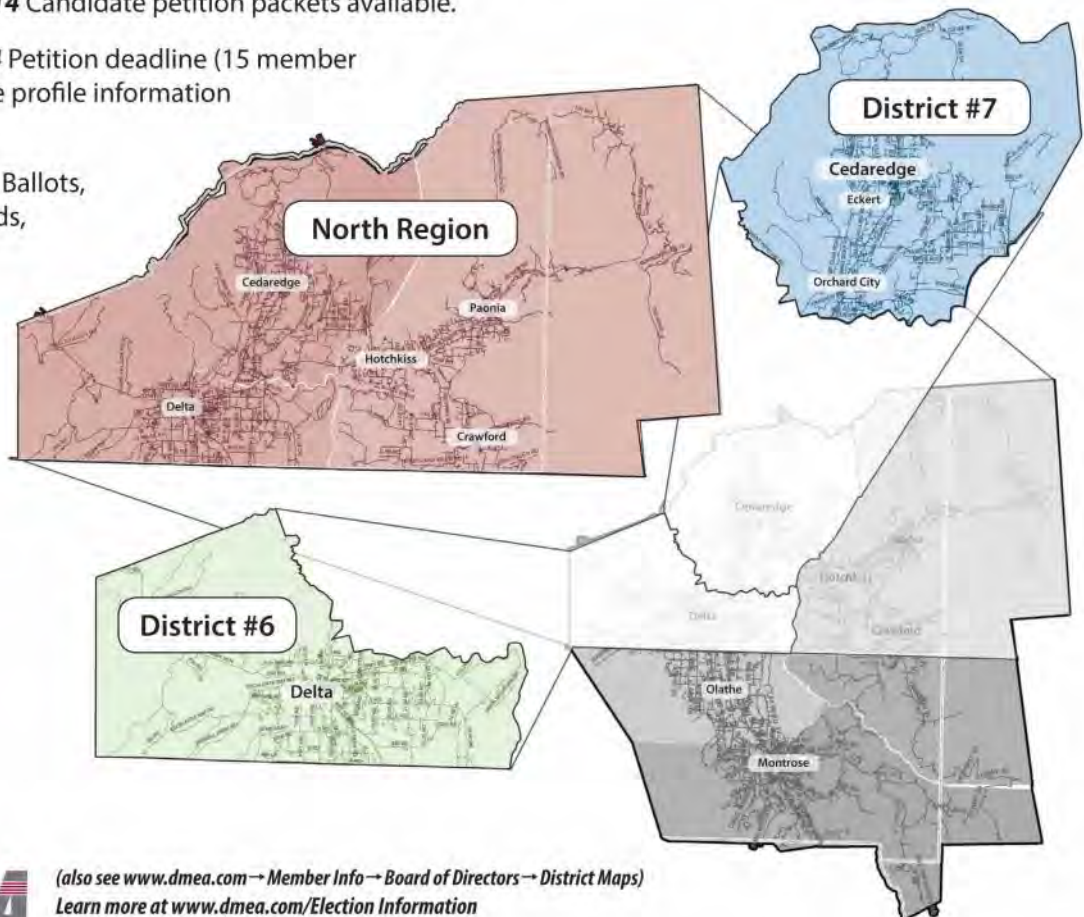
Delta-Montrose Electric Association is an electric cooperative. It belongs to you and your fellow member-owners, but its success depends on just and prudent guidance from its Board of Directors.

Each year there is an election to determine the representative from three of the nine board districts. In 2014, seats are up for election are: **District #7** including Cedaredge, Eckert, and Orchard City, **District #6**, including much of Delta and the surrounding area and the **North Region** including all service territory North of the Delta-Montrose county line. Most members residing in these districts (excepting DMEA employees and their families and a few other exceptions) are eligible to become candidates to run for election this year. There are no filing fees. 15 member signatures supporting candidacy must be received no later than April 28th to qualify a candidate for the ballot.



2014 board candidate key dates:

- **Monday, March 31, 2014** Candidate petition packets available.
- **Monday, April 28, 2014** Petition deadline (15 member signatures) & candidate profile information deadline.
- **Monday, May 19, 2014** Ballots, candidates' backgrounds, and other materials mailed to DMEA members.
- **Thursday, June 11, 2014** Deadline voted ballots to be received by mail.
- **Friday, June 12, 2014** DMEA annual meeting. An announcement of the election results comes at the end of the annual meeting.



(also see www.dmea.com → Member Info → Board of Directors → District Maps)
 Learn more at www.dmea.com/Election Information
 Contact: 1-877-687-3632 extension 207 or email:
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TAKE A BITE OF THE BIG BURRITO!



The Big Burrito is located in the parking lot at 900 East Main.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—The Big Burrito food cart has arrived, all set to serve up delicious, mega-sized burritos that will get your day off to the perfect, tasty start. With fresh salsa made daily, home-made green chile prepared from chiles grown by Matties Farm, and great lunch options for the whole family, owners Michele and Dan Pilon believe that their business is the perfect fit for Montrose.

Located permanently in the Big J Jewelry & Loan parking lot at 900 East Main



Owner Michele Pilon fixes a burrito for a customer. So far business has been great, she says.

Street, the Pilon family are happy to be Montrose after 22 years in Gunnison, where they ran the Big Burrito cart for the past year and a half.

"We are really excited to be here," said Michele Pilon, a former cook for Western State Colorado University in Gunnison. "Even after being open for just days, we are doing really well."

It's no wonder—the food is excellent, and

the hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, making the Big Burrito an ideal stop for a quick workday lunch in the EMO (East Montrose) neighborhood.

"I think we'll be popular with the business people down here," Michele said. "We have already had people ask us about delivery."

So far, the most popular items are the green chile and the breakfast burritos, she said.

The family appreciates the closeness of Montrose to their former home, where they still have a daughter in high school, Dan Pilon said. They also appreciate Big J Jewelry & Loan, where guitarist Dan has shopped for guitars for many years.

Pilon said that his own personal favorite is the breakfast burrito, smothered.

"Our green chile is fresh, locally grown, and made to order," he said. "Our salsas are made daily so they are always fresh."

Menu options also include nachos, loaded nachos, quesadillas, and bean and cheese burritos for kids.

To reach the Big Burrito by telephone, call 970-964-8515.

IT'S OFFICIAL! BRIDAL PEAK NAME RESTORED from page 1

months to demonstrate the support of the Telluride/SW Colorado community for this naming," Burch wrote. "The name is deeply embedded in Telluride history. We do not know why it was not carried forward, but it has now been restored!"

Burch was inspired to pursue the project after speaking with Telluride's Bill "Senior" Mahoney. Today, Bridal Peak is the only mountain in the U.S. to officially bear this name. In addition to support from individuals, Burch credits the following organizations for offering written support in favor of the name restoration: San Miguel County Commissioners, Telluride Town Council, Mountain Village Town Council, San Juan County Commissioners (Silverton), Telluride Historical Museum, Ouray County Historian, Telluride Mountain Club, and the State of Colorado Board on Geographic Names.

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.

He co-wrote the popular *Peaks of the Uncompahgre* with local historian Don Paulson several years ago, and issued his newest book, *The Peaks of Telluride*, in late 2013.

The new book can be found at shops in Ridgway, Ouray and Telluride, at Walgreen's and Hastings in Montrose, and online at www.coloradothirteeners.com.

And though he has scaled many peaks, the success of this project is one that has Burch feeling a mile high.

"I am genuinely thrilled," he said last week. "Thrilled at the success of restoring an important historic name in the Telluride region, but honestly, thrilled at the personal success of having facilitated the entire process, from application to the USGS, to involvement of the community at all levels. I am particularly proud of the web site at www.bridalpeak.com.

"This was a great idea that came from Billy Mahoney, Senior showing me Bridal Peak on old maps in his basement," he continued. "The idea was supported by

everybody in Telluride. It was OUR project, I just led the charge.

"This is a success for us all."



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WRC EAGLE HEAD CANE CEREMONY 6MARCH2014



Above- SGT Collin Bowerman, US Army, served 08JUL2008 - 31JAN2013.



Above- CDR Graydon "Jack" M Durham JR, US Navy, served 12DEC1955 - 31AUG1973, Korea & Vietnam, during the presentation he said "... I feel I'm up here under false pretenses, these Marines up here that got shot at, I never got shot at. The most dangerous things I did were on shore leave;"

- SP-5 Bob Hampton, US Army, served 1956-1960, part of the Woodworker Guild of Western Colorado and the Montrose Area Woodturners;
- CWO4 Gary Gratton, US Marine Corps, served 1966-1972 & 1975-1996, Vietnam, member of the Black Canyon Wood Carvers.



Above-
- Donna Durham (Jack's wife)
- CDR Graydon "Jack" M Durham JR, US Navy, served 12DEC1955 - 31AUG1973, Korea & Vietnam.



Above - SP-5 Bob Hampton, US Army, served 1956-1960, part of the Woodworker Guild of Western Colorado and the Montrose Area Woodturners;

- SGT George "Yogi" Lawrence, US Army, served 1968 -1969, Vietnam (presented cane to Doug DeVinny's brother, not pictured);

*** info on Doug DeVinny (not pictured) *** SP4 Doug DeVinny, US Army, served 1967-1969, Vietnam, from Montrose;

- CWO4 Gary Gratton, US Marine Corps, served 1966-1972 & 1975-1996, Vietnam, member of the Black Canyon Wood Carvers.

At left-S/SGT John Militello, US Marine Corps, served JAN1965 - MAY1974, 2 tours in Vietnam.

ALL PHOTOS BY SCOTTY KENTON PHOTOGRAPHY
Thank you as well to Emily R. Smith of the Warrior Resource Center for assistance with captions

GOING WHERE OUR COMMUNITY TAKES US...CMU MONTROSE



Expect a parking crunch over the next few months as Colorado Mesa University expands its Montrose Campus to include a new quad on South Cascade between the main campus (left) and the new student center (right). However, university officials say they have encountered little opposition to the expansion, which most neighbors see as good for Montrose.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—In the end, it came down to homework. When Colorado Mesa University officials reviewed their vision for the Montrose Campus, they first asked a simple question.

“How do we create something that will continue to grow Montrose, and bring business here?” was the first query, noted CMU President Tim Foster, followed by, “Where and how do we best accomplish the latter, without frustrating the former?”

It was by doing what hardworking students have always done—research—that they were able to answer these questions, Foster said.

“We worked hard, and we walked the neighborhood,” Foster said. “We sat down with the community; since CMU has been in Montrose, our goal has been to serve. Growing and establishing a campus is positive for any community.”

Keeping the campus Downtown was also a priority, he said. Though other locations like Sunset Mesa were considered, officials felt that the heart of town was where the campus belonged.

“Location matters,” Foster said. “Think of a campus as a village within a community. Keeping it Downtown made a lot of sense. We have a foothold, and the library has said that we can be here.”

When Montrose Architect Patrik Davis agreed to sell his adjacent building (located at 245 South Cascade) to CMU,

another question arose.

“So where do we go from here?” Foster said. “We could have two buildings that are separate, or we could create more of a campus feeling with a quad, a critical first step toward building that intangible feeling of a campus.”

Following the acquisition of the 3200-square-foot, two-story building, the university was able to work with the City of Montrose, which agreed to vacate a half block right-of-way on South Cascade and committed \$50,000 toward the purchase price of the building in 2013.

According to a news release issued by CMU, about one-third of the building is now occupied by Edward D. Jones & Co., and will continue to be.

The rest of the building will be used for student support services such as a student lounge that will also serve as an area for tutoring, a room for student clubs and organizations to gather, and a second meeting room. There will also be offices for student advising, career services, testing and financial aid.

A news release issued by the City of Montrose notes that while the majority of project funding comes from CMU, both City of Montrose and Montrose County Public Works Departments have collaborated to provide in-kind labor and materials assistance.

Construction of the CMU quad at South Third and Cascade began on March 3 and

is now well underway, with the ultimate goal an attractive area where pedestrians can safely move between campus buildings. Though neighboring businesses are impacted by the construction, most see it as a positive development, Foster said.

“Nobody goes from 0 to 60 in one fell swoop,” Foster said. “We worked hard; we knocked on doors, and we answered questions. We did lots of legwork. If people understand the how and the why, we can all move in the same direction. We are building our campus in a small way; we will now have a classroom building and a student center.”

Collaboration among local entities has been essential, he said.

“The County Commissioners really did their homework, and City Council stepped up to the plate,” he said. “We keep working with our advisory group.”

Though South Cascade between Third Street and the alley to the north is now closed and will remain so, CMU has fielded few complaints. Construction of the quad is expected to be complete in mid-July.

“We will continue to grow our Montrose Campus incrementally, in small steps,” Foster said. “We have a very good advisory committee. On the one hand, growth is complex. On the other hand, it’s really pretty simple.

“We are going where our community takes us.”



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SMPA SEEKS MEMBERS WITH UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is seeking current and former members who have not yet claimed their capital credit monies. The co-op has approximately \$200,000 in unclaimed credits for members receiving electric service during the years of 1980, 1983, 1985, 1997 and 1998.

"Capital credits represent our members' ownership of the co-op. Every year SMPA allocates any excess margins to our members based on how much money they put back into the cooperative, in other words based on the amount they are billed annually. The more dollars a member pays in, the more capital they invest in SMPA and therefore the larger the credit they receive," explains SMPA General Manager Kevin Ritter.

All credits in excess of \$10 were mailed last summer. Current and former members are encouraged to vis-

it www.smpa.com and view the list of unclaimed capital credits. Members who are listed must call their local office at (970) 626-5549 or (970) 864-7311 and speak with a customer service or billing representative and be prepared to provide proper identification and a current mailing address. Credits that remain unclaimed or uncashed as of April 4, 2014 will be forfeited by the member and extinguished and barred forever.

SMPA allocates capital credits each year, but only pays those credits back to members on a delayed rotation when the co-op's financial position allows them to do so. In that delay period credits function as operating capital for the co-op. The ability to retire capital credits depends on the cooperative's financial status.

In the past, SMPA's board has chosen to reinvest excess margins in the cooperative in order to improve and expand the electric system and build equity. Each year,

SMPA's board evaluates the co-op's ability to return capital credits to the membership.

"Capital credit monies belong to our members," stressed Ritter. "Making sure that both past and current members receive what's due to them is just how we do business."

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.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MHS DIVISION AWARDS FOR MARCH



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Eight students from Montrose High School were awarded the Division Award for March. The Division Award recognizes students for their outstanding citizenship, efforts and academic achievement by each department. It is great that our students have academic success, or excel in sports, but students who just do good things for the right reasons are recognized with this award. Their leadership and commitment to improve themselves, their school and the environment for fellow students is exemplary and inspiring for other students and staff. Pictured L – R : Angelica Campas, Autumn Thornburg, Marissa Archuletta, Natalie VanArsdall –Williams, Elisabeth Pace, Alexandra Engel, Riah Carter, Lauren Peterson.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ROTARY STUDENT OF THE WEEK



The Montrose Rotary Club honored Clayton Beutler as their Student of the Week. Pictured L to R: Joey Montoya Boese (presenting Rotarian), Steven (Father), Clayton, and Susan (Mother). Courtesy Image.

NEW DANGERS OF HEROIN PRESENTED



Courtesy Photo.

By Sandra Tyler

MONTROSE--The message was clear to those present at "The New Dangers of Heroin" presentation that heroin has come raging back, is less expensive, and can be

smoked and/or snorted ----rather than being injected---which increases its attraction to young adults.

Deputy Chad Williams told the attendees that it is being used by those 18-21+ at an alarming increase. He has learned that most everyone using heroin started with either alcohol or marijuana as gateway drugs. The users chase the feeling or high they get from using drugs and look for the next level when that original feeling diminishes and is not strong enough or long enough anymore.

This free presentation was the first quarterly community education night of 2014, held March 6, 7:00-8:30 PM in the Centennial Room at Montrose City Hall. It was presented by the Coalition for a Drug Free Montrose County in partnership with Safe

Kids America. The free quarterly presentations are sponsored with funding from The Montrose Community Foundation and Alpine Bank.

The speaker for this community education night was Mesa County Deputy Sheriff Chad Williams. Deputy Williams is a national speaker for Safe Kids America on topics of emerging drugs and their effects on our community and our young people.

Deputy Williams has presented a series of drug awareness classes to several thousand parents and teens across Mesa County and Colorado and also nationally. He will present one to law enforcement staff and one to the community to attract individuals interested in becoming the future teachers of the trends and dangers of substance use, particularly to the teen brain.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CASA RAY OF HOPE BENEFIT APRIL 12

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The public is invited to attend CASA of the 7th Judicial District (Court Appointed Special Advocates - a.k.a. CASA) annual "Ray of Hope Annual Benefit" on Saturday, April 12th at the Montrose Pavilion. All are encouraged to participate in the small public carnival of games from 5 pm – 6:15pm just prior to the dinner. Kent Schmidt of Papa Wheelie's Bicycles has provided one of the mini-bicycles for the bike races being held in front of the Pavilion steps. The games will include non-motorized mini bike races,

flying socket monkey target shoot, ping pong ball toss, etc. Prizes for these games have been collected from throughout the CASA 7th Judicial District area of Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties.

CASA holds its annual fund raising benefit during National Child Abuse Awareness month to reinforce the importance of their services. This year's Ray of Hope benefit will focus on "Remembering the Child." The evening's activities will help take us back to when we were children and at the same time remind us that the many

children that CASA serves never get to be child-like. Fund-raising highlights during the dinner will include the "Dessert Dash" and a live auction for great items collected from throughout the 7th Judicial District including overnight get-a-ways and gasoline cards. The Dessert Dash will feature whimsical specialty desserts created by restaurants, bakeries and pastry chefs throughout the 7th Judicial District. Each table selects its own "dasher" to choose a dessert. The table with the highest bid has the first chance to choose a dessert with the second highest bid being called seconds later, and so on.

CASA is still seeking sponsors for this event. Sponsorship packages are available at levels to meet a *variety of budgets*. Tickets are \$60 per person or \$550 for a reserved "Table of 10 Friends." The event has limited seating still available. To sponsor, attend, volunteer or donate to this event, call CASA at (970)249-0337.

CASA serves abused and neglected kids from throughout the 7th Judicial District who have been removed from their homes and find themselves in the courts and child welfare system through no fault of their own. CASA is affiliated with the National CASA Association and CASA in Colorado. 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."

CASA volunteers undergo extensive training prior to working with any children. CASA volunteers are given direction from the presiding judge to act as a child's advocate. They provide formalized observations and written recommendations to the court to assist in the complex decision-making process directly affecting the child. Sadly, the need for CASA volunteers is growing each year. For more information about CASA, becoming a CASA volunteer, or to support the CASA program call (970)249-0337.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES TRAINING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The San Juan Healthcare Foundation and the Montrose Medical Alliance are accepting applications for scholarship awards for training in the health sciences field.

Applicants of any age wishing to pursue training in a health related field are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to appli-

cants from the Montrose area who intend to return to this area to utilize their talents. This scholarship is open to any high school graduate, nurse, medical student, therapist, hospital employee, or anyone anticipating health sciences training and who has been accepted into a program/college. Applications may be obtained by contacting Lark Jacobsen in Administra-

tion at Montrose Memorial Hospital, 800 South Third Street, Montrose, CO 81401, by phone at 240-7397, or by email at ljacobsen@montrosehospital.com.

Applications will be taken through May 9, and the recipient(s) will be announced by June 6. The selection of the winner(s) will be made by the San Juan Healthcare Foundation Board.

Deadline Extended: Colorado Educators Invited to Apply for Free Seedling Trees

Special to the Mirror

FORT COLLINS-- Teachers in Colorado can still apply to receive free seedling trees for class planting projects this spring. The Colorado State Forest Service has extended the application deadline for Project Learning Tree-trained educators to receive free seedling trees from its Fort Collins nursery. Interested teachers can apply to receive seedlings for planting projects on public or private land, or as awards to stu-

dents for events and contests.

Trees will be available for spring or fall plantings in quantities of up to 200 per teacher. Applicants may also request a \$100 stipend to help pay for additional project expenses. Local CSFS foresters will be available to offer awardees advice on species selection, planting methods and long-term tree care.

Applicants will be asked to promote proposed planting projects in their communi-

ties and, if not already certified, attend a PLT workshop before receiving their seedling tree shipment. For additional information, to register for a workshop or to apply online, go to www.coloradoplnt.org.

Completed applications must be submitted online and received no later than 4 p.m. March 21.

Applications will be reviewed by a CSFS committee, and successful applicants will be notified by March 28.

Cara Fandel

INSPIRATION THROUGH IMAGING



SPECIAL EVENTS & PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY

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970-234-3212

MIRROR IMAGES BY CARA FANDEL...ON THE BOARDWALK!



Above, Denny Vanderwist, shown in his office, has owned the Boardwalk since 2000.



The eagle above is just one of the astonishing works by Rustic Arts Chainsaw Sculptures, which has been open two years. Owner and sculptor Ken G. Braun, Jr. (pictured above at center with daughter Erin) began this career 19 years ago for fun and still has the original piece in his shop. Besides the art on display, he also creates custom pieces both in his shop and on-site - including tree carvings (he did the tree carving at San Juan avenue and S. 5th street). "(Customers) are getting a piece of me and a piece of the artwork." His wood preference is Western Red Cedar, available only in Canada and Washington state. Ken has competed in and won the "Gun-nison Carving Up Colorado" contest the past 4 years.



Above photos, from top: Rusty Moose plans to open the second week in March. Owner Shiela Unrein has been selling antiques for five years and has been in Colorado estate sales for 20 years. Daughters Trena and Ashley will run the business with her as they sell antiques, collectible glassware and high-end jewelry.

MIRROR IMAGES BY CARA FANDEL...ON THE BOARDWALK!



Shoppers on the boardwalk.



At left, Denny specializes in selling very old antiques, including a 1900 pump organ, one of a few of his turn-of-the-last-century antiques.



Sunrise Mt. Coffee has been open 4 weeks. Owner Scott Petty and his daughter, Caila, operate the shop. Scott has been in the food industry for 30 years.



Below, Dennis Mitchell has owned Rocks and Beads for 21 years. Here, he helps Telluride shopper Elizabeth Moore.



(L2R) daughter Evelyn, mom-in-law Colleen Dolan (from Arizona), baby Michael, mom Marilyn Davis (Olathe) and daughter Olivia in front of the Rusty Moose.



Janet Ogg, Denny's fiancé, has been quilting for 28 years. Her business upstairs is called Quilter's Cottage" and has been doing long-arm quilting for 14 years. This side of her business is called "Artful Quilting". She will be teaching six classes at Trout River Ranch beginning May 12.

CLUB 20: ROADS, WATER, FRACKING, BROADBAND KEY TO FUTURE



Tammy Theis takes notes at the Club 20 presentation at the Bridges March 11.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—The hour was early—8 a.m., and just after the spring time change. And yet, when Club 20 spoke at Remington's at the Bridges last Tuesday morning, it was to a full house. Following opening remarks by Montrose Chamber of Commerce Director Jenni Sopsic, Montrose County Manager Rick Eckert said that Club 20 remains an important voice for Colorado's Western Slope, noting that the State of Oregon is now facing the possibility of recreational road closures.

"If the BLM closes all of the trails on the West side of Oregon, it will devastate their local economy," Eckert said, adding that public lands are very important to Montrose County.

"We are keeping our eyes on this, because it's going to be huge. We are here to help, and we are here to serve."

Raising awareness of such issues is the reason that Club 20 was created in 1953, keynote speaker and Club 20 Executive Director Bonnie Peterson said.

"In 1953, half of our state's roads were in Western Colorado, but only one major road was paved," Peterson said. "So after a while, business people in Western Colorado got together and decided that we needed to do something different. Reps

from the 20 counties west of the divide got together, and developed a plan. They went to Denver, and said that we need our roads paved—we feed you, and we need to get our products to you in a timely fashion.' And they brought with them a priority plan for roads. In 1953, 10 percent of the state's budget went to fund Western Slope roads. By the end of that decade, the percentage had increased to 37 percent of the budget."

That original priority road plan formed the basis of the TPR planning that continues to this day, Peterson said, and Club 20 has continued to be a force as well, meeting regularly to discuss topics such as agriculture, water and public lands.

"There is no end of issues to be involved with," she noted.

Club 20 pays close attention to things like the Sage grouse, tourism, fracking, health care, broadband communications and water.

"They have conserved 50,000 acres for the benefit of the sage grouse, and we've been pushing back," Peterson said. "...is this really about the bird? If so, we need a plan for recovery, rather than just to put it on a list and shut down all human activity. Thirty to forty percent of Colorado's economy is based on tourism."

Ballot initiatives targeting fracking are being proposed once again, she noted, and called for consistent, reliable rules statewide to govern oil and gas development.

Peterson also asserted that so-called Public Trust Initiatives, expected to resurface in 2014, would devastate private property rights in Colorado, where the historic standard of first-in-time, first-in-right for water allocations has worked well for generations.

"If this ballot initiative passes, it takes away private property rights, whether you are in agriculture, own a ski area, or are a municipality," she said.

"We have been fracking for 60 years,"

Peterson said. "...oil and gas development makes up an eighth of our state economy. And yet you can go to Downtown Denver and get signatures for these initiatives—there is no rule that signatures have to come from all 64 counties. We have a real concern that Western Colorado has no voice."

Broadband capacity is as essential to the Western Slope as to other regions, she said.

"We need to foster connections," she said. "It is just not happening for rural Colorado. Why don't we redefine 'basic service' to include broadband? We do have a number of providers here...but can you get all the services out on Government Springs Road?"

"We live in a high-cost area here, and we need to be able to attract businesses."

Roads and access remain key issues as well.

"(CDOT Director) Don Hunt has said that he needs \$250 million more in funding to maintain our state's roads," Peterson said. "He would not be saying this if road dollars were coming from the General Fund; instead all funding comes from a user gas tax."

But gas taxes have been heavily impacted by increased fuel efficiency, and the general public has no appetite for more tax increases at present, Peterson said.

"We keep hearing that the Denver Metro Area desires to take care of its own issues," she said. "But 52 percent of our state's roads are in Western Colorado. How can we care for our roads if the Front Range does not help pay?"

"Deferred maintenance is more important in the long run."

Club 20 will hold its annual meeting on March 28-29, at the University Center Ballroom at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information call 970-242-3264.


PASSAGE CHARTER SCHOOL ANNOUNCES REGISTRATION, ENROLLMENT, OPEN HOUSE DATES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Passage Charter School, a public high school for pregnant and parenting teens, will be holding registration and enrollment on April 8 and May 13 at 5:30pm. Prospective students will get to tour our facility, meet with teachers and childcare staff, and complete enrollment paperwork. The school is located at 703 S. 9th in Montrose. For more information, please call 970-249-8066.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Passage Charter School, a public high school for pregnant and parenting teens and infants and toddlers, will be holding an Open House on April 17 from 3-6 pm. The school would like to share with the community, our facility, staff and mission. Please come by 703 S. 9th in Montrose and learn more about PCS. For more information, please call 970-249-8066.



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MONTROSE COUNTY NEWS AND INFORMATION

MONTROSE COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE CREWS NOW ON SUMMER HOURS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-- Montrose County Road and Bridge crews are now working summer hours from Monday to Thursday, 7 a.m., to 5:30 p.m. The crews will return to a five day work week on Nov. 3, 2014. For more information, please call Montrose County Road and Bridge Department at [970-249-5424](tel:970-249-5424).

MONTROSE COUNTY CORONER: MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-- Michael Alan Wagner, 49, of Fridley, Minn., died of multiple traumatic injuries suffered in a two vehicle motor vehicle collision south of Montrose. The collision occurred at approximately 16:48 Saturday afternoon, March 8, at mile marker 120.9 Highway 550 South near Government Springs Road. The collision is under investigation by the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigations and the Colorado State Patrol.

BODY RECOVERED FROM THE UNCOMPAHGRE PLATEAU IDENTIFIED

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— In the late afternoon of March 11, 2014, the Montrose County Sheriff's Office recovered a woman's body in the Sawmill Mesa area of the Uncompahgre Plateau while assisting the Mesa County Sheriff's Office attempting to locate a missing woman. The body has been identified as that of Jodie Anne Valerio, 47, of Grand Junction, CO. The autopsy performed at Montrose Memorial Hospital at the direction of the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation revealed the cause of death to be due to exposure to the cold. Toxicology tests also revealed the presence of methamphetamine and MDMA (ecstasy) in her system. The manner of death will be certified as accidental.

PARTNERS MENTORING SEEKS DONORS AND SPONSORS FOR 25TH ANNUAL AUCTION

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-- The 25TH Annual Partners Auction will be broadcast from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014. Radio stations **KUBC 580 AM - The Voice of the Valley, 94 KIX Colorado Country 94.1 FM and SUNNY KBNG 103.7 FM** will be simultaneously broadcasting the auction and streaming audio live on their website, www.coloradoradio.com.

Partners has served youth in our tri-

county area for more than 27 years. We

have matched hundreds of youth in structured and supported mentoring relationships with adult volunteers. The auction is our most important fundraising 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, or volunteering to help during the auction on

April 22nd.

Sponsors and donors will be recognized on our website and on the three radio stations leading up to the auction, as well as live during the auction. Your support of Partners will be as good for business, as it is for your community and the children we serve. For full details regarding donating, sponsoring or volunteering for the 25th annual auction, visit our website, www.partners-west.org or call our office, 249-1116, today!

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CLYMER NAMED DMTC FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR



John Jones, on right, presents Chan Clymer with a plaque recognizing him as the 2014 Faculty Member of the Year at Delta-Montrose Technical College. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – Chan Clymer, Emergency Medical Services Department Coordinator at Delta-Montrose Technical College (DMTC), was recently recognized by the Colorado State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education as the 2014 Faculty Member of the Year at DMTC. Clymer has worked in the EMS department since 1998, first as an adjunct instructor and then, since June 2005, as the department coordinator.

Clymer's family has a long tradition of providing emergency services to their community. He grew up in Palisade where both his dad and granddad served in the

Palisade Fire Department. Chan's interest was in other areas. In 1973 he graduated from Community College of Denver with an Associates in Architecture. He moved back to Palisade after graduation and worked for seven years as an architectural technologist.

Shortly after Clymer's return to Palisade his dad convinced him to join the Palisade Fire Department as a volunteer. One of the requirements was to complete the training to become an Emergency Medical Technician. It was during that training that Clymer discovered his passion for emergency medical services. After earning his EMT certification in 1974 he went on to become a Paramedic in 1980.

In 1980 Clymer went to work in the coal mines as a Paramedic/safety instructor. In 1987 he took a position at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction as the EMS outreach coordinator.

He was there for 17 years. Clymer began teaching a few classes at Delta-Montrose Technical College in 1998 and when the department coordinator position became available at DMTC he was hired for that position.

Clymer's enthusiasm for emergency medicine is evident in his many years of service. He served as a volunteer firefighter/paramedic in Palisade for 23 years, worked part-time for the Delta County Ambulance District for 12 years, and

worked part-time as a flight Paramedic on the helicopter out of St. Mary's for several years. His enthusiasm is also evident in the classroom. Clymer teaches all levels of emergency medicine from CPR to EMT and specialized topics such as advanced cardiac life support and pediatric advanced life support. As a co-worker said when nominating Clymer for the award, "Chan constantly exhibits a desire and a diligence for designing the best curriculum possible and delivering the most effective lessons."

Clymer said he learned as a student that "instruction needs to be of interest and of value to students." He consistently strives to fulfill that requirement in his own teaching and works with the teachers in his department to help them provide that same level of instruction.

During his free time Clymer enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, and camping. Clymer and his wife Bobi live in Grand Junction. They have two children, one of whom is following in Chan's footsteps as a firefighter/EMT-I in Rifle. Clymer also has 10 grandchildren.

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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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMTC AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – Delta Montrose Technical College hosts a scholarship luncheon for their Practical Nursing students annually. The local community has been extremely generous and supportive of the Technical College and the Nursing Program. This year through community sponsored scholarships, thirty-eight scholarships were awarded to DMTC Practical Nursing students, for a total of \$19,350.00

The Hotchkiss Kiwanis, represented by Earl Busby and Vickie Hopkins, presented their sixth annual nursing scholarship this year. Hotchkiss Kiwanis awarded a \$1,500.00 scholarship to North Fork area nursing student, Tiffany Pitt. Funds for this scholarship come from their annual fish fry each spring, and Christmas Tree sales at the Hotchkiss City Market parking lot. The Hotchkiss Kiwanis group's mission is to help children and they feel that helping the Nursing Students ultimately gives a return with the caring of children. Delta Rotary, represented by Dennis Phillips and John Musser. They awarded two \$750.00 scholarships. Lori Szabo and Tiffany Pitt were the recipients.

Shari Barclay Nursing Excellence Award was presented by Shari Barclay. This scholarship went to Amber Gibson in the amount of \$250.00. This scholarship is awarded to a student with high academic standing in the program. Donations may be made to this scholarship through DMTC at any time.

Horizons Care Center represented by Sarah Sterling, Executive Director and Kelly Mathieu, Director of Nursing, presented ten scholarships. Melanie Avre and Tiffa-

ny Pitt received \$250.00 each. Robin Tofflemoyer, Angie Lindsey, Che Pimentel, Lori Szabo, Marietta Johnson, Shawna Stephens, Amber Gibson, and Mary Kastendieck were each awarded \$500.00 scholarships.

The Delta County Breast Cancer Survivor's Womens Support Group represented by Dorothy Hunt, Mitzie Seals, and Eleanor Wagner, presented a \$500 scholarship to Melanie Avre.

The Judy Davis Scholarship was established by the graduating Practical Nursing Class of 2010, for a student with high academic standing. Judy presented the scholarship to Che Pimentel and Shawna Stephens in the amount of \$250.00 each. Donations may be made to this scholarship through DMTC at any time.

Beta Sigma Phi of Montrose was represented by Joan Pride and Ruth Heaph. They honored two students with \$500.00 scholarships. Recipients were Melanie Avre and Tiffany Pitt.

The Delta County Memorial Hospital Foundation was represented by Thelma Starner, Scholarship Committee and Board Member, Dorothy Dunfelder, Board Member, and Jason Cleckler, CEO of Delta County Memorial Hospital. Together they awarded scholarships to seven individuals. Recipients were Melanie Avre, Marietta Johnson, Rachelle Scheetz, Angie Lindsey, and Mary Kastendieck each received \$500 scholarships. Michelle Hammett and Rachel Foster received \$1,000 scholarships.

L and A Renfrow Students who had been honored earlier in the year with Scholarships presented by Les and Ann Renfrow were presented with certificates.

Jessica Luna, Angie Lindsey, and Rachel Foster each received \$500.00 scholarships. Shawna Stephens and Tiffany Pitt each received \$300.00 scholarships. Marietta Johnson received a \$200.00 scholarship.

The Preceptor Gamma Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi for Delta and Cedaredge was represented by Gwen Cannon. A \$300 scholarship was presented to Melanie Avre. Three Memorial Scholarships were also awarded to nursing students at Delta Montrose Technical College.

The Ruth Rathmell Wing Scholarship established by the BL Chapter of the Montrose Philanthropic Education Organization (PEO). Represented by Mary Burgner, Bev Powell, and Debbie Preston who presented Marietta Johnson and Mary Kastendieck with a \$500.00 Scholarship each.

The George Walsh Memorial Scholarship was established by the North Fork Valley Rotary Club. Felix Belmont, the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee presented two \$500.00 scholarships. One went to Tiffany Pitt and the other to Amber Gibson.

Philanthropic Education Organization (PEO) BK Chapter of Delta represented by Cheri Kent and Susan Triebwasser, honored Lori Szabo with a \$500.00 scholarship. The nursing staff and students at DMTC would like to thank the community for their generosity and support. 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.



HARMONIZER OF THE MONTH!

Photo Left Gwendolyn Carlile, right Don Barnett

Gwendolyn Carlile is named Harmonizer of the month by the Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus.

She was named because of the harmony she brings to our community. Mrs. Carlile is a volunteer at Habitat for Humanity and she makes everyone who comes into the resale store feel a little bit better. Thank you for lighting up our town with your smile and for making our lives a little brighter and our Community a more harmonious place to live.

To recommend someone for the Harmony Award please send their name to The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus, c/o United Methodist Church, P0 Box 148, Olathe, Co. 81425 — or — call Don Barnett 249-3241.

Courtesy Photo.

TURN OF THE CENTURY SALOON
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This 3-hour class is for food service workers
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For safe food handling.

2014 Montrose Classes

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 21st, 2014
November 18th, 2014
NO December class

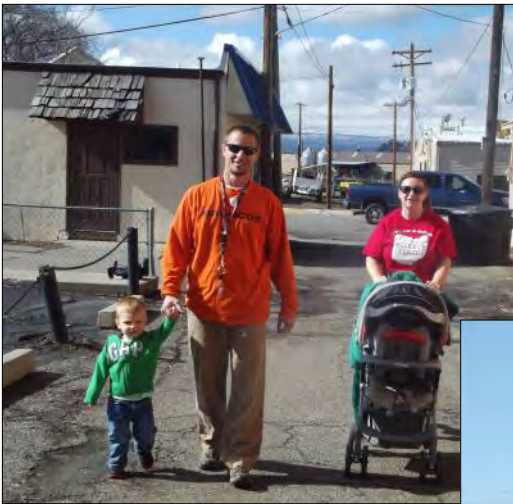
Pre-registration is required by calling 252.5000.

Classes are held at a **new location,
at Friendship Hall at the Montrose County Fairgrounds
at 1001 North 2nd Street
from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**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 Environmental Health at 970-252-5000.*

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT!



Longtime Montrose news pro (we sure miss her on the radio!) and new mom Janine (Mayfield) Bush and her little family, above, head to the fallen soldiers' memorial at Demoret Park March 8; below, Vietnam Veteran and business owner Dewayne "Menudo" Beltran attended as well.



American Legion Post 73, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 17, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 784 gather before placing the names of two fallen soldiers, U.S. Army Cpl. Aaron "Moon" Cruttenden and Spc. David "Tyler" Proctor, on the military memorial at Demoret Park March 8.



Above, Marissa and Logan enjoy the sun outside City Hall March 14. Below, Kelly Zelaya and Ariana Perez entertain the crowd at the Johnson Elementary School Talent Show and Spaghetti Dinner March 7. Johnson fifth graders raised enough money at the dinner to fund the 2014 class trip.





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Deadline for Entry: June 7th

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THE HOMESTEAD AT MONTROSE

Fundraiser Golf Tournament Entry Form

Saturday, June 14, 2014

The Bridges Golf Course

2500 Bridges Drive - Montrose, Colorado

8:30 a.m. SHOTGUN

2-Person teams

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Additional entry forms are available at

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PHONE NUMBER

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Senior CommUnity Care, Volunteers of America Celebrates Historic Milestone PACE Community Celebrates Opening of More Than 100 Programs



There are now 103 PACE organizations operating in 31 states. Senior CommUnity Care offers three day centers – one in Montrose, Eckert and a satellite site in Paonia. Courtesy Photo.

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL –Senior CommUnity Care, Volunteers of America joins caregivers across the country celebrating a historic milestone in the growth of community-based care for seniors. With the opening of four new programs this month, the number of Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) now exceeds 100. PACE, which was developed in San Francisco in the 1970s, helps to keep nursing home-eligible elders living in the community.

“The story of PACE is a rarity in today’s health care policy environment,” said Shawn Bloom, president and CEO of the National PACE Association.

“PACE is a commonsense approach to providing care to older people that was rigorously studied and tested and then able to become a permanent part of our health care system. We don’t often see successful innovations allowed to thrive and grow

like PACE.”

PACE programs bring together a coordinated team of doctors, nurses, social workers and therapists to provide seniors with an individualized care plan that addresses each person’s unique medical care and social needs.

The result is higher quality care and far more favorable outcomes compared to traditional care options. More than 90 percent of PACE enrollees reside outside of nursing homes.

“In Montrose and Delta Counties, Senior CommUnity Care has been operating a PACE program for five years,” said CJ Simmers, Executive Director. “We are very proud of the hundreds of individuals and families we have helped by providing a way to keep older individuals in the community for as long as possible.”

The PACE model was developed in the 1970s in San Francisco by On Lok, a com-

munity-based organization serving Chinese and Italian American neighborhoods. Marie-Louise Ansak, a health care consultant, developed the model with the goal of allowing elders to remain in their communities for as long as possible. The PACE model was so successful it was studied by the state of California and federal health care policy officials.

Support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the John A. Hartford Foundation led to the development of a Medicare Demonstration Project and start-up funds for different types of sponsors to develop PACE in their communities. The success of 15 PACE replication programs led Congress to pass legislation creating PACE as a permanent provider type as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Just this week, President Obama’s 2015 budget proposal seeks to extend the role of PACE by calling on Congress to create a PACE pilot program for people age 55 and under who need long-term services and supports.

PACE is unique because it integrates care delivery by directly providing all medically necessary care and services through an interdisciplinary team, transportation system and PACE center. Using a bundled payment model, PACE serves high-need, high-cost individuals who require daily hands-on care.

The four new PACE organizations opening this month are in California, Massachusetts, Michigan and Virginia. There are now 103 PACE organizations operating in 31 states. Senior CommUnity Care offers three day centers – one in Montrose, Eckert and a satellite site in Paonia.

About Volunteers of America Senior CommUnity Care is a Volunteers of America program and Western Colorado’s PACE provider. Founded in 1896, Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need, live healthy, safe and productive lives.

Through hundreds of human service programs, including housing and health care, Volunteers of America touches the lives of more than 2 million people each year.

On the Western Slope. Across the Nation.

We succeed when we help change the lives of older adults and families in our communities.



Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization who since 1896, has been dedicated to helping those in need live healthy, safe and productive lives. On the Western Slope of Colorado, we offer independent senior and family housing; senior care services, including site-based and home delivery meals programs; a PACE program, including senior day centers, in-home, and clinic care; home health care management; and assisted living, long-term, memory, transitional and respite care.

For more information, visit www.voahealthservices.org



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- Horizons Health Care & Retirement Community • Senior CommUnity Meals
- Senior CommUnity Care PACE • Home Health of Western Colorado

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION - FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO--Colorado fruit and vegetable growers are now able to speak with one voice on common and sometimes complex issues they face, from evolving consumer preferences and food safety concerns to labor and water issues. A new professional association also provides an information portal for both conventional and organic commercial growers throughout the state.

Four key growing regions of Colorado (Arkansas Valley, Northern Colorado, San Luis Valley and the Tri-River Area of Western Colorado) are currently represented on the board of directors for the Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association (CFVGA); members are being recruited from Southwest Colorado as well. The board is supported by Colorado State Uni-

versity Extension staff and a grant from the Colorado Department of Agriculture. Emerging trends in consumer preferences and how growers can adapt to them are an example of the topical nature of the group's formation, according to board president Robert Sakata.

"I'm a second-generation Colorado vegetable farmer and one of my goals for the CFVGA is to find out how we can help continue the rich history of fruit and vegetable production in the state," said Sakata. "I'm also excited about the opportunity to meet the new faces that are looking to join us in our extremely important profession – feeding America." Many other groups promote marketing and improved growing practices in the state, but according to CSU Extension agent Adrian Card the niche of this organization is to provide one

voice for all produce growers in Colorado, of various scales through a range of marketing channels.

"CFVGA works to improve business conditions by addressing business risks of produce growers based on education, outreach and engagement," said Card. "I think this shows a great public-private partnership for the future vitality of Colorado fruit and vegetable growers and for the citizens of Colorado who are benefiting from their produce." The association officially launched in a workshop at the Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture (<http://www.governorsagforum.com/>), Feb. 27 in Denver. For more information, contact CFVGA board president Robert Sakata at (303) 947-3097 or by email at rtsataka@aol.com. <http://coloradoproduce.org>

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

WELCOMES OUR NEW CEO



Montrose Memorial Hospital
is Pleased to Introduce
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4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Lobby Grille at
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MontroseHospital.com



DELTA WOMEN IN BUSINESS DONATE TO FOOD PANTRY



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—At the February Women in Business event through the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce, which was co-hosted by Barb Breitnauer with Pampered Chef (left) and Gynee Thomassen with Classic Computers (right), the Delta Food Pantry, represented by Sandy Dombroski, was the recipient of \$275. The women who attended the networking event donated the funds through purchase of Pampered Chef cooking tools. Breitnauer and Thomassen also added additional monies. This is the second year in a row the Women in Business group has done this fundraiser. Any professional woman in the Delta area is invited to participate in Women in Business. Call 874-8616 for more info.

After Knee Replacment Surgery, Karen Fox is Standing Strong

With her kid's families in Texas to visit and a demanding job that she loves, Karen has absolutely no time or patience for any physical infirmity that might slow her down.

Karen knows she made all the right decisions in choosing Montrose Memorial Hospital for her knee surgeries. Her best advice? Don't suffer needlessly and put things off when there is help and excellent care readily available so close to home.

Call Montrose Memorial Hospital today to learn more about the area's most innovative Joint Replacement Program at 970-252-2995.

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MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
800 South Third Street, Montrose, CO 81401
970-249-2211
MontroseHospital.com



Let's Make 2014 Better By Feeding Local Seniors Together.



The Senior CommUnity Meals program saw significant changes this past year. We still need your continued support to help our Western Slope seniors receive nutritious meals in the coming year. Six million seniors in America faced the threat of hunger, lacked food or feared starvation in 2007. * Donate now at www.voa.org/meals. Your \$100 donation will provide a month's worth of meals or a \$25 donation a week's worth of meals. Let's work together to make the new year a combined effort to support our area seniors with community dining site and home delivered meals.

* According to the Meals on Wheels Association



11417 Hwy 65, Eckert, CO 81418

Call: 970-835-8028

Toll Free: 866-416-6942

www.voa.org/meals



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

WORKING TO PASS BILLS

With a very busy week behind me, I'm pleased to say that six of the seven bills that I presented in committee passed and now head to the floor for consideration by the full Senate. The bills all originally began in the House and passed there and, if the Senate passes them as well, the final stop is the governor's desk for potential signing into law.

In general, some bills are passed as originally introduced and others go through an extreme makeover. Both policy and politics play into what kinds of changes are made to a bill during the legislative process.

Sometimes opposition to a bill doesn't materialize until it has already passed through one of the chambers. Lobbyists or organized opposition may then pounce upon the bill once in the other chamber and denounce it as fatally flawed or least requiring material changes. The second chamber attack approach is frustrating to legislators, especially if the opponents can muster sufficient support among the legislators in the second chamber to amend or defeat the bill.

When I'm the second chamber sponsor, I remain open to opponents' concerns about

a bill, but I also like to keep in close contact with the original bill sponsor as to his or her intent in carrying the bill in the first place. If the political "sausage-making" process takes away substantially from the original purpose of the bill, then the legislators are faced with deciding if the bill is worth continued pursuit this session or if it needs to be pulled back with further reflection and work, possibly to return in a future session.

I've often thought that the passing a bill is like playing chess on a three-dimensional board. Many times what you see on the surface is not the whole story, much like when you first look at a hologram. Of course, politics also plays into whether a bill survives the process and which party's in the majority in the chamber the bill is in plays a large role in its success or defeat.

Most new legislators are taught from the start that, in Colorado, the magic formula for bill passage is 33-18-1. While that sounds like a lock combination, the number sequence actually means you need at least 33 votes in the House, 18 votes in the Senate and the 1 refers to the governor who must approve of the bill to see it passed and signed into law.

I have a couple of bills in committee this week, again originating in the House. One clarifies the state tax treatment of Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute personal property used on their respective reservations and how motor vehicles purchased by tribal members will be taxed, or not, by the state. Colorado's two Indian tribes with reservations in the state are located in my senate district and I am working on this bill with the two state representatives, Rep. McLachlan and Rep. Coram, who each have one of the reservations in their House districts.

The second bill I will present in committee addresses the responsibilities and cost allocation of firefighting when a wildfire originates on state-owned land.

While the northern half of Colorado has received significant snowfall this winter, our southern half has not; unfortunately, we may experience another difficult wildfire season this year.

Ellen S. Roberts, State Senator
Legislative Contact Information:
 200 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver CO 80203
 Denver Capitol office phone: [\(303\)866-4884](tel:3038664884)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COFFEE WITH THE COPS KICKS OFF

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The inaugural meeting of "Coffee with the Cops" will be held on March 27 at 9am. This ongoing event is slated for the fourth Thursday of each month at Great Harvest Bread Company, 324 East Main Street in Downtown Montrose.

This informal gathering encourages citizens to stop in, buy a cup of coffee, and

meet-and-greet Montrose Police Officers. Similar programs have been implemented in communities throughout the United States.

For program information, call (970) 252-5200. For information about the PD, visit www.CityofMontrose.org/police. Follow the PD on Facebook.com/montrosepolicedepartment.

The Montrose Police Department, under

the direction of Chief Tom Chinn, employs 38 sworn officers, with a total of 57 employees. The Administrative Support Division, managed by Commander Keith Caddy, includes investigations and civilian support staff positions.

The Patrol Division, managed by Commander Gene Lillard, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of traffic, patrol, internal affairs, and initial investigations.

DELTA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ACHIEVES GOAL OF 20 PERCENT REDUCTION IN PATIENT READMISSIONS

Special to the Mirror

DELTA--The Colorado Hospital Association, the American Hospital Association in partnership with Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) collected data and announced that Delta County Memorial Hospital had achieved a goal of reducing patient readmissions by 20 percent, meeting one of the goals for Partnership for Patients. The 20% reduction in readmission was achieved by meeting one of the following measures:

- 30 day all cause readmissions
 - Heart failure 30 day all cause readmissions
 - Pneumonia 30 day all cause readmissions
- AMI 30 day all cause readmissions.

The significance of lower readmit rates is that unplanned hospital readmissions exceed \$17 billion annually to Medicare.

"Colorado Hospital Association believes it is important to recognize the accomplishments of Colorado's high performing hospitals for their leadership in health care quality and safety, stated a recent CHA HealthBeat Today newsletter.

Some 34 other Colorado hospitals also achieved the 20 percent reduction in readmissions goals.

Delta County Memorial Hospital also recently released the 2013 surgical site infection rate of 0.3 percent. The national average for surgical site infection rates is around 2.5 percent.

HONORABLE MENTION

To Franklin Eccher of Montrose High School, for establishing the Youth Voting Initiative...

To Tammee Tuttle of True Grit Café, for closing her restaurant to the public on one of the busiest days of the year, March 15, to honor a young friend lost far too soon—Ouray County's 2014 waitress of the Year, Jaime Scoville, age 27. Our hearts go out to all of Jaime's friends and family.

To Terri Leben, for raising funds to fight a killer with her March 14 dance party benefit for the San Juan Cancer Center Caring Friends Fund...

...and to Lori Perpar, for never giving up.



NOW AVAILABLE! K-9 OXX TOY

\$15 per stuffed animal dog

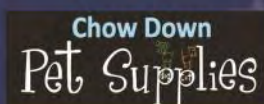
All proceeds go to the
Montrose County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit
Donations Also Accepted



Help Support Our
Local Hero Dog!



THANK YOU TO DEPUTY K-9 OXX'S SPONSORS





RIBBON CUTTING—GRAND MESA COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Ambassadors for the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Lucinda Stanley of Grand Mesa Commercial Real Estate for her new office space at 300 Stafford Lane, Ste. 3021. The ceremony was held during the monthly Women in Business networking event on March 5. Joining Lucinda and her husband Bruce were Ambassadors (from left) Klynn Wilson with Crossroads Assisted & Independent Living; Realtor Nancy Wood; Christina Busch with Richards Consulting and Accounting; and Lynn Shirk with HopeWest & Hospice.

SPRING FEVER?

DELTA COUNTY'S ONLY HOME, GARDEN & RECREATION SHOW!
BILL HEDDLES REC CENTER
March 28—9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
March 29—9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.



70+ vendors, giveaways and demonstrations! Vendor applications available at www.DeltaColorado.org or by calling 970-874-8616.

SPRING FEVER...TIME TO SHOP MONTROSE!



2014 SHOPPING GUIDE



AROUND THE CORNER ART GALLERY HOSTS 2014 PASTEL SHOW



Around the Corner Art Gallery is a year-round destination for art lovers.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-- It's almost spring—so March over and visit Around the Corner Art Gallery, 447 East Main Street in Mont-

rose!

This month, Around the Corner Art Gallery is honored to be featuring the 2014 Pastel Society of Colorado member show featuring 65 outstanding works of art. PSC has become a far-reaching organization, uniting artists across the Rocky Mountains and as far away as Hawaii and Romania! The show's judge is Ralph Oberg, an internationally prominent painter who lives on the Western Slope. Ralph is represented by galleries in Scottsdale, AZ, Jackson, and Cody, WY, Beaver Creek CO, Atlanta, GA and Sun Valley, ID. We are very grateful to have such a prestigious artist judging the show. The reception and Awards Presentation will be March 7 5:30 - 8 pm.

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 in-

clude revered Western Colorado talents, and rising stars. The Browns opened the Gallery six years ago, after the building in which it is located was tastefully remodeled 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, until 8 on Thursdays, and from 11 to 4 on Sundays throughout the season.

YOUR SPRING SHOPPING DESTINATION... TIFFANY, ETC.

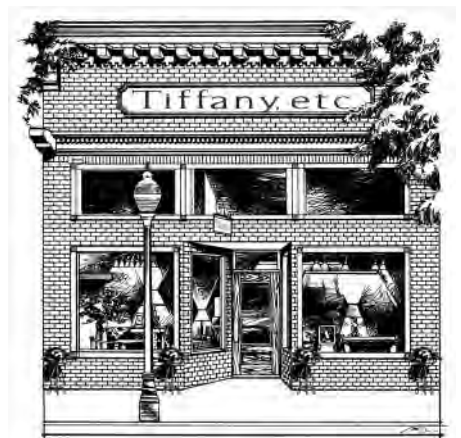
Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--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, Westcott has established a reputation for superb customer service and an array of merchandise that evokes a unique shopping experience year-round. You may need an entire new look for your home or that perfect gift for your best friend—just think, Tiffany, etc. for home décor and accessories, candles of all shapes and sizes, jewelry, unique apparel, artwork, and even custom design furniture, with fabric chosen by our clients or with interior design help from Lorna or Glee.

"We have many different styles to choose from, Contemporary to Lodge and Western to Traditional. We also have accent pieces to complement any style."

The store is a treasure chest packed with colorful, high-quality merchandise that captures the essence of Western Colorado. Our email catalogue keeps our customer up to date on new merchandise and upcoming store events. Mix & Match Sunday gives our customers a chance to shop in a leisurely atmosphere from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; buy 3 items get #4 FREE! Tiffany etc. is truly A Downtown Montrose Shopping Experience!

Tiffany Etc. is located at 439 East Main Street in Montrose, and is open seven days a week. They can be reached at 970-249-7877.



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

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Krista Montalvo is a Southern Peach living the mountain dream with her three little girls and husband. She is a lover of all things domestic, ranging from a great local find to cooking and gardening to thoughts in her heart to fashion for you and your home. Bluebirds are her thing and she is solar powered by the Colorado sunshine. www.amarmielife.com!



Yurts, Tipis, and Tents: Handmade in a World of Mass Production...

<http://www.coloradoyurt.com/blog/>.



Delta County Living

March 19: Delta County Health Fair, Paonia, Voc-Tech

March 20: Delta County Health Fair, Delta, Bill Heddles Recreation Center

March 21: Delta County Health Fair, Cedaredge, Town Hall

March 21- 23: Crane Days in Eckert

March 28- 29: Delta County Home, Garden, and Recreation Show,
Bill Heddles Recreation Center

deltacountyliving.com

[deltacountyliving@
gmail.com](mailto:deltacountyliving@gmail.com)



Your online guide for
Activities, Adventure,
and Living in
Delta County, Colorado

ARTS AND CULTURE

WEEHAWKEN DANCE PRESENTS "ALICE" AT THE PAVILION



Weehawken Dance presents "A Dance Fantasy" at the Montrose Pavilion April 16.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Weehawken Creative Arts will be presenting their Winter/Spring Dance production of *Alice in Wonderland: A Dance Fantasy* on Wednesday, April 16th at the Montrose Pavilion.

Alice in Wonderland will be presented to the community and its visitors to showcase the talents and growth of the Weehawken Dance program, led by Artistic Director Natasha Pyeatte and instructed by Pyeatte, Ms. Emma J. Rainey and Ms. Kendra Manley. As is typical with Weehawken Dance, the performance is certainly dance-

oriented, but offers the audience member a full-on live theatre experience as well.

"This show is peppy and rockin'. The soundtrack is amazing and the visuals are bright and wild. It's a sure-fire way to get the blood pumping and have a great night out" said Weehawken's Executive Director, Ashley King.

She continued: "Audiences are sure to enjoy the familiar storyline, combined with the raw talent of over 95 local children from Ridgway, Ouray and Montrose. Weehawken's performances are considerably more than just a dance recit-

al: they are a full-blown production, worthy of a night or afternoon out on the town -- for all ages."

As the Wright Opera House is currently closed for some exciting renovations, Weehawken's *Alice in Wonderland* will run one-night-only on Wednesday, April 16th at 6 pm at the Montrose Pavilion.

Tickets will go on sale to the public in mid-March and will be available at Mouses' Chocolates in Ouray; at Cimarron Coffee and Books in Ridgway; and at Tiffany Etc and the Montrose Pavilion in Montrose. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for Senior Citizens and Students and \$8 for children under the age of 12. Reserved section seats (seats in rows 1-6) will also be available by phone at 970-318-0150. Since Weehawken's performances generally sell-out and since this show is one-night-only, it is important to buy your tickets in advance.

Come support Weehawken's incredible assembly of talented young dancers

For more information, call Weehawken Creative Arts: 970-318-0150, visit www.weehawkenarts.org or email at questions@weehawkenarts.org.

Weehawken Creative Arts is a non-profit arts organization that offers classes and arts opportunities year-round to adults and children alike.

The mission of Weehawken Creative Arts is to provide high-quality arts education and programs in personal growth to adults and children.

Programs are based in Ridgway and Ouray and are also offered in Silverton and Montrose.

The Sixth Annual Montrose County School District Art show opens

Monday, April 21 and continues through Friday, May 2.

Thanks to Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning

for again hosting the show at the Enterprise Center,

300 N. Third in Montrose. The show may be viewed daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Artwork representing students in grades

kindergarten through 12th grade

will be featured.

3 Part Marketing Series

The Montrose Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Colorado Mesa University to bring a series of 3 Marketing sessions designed specifically for local business.

Series: \$50 Chamber members/\$75 non-members
Individual classes: \$20 chamber members/\$30 non-members

March 11th – The Biggest Marketing Mistakes Made by Businesses & How to Avoid Them

①

Speakers:

CMU Department of Business Faculty

Dr. Emma Fleck, Assistant Professor of Business

Ms. Deb Parman, Instructor of Business

Third Speaker- TBA

April 8th – Low Cost Marketing Ideas for Today's Economy

②

5:30PM – 7:30PM

at Colorado Mesa University

Montrose Campus

234 S. Cascade Avenue

May 13th – Developing Profitable, Long-Term Relationships with Your Customers

③

Reservations are required no later than the day before each class.

Please RSVP to 970-249-5000 or information@MontroseChamber.com

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Light Refreshments will be provided

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MHS STUDENT LAUNCHES YOUTH VOTING INITIATIVE

By Lori Sharp

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Franklin Eccher, a junior at Montrose High School, has launched a successful effort designed to get teenagers registered to vote.

He has established the Western Slope Youth Voting Initiative and with the support of Montrose High School's NHS students, representatives from the League of Women Voters and the library staff at the high school, had more than 50 students signed up to register to vote during an access class.

Franklin had the following to say about this effort.

"I have always had a huge interest in the political process, specifically on the impact that it had on us, the youth of our communities. Last summer I had an idea about creating a simple way for high school kids to register to vote and become more informed about the political process and political issues.

"Working with NHS, under the tentative title of the "Western Slope Youth Voting Initiative," I prepared presentations for all of the senior access classes about the im-

portance of voting, and voting on things that will affect themselves and our community directly – like Measure A and Measure B in the upcoming April 1 election. It is important for people to know that this effort was completely non-partisan. Our presentations stressed that we weren't trying to influence anyone about whether they should vote for or against anything, but that it was about how important the opportunity and privilege our right to vote is.

"I and other NHS members collected the names of all the 18-year-old seniors interested, and provided them with the opportunity to vote during their Thursday access period in the library the following week. The librarians at the high school were great about helping us provide access to the <http://registerincolorado.org/> site and Karen Connor and Nancy Ball from the League of Women Voters were on hand to help with any questions the students had.

"For the future, I'm hoping to reach out to our government classes next fall to initiate a bigger project to create opportunities for all juniors and seniors to register to vote (now that our state allows teens to pre-register at the age of 16)."



MHS student—and musician—Franklin Eccher has launched an initiative to get kids registered to vote. Courtesy Photo.

CDOT REGION 5 INSTALLS NEW HIGHWAY CAMERAS

VIEW ON WWW.COTRIP.ORG

Special to the Mirror

SOUTHWEST/SOUTH-CENTRAL COLORADO — Colorado Department of Transportation Region 5 (15 counties in southwest Colorado) has completed the installation of seven of nine total highway cameras that travelers can now access on CDOT's traveler information site (www.cotrip.org) to view highway and weather conditions.

To date, seven cameras are in place and visible on COTRIP (choose the orange the "Devices" tab at the top and find the cameras on the map). The new cameras are at: US 285/US 24 at Johnson Village, SH 17/US 285 at Villa Grove, SH 112/US 160

in Del Norte, SH 114 in Saguache, US 160/West Avenue in Alamosa, SH 17/US 285 in Antonito and US 160 on Yellow Jacket Pass east of Bayfield. Two more will be installed soon; one on SH 149 in Creede and another on SH 159 in San Luis, at the New Mexico border. Up to 14 more will be installed during a separate project expected to begin later this year; more information will be sent when that project begins and locations are identified.

"These additional cameras enable travelers to see the conditions on our roadways so they can make more informed travel choices," CDOT Region 5 Transportation Director Kerrie Neet said.

The nine cameras and modems cost an approximate total of \$14,000.

To receive real-time updates about road conditions in your area, visit www.coloradodot.info and click on the green cell phone icon in the upper right hand corner of the page. Information about weekly lane closures will be available at www.coloradodot.info/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html. Live road conditions are available at www.cotrip.org, by downloading the CDOT Mobile app or by calling 511 from anywhere in the state. Updates are also available via Twitter @coloradodot and be sure to "Like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/

MONTROSE 2015 FOOD TRUCK CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING...VOLUNTEERS WELCOME! NOON ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, AT AFFORDABLE INNS (1480 SOUTH TOWNSEND).

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PAINTING GLASSWARE WITH ABBY ARTS!



Some samples of what you can accomplish when you learn to paint your own glassware! Courtesy images by Abby Altshuler.

By Abby Altshuler

REGIONAL--Happy Spring, long time no paint blog--but I'm back in the studio and painting glassware in prep for this summer's markets. Try your hand experimenting with what can be an easy and inexpensive craft. To prep, you need a paint formulated to adhere to glass. I've tried many and like Delta's PermEnamel the best.

Lots of colors in opaque, translucent and shimmers. You'll also want a retarder, Liquitex makes "Slow-Dri" and I also like a medium like Folk Arts or Deco Art brands. When a few drops of each are added to the paint it increases the translucency, flow and slows drying time.

Clean with alcohol about six pieces at a time, ranging from recycled jars and bottles, second-hand glass vases, dinnerware and stemware, and a set of wine glasses, salad or dinner plates or cereal and desert bowls. These are available everywhere including your kitchen, second-hand shops, hardware and the big boxes. If you paint drinking glasses, tape off the upper

round with painter's tape so you can avoid painting the rim; that also gives you a place to hold the glass while working on it.

Applicators can include your choice of sponges, waded up paper towels and brushes of various widths, I'll describe the waded paper towel method, in which you scrunch up a paper towel so that nice folds and valleys are created on the "sponging" side while you finger grip the other.

Try to have all the edges and ends be enveloped in the folding. Dip this paper sponge in your paint mixture, dabbing off the excess on the handy newsprint you're working on.

Now it's all in your wrist which will move this way and that as you dab the towel at the glassware. Starting with the least valuable pieces will give you a chance to get paint load and appearance how you want it before heading over to dab at the better items.

While wet the paint can just be sponged off if you're unhappy with the results, but once its dry, it's there.

Once this layer dries you can continue with second and third layers in various hues, and once again the newspaper and less valuable items will give you a chance to try out color combinations - some are definitely better looking than others. The final result is a confetti-like effect, enhanced by a bit of gold paint or DecoArt Craft Twinkles, a sparkly glue that looks lovely in small doses. I always hand wash my painted glassware but its safe on the top rack of your dishwasher if you let your pieces set for at least 24 hours, then bake at 325 degrees for 30' BUT then turn off the oven, open the door and leave them to cool off there, don't try to remove them hot. This process can get a little fumey, so have ventilation ready. Waded paper towel is only one of many, many techniques used in painting glassware, often just smaller versions of what can be done on a wall! Look online for ideas and techniques, and mostly, have fun. Hope to see you at some fairs this summer.

Happy Painting, AbbyArts!

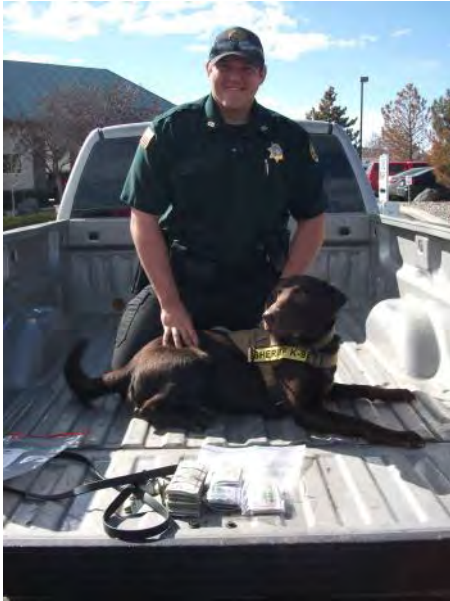


Just in thyme for spring ...

The Mirror

Homegrown content with flavor.

A NOSE FOR CRIME...CANINE COPS ON THE JOB IN MONTROSE AND DELTA



Delta County Sheriff's Deputy Vince Dravecki and K-9 Cop Hoss.
Courtesy photo.

By Liesl Greathouse

REGIONAL--Police dogs are in widespread use across the United States, and Montrose and Delta Counties are no exception.

"Most police agencies in the United States - whether state, county, or local -

use K-9s as a means of law enforcement," notes Wikipedia. "Often, even the smallest of departments operates a K-9 team of at least one dog, while the officers of more metropolitan cities can be more used to working with dozens. In the former case, police dogs usually serve all purposes deemed necessary, most commonly suspect apprehension and narcotics detection, and teams are often on call; in the latter case, however, individual dogs usually serve individual purposes in which each particular animal is specialized, and teams usually serve scheduled shifts. In both cases, police dogs are almost always cared for by their specific handlers."

In Montrose County, Sheriff Deputy Keith Sanders and Oxx are helping to keep Montrose safe and Oxx is a popular officer for local children as well.

In Delta County, Deputy Vince Dravecky and Canine Deputy Hoss work to keep illegal drugs out of the area.

"Drug use and distribution is an issue that the sheriff's office feels strongly about," Undersheriff Mark Taylor explained. "We felt that it was a good opportunity to obtain a canine deputy to combat illegal drugs. He has proven to be very useful."

Hoss is trained in searching for illegal drugs such as meth, cocaine, heroin and others.

While there have been the normal challenges of bringing something new to the area, things have gone smoothly with Hoss and he has proven to be quite useful in helping the local community. "Recently Deputy Hoss assisted the drug task force in a search warrant, locating meth and \$18,000 of drug money," Taylor explained. "He also helped with another search warrant and located a small amount of drugs. He has shown to be productive and we expect that to continue."

The community has been very supportive of Hoss, who was obtained by Deputy Vince Dravecky through donations made from both in and outside of the local community. However, there is the ongoing expense of Hoss and anyone who wishes to help is welcome. Taylor said that there are currently no other plans for Hoss, and he is extremely pleased with both the handler and the canine. "I expect more good things from both," he said. "It is a good program and I think it certainly shows a positive reduction of criminal activity in Delta in terms of illegal drugs." As the canines in both Montrose and Delta Counties come with regular expenses, anyone who wants to donate is encouraged to contact the Montrose County Sheriff's Department at 970-252-4023 and the Delta County Sheriff's Department at 970-874-2000.

WEST REGIONAL WILDFIRE COUNCIL OFFERS GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The West Region Wildfire Council (WRWC) is offering opportunities for private landowners or groups of private landowners to apply for funding assistance to help with costs associated with reducing hazardous fuels on private property. Landowners and homeowners have the opportunity to apply for assistance for implementing defensible space around homes, completing landscape-scale fuels reduction projects, conducting neighborhood chipping events, or completing demonstration sites in communities to encourage further mitigation work.

The West Region Wildfire Council's financial assistance for wildfire mitigation activities provides up to a 75 percent cost

share for eligible projects. WRWC will be accepting applications through December 31st or until available funds have been expended. Applications to apply for assistance with wildfire mitigation – *as well as further information about grant opportunities, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and resources about wildfire mitigation* - are available on the WRWC website (www.COwildfire.org).

The West Region Wildfire Council promotes wildfire preparedness, prevention and mitigation education throughout Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties.

Their mission is to mitigate loss due to wildfire in wildland urban interface communities while fostering interagency part-

nerships to help prepare counties, fire protection districts, communities and agencies plan for and mitigate potential threats from wildfire.

For more information about WRWC's wildfire mitigation financial assistance program, contact Lilia Falk (970.240.8407 ext. 125), or visit WRWC's website (www.COwildfire.org).

For information on wildfires and restrictions in the area, call the Southwest District Fire Management Information line (970.240.1070), visit the MIFMU website (http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2mtc/), or follow us on Twitter (https://twitter.com/SWD_Fire) and Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/BLMMontroseFireUnit>).

COLD WAR PATRIOTS ADVOCATES FOR URANIUM, NUCLEAR WEAPON WORKERS



Cold War Patriots was founded in 2008. Courtesy photo.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE--For the many workers who served this nation by building our nuclear defense program, they can turn to the Cold War Patriots for information, advocacy and recognition.

Cold War Patriots was founded in 2008 to honor and provide assistance to former uranium and nuclear weapons workers, many of whom became ill due to their exposure to radiation and/or toxic substances.

Kelly Green, who is in charge of marketing for the organization, said, "Our mis-

sion is to connect members and their families with information and resources to navigate complex government programs, like EEOICPA and RECA, and advocate for former worker rights."

Many of the accomplishments of the organization include actively advocating with Congressional representatives to protect and strengthen access to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) and Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) programs. In addition, it has worked with Congress each year to designate Oct. 30 as a National Day of Remembrance for former uranium and nuclear workers.

"We have also commissioned a hand-crafted Remembrance Quilt in the silhouette of an American flag to honor the sacrifices the workers made to keep our nation safe from the beginning of the Manhattan Project through today," Green said. "This quilt is traveling across the country. It is currently on display in Pahrump, NV and will be on display in April at the Russell Rotunda in the Senate Building in Washington D.C."

Cold War Patriots hold various events throughout the year across the country. People can attend town halls to learn more information about potential EEOICPA and RECA benefits available to former workers. There are also resource fairs to bring together local healthcare providers, pro-

gram experts and government representatives to assist members. Cold War Patriots also publishes a quarterly newsletter and their website keeps members informed on the latest news.

"Cold War Patriots allows former uranium workers from small communities like Montrose to have a resource to turn to if they have questions about the EEOICPA or RECA programs," Green explained. "It also allows them to join an organization that is the leading voice for the community of former nuclear and uranium workers."

People can help by joining the Cold War Patriots for free. With already 10,000 members nationwide, more members means more voices and more influence. "We plan to continue the work we have been doing to help the over 700,000 men and women who worked in over 350 facilities across the U.S to maintain our nuclear deterrent," Green said.

The people who work with the Cold War Patriots have a heart for helping people who have served our nation. "There is a real satisfaction knowing you helped someone get the benefits they have earned and need," Green said.

"After all, we owe a debt of gratitude to these individuals who helped preserve our freedom and helped us win WWII and the Cold War."

For more information, call 1-888-903-8989 or visit www.coldwarpatriots.org

CITY OF MONTROSE YOUTH COUNCIL "TEEN OPPORTUNITY EXPO"

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The City of Montrose Youth Council is sponsoring a "Teen Opportunity Expo" (TOE) on Wednesday, March 26, from 2:30-6 p.m. in the Montrose High School cafeteria. Area youth ages 13-19 are invited to attend this free event to visit with local business and organization representatives for summer jobs, volunteering, and internships.

Interested local businesses and organizations are requested to contact Carolyn Belavance at the City of Montrose, 970-240-

1420, or Ann Hasse at the Colorado Workforce Center, [970-249-7783](tel:970-249-7783), Ext. 16, for further information.

The Montrose Youth Council was established by the Montrose City Council to encourage greater youth participation in the city's government, and is charged with actively advising City Council with thoughtful recommendations on issues concerning youth and assisting city staff in considering youth perspectives in its planning efforts. The goals and structure of the Youth

[Council Manual](http://www.cityofmontrose.com/497/youth-council) available online at www.cityofmontrose.com/497/youth-council. The Youth Council meets the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4-6 p.m. in the Centennial Meeting Room. For information about the City of Montrose, visit www.cityofmontrose.org. Follow the City on Facebook ([facebook.com/cityofmontroseco](https://www.facebook.com/cityofmontroseco)) and Twitter (@montrosegov). City Hall is located at 433 South First Street in downtown Montrose and may be reached at [\(970\) 240-1400](tel:970-240-1400).

The Sixth Annual Montrose County School District Art show opens Monday, April 21 and continues through Friday, May 2. Thanks to Region 10 League for Economic Assistance for again hosting the show at the Enterprise Center, 300 N. Third in Montrose. The show may be viewed daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artwork representing students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade will be featured.

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ARTS AND CULTURE

ACTIVIST TOM NEILSON TO PERFORM AT ST. PAUL'S

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—American folksinger great Pete Seeger is no longer with us, but the tradition of music inspired by a desire for social change lives on.

On March 30, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Community Spirit UCC and Quaker Silent Friends Church (Sunnyside and 6700 Roads) bring musician Tom Neilson to town for an afternoon of tuneful

political commentary and social satire.

According to his bio, Neilson is an activist, historian, educator, and basketball coach, and his award-winning songs of humor, compassion, and political affairs have been performed in 20 countries on five continents. His lyrics are celebrated for their sophistication, political astuteness, and wit.

Combining art with activism, he has ap-



Musician Tom Neilson, above, carries on the tradition of music inspired by a passion for social activism Neilson will play at St. Paul's in Montrose on March 30. Courtesy photo.

peared with Jill Stein, Cynthia McKinney, Amy Goodman, Cindy Sheehan, Cesar Chavez, Ralph Nader (introducing Ralph at the National Convention), Howard Zinn, Noam Chomsky, Medea Benjamin, David Cobb and played at the MLK Center in Havana, Cuba.

Performing since the age of 3 under the tutelage of his choir director mom, he has performed as a classical vocalist at the Washington Cathedral, New York City's Town Hall, Boston's Symphony Hall, and the New England Conservatory of Music.

A native of New York state who now resides in Massachusetts, Neilson incorporate the experiences gained from a dozen years spent living outside of the United States into his songs.

Upon his return to the states, he crafted his travels into a doctoral dissertation rooted in his United Nations work in Somalia.

Known locally as the Bard Insurgent, Neilson is a veteran of stage and street theater, with his writing, acting, and directing.

He has been at the for-front in helping communities organize against water privatization, mountain top removal, fracking, nuclear energy, incinerators, and toxic waste.

To learn more, call 970-240-8342.

Admission to Neilson's performance will be by donation.



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RIBBON CUTTING-BONNIE D'S AUTOMOTIVE



Special to the Mirror

DELTA--The crew at Bonnie D's Automotive at 695 Hwy 50 was welcomed to the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 4. Pictured are DACC Ambassadors Phyllis Hoffman with Western Slope Long Term Care Solutions and GW King from King Retirement Solutions/King College Planning; Bonnie D's staff Marvin Page, Andy "Pops" Reynolds, Stacy Kasinger, owner Bonnie Pittman, Robert Gocha, JR Fredericks and JJ Ferrier; city councilman Bill Raley; and DACC Ambassador Christina Busch with Richards Consulting and Accounting, LLC. Welcome to the Chamber, Bonnie D's!

ALTRUSA PRESENTS APPLE AWARDS TO EDUCATORS



Left-Julie Baird, left, receives the Apple Award Certificate and Montrose Bucks at the March Altrusa Meeting. She teaches kindergarten and is an intervention instructor for students needing extra help at Pomona Elementary. Joe Simo, right, principal at Pomona Elementary, was pleased to nominate her as she is a team player and a leader in the Pomona school programs for tier building and team building. She is also a very family oriented person and often brings her spouse and children to school events.

Right-Christine Terrell receives the Apple Award Certificate and Montrose Bucks at the March Altrusa Meeting. She teaches science, social studies, and reading to the 6th grade at Columbine Middle School for 15 years. Ben Stephensen, principal at Columbine Middle School, stated that Christine is a "rock star" with a good attitude, shows excellent leadership often, cares about the children and staff, and is THERE for the kids.



The League of Women Voters® of Montrose County, serving Montrose and Delta counties,



invites the community to attend

"Our Land, Our Water, Our Food, Our Future... they are in our hands"



Thursday, March 20, Noon Montrose Library Community Room

Guest speakers/panelists: Corey Hicks, County Executive Director, Farm Service Agency; Laurie Neilson, Senior Farm Loan Officer, Farm Service Agency; Trent Hollister, 4-H Extension Agent, Colorado State University Extension

**This is the last of the two LWV Agriculture Update programs---
current agriculture finance issues, including commodities and the Farm Bill,
crop subsidies and farm loans, and future farmers**

Question and Answer 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 about the topic go to www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org and click on *Calendar of Events*.

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!

-Coffee with the Cops—Held at 9 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at Great Harvest Bread Company, 324 East Main Street in Downtown Montrose.

-On Wednesdays from March 12 through April 16 Lenten Music at Noon will take place at the Montrose United Methodist Church, 19 South Park, from Noon to 12:30 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and come enjoy music that reflects the season, featuring a variety of musicians from the community. Please call the church office for more information, 970-249-3716 or www.montroseumc.org.

Seven week Bible Study—Montrose United Methodist Church (19 South Park) presents a seven-week Bible study, "Hard to Dance with the Devil on Your Back," by Ray Buckley, beginning at 9:45 a.m. in Room 1, Downstairs. All are welcome! Find endurance and strength with the weight of the world on your shoulders. To learn more call 970-249-3716.

March 18--Region 10 Lunch-n-Learn --"Where did I put that?" We will discuss Alzheimer's programs, support groups/networks and Care strategies for Dementia and Alzheimer's, this program is designed to help support our elders and those with disabilities, you will learn more about how you can help others. Tuesday, March 18th 12-1 pm. 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffles room. Register online at www.region10.net or call 970-249-2436 ext. 201.

March 18--Woman's Club of Ouray County meeting - San Juan Room, Ouray Community Center at 1 p.m. Guest Speaker Joanne Fagan, Town of Ridgway Public Works Director, will share information about her job in civil engineering, especially the rehabilitation of Lake Otonowanda, a major water important to Ouray County. Visitors and guests welcome. The presentation is part of WCOC's 2013-2014 program, "Uncommon Women: Uncommon Lives". Info: Vicki Caldwell at 318-6620 or Kathryn Burke at 729-1188. More info: <http://womansclubouraycounty.org/events/>.

March 20--Region 10 Community Living Services support group network for Montrose and the surrounding areas, 4-5pm, Hilltop, 540 S. 1. This is an all-inclusive group for caregivers and care recipients with any disability or illness. Call Amy Rowan at 970-249-2436 ext. 207 for more information and to register.

March 20--Jon Horn of Alpine Archaeology Consultants will present new information on the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail at 6 p.m. at Heddles Rec Center (530 Gunnison River Drive) in Delta. Open to the Public, Interpretive Association of Western Colorado presents a Free Lecture Series: "The Old Spanish Trail" in conjunction with their Annual Meeting at Bill Heddles Recreation Center.

March 21--Blue Sky Music Presents Eilen Jewell and Emma Cooper at Turn of the Century Saloon. Call 970-275-4183 for information.

March 27—Montrose Memorial Hospital Open house, Lobby Grille, 4-5:30 p.m. Meet new CEO Steve Hannah and his family!

March 28-29--Delta Home, Garden & Recreation Show, Bill Heddles Rec Center, 530 Gunnison River Drive. Friday hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 70+ vendors, giveaways and demonstrations. Vendor applications available at www.DeltaColorado.org or by calling 970-874-8616.

March 28-30—Telluride Ski Resort presents Mountain Town Get Down. The event will kick-off with live music at Tomboy Tavern on Friday, March 28th. On Saturday, March 29th a free concert will take place in the Mountain Village core from 2-7pm featuring national touring reggae acts. Then, on Sunday, March 30th, the Mountain Town Get Down will wrap-up with the annual Bikini Slalom and Luau at Gorrone Ranch.

April 5--The Montrose Woman's Club will be sponsoring the annual Flea Market at Friendship Hall, from 8 am to 4 pm. Lots of new and used items. Breakfast & lunch will be available. No admission charge. Proceeds go to local charitable organizations. To rent a table, call 970-964-4721.

April 5—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

April 8--Passage Charter School, a public high school for pregnant and parenting teens, will be holding registration and enrollment at 5:30pm. Prospective students will get to tour our facility, meet with teachers and childcare staff, and complete enrollment paperwork. The school is located at 703 S. 9th in Montrose. For more information, please call 970-249-8066.

April 9--Montrose Botanic Gardens - Open to Public, educational session and Botanical Society meeting at 7 pm. City Centennial Room off Centennial Plaza, Montrose. Carol Patterson, Archeologist, PhD, and Glade Hadden, BLM Archeologist, will talk about Ethnobotany - the study of relationships between people and plants. Focus will be on Native Utes and surrounding Native American's use of Yucca. Hands-on demonstrations of stripping yucca leaves for making sandals, mats, rope and soap. Not just for adults--bring the kids!! Questions call Sara 970-249-1115 or www.montrosegardens.org.

April 12--Casa of the Seventh Judicial District Ray of Hope Event, Montrose Pavilion, 6 to 9 p.m. Call 970-249-0337 for more information.

April 17--Passage Charter School, a public high school for pregnant and parenting teens and infants and toddlers, will be holding an Open House from 3-6:00pm. The school would like to share with the community, our facility, staff and mission. Please come by 703 S. 9th in Montrose and learn more about PCS. For more information, please call 970-249-8066.

April 17--Ridgway Moon Walk! 5-8 p.m. South Ridgway neighborhood.

April 19—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

April 24-26--Pinwheels for Prevention Child Abuse Prevention Event. Colorado Children's Campaign to visit Montrose April 24. For more information call Partners at 970-249-1116.

April 25 - Fourth Annual Cobble Creek Compassion Bash - Interactive fashion show for guys and gals, complimentary hors d'oeuvres with cash bar, dancing, raffles and grand prizes. All to benefit Dr. Mary Vader's Helping Hand Fund, a component of the Montrose Community Foundation. Cobble Creek Clubhouse, 6 pm. Tickets: \$20, available at She She Boutique and D'Medici Footwear Main St., Montrose, Cobble Creek Pro Shop and online at www.compassionbash.eventbrite.com. For more info call 970-964-4947 or email info@cobblecreek.com.

April 26—**Stupid band Earth Dance! Turn of the Century Saloon! Benefit for Sharing Ministries! 970-209-1260.**

May 3—Montrose Winter Farmers Market, inside behind Straw Hat Farm Market Store at 514 South First St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

May 8—AARP Driver Safety Course--Montrose County Health and Human Services at 1845 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, will host the AARP SMART DRIVER Program from 8:15AM to 1PM. May 8. Save money on insurance, keep up on newer traffic laws (one half day course). Membership in AARP is not required. Fee: \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members, Pre-registration required. Contact: Amy at 970-249-2436 ext. 203, 8AM-3PM M-F.

May 9-10--Montrose Wine and Food Festival. www.montrosewineandfood.com.

May 13--Passage Charter School, a public high school for pregnant and parenting teens, will be holding registration and enrollment at 5:30pm. Prospective students will get to tour our facility, meet with teachers and childcare staff, and complete enrollment paperwork. The school is located at 703 S. 9th in Montrose. For more information, please call 970-249-8066.

May 13--Ridgway Moonwalk, 6 to 9 p.m. Solar Ranch Neighborhood.

May 17—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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Contact one of our care centers or programs below to begin your journey.



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Valley Manor Care Center	(970) 249-9634
The Homestead at Montrose	(970) 252-9359
Home Health of Western Colorado	(970) 240-0139
Senior Community Care PACE Montrose	(970) 252-0522
Senior Community Care PACE Eckert	(970) 835-8500
Senior Community Care Meals	(970) 835-8028

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Above, preparing for the largest Eagle Head Cane ceremony to date at the Warrior Resource Center on March 6 is SP-5 Bob Hampton, US Army; he served 1956-1960, and is part of the Woodworker Guild of Western Colorado and the Montrose Area Woodturners.

Left, prairie dogs watch for signs of spring.



Photos by Scotty Kenton Photography.



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