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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 90, Aug. 20 2014

ECONOMY STILL PRESENTS CHALLENGES FOR FAMILIES

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--Patty Ray can't help bringing her work home with her.

Ray, who owns and operates Hug-A-Bear Child Care & Learning Center in Montrose, is also raising two adopted and two foster children--all between the ages of three and seven--in addition to two grown children of her own. Ray is very familiar with the economic challenges parents face now that the 2014-2015 school year has begun.

"My foster kids came to me with no shoes, no socks, and no clothes," she said. "It was a case of abuse and neglect--there was half an inch of grime on the bottom of the tub after the first bath. But they are happy and clean now, and we are scrambling to get school supplies!"

Montrose County Health & Human Services has been very helpful, she noted, but the County has limited funds and needs the support of the community.

And when it comes to paying for school supplies, "Foster care kids all over are in dire need," Ray said. "There are lots of bigger teens in foster care, and they need school supplies too."

"So if you want to help, pick an age, go get a back-

Continued on page 6



Above, Montrose families gathered at Ute Park for Youth Appreciation Day Aug. 16. Though the economy is showing signs of improvement, times are still tough for many local families and young people.

PRIVATE PROPERTY "WRONGS" ... TRESPASSED-ON LANDOWNERS FRUSTRATED BY CIVIL PROCESS



Nicholas Hidu, shown above in a Facebook photo, built his home without permits, allegedly on land belonging to neighbors, who now face an extended civil process to have him removed.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE--He has no certificate of occupancy, and no access or sanitation permits despite the presence of port-a-pot facilities, carports and a residence. And yet, an alleged trespasser in Spring Creek Canyon is not being targeted by Montrose County for permit violations, County Planner Steve White said.

"At this point we are not taking action," White said. "There are claims that someone has built on someone else's property, and if we pursue anyone at this point it would be the landowners, who didn't do anything wrong."

"Better to resolve it in court."

Case No. 13-CV-112 was filed in December by landowners Scott Kenton and Brad Switzer (a local attorney) in an attempt to remove Nicholas Hidu, a neighboring landowner who has constructed a residence, port-a-potties, garages, sheds and carports on their cliffside property in Spring Creek Canyon. The landowners, who verified their ownership of the

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Region 10 SBRC!*

*Local photos,
Local stories!*

MONTROSE COUNTY, HILLTOP COLLABORATE FOR FAMILIES, KIDS



Montrose kids are the future of our community—and a collaboration between Montrose County and Hilltop is now working to build a “wraparound” safety net of resources that help strengthen local families. “Strong families make strong communities,” Montrose County HHS Deputy Director Carol Friedrich said.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--With so many young families with children calling Montrose home, two local agencies have decided to collaborate to bring more resources to the table for local kids. Montrose County Health & Human Services Deputy Director Carol Friedrich points out that when it comes to serving local kids, the County has three specific goals.

“We want children to be safe, we are interested in their well-being--do they have adequate food, clothing and shelter--and we want them to have some ‘permanency,’ in their lives, including a stable living situation,” Friedrich said.

Montrose County is partnering with Hilltop Community Resources to ensure that kids don’t fall through the cracks, she said.

“We know child hunger is still prevalent,” she said. “We have seen an increase in families on food assistance. Summer can

be a difficult time because school is out, and there are no free or reduced lunches. We refer a lot of kids to our partner organizations like the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club.”

Montrose County was recently awarded a Colorado Community Response grant to work with Hilltop Community Resources in providing services to families that might otherwise be outside the “system,” she added.

“We do outreach and offer community-based services, and Hilltop functions as a ‘navigator,’” she said. “This helps keep people out of the welfare system, and participation is voluntary.”

By reaching families who are struggling with resources and support, the collaboration makes the community safer and helps families get through difficult times as a unit.

A continuum of care creates a “wraparound” effect, keeping families to-

gether and kids out of the foster care system when possible, Friedrich said.

Two Hilltop programs designed to educate and empower are “Parents as Teachers,” and “Get Real.” According to Hilltop Child and Family Services Coordinator Charmaine Heiden, “Parents as Teachers” provides home visitation for parents of children from prenatal through age five. Parents learn to identify and understand their child’s developmental stages with help from the parent educator.

“Get Real” targets kids ages 10 through 18 with an informative pregnancy prevention program that helps them learn positive decision-making skills, Heiden said.

“It is not just about abstinence, but about communication, healthy relationships, self-esteem and becoming connected with the community,” she said.

Other Hilltop offerings include “Baby and me Tobacco Free,” which helps motivated moms give up smoking and earn diaper vouchers once their baby is born; “Uncompahgre Prenatal Program,” which helps clients navigate available services; and “Tandem Families,” which provides family mentoring for those struggling with life challenges. Tandem Families offers nurturing parent classes in both Montrose and Delta, with an evidence-based curriculum designed to reduce instances of child abuse and neglect in families at risk. Tandem Families also has a student success program that helps kids set and achieve academic goals while limiting absences, and which rewards them when goals are achieved with a quarterly party.

“Over the course of a year, we serve close to 200 children and their families,” Heiden said.

“Our kids are getting backpacks and school supplies right now, and Rotary is helping us with socks and shoes.

“Most of our clients end up staying with us,” she said. Families interested in the programs offered by Hilltop can call Heiden directly at 970-244-0500, or they may be referred through Montrose County Health & Human Services. The goal is to reach families long before stress starts to erode them as a unit. “Strong families make strong communities,” Friedrich said.

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Montrose Women to Celebrate Suffrage in Vintage Attire Aug. 26
MONTROSE-Please join the Montrose County League of Women Voters on the courthouse lawn Downtown at 4 p.m. Aug. 26, as we dress in vintage attire and advocate in celebration of 94 years of voting rights and women's equality day. Don't take participation in our democracy for granted! Hope to see you there!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CAROLYN BELLAVANCE GRADUATES FROM COLORADO INSTITUTE FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS



Courtesy Photo: The Board of the CMCA present Carolyn Bellavance with her certificate. From left: Sara Ball-Johnson, Director, City of Colorado Springs; Lisa DelPiccolo, Director, City of Montrose; Margy Greer, Vice President, City of Lakewood; Wendy Heffner, Past President, City of Littleton; Carolyn Bellavance; Laura Smith, Treasurer, Cherry Hills Village; Suzanne Leclercq, Secretary, City of Woodland Park; Kerry Bush, President, Englewood.

Clerks.

During graduation exercises in July at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Bellavance was awarded her graduation certificate by Kerry Bush, President of the Colorado Municipal Clerks Association (CMCA).

The Institute is designed to develop the knowledge and skills of municipal clerks. The training provided enables them to assist local government in providing services to its citizens and in meeting future challenges.

The Institute requires 120 student/instructor contact hours consisting of classes in public administration, finance, inter-governmental relations, management, communication, leadership, and job-specific skills such as records management, office administration, written communication, election administration, and liquor licensing.

Many municipal clerks who complete the Institute program use it for credit toward their "Certified Municipal Clerk" (CMC) designation offered through the International Institute for Municipal Clerks.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – City of Montrose Deputy

Clerk Carolyn Bellavance has graduated from the Colorado Institute for Municipal

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LOCAL KOA WELCOMES TRAVELERS TO MAKE THEIR DESTINATION HOME



Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-When new owners took over the Montrose KOA Campground (200 Cedar Avenue) this June, they were purchasing more than a gorgeous 23-acre facility located just 15 minutes from the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. They were also taking ownership of a business that helps drive the local economy year-round.

"People find us through the KOA directory," campground manager Debbie ex-

plained. "But sometimes we even get locals, because they like to come out and enjoy."

Top local attractions, according to campground visitors, are the Black Canyon, the Ute Indian Museum, and four-wheel drive opportunities in Ouray, she said.

"Most folks come here for the Black Canyon," she said. "Most of them are in RV's, and while we see people of all ages, and some come through with kids, there are

lots of elderly folks who come here.

"I love my job," she said. "I get to meet and talk to people from all over."

In addition to spaces for tents and RV's, the Montrose KOA offers four cabins, a bungalow and a park model with heating and air conditioning. Laundry facilities, free WIFI and Cable hookups, and a pool and hot tub add convenience to the mix for busy campers. The Montrose KOA can be reached locally at 970-249-9177, or toll-free at 1-800-562-9114.

PRIVATE PROPERTY "WRONGS"...LANDOWNERS EXPRESS FRUSTRATION from page one

their ownership of the parcel in question through an independent survey completed at their own expense, have already taken part in one attempt at mediation with Hidu and his attorney John Mitchel, and have been ordered to participate in and pay for another day of mediation at roughly \$195 per hour before the matter finally goes to trial Oct. 27-28.

Switzer received an official letter from White, similar to one sent to Hidu, on Jan. 10, stating that, "It has been brought to our attention that a residence has been built on your property in the Beaver Hill II Tract 39 without having been issued a building permit... This letter is official notice to you, in accordance with state law and county codes and regulations, that you have ten (10) days from the date on this letter to bring the property into compliance with all applicable zoning, building and sanitation regulations. Otherwise I have will have no alternative but to refer this matter to the office of the Montrose County Attorney."

"My position is that it is not a habitable

structure. When you build something you are supposed to get a certificate of occupancy. Now we have a guy living there who doesn't have that," Kenton said. "He's got no sanitation, no nothing, but the County is not concerned."

Kenton, who called the matter "all-consuming," also expressed frustration that the court has ordered a second costly mediation in the matter with Hidu when the ownership of the parcel is not in question.

"Nobody will stay on the subject," Kenton said. "He's on our property but we're not mediating that. We are mediating a 'solution,' and now the Judge has ordered us to go back again."

"Brad and I have that eight-acre piece on top of the mesa there, and it has been totally compromised by this guy's third-world shack with no power, no water and no sanitation."

Requests to have the trespasser removed by Sheriff's officers are refused on the basis of this being "a civil matter," to be resolved by the courts.

"We should have just run the guy off the

minute we verified that he was over the line, and let him call the sheriff," Kenton said. "We are supposed to be good neighbors, but look what our neighbor is doing! The court system drags on forever," he said, "and we can't even sell because we got this guy to deal with. If Brad was not an attorney I could not even afford to fight this; this guy pays no county taxes, does not have local license plates, but he has all the rights in the world to do what he wants in Montrose County."

"Since we found he was on our side of the line, we get nothing--and our land has been ruined for at least a generation."

White, who acknowledged that he is not an attorney, wondered aloud why Kenton and Switzer don't just "get a trespass order."

"We have kind of stepped back," he said, "Based on the fact that they are owners of the property, it is totally in their control. We will let the property owners settle the issue."

"We are watching this one very carefully," he said.

ECONOMY STILL PRESENTS CHALLENGES FOR KIDS, FAMILIES from page 1



Families enjoy bungee jumping at Youth Appreciation Day Aug. 16. Photo by Brad Switzer.

over to Health and Human Services (1845 South Townsend Avenue)."

Overall, things seem to be improving for local kids and their families, said Ray, who takes both public assistance and private-pay clients at her child care facility.

"My private-pay numbers are rising," she said. "The kids and families seem to be coming out of the worst of it. Parents are getting jobs, things are leveling off—the majority of our parents here are working or in school. I just hope that as we head into winter, we won't see employers cutting back."

For those who are still in financial trou-

ble, resources are stretched thin. According to the 2014 Colorado Children's Campaign Kids Count data, of 40,786 Montrose County residents counted in 2012, 9,770 were under age 18. Births to single women made up 26.1 percent of babies born here that year. The percentage of local children qualifying for free or reduced lunches was 54 percent in 2013, while in 2012 the percentage of children under age 18 living in poverty was 25 percent.

In neighboring Delta County, the numbers paint a similar picture. Of 30,528 local residents counted in 2012, 6,562 were under age 18. Births to single women made up 28 percent of babies born that year. The percentage of local children qualifying for free and reduced lunches was 50.8 percent, while in 2012 the percentage of children under age 18 living in poverty was 23.5 percent.

For those who can afford to help, donations are always needed at the Sharing Ministries Food Bank, at 1221 North Rio Grande in Montrose. The Food Bank is open from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 P.M. Monday through Friday, Sharing Ministries Director Oneda Doyal said.

"There is always a need in summer, when the kids are out of school," Doyal said. "People start to line up here at 7:30 a.m., and the moms who are bringing kids with them always go to the shelves and find something for them to eat right away, because they are hungry."

Though donations tend to be strongest over the Holiday season, the need to feed hungry children is not seasonal.

"When you are looking at a child, you don't always see that they are hungry," Doyal said. "But some of them go all day and all night with nothing to eat. Food stamp numbers are down, and often there are two parents out of work rather than just

one. And people think because we are in a rural area there is less hunger, but in actuality there is more hunger here and far fewer resources here than in other areas." Summertime is also the best time to find fresh, locally grown produce at the Food Bank, she said.

"We are able to give out more fresh produce, and not rely so much on canned and processed foods," Doyal said. "But this time of year can be the toughest."

For families with children who are in need of transitional housing, the Olathe non-profit Haven House (970-323-5280) offers a program designed to help families' achieve a sustainable lifestyle. For those in need of emergency overnight shelter, however, Delta's Abraham Connection, which opens for the season Nov. 1, is the only option between Grand Junction and Durango.

Options for overnight shelter may be limited, but the need continues to increase, Abraham Connection President Cheryl Oeltjenbruns said.

"The homeless problem is growing," Oeltjenbruns said. "There is definitely a gap with the economy."

Abraham Connection has been raising funds for a permanent shelter facility, and is within \$116,000 of the amount needed to break ground.

"We are very, very close," Oeltjenbruns said. "Please consider buying a brick, or making a [general donation](#)."

The shelter, which does not have paid staff except during the season (Nov. 1-April 30), is seeing an urgent need for volunteers right now, she said.

"We are always in need of volunteers to help run the shelter, provide meals, help with laundry and to take the night shift," Oeltjenbruns said. Abraham Connection can be reached at 970-773-8290.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THREE LITTLE GIRLS

Dear Editor:

On a nice day, my sister my friend and I were riding our bikes down Spring Creek when we hit gravel and then we fell down. I just want to say thank you to the guys that stopped to help us. Thank you Kaleb and your friend.

*Sincerely Your Friend,
Savanna Valdez, age 12
Montrose*

DOES MAYOR HAVE A PERSONAL AGENDA?

Dear Editor:

It was with great interest that I read the letter to the Editor published in the *Montrose Mirror* on 8/05/14, re: "Mayor Oversteps in Drafting MOU."

I have to totally agree with J. Morgan Nelson. It is not the Mayor's duty to be drafting MOU (Memoranda of Understanding).

I found the topic very interesting since I had written a letter to the *Montrose Daily Press* editor, which was published on 3/30/2012 in the "Your View" section.

Mr. Nicholson was the only candidate that was bashing the legal department who was elected to the Montrose City Council. I should note that since Mr. Nicholson was elected, the entire legal department has changed. The two attorneys that were there are now gone, as well as the paralegal.

Considering Mr. Nicholson is not an attorney and he authored the MOU between two municipalities, maybe this action should be referred to the Disciplinary Committee of the Colorado Supreme Court for them to investigate this case as practicing law without a license.

Furthermore the rest of the council should re-examine Mr. Nicholson's conduct and take appropriate action.

Do you see any hidden personal agendas?

*Jose Abeyta
Montrose*

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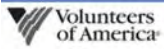
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK DONATION ENABLES ONLINE ACCESS TO GENEOLOGICAL CENTER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-A grant from Alpine Bank has made it possible for anyone with a computer and the internet, anywhere in the world, to access the card catalog of the Montrose Genealogy Center.

The local genealogy center has nearly 3,000 volumes in its library, covering 48 states and Washington D. C., with a smattering of international topics.

The materials cover a range of topics such as the history of the county pioneers or the history of military battalions to membership rosters, lists of churches, ships passengers and soldiers.

The collection has much historical and genealogical material on Montrose County and the surrounding counties. The collec-

tion includes 131 quarterly magazines from genealogical societies around the country, several hundred DVD's and historical newspapers from Gunnison, Montrose and Olathe.

The catalog is hosted by PastPerfect Online and functions just like the catalog at any public library. You can search by title, author or subject. You can also just browse.

The researcher can then email the Center for a copy of the index of a particular book or ask a volunteer to research a particular name in the book.

In addition, the search engines Google and Bing also have listed some of the items. Thus, if you Google for "Virginia books," and there any titles in the Mont-

rose Center's library they will show up.

The catalog is easy to find. Go to the Center's website (montrosecogenealogy.org) and click on the library catalog tab which takes you directly to the catalog.

Center librarian Sue Nichol reminds everyone that the library is open year round to anyone at no charge and interested persons may come to Center to look through the books, do research, and get help if needed.

The Montrose Genealogy Center at 700 East Main Street is operated by Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1 to 4 p.m. and the first and third Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

THIRD ANNUAL PEA GREEN PEDAL SEPT. 20

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Delta County Memorial Hospital Foundation announces the third annual Pea Green Pedal on Saturday, Sept. 20 at Lion's Club Pavilion at Confluence Park. There is an 18 or 40 mile bike ride or a 5K Fun Run/Walk around the lake. Registration cost is \$20 for the 5K or \$30 for the bike ride prior to September 6, and lunch and at-shirt are included with early registration. Costs go up after Sept 6th to \$30 for the 5K and \$40 for the bike ride.

A 2014 Crosstrail Disc bike is also being raffled off with proceeds committed to Delta County Memorial Hospital programs, services and equipment and educational scholarships. The bike is an SR Suntour XCT, 8 speed bike with 38c tires and a 60 mm front suspension. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and may be obtained from any DCMH Foundation board member, or Patti Kalahar, Foundation Liaison.

For additional details including registration, bike maps, raffle tickets contact Patti A. Kalahar, Foundation Liaison and Manager, Education/Marketing for Delta County Memorial Hospital at 874-2291 or pkalahar@deltahospital.org or go to dcmhfoundation.org.



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Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose United Methodist Church offers a smorgasbord of worship services; blended, contemporary and traditional. On July 27, 2014 I attended the blended service and found the ambiance similar to a sampler box of chocolates — everyone's favorite church experience was in the room. With an abundance of dichotomies it took me a moment to realize that all-inclusiveness plays a huge role in the heart of the congregation.

Pastor Steve Reinhard and Worship Leader Wendy Jones wore casual dress, the celebration singers were more formally attired, and the altar boy wore a robe.

A hymn set the stage for a humorous duel between the pipe organ and baby grand piano by alternating verses between the traditional and contemporary styles of music.

Across the sanctuary conga drums sat silently in a dark alcove as though waiting for an invitation to be included.

Old and modern music selections mixed with children's favorites, "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee," "Jesus Loves Me," "This Little Light of Mine," and "You Walk Along Our Shoreline." While some people

sang with hymnals in hand, others followed along on the video screen.

Electronic tablets circulated through the audience for members to mark their attendance, but the collected offering of "Gifts and Lives" was formally presented to the Lord beneath an illuminated cross. Liturgy was incorporated in responsive readings, as well as responsive prayer.

Pastor Reinhard introduced himself to an audience of about 125 and gave a brief description on the content of the sermon to come.

The next order of service was the "Children's Gathering," a time for children to gather around the platform and hear the gist of the message in age appropriate terms.

The sermon this day, "You Can Change Your World," the second installment in a four part series, was based on Matthew 5:13-20. In this passage Jesus describes believers as salt and light in the world. Much of the sermon dealt with the properties of salt — preservative, flavor, healing; and light — a flashlight's need for a battery and the burning candles on the altar representing Christ as fully human and fully God.

The pastor interspersed various passages of Scripture with personal examples and illustrations. He challenged the congregation to become salt and light in the world.

The quick delivery of Scripture references left little time to follow along in your own Bible, but the verses were displayed on the screen. I had to laugh though, because even the pastor didn't flip through his Bible. Rather, his well-organized sermon was delivered from an iPad.

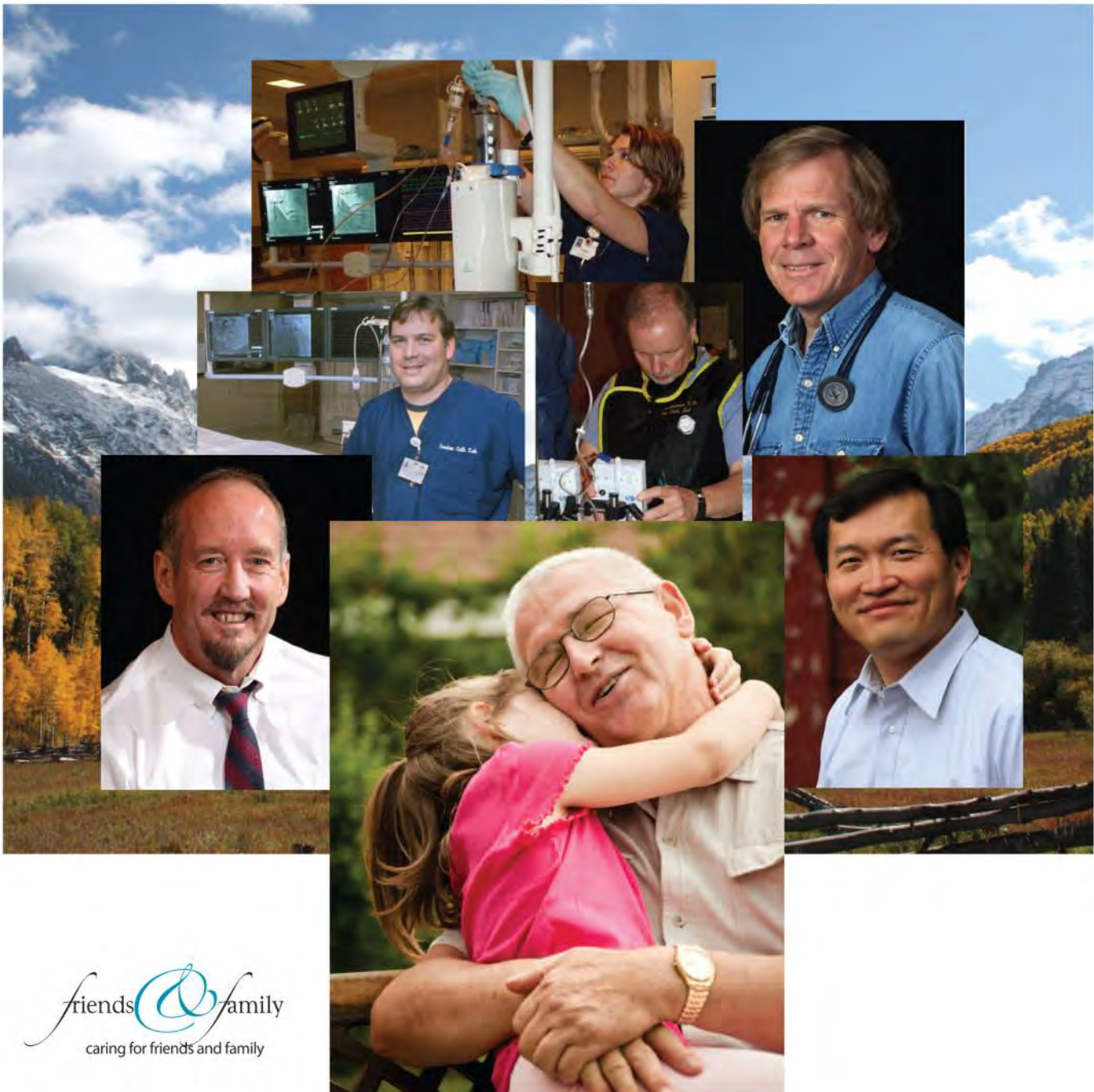
A time was set aside to recognize Rich Hanna with a gift of appreciation for his long time service on the sound board; a reception in his honor followed the service. Members of a church mission team were also brought forward to receive a special blessing on their upcoming trip to Belize.

At the conclusion of the service visitors were asked to raise their hand and give their name. I was welcomed with applause, a small sampler box of chocolates and a hug from a friend.

Contact Information:
Montrose United Methodist Church
19 South Park Ave.
Montrose, CO 81401
970-249-3716

Speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, Jesus said, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see ..." (Matt 11:4 NIV).

To our readers: Though Montrose writer Gail Marvel does belong to a local church, she is interested in the other houses of worship here in town as well. With this column, Gail will share her experiences as she visits local churches and congregations to learn more about them. Gail wrote a church newsletter for years, and has published her work in a number of Christian publications including The Lookout, Christian Standard, Discipleship Journal and The Christian Communicator.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Tickets on Sale for Savor the San Juans Tour Local Foods, Local Chefs, Local Homes

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Sept. 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tour and taste your way through seven fabulous homes each showcasing a local chef preparing gourmet bites from local farms. Toast the Tour from 1-4pm at Turn of the Century Saloon with local wine, beer cider and desserts and help raise funds for the Montrose Community Foundation and Valley Food Partnership. Tickets costing \$35 can be purchased at Timberline Bank, Tiffany, etc., the Montrose Farmers' Market, Straw Hat Farm Market, Montrose Visitors Center, the Bridges Golf Course or online at savor-the-san-juans.bpt.me.

PARTNERS MENTORING HUNTERS EDUCATION CLASS – OPEN TO PUBLIC

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Partners of Delta, Montrose & Ouray would like to extend a public invitation to participate in a Colorado Parks and Wildlife Hunters Education Course instructed by long-time Partners volunteer, Don Foster.

The course will be held at the Delta Partners office, 511 E. 10th Street in Delta on August 25, 27 and 28 from 5pm – 9pm. The live-ammunition firearms training will take place on Saturday, August 30th at the

Casey Stengel Gun Range in Hotchkiss. The course is free for children participating in Partners Mentoring programs and \$10 for Partners adult volunteers. The course is also open to a limited number of youth and adults in the community for a cost of \$10 per person.

There is no minimum age requirement to take the course, but successful participants must pass an exam on course material at the end of the sessions to be awarded certification.

While this course is required to purchase a hunting license in Colorado, the material covered can benefit the non-hunter as well.

According the class description, "The most basic purpose of a hunter education course is to teach safe, responsible firearm handling in the field, in the vehicle, and in the home after hunting.

Through lectures, hands-on activities, and videos, students learn about firearms and ammunition, firearm safety, shooting fundamentals, and firearm and wildlife laws."

REC DISTRICT MOVES FORWARD WITH CRC, FH PLAN

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The Montrose Recreation District (MRD) has been busy at work to implement the Community Recreation Center (CRC) and Field House (FH) plan. With the project budget secured and the architect/engineer team mobilized, Montrose's 1st multipurpose recreation center is taking shape. Two recent strides forward include: Organizing the community design seminars next week to unveil the full schematic design and receive continued public input to guide the final design; and the hiring of the construction manager/general contractor (CMGC) team to support the design process and manage the construction of both the CRC and FH.

First, MRD would like to invite the entire community to attend a CRC design seminar on Wednesday, Aug. 20 at either 1pm or 7pm. Both forums will cover the same content and both will be at the Aquatic Center, 25 Colorado. The architects, engineers and MRD have been hard at work further refining the conceptual design shown during the recent successful

election. The design is 35 percent complete. This is the best time for the community to weigh in on what they want their recreation center to look like. The most current floor plans and southern elevation are included at the bottom of this release.

The Board of Directors has approved the hiring of the CMGC firm of Haydon Building Corp, a nationwide leader in recreation center construction management. In response to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) issued by MRD in June, seven qualification statements were received. A board-appointed Evaluation Committee reviewed the statements and identified four as the most qualified. These four, FCI, Haydon, GE Johnson, and Adolfson & Peterson partnered with Ridgeway Valley Enterprises, were invited for full proposals and an interview in response to a Request for Proposals (RFP). The Evaluation Committee rated the four firms according to their proposal, interview and reference checks.

Executive Director Ken Sherbenou said, "We had strong interest from some of the

most experienced recreation center construction managers/general contractors in the country. This bodes extremely well in terms of the quality of the product for Montrose and staying within our budget".

Board Member Jason Ullmann agreed, "I feel very strongly that Haydon's management of the Recreation Center project will produce a project that is on-time and on-budget, resulting in the most efficient use of the tax dollars entrusted to the Recreation District".

Fritz Behrhorst, Vice-President and Pre-Construction Director from Haydon, stated: "Haydon Building Corp is both excited and humbled to be selected to build the new Recreation Center for the Montrose Community...we are eager to partner with the MRD, Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture, and the Montrose area construction community to create a state-of-the-art facility that will serve the residents of Montrose for many years."

Groundbreaking for the Montrose CRC is slated for spring 2015 with a planned opening in late 2016.



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MIRROR IMAGES...MAIN IN MOTION



Montrose residents and visitors headed for Main Street Aug. 14 for the final Main in Motion event of 2014. Artist Molly Roth, above, demonstrated her technique, while the Ori Naftaly Band from Israel awed crowds and drew applause from east side onlookers.



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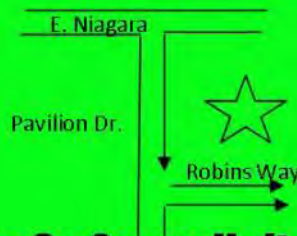
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK SUPPORTS REGIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS PROGRAM

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Alpine Bank Montrose is pleased to support the newly reestablished Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers organization.

The previous Crime Stoppers program in our area was terminated due to communication issues.

Those difficulties no longer exist due to our state of the art Montrose County Sheriff's Dispatch Center and the outstanding leadership of Susan Byrne, Communications Director.

This newly re-established Crime Stoppers organization has the full support of local law enforcement leadership in the 7th Judicial District.

The Board of Directors of Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers Inc. is comprised of

a well-rounded group of concerned local residents who want to see the success of Crime Stoppers brought back to not only Montrose but the entire 7th Judicial District.

"We are glad to have Crime Stopper presence restored in our community. They provide not only assistance to our local law enforcement but a means for individuals to step forward with information, and remain anonymous" says Allison Nadel, Regional Marketing Director for Alpine Bank.

Callers may also receive awards if their information leads to an arrest.

John W Nelson, the current Board President of Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. cites their

Mission Statement as the best description of the program: The Montrose Regional

Crime Stoppers program is a partnership of public, law enforcement and the media to provide assistance in solving crimes and to improve public safety within the 7th Judicial District through the collection of critical information and intelligence regarding criminal activity, unsolved crimes and the whereabouts of fugitives.

Crime Stoppers provides a system for soliciting and receiving anonymous tips as well as offering monetary rewards to tipsters in exchange for information that leads to an arrest.

All donations to the program are tax deductible and may be sent to Crime Stoppers c/o the Montrose Police Department. Crime Stoppers works with but is totally independent of all law enforcement agencies. www.alpinebank.com Member FDIC.

MONTROSE EDUCATION FOUNDATION TO HOLD GOLF SCRAMBLE SEPT. 20

Special to the Mirror

(MONTROSE) The Montrose Education Foundation holds its 11th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 20 at the Black Canyon Golf Club, with a shotgun start at 9 am. It is a four-person scramble with handicapping. The \$80 entry fee includes greens fees, cart rental, lunch at the Brew and Bogey Club, and the chance to win great prizes. The deadline for registration is Wednesday, September 17th. Players can register by downloading and returning the registration form at www.montroseeducation.org or by contacting Buck Miller at 249-7701.





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Click here to catch Valerie's weekly Monday Real Estate Market Report video...from the road!

GET COVERED MONTROSE!

Insurance Informational Fair

When: Oct. 25 from 9am - Noon

Where: Old Montrose City Council Chambers (off the South West side of Centennial Plaza, 422 S. 1st Street)

What: Educational Insurance Fair: a one-stop-shop for anyone with health insurance questions

Representatives from the following insurance outlets will be present:

Connect for Health Colorado

Watson Insurance

Medicaid and Health and Human Services

Medicare - RSVP office

For more information:

Call 970-252-0660 or 970-249-2298

Thank you to our sponsors:

Montrose Library

Colorado Mesa University, Montrose

The League of Women Voters



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

"WHISKEY'S FOR DRINKIN', WATER'S FOR FIGHTIN'"

Summer has been a complete delight. In addition to lots of meetings with constituents and in Denver, I've had time with family and friends and finally planted a small flower garden alongside our home that's been on my to-do list for years.

The wildfire and water interim committees, that I am a member of, have started meeting, so despite the supposed part-time nature of Colorado's citizen legislature, I'm back working on issues of importance to my district.

Colorado, as a whole, has been given a reprieve from experiencing another catastrophic wildfire season, unlike the states in the northwest corner of the country. Our legislature's investment last session in a wildfire air fleet has helped tamp down those fires that've gotten started and we've had the advantage of plentiful snows last winter in the north part of the state and healthy monsoon moisture in our area this summer.

That said, our public and private forests remain unhealthy and we've not resolved how they'll be managed in this era of shrinking governmental resources. I believe the wildfire committee needs to turn its attention to this challenge, now that we've triaged the fighting of fires to pro-

tect lives and property.

The water committee has started its deep dive into conservation issues, especially as it relates to the transfer of water used in agricultural production to urban municipalities along the Front Range. This conversation was triggered by a controversial bill I carried last year. I'm determined that we'll keep at this until we reach best practices that make sense and reflect the precious nature of water in our state.

I appreciate the active engagement of several of my constituents in bringing ideas and zeal to this topic and as I travel the state with the water committee as we hold hearings over the next two months on what should be in the state water plan, I'll be sure that the topic of water conservation gets brought up and vetted in all areas of the state.

My principal concern with municipalities failing to do everything they can to conserve water is that the urban corridor on the Front Range, including, but certainly not limited to Denver, seek to transfer more water from the Western Slope to satisfy their residents' needs and desires. I don't need to inform my constituents of the impacts this would have on our way of life, on our viable agricultural production,

and on our environment.

Also breathing down our necks is the impact of a potential "call" on the Colorado River from downstream states legally entitled to a share of that water for their own uses. If such a call is made, we won't be getting water shipped back from the Front Range to satisfy the call.

All of this makes for spicy debates and reminds me of Twain's saying that "whiskey's for drinkin', water's for fightin'". Without adequate water supplies, life in the West changes dramatically and, without food independence provided by our farmers and ranchers, our communities become much less sustainable.

I'll leave you with this. My summertime reading has included an article titled, "Can Government Give the People What They Want?" Like squandering water, I remain very concerned that our collective short-term vision is leading us straight into "intergenerational inequity" and fiscal instability. More on this another time.

Ellen S. Roberts, State Senator

Legislative Contact Information:

200 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver CO 80203

Denver Capitol office phone: (

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- Assess the viability of your home-based business idea
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www.Region10.net

Region 10 Enterprise Center
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PROJECT 7 STOPS FLOURIDATION OF DRINKING WATER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - On July 31, 2014, the Project 7 Water Authority (P7) stopped supplementing fluoride in treated drinking water. The City of Montrose distributes P7 treated drinking water within its water district and wishes to inform customers of this change in the water treatment process.

On Aug. 25, 2005, Hurricane Katrina destroyed the only dry fluoride production plant in the US, and the plant discontinued dry fluoride production. P7 continued purchasing dry fluoride from this US source until remaining supplies were depleted. With existing P7 dry fluoride supplies were dwindling, P7 Plant Manager Adam Turner investigated alternative product sources and discovered that only Chinese-

manufactured dry fluoride was available. Concerned with the quality control practices of chemical manufacturers in China, the P7 Board of Directors unanimously approved the discontinuation of P7 drinking water fluoridation when the existing supply of US-sourced dry fluoride product was exhausted. The decision to end fluoridation of treated drinking water was based solely on the inability to obtain dry fluoride from a reliable source and in no way challenges consumer opinions regarding dental health benefits related to fluoridation.

Fluoride exists naturally in local raw water sources that supply the P7 water treatment plant. The dry fluoride formerly added to treated drinking water merely supplemented naturally occurring fluoride levels. A variety of products are available to individuals wishing to continue fluoride supplementation. These include certain tooth pastes, mouth wash products, and fluoride rinses. Individuals should consult with their dentists prior to using these, or other products.

More specific information about P7 is available at www.project7water.org.

Montrose Library Announces Fall Story Times

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Regional Library hosts weekly story times by seasons. The fall season begins September 8 and runs through November 21. Every Monday at 10 p.m., families are invited to iStories, a half-hour story time that blends technology with traditional story time elements.

A new story time format is on tap for Mondays at 11:00. This quiet "Bendy-Stretchy" story time will engage families with stories and gentle movement. Child care providers have their own story time this season! Please register in advance at 970-249-9656, Option 2. This half-hour story time includes books, music, movement, and other activities. Every Thursday at 10 a.m., children ages three to five can enjoy an hour of stories, crafts, puppetry, rhymes, and music in Gems story time.

In developing these presentations, the children's staff incorporate practices set forth in an early literacy initiative entitled, *Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library*, which was developed by the Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children. Can't make story time? Call the English storyline anytime at 970-249-9302 or the Spanish storyline at 970-240-8009.

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Volunteering is based on your schedule, so the time you spend is effective and enjoyable.

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



| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Horizons Health Care & Retirement | (970) 835-3113 |
| 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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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CASA TO HOST 2014 DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT NOV. 1 AT FRIENDSHIP HALL



Local emergency responders played dodgeball for CASA at Main in Motion in 2013. Mirror file photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--CASA of the 7th Judicial District (Court Appointed Special Advocates - a.k.a. CASA) will host their 3rd annual "Dodgeball Tournament" on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014 at the Montrose Fairgrounds Friendship Hall with the games beginning at 9am. CASA holds its annual dodgeball tournament to encourage people in the 7th Judicial District communities to come together for friendly competition and to benefit CASA. The 7th Judicial District is comprised of Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties.

Dodgeball is a simple but fun game that we probably all remember from our childhood. Two teams, each consisting of 6 players (men and/or women), throw special dodgeballs at the opposing team. If the ball hits you (tags you) then you are out. The last person *not tagged* wins the game for their team. All games are judged by trained referees. Winning teams continue to compete against each other until one team is crowned the tournament champion at the end of the day. The tournament champion team's name will be engraved on a trophy that they get to keep (for bragging rights) until the next year's tournament. Since this is a family-friendly event, teams are encouraged to dress in a theme and name their team accordingly. Team players will all be given tournament t-shirts with their registration. Only 40 teams will be able to compete. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes, best team costumes, most spirit, etc.

CASA is seeking sponsors and refreshment vendors for this event. Sponsorship packages are available at levels to meet a *variety of budgets beginning at \$100*. The fee for a 6-person team is only \$150 with the proceeds all going to CASA of the 7th Judicial District. To sponsor, attend, volunteer or be a vendor for 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. Carlton Mason, CASA Executive Director, reminds us that "it is vital that our communities come together and take care of our own, most vulnerable population – our children. We must also support and celebrate the success of our own CASA program."

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.

HONORABLE MENTION

To our friend Chuck Turner, 20, of Montrose, for achieving so much, against all odds...we could not be more impressed...

To the Community Dental Clinic, for caring for local kids in need...

To all who understand that it is ok to ask questions of public officials—after all, your tax dollars help pay their salaries. For example, where is the City's promised-in-May data analytics report, on which we spent more than \$30,000 in 2013? And why pay the superintendent of a struggling rural school district **\$140,000 a year (Montrose Daily Press)**, when 54 percent of local students qualify for free and reduced lunches, and 25 percent of Montrose County kids under age 18 live below poverty level (Colorado Children's Campaign data)? Critical thinking means asking tough questions, even when pressured not to.

MONTROSE, DELTA SCHOOLS OFFER DIVERSE APPROACHES TO PRESCHOOL EDUCATION



Beginning this year, Montrose County schools will have site-based preschool classes at Johnson, above, and Olathe Elementary. At right, Johnson Preschool teacher Shanda Bray.



By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—Reaching early learners is a priority for schools in both Montrose and Delta counties. Approaching the subject, however, involves different strategies for both districts.

Delta County began offering full-day kindergarten to students in 1999. In Montrose, 2014 marks the first time that full-day Kindergarten is available district-wide.

Montrose County School District RE-1J has traditionally offered early childhood education to families with risk factors, opportunities have now been expanded to include tuition-based preschool as well.

“We have started making plans to move some of our preschool classrooms to elementary sites,” Re-1J Director of Instructional Services Laurie Pascoe said.

ECC classes will now be offered through Olathe Elementary and Johnson Elementary schools, she said.

“There is still work to be done, and it is still early in the conversation, but we are also talking about expanding our program from half a day to full day,” she said.

Pascoe also noted that no “risk factors” are required for families wanting to enroll children in the school-based tuition-funded ECC programs.

“Anybody can go to these,” she said, noting that Johnson will have 60 ECC students this school year, with classes offered in the morning and afternoon.

“Our superintendent’s goal is for ECC to resemble elementary classrooms, so there

is more of a balance.”

The Johnson classes are already full, noted Re-1J Early Childhood Center Director Penny Harris.

Two and a half years ago the district began moving classes from the former Riverside School location to the current site near the district offices, Harris said, because of budget cuts and cuts to Headstart, one of three early childhood education programs offered through Re-1J (the others include the Colorado Preschool Program and a program for students with development disabilities).

Though the \$23 million school facility improvement package approved by voters in 2002 was intended to do away with the district’s reliance on modular classrooms, nine are currently in use serving the ECC students, Harris said.

“We do our best,” she said. “It is not ideal. But our playground is gorgeous.”

In Delta County, where schools serve not two (as in Montrose and Olathe) but five separate municipalities, the district empowers early learners through its collaboration with the separately-funded Delta Family Center (housed in the Delta Center for the Performing Arts building) which encompasses a 22-year-old district-wide backpack program. Backpack Early Learning Academy (BELA) Preschools are presently located in Delta, Crawford, Hotchkiss and Paonia. According to the [web site](#), the Family Center offers resources for parents in rural areas as well through The Backpack Program, a free,

home-based preschool program in which parents are given a backpack box every month to use at home with their child.

Each backpack box has a special theme and is filled with books, materials and educational toys. Backpacks are supplemented by parenting sessions, instruction and a monthly newsletter.

Though the Delta Family Center and its programs are funded 100 percent through grants (with some state funding for the preschool program), the support of the local school district is essential to its continued success, Director Angela Fedler said.

“We started with a little backpack program 22 years ago, and I am proud and excited that its size and dimensions make it one of the most amazing programs in the state,” Fedler said.

“Our preschool program began with one classroom at Garnet Mesa Elementary.”

It was after the passage of a bond package in 2002 that the programs were consolidated under one roof, in the performing arts building initially used as Delta High School and later as Delta Middle School.

“My mom went to high school in this building, and I went to middle school,” Fedler said. “It is the most amazing space. And the resources we have to offer are amazing—everything from nutrition, CHP, Medicaid, application assistance, fitness, health and even after school components are all available through the Delta Family Center.”





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www.facebook.com/VOAWesternSlope



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GET TICKETS NOW FOR MULE DEER CHAPTER DINNER AUG. 23

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The National Mule Deer Foundation is pleased to support the second annual Uncompahgre Mule Deer Chapter dinner. Located on the Western Slope of Colorado in Montrose. Chairmen Mark Harmon and Bruce Leben organized the chapter and will host the second annual banquet and auction on the 23rd of August, 2014 at the Montrose Pavilion. Tickets are \$65 and include membership in the Mule Deer Foundation. Corporate tables

are available. To purchase tickets call Mark Harman at 970-901-0499 or Bruce Leben 414-254-1007.

Tickets will NOT be sold at the door as the event sold out last year. Doors open at 5:30 P.M. Dinner at 6:30 P.M., catered by Daveto's.

The Mule Deer Foundation promotes the conservation of Mule Deer, Blacktail Deer and their habitats. QMDF is dedicated to the following goals:

As urban areas continue to sprawl and

more people build homes in rural settings, mule deer and their habitat will suffer.

Support of your local Mule Deer Chapter helps fund the following:

Habitat Enhancement Projects

Land and Easement Acquisitions

Scientific Research

Support of Responsible Wildlife Management

Conservation Education

Support for Our Hunting Heritage

Youth Programs and More!

MONTROSE OBT ANNOUNCES MONTROSE BUCKS SALE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism wants to help you celebrate back to school and youth sports days with some extra cash. Pick up an extra \$20 when you buy \$100 in Montrose Bucks between Tuesday, August 19 and Saturday, August 30.

Montrose Bucks can only be redeemed by Montrose merchants. Montrose Bucks are an incentive to shop local and help keep retail dollars circulating in our community.

They are accepted like cash by most Montrose businesses.

Bucks can be purchased for a variety of uses and make fantastic gifts any time of the year. Montrose Bucks purchased during this special promotion are limited to \$100 purchase per person and in \$100 denominations. Simply fill out a form, pay \$100 cash (sorry, no credit cards or checks for this promotion), and receive \$120 back in six \$20 checks. Montrose Bucks are available at the Downtown Visitor Center

(107 S. Cascade Ave.) from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Sales are on a first come, first serve basis, and you must be present to purchase (no pre-sales or over the phone purchases).

This Promotion runs from August 19 until August 30. Payment by cash only. Limit \$100 purchase per person. Bucks purchased during this promotion must be used by September 6. Expired checks will not be re-issued. Montrose Bucks are not redeemable for cash.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LINDA RIBA JOINS REGION 10 AS ASSISTANT SBRC DIRECTOR



Region 10 SBRC Asst. Director Linda Riba.

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Yes, cash flow is important. As a 34-year veteran of the commercial lending industry, however, Linda Riba of Region 10 likes to remember that there are other words that begin with “C” as well. “We can also look at context, character and collateral,” Riba said. “They are all pieces of the puzzle.”

The community itself is like a puzzle in which many pieces work and fit together to create the big picture, she noted. She sees her new role as assistant director of the Region 10 Small Business Resource Cen-

ter as an excellent opportunity to eliminate “gaps” in lending opportunities for local entrepreneurs. Riba’s extensive skill set includes tenure as an SBA lender, and she is excited about the prospect of helping local banks to make more loans to small businesses.

“Bankers are often forced to say no to deals that they know can work,” she said. “Here at Region 10, we can partner with banks, and by each taking a piece, we can get that small business what it needs to grow and get some people hired.”

In addition to facilitating the ability of community banks to meet the needs of small business customers, Riba said that her new position will allow her to offer more in-depth advice and counsel, something bankers may be constrained from doing given the current regulatory environment.

“We have so many great classes, and so many resources,” she said. “We can help with a business plan, with understanding financial statements, and with other tools that small companies can use to manage their cash flow and avoid surprises.”

Riba’s job is funded through the Small

Business Administration, which had notified the six-county non-profit organization that additional funds were available. Regional Development Coordinator Jay Stooksberry then wrote an SBA grant to create the position, which will support the efforts of Region 10’s Business Loan Fund.

“I had worked with (Region 10 SBRC Director) Vince Fandel when I was in banking, and we partnered on some Main Street loans back then,” Riba said. “I hope to capitalize on my experiences now that I am here-I want to help convert our many inquiries into loans for small businesses, and continue to facilitate employment for individuals here in our six-county region.”

Small business is the major employer in the United States, she said.

“I am excited to help businesses start, grow, expand, and hire more people,” she said. “We are accessible, we are not cost-prohibitive, and we are happy to talk with folks!” Riba can be reached at 970-249-2436.

To learn more about Region 10, call 970-249-2436 or visit the web site at

www.region10.net.



Call or visit today to see how we can help your business!

301 Main Street, Delta. www.DeltaColorado.org.
970-874-8616. chamber@deltacolorado.org.

Find us on Facebook at “Delta Area Chamber of Commerce.”



ARTS AND CULTURE

STARR, KLEINSORGE, KOLZ TOP THIRD ANNUAL TROUBADOR CONTEST

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-A large crowd of music fans gathered in the alcove by Brown's Shoes in Downtown Montrose to enjoy the Third Annual Montrose Troubadour Contest. Nine Western Slope singer/songwriters performed their original songs for a panel of judges and an appreciative audience during last night's Main in Motion event. This Montrose Office of Business and Tourism sponsored event awarded a total of \$350.00 in Montrose Bucks to the top three performers. They were David Starr, first place; Dr. Mary Kleinsorge, second place; and Doug Kolz, third place. The other performers were: Jed Kovach, Rachel Boschen, James O'Patterson, Maria Tirone, Stephen Felberg and AJ Fullerton. The judges for this year's event were Evelyn Roper, Jordan Carls and Neil Kelly. This year's organizer, Susan Walton, exclaimed, "I was very pleased with how things went. The level of talent was excellent, in both performers and judges. I'm looking forward to doing it again next year--my gift to the community of Western Slope Singer/Songwriters and Montrose!"



Class will focus on business social media marketing

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Are you on social media – Facebook, Google+, LinkedIn, another – but you don't know how to use it for your business? If you want to take your social media marketing to the next level, please consider joining us for a short presentation by Nikole James of Relationship Marketing Solutions.

"Start Your Social Media Marketing Today" will teach business owners and managers how to set up a campaign in four steps, including creating a basic marketing message, identifying ways to target your audience and creating a calendar for successful posting. Please bring a laptop if available.

The class is \$10 for members of any Delta County chamber of commerce, and \$15 for all others. The class is Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1 – 2:30 p.m., at the upstairs conference room of the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce. Space is limited. Please RSVP by calling 874-8616.

This class is presented by the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Delta and Region 10.

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Limited Seating—Register Early!

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TODAY!

Tuesday, August 26 • 1–2:30 pm

Held at Delta Area Chamber of Commerce • 301 Main Street • Delta

REGION 10
Economic Development
& Planning
SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

DELTA AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Delta Chamber Members \$10
Non-Members \$15

**PRESENTED BY
NIKOLE JAMES**

ARTS AND CULTURE

ZOEY BENALLY FEATURED AT ARROYO'S



Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE-The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds Poetry Club for Tuesday, Sept. 2nd features Dr. Zoey Benally, a performance poet, veterinarian and professor at Navajo Technical College in Crownpoint on the Navajo Nation.

Zoey has been a Talking Gourds poet/performer many times over the last few years. At the Karen Chamberlain Poetry Festival in Carbondale earlier this year, a few of us got to hear her do her wildly political piece, Navajo Zombie Apocalypse.

Expect more than sheep and scarred buttes from this performance powerhouse.

With this September gathering, the Club will go back to its normal 6 p.m. time slot on the first Tuesday of every month for the rest of the year.

As always, following Club announce-

ments and performances, we'll have a short break and then pass the gourd around the room to give Club members and attendees a chance to read poems from the monthly theme -- pieces of their own or the work of a favorite other. September's theme will be "Choices."

Talking Gourds Poetry Club is a joint venture of the Telluride Institute, Wilkinson Library, Between the Covers Bookstore, Arroyo Telluride and the newly formed Telluride Literary Arts.

Members meet monthly, on first Tuesday evenings, at Arroyo Fine Art Gallery & Wine Bar at 220 E. Colorado Ave. (next door to Telluride Hardware and the Masonic Hall), beginning at 6 p.m. in Telluride, Colorado. Call 970-729-0220 for more info.

Or visit the Telluride Literary Arts website, tellurideliteraryarts.weebly.com.

USE CHARM AND CHARISMA FOR SALES SUCCESS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Perhaps you aren't getting the reception you desire at your client's place of business. Maybe you get the sense that you're not quite connecting with your customers. Then again, you aren't getting the call backs and reorders you might expect. What's wrong? You may be suffering from lack of Charm and Charisma. Can it be cured? YES if you join us at the Bridges Golf Resort on August 27-just in time to renew your focus on sales success for your fourth quarter. In this economy most of us want to improve sales performance. In this swift, Powerpoint-free but impactful presentation we'll cover the top ways to instantly be seen as more charming, thus experiencing better sales volumes. Even if you are already known as charming-you may learn a few things that can boost your sales. Free to members, \$20 to non-members. 5 p.m. networking, 6:30 p.m. program. RSVP to Terri at 901-6761.

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FIND YOURSELF, FIND TREASURE ON THE BOARDWALK



The newest addition to the Boardwalk Shops is a brightly painted and newly restored hippie van.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE—For an eclectic mix of old and new, the Boardwalk Shops complex south of Montrose provides an interesting shopping experience for customers.

Dennis Vanderwist is the owner of the Boardwalk Shops and the antique store called The Boardwalk. His love of antiques began 20 years ago, eventually leading him to open his own store, and then three years ago he bought the entire Boardwalk Shops complex. “My goal for the complex is to attract tourists,” he said. “When they come down the road, I want them to stop and visit.”

Some of the unique and fun items he has brought in to attract attention include an antique fire engine, a tipi, a WWII bomber, and a newly renovated hippie van, complete with sound, bright colors and an opportunity to reminisce of days gone by.

Vanderwist loves the treasure hunt aspect of the antiques business. “My philosophy is to try to move merchandise so that if you come back a month from now, you will find something new,” he explained. “The antiques business is unique because it causes people to reminisce. I enjoy seeing people looking at different things and having an appreciation and recognition of what they see.”

The other shops on the Boardwalk each add a unique flavor to the complex.

A mainstay at the Boardwalk complex for 22 years, That Little Shop treats customers to an assorted collection of beads, rocks,

gems, minerals, silver jewelry, and gifts from all over the world.

Owner Dennis Mitchell has always had a rock collection and has been cutting and polishing stones his whole life, leading to his desire to own a rock shop. His shop is a treasure trove for anyone interested in unique gifts or in creating their own hand-made jewelry.

With around 75 percent of his customers being locals, Mitchell works to keep things fresh in order to keep customers coming back. “I am constantly changing things up and looking for something new,” he said. “Some things we will always sell, like Sawortsky crystals, but mostly I never get the same thing twice.”

For lovers of all things old, the Rusty Moose has been providing a variety of antiques to pick from for 10 years. Customers can find high end glassware, furniture, and lots of jewelry. Through September everything in the store is 20 percent off.

Christie Unrein, the owner's daughter, helps out at the store, and understands people's love for antiques. “My whole family loves antiques, it's in our genes,” she said. “We have been into antiques all our lives and I love learning about the history of different things.”

Unrein believes in the importance of shopping locally and works to get more people out to the Boardwalk complex to shop. “Shopping locally really makes a mark,” she said.

“We like to prove that we have items from all over the USA, while also providing the personable customer service that you cannot find online.”

Another unique shop is Rustic Arts, home of wood sculptor Ken Braun. It features a tree house, dinosaurs, furniture pieces, and a fun mix of fantasy and function.

Braun's shop has been at the Boardwalk for 2 ½ years. “I have always had a business storefront so I can display and sell my stuff and have a place to work,” he said.

Looking ahead to Fall, Braun will be carving a lot of pumpkins, witches, ghosts and goblins, in addition to working on Christmas gifts for the holiday season.

“We are also going to be putting up awnings so we can put carvings outside to be displayed,” he added.

The winner of multiple awards, Braun travels the world competing and carving at various events. His favorite part of carving? “Just being able to,” he said simply. “I love the art of it and the freedom of creativity. It is a satisfying thing.”

A new addition to the Boardwalk complex is Sacred Scrap, a shop selling repurposed items and antiques, with an emphasis on vintage art.

Owner Haven Sabaini and her husband Tom O'Brien have been settling into the Boardwalk after being open for just around a month now, this being their first attempt at owning a shop.

“My husband and I have always been collecting,” Sabaini explained. “When we met, we discovered that we share a love of antique radios and movie posters. We have always known that someday we would open a shop. This space just fell into place, so we thought ‘why wait?’ We are looking forward to accomplishing our dream.”

Sabaini's goal for the shop is to bring in things that are unique, cool and have an artistic flair.

“I love it when someone comes in and finds a treasure that makes them happy,” she said. “Their face lights up and you can see their joy. There is now that connection knowing that someone loves something that you picked out.”

So, if you are looking for unique home décor, gift ideas or a treat for yourself, be sure to visit the Boardwalk Shops at 17656 Highway 550 S. in Montrose for a fun shopping adventure.

OPINION/EDITORIAL



ELECTRICITY...WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Meeting the needs of electric consumers is a responsibility and stewardship granted to the electric utilities in the state of Colorado by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

As one of those electric utilities, in the form of a non-profit member owned rural electric cooperative, we at Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) take that responsibility very seriously. Our responsibilities are in serving the eastern half of Montrose County, all of Delta County (with the exception of the City of Delta) and a sliver of Western Gunnison County. On behalf of its approximately 35,000 members, DMEA purchases its power and energy from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. under what is called a wholesale power contract. That contract is one that requires DMEA to purchase all but 5 percent of its needs from Tri State through the year 2040. Tri-State has the responsibility to generate and transmit the power to DMEA and DMEA has the responsibility to distribute it to the membership.

Tri-State has done a good job of generating that electricity in a reliable and affordable manner. However, we are concerned for the future. As Tri-State continues to look for ways to meet the needs of its growing membership across four states (Colorado, New Mexico, Nebraska, and Wyoming), there is increased concern in meeting new growth and old power plant replacement needs affordably.

The problem is complex. There are environmental pressures, economic pressures, and political pressures. With that concern, however, is hope. The hope is that we can work together and continue to utilize effi-

ciency measures with our consumption and utilize sustainable technologies with our future generation facilities.

In the electric utility industry, the consumption of electricity is referred to the demand side. The production or generation of electricity to meet that instantaneous demand for electricity is called the supply side. DMEA continues to encourage Tri-State to develop and implement demand side programs and rate structures that promote the efficient use of electric energy while working toward meeting its current and future supply side requirements in a sustainable manner.

At home, DMEA is continuing to investigate and pursue economical demand side programs for its membership both in the efficient use of electricity as well as the sustainable generation local resources from which we can all benefit over the long run.

There have been recent efforts by some to go door-to-door encouraging various coop members (not just in the DMEA service territory but in other of the 43 electric cooperatives served by Tri-State) to write letters to their local co-ops stating a specific position for or against a particular supply side technology solution. Even though the DMEA Board of Directors encourages and appreciates feedback from its membership, rest assured we are working closely with Tri-State on this very issue.

Recent rules regarding efficiencies and emissions from coal-fired power plants is another challenge we will all have to work through in the coming decade.

On June 2, 2014, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed proposed rules to limit power sec-

tor greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to achieve a 30-percent reduction from 2005 levels by 2020 on a state by state basis.

The EPA created a complex calculation to determine each state's 2012 emission rate – roughly equivalent to the pounds of carbon dioxide per Megawatt hour generated by affected (carbon-emitting) units – then modified it to account for additional generation from some low- or zero-emissions sources.

Regardless of a state's past efforts to reduce GHG's, the EPA assigned each state a "goal" number based on the amount of reduction the EPA believes the state can achieve going forward. To determine the goal rate, the EPA created another formula using four "building blocks" of emission reduction strategies. These include 1) heat rate improvements to a state's existing carbon emission resources; 2) redispatch to combined-cycle gas units; 3) use or construction of new low – or zero-emissions resources; and 4) energy efficiency measures. (Kelsey, 2014)

At the end of the day, electric cooperatives were set up by local people for the local people to meet their electric energy needs.

There is much work being done to see that the future needs will be met in a manner that is sustainable for all of us.

What can we do?

We can continue to reduce our consumption locally by meeting our electric needs more efficiently while encouraging Tri-State to develop the most sustainable solutions to meet the future electric consumption that will inevitably occur in this beautiful part of the State.

20TH ANNUAL PARTNERS CHALLENGE RIDE IS SEPT. 13

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Join Partners Mentoring for a beautiful bike ride, on a spectacular end-of-summer day. On September 13th, Partners will be hosting the 20th Annual Partners Challenge Bike Ride, offering two different breathtaking rides in Western Colorado. Ride 1 begins at the top of Cerro Summit and winds along a magnificent route through national forests and river basin country over Owl Creek Pass, ending in Ridgway Town Park. This bike ride is rated moderate to difficult and is fully supported with sag wagons, well-

supplied rest stops, and a bike mechanic.

Ride 2 is a family fun ride from Ridgway Town Park to Ridgway Reservoir and back.

All riders will be given lunch at our post-ride picnic in Ridgway Town Park, which will include a live performance from musician Bruce Hayes.

Registration for riders is \$100 -- \$50 donation, plus a minimum \$50 in pledges. Families that ride together can share their pledges -- \$50 for each adult rider, plus a combined minimum of \$50 in pledges.

Top pledge earner will receive a free Trek

Mountain Bike from Cascade Bicycles.

Registration is due by Sept. 8th

Partners of Delta, Montrose and Ouray celebrates 27 years of service to youth this year.

All donations and pledges are tax deductible and proceeds support the Partners mentoring program for children 6 – 17 years old in our communities. Get the full details on the ride, register, or make a pledge by visiting our website at

www.partners-west.org or call the Partners office in Montrose at 249-1116 for more information.

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT!



Local kids were the beneficiaries of the Third Annual Partners Shootout at San Juan Shooting Range Aug. 9 (Range owner Paul Miller is pictured); above, a little dancer amazes the crowd at Main in Motion Aug. 14; and right, Smokey Bear celebrated his birthday at the Montrose Public Lands Center Aug. 8. Smokey turned 70 on Aug. 9.



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MIRROR IMAGES...CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH!



The Center for Mental Health celebrated 50 years of bringing services to the community at a delightful open house event at their Niagara Street location Aug. 12. Local kids, families and community members gathered to enjoy cake, games, face painting, music by the excellent Goodtimes Music Company and some outstanding BBQ.

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!

THIRD SUNDAY DULCIMER CLUB WITH HARPS & HAMMERS, 2 to 4 p.m. Please call Robin for information and directions to our new location as our club has grown! 970-275-8996. Guitars and Autoharps welcome too—the more the merrier!

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM—The last Saturday of each month will be “Montrose Day” at the Montrose County Historical Museum, 21 N. Rio Grande Street. If you live in the Montrose area, then you will receive a free pass to the Museum. So bring down the family to learn about our unique town and area history. For more information please call 249-2085.

PICKIN’ IN THE PARK—Paonia’s Seventh Annual Free Summer Concert Series, Paonia Town Park, Paonia, Thursday Evenings in August, 6pm ‘til dark.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE—Save on insurance, keep up on newer traffic laws, and learn defensive driving techniques. For details and schedule for Montrose and Delta, contact John 970-856-6924 or 970-424-1778.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Non-Denominational - Community Welcome—This is a 14-Week Course, starting Thursday August 21st and going through November 20 - 3 to 4:30 pm. Hosted by Montrose United Methodist Church, 19 South Park Ave., Montrose, CO. For more information, please call the church office at 249-3716 or at the website

www.montroseumc.org.

Aug. 13—Montrose County Town Hall Meeting, Paradox, Noon.

Aug. 13—Picnic in the Garden, Montrose Botanical Garden. 6:30 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 8 to 765-2237 or 249-5423.

Aug. 14—AARP Driver Safety Class, Montrose. Montrose County Health and Human Services at 1845 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, will host the AARP SMART DRIVER Program from 8:30AM to 1PM. August 14. 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.

Aug. 16—Come down and play at the Montrose Farmers Market! From 8:30 a.m. to 1pm downtown Montrose. Celebrate youth appreciation day. Fun for the whole family. Carnival, children's games, and crafts. Free cooking class and demo for adults from Cooking Matters. Limited space, registration required. Contact info@montrosefarmersmarket.com or 970-209-8463.

Aug. 17—Montrose United Methodist Church members are collecting school supplies to be handed out to children in the Montrose area. The community is encouraged to come to one of the church services on Sunday, Aug. 17th. We have three services to choose from: 8:15 (traditional and contemporary) - 9:45 (contemporary) and 11:15 (traditional). Children can bring their backpacks and Pastor Steve Reinhard will lead the congregation in a Backpack Blessing. Family and children are welcome to pick up items they need for their backpacks that are needed for their school supplies, such as pencils, notebooks, crayons, loose paper, composition books and scissors. For additional information about this project, please call the church office at 249-3716. Please visit our church website @ www.montroseumc.org for more information on church activities.

Aug. 19—Noon to 1 pm - sponsored by Region 10, presentation by — Beau Ballinger with AARP, “If it looks too good to be true, it probably is.” Play it safe with Fraud Prevention. Learn the newest scams, fraud prevention and what to do if you have been scammed, bring your questions. We will promptly start at noon, sign-in at 11:45. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room. Registration required: Register online at www.region10.net or call 970-249-2436.

Aug 20—(Senior Community Care PACE Eckert, 11485 Hwy 65, 1-2pm) and 27th (Senior Community Care PACE Montrose, 2377 Robins Way, 10-11am) Phyllis Hoffman: LTC Planning/Insurances.

Aug. 20 - 1:30 pm—Long-Term Care planning presentation and Q&A by Phyllis Hoffman of Genworth Financial. Learn about long term care insurance options and planning for how you wish to be cared for in the event of chronic illness, serious injury or dementia and Alzheimer's diagnoses. Hosted by Senior Community Care PACE, 11485 Hwy 65 in Eckert.

Aug. 27 - 10:00 am—Long-Term Care planning presentation and Q&A by Phyllis Hoffman of Genworth Financial. Learn about long term care insurance options and planning for how you wish to be cared for in the event of chronic illness, serious injury or dementia and Alzheimer's diagnoses. Hosted by Senior Community Care PACE, 2377 Robins Way in Montrose (off Pavilion Drive).

Aug. 27—The public is invited to hear about Oil & Gas Operations in Colorado, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m., at Westminster Hall in Delta, 135 E 4th St. Join us for a general overview operations, hydraulic fracturing, environmental and safety awareness and economic impacts. There will also be time for a Q&A session. Presented by Coloradans for Responsible Energy Development. This presentation is free and open to the public.

Aug. 30th—(Market Hours: 8:30 - 1pm) Celebrate National Peach Month!

Peach Pie and Cobbler Bake off at the Montrose Farmers Market. Pies need to be submitted by 9:30am. Judging starts at 10am. More information and entries available at Straw Hat Farms Market or contact lois@montrosefarmersmarket.com.

Sept. 7—Montrose United Methodist Church invites the community to a Free Picnic in the Street, at 12:30. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Side Dishes, Drinks and Desserts. The street between Park Ave, 1st and 2nd St will be closed and tables and canopies will be set up for the picnic. The Community is invited to come to any one of three services, 8:15 (traditional and contemporary) - 9:45 (contemporary) or 11:15 (traditional). Child care is available for church services and Sunday school starts at 9:45. The Picnic in the Street will begin at 12:30 and everyone is welcome. For more information on Picnic in the Street, please call our church office @ 249-3716. Please visit our website for more information on church activities www.montroseumc.org.

Sept 17—(Senior Community Care PACE Montrose, 2377 Robins Way, Montrose 10-11am) and 24th (Senior Community Care PACE Eckert, 11485 Hwy 65, 1-2pm) Lynette Gilbert: OT/PT In The Home/Training.

Sept. 17—6:30 pm “PUTTING YOUR GARDEN TO BED” presented by the MONTROSE BOTANICAL SOCIETY with the assistance of local Master Gardeners. Bring your lawn chair to the Botanic Gardens south of the Pavilion, 1800 Niagara. Free. www.montrosegardens.org.

Sept. 20—A True Blue Affair, 5 p.m. to Midnight at the Montrose Pavilion. For information, tickets and table sales, please call (970) 252-5257.

Sept. 20—Sharing Ministries Street Dance, 121 North Rio Grande, 2 p.m. with Kipori Baby Wolf Woods, Mike Gwinn and North Fork Flyers, Niceness. \$10 admission, kids under five are free.

Sept. 24—Montrose County Town Hall Meeting, Nucla, 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 26-27—Fifth Annual Tribute to Western Movies Days, Museum of the Mountain West.

Sept. 27—Montrose Oktoberfest! 1to 6 p.m. Downtown Montrose.

Oct. 25—Insurance Fair, City of Montrose Centennial Room, 9 a.m. to Noon. Call 970-252-0660 for information.

Nov. 19—Montrose County Town Hall Meeting, Olathe, 6 p.m.



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9th Annual

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Local kids enjoyed a last chance to float at the Center for Mental Health's 50th birthday celebration Aug. 12 (right) before heading back to school Aug. 18 (below right). Below, 2014's final Main in Motion event welcomed the Ori Naftaly band from Israel to Main Street Montrose, with a sound that channeled legendary Colorado band Zephyr.
Rest in peace, Tommy Bolin... and rock on Ori Naftaly Band!



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