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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 93 Oct. 1, 2014

2014 SEASON SUPER HOT FOR CHILES, FARMERS MARKET!

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--When a Super Bowl bet between the Mayors of Denver and Seattle sparked a friendly feud between Colorado and New Mexico in January of this year, at the heart of the dispute was a little green pepper. The contest became hot enough to make the [Dallas Morning News](#), which quoted New Mexico Department of Agriculture spokeswoman Katie Goetz insisting, "WE are the chile state."

Never mind. Here in Western Colorado, locals definitely share a traditional love for green chiles that spans generations. And no wonder--according to the Bueno Foods Chile Facts site, green chiles have actually been in existence for more than 10,000 years and were originally distributed throughout South and Central American by birds. The [web site](#) also points out that Chiles were among the first plants domesticated in the New World along with corn, squash and beans.

And as always, the harvest season is a hot one right here in Montrose--colorful, fresh chiles crowd market shelves while the enticing aroma of outdoor vendors fresh-roasting chiles wafts from busy street corners.

"We are growing a lot of chiles!" Maria Suarez of local grower Macario Suarez

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Shoppers at the Montrose Farmers Market browse the chile selection at the Chamberlain Farms' stand. It has been a great year for chile peppers, growers say.

FIND FRESH CHOICES YEAR ROUND AT CITY FARM!



Specially designed hydroponic towers allow City Farm to grow enough produce indoors to stock a small farm market year round at 33 North Cascade Avenue.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--Don't expect to see grain silos, tractors, or sweeping fields of wheat or corn. At City Farm, not even an acre of ground is under production --instead, the "farm" in this case is a storefront at 33 North Cascade Avenue.

The emphasis at City farm is on health and wellness, and on fresh produce available all year round. Whether you want to bring home a Romaine bouquet, a head of lettuce or garlic, some fresh sunflower greens or eggs from free-roaming chickens, you can find them here. You can also rent a hydroponic unit for home use, or take a fitness class any day of the week.

Entrepreneurs Scott and Marilyn Scarborough and Scott Ludian bring together an array of opportunities that make it easy for urban dwellers to enjoy the benefits of farm-fresh products, in a peaceful and welcoming space that includes a gallery of work by local artists as well.

"We have good, fresh, natural food that you can use

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stories!

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located in City!

WHISTLEBLOWER EXPOSES ILLEGAL WASTE DUMPS IN CITY



The photo on left, taken by Cottonwood resident Lois Phillips, shows waste tires in stagnant water behind Cottonwood Trailer Park. The other photos reveal a hazardous materials dump behind the Great Homes Trailer Parks on South San Juan Avenue. Phillips, who has suffered retaliation in the form of an eviction notice for asking about the sites, fears that a child or frail adult could be hurt in the parks.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—The stacks of old tires and computer monitors were lying on the ground, in plain sight. What was not visible to the naked eye, however, was the fetid pond filled with waste tires.

When a brave resident of one of the Great New Homes' aging trailer courts peeked through a fence, however, and took photos of what she saw, she shared them with the *Mirror*.

One of the waste sites was a pond behind her own park; also exposed was a hazardous materials dump site located on the property of the San Juan Trailer Park that backs onto the Cedar Creek waterway. That dump site is in no way legal, noted Montrose Police Chief Tom Chinn.

"We were not aware of this, but I am sending my code officer over right now," Chinn told the *Mirror* on Sept. 22.

"E-waste should be properly recycled—the City holds a round-up twice a year for these things, and most electronics can be recycled any day of the week at Recla Metals."

Because of the hazards, however, Recla Metals—which does accept most waste electronics—does not take televisions and computer monitors, said company owner Dian Fulk.

"We take everything from old cell phones to giant old Xerox machines, but we can't take televisions or computer monitors at all," she said. "They are hazardous waste, and contain mercury. Inert metals are not so good, and must be disposed of within certain boundaries and according to specific guidelines. I suggest calling the City of Montrose to find out when the e-waste

recycle days are."

The City of Montrose web site notes that "Electronic waste or e-waste includes PCs, monitors, laptops, TVs, and other complex circuitry items that are at the end of useful life or no longer wanted. Electronic devices contain lead, chromium, cadmium, mercury, and other toxic materials.

"When discarded in the landfill, toxic substances from these devices can leach into the soil and groundwater."

The San Juan Avenue waste dump site is located just yards from Cedar Creek. The old tires visible at the site pose just as great a hazard as e-waste, Chinn noted.

"Tires must be recycled on their own," Chinn said. "They are highly dangerous, because once they get water in them you have a breeding ground for mosquitos."

The problems associated with the disposal of waste tires drew statewide attention after a flash flood in July of 2011 uncovered a decades-old stash of tires in Ouray County that were traced to a Montrose area business owned by Butch Gunn.

Watch Newspapers Reporter Samantha Wright noted earlier this month that initially, "upward of 1,000 tires buried in a ravine on Gunn's property above Burro Creek on County Road 4 came down into Cow Creek and the Uncompahgre River."

This year, during cleanup efforts by Ridgway Valley Enterprises at the Ouray County site, 102.5 more tons of waste tires were unearthed, according to Wright, who learned that the cost of the overall cleanup, expected to be finished by year's end, is a staggering \$525,000, to be covered by a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

Also this year, on June 6, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper signed into law legislation proposed by State Reps. Don Coram (R-Montrose) and Max Tyler (D-Lakewood) to finally address the state's enormous waste tire stockpiles. Colorado currently leads the nation in the number of waste tires improperly disposed of—more than 60 million tires rest in two enormous piles located north of Hudson and south of Colorado Springs, according to a *Denver Post* column dated April 19 of 2014 and written by Rubber Manufacturers Association Vice President Michael Blumenthal. Blumenthal noted that the bipartisan legislation championed by Coram and Tyler this year will eventually shut down and cleanup the tire monofills and bring an end to an inefficient taxpayer subsidy payment to end users of waste tires while cutting the state's tire fee on new tire purchases from \$1.50 to \$0.55.

Meanwhile, those who learn of an illegal dump site do not need the courage shown by Cottonwood Trailer Park resident and whistleblower Lois Phillips, who took the first photos of the Great Homes illegal waste site.

"We have a lot of good people here in Montrose who are not afraid to report anything," noted Chief Chinn.

"We need folks who are not afraid. But everyone out there can be our eyes and ears; you can always report things anonymously through the Crimestoppers line, which is never traced, at 970-249-8900." Reporting is everyone's responsibility, he said. "We all need to take care of our community," Chinn said.

"We are all in this together."

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

The Montrose Mirror is your source for community news and information.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALL POINTS TRANSIT TRANSFER STATION AND STREETScape UNDERWAY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - Contractors working for the City of Montrose (city) began a construction project on South Second Street between South Uncompahgre and South Cascade Avenues on Sept. 22. The project will construct a transfer station for use by All Points Transit and improve the north side of South Second Street. The transfer station will include reconfiguration of an existing under-used, city-owned parking lot and construction of a new pedestrian

island with bus shelter. The roadway improvements will include addition of on-street parking, new sidewalks, decorative brickwork, and installation of new pedestrian lighting. The project is funded by three different grants administered by the Colorado Department of Transportation with contributions from the City, the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and All Points Transit.

Construction is expected to last through the end of the year.

During construction the shoulder on the north side of South Second Street will be closed to pedestrian traffic and on-street parking.

Through traffic on South Second Street will be maintained; however, the city asks that motorists and pedestrians please exercise caution near the work area and respect all coned-off areas.

Questions regarding the project may be directed to Scott Murphy, City Engineer at [\(970\) 240-1498](tel:9702401498).

Oct. 9—League of Women Voters of Montrose County BOCC Candidate Forum, Montrose City Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m. Call 970-275-5791 for information.

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MONTROSE GETS A MAKERSPACE!

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Innovative individuals in Montrose now have a place to experiment, explore, promote and create as many items as their mind can imagine. That place is Montrose Makerspace.

The Montrose Makerspace official website describes it as "A space where creativity abounds, inspiration flourishes, experience transfers and the future is created today; this is a Makerspace. Take a physical space, equip it with a wide variety of old-school and high-tech tools, supplies, project areas, with training and mentors, then watch creative energies soar."

Founded by Ross Hauck (of Hauck Engineering and the Ross of 'Ross Reels') and Dr. Craig Hollabaugh, the concept for starting a makerspace in Montrose is not a new idea, but one that's time has finally come. "Many people around Montrose have wanted to start a makerspace," Craig said. "I've mentioned starting a makerspace to Ross a couple of times in the past two months. A few weeks ago, he asked about progress. I said 'slow'. He then made me an unbelievable offer: rent the Hauck Engineering building and lease almost all of his precision prototype production tools (about \$750,000 in value) and start the makerspace here, in the Montrose Business Park. I couldn't believe it. We shook hands and started the Montrose Makerspace on Sept. 9, 2014."

The Montrose Makerspace will wear many 'hats' and provide a variety of services for locals of all ages. "It's the best 'shop' class ever for K-12 to foster STEM," Craig explained. "It's the most equipped garage shop for the weekend craftsman. It's a place for community collaboration to create American innovation. It's the place for veterans to create custom prosthetics for our adaptive waterpark. It's a place where start-up entrepreneurs can create their product prototypes. It's a place where business incubators/accelerators will help these entrepreneur's launch new businesses that create primary Montrose jobs. It's a place where displaced workers learn the most current development tools and fabrication practices, and enter a new career."



The Montrose Makerspace will be located in the Hauck Engineering Building, with access to precision production tools. Courtesy image.

Starting from Day 1, the Montrose Makerspace will be the most equipped makerspace in the country. The Makerspace has more than 60 pieces of equipment, including some that no other makerspace has, such as a Haas CNC vertical mill, a Haas CNC lathe, a 6-axis ABB robot, and all the production tools needed, along with a master craftsman machinist with 45 years of experience, and a Ph.D. circuit designer/software guru in house to help.

An additional angle that the Makerspace is pursuing is to take the story of the Montrose Makerspace to people across the world. "We're looking for local videographers to document the Montrose Makerspace as we open and grow," Craig explained. "We'd like to document member's projects one at a time as they discuss their idea, progress through design phase, consult local advisers/subject maker experts, produce their prototype using our tools and then test their design. After 13 or so 23-minute segments are produced, we want to sell the 'Montrose Makerspace' environment to the Discovery Network as a high-tech reality television show. It's a cross-

between Myth Busters, Monster Garage, New Yankee Workshop, Nova and Shark Tank."

The Montrose Makerspace aims to open in December, but right now, for anyone interested in getting involved, it is looking for motivated people to work through its pre-open to-do list, founding members who can purchase a year membership, craftsman to help create its lounge think tank, and angel donors.

Craig has a big purpose and big plans for Montrose Makerspace. "I want all the Montrose school children to learn that they can turn an idea into something real," he said. "If it doesn't work, that's fine, try again. Veterans that live here and those soon to arrive can create enhancements that improve their quality of life. I want all the budding and established entrepreneurs to have a single place that their ideas are prototyped, financed, marketed, manufactured and distributed right here."

For more information and to register, call 316-3165, email hol-la@montrosemakerspace.com or visit montrosemakerspace.com.

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 - Fonts, Alignments, and Numbers
- **Customizing Quick Access Toolbar**
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- **Saving and Printing Spreadsheets**
 - Save, and Save As
 - Quick Print, and Print

TUES., OCTOBER 28
Noon–1:30 pm

INTERMEDIATE INTRODUCTION

to Microsoft Excel & Spreadsheets

- **Utilizing Fill Option**
 - Filling with Months, Days, and Patterns
 - Using Fill Option to Clear Data
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 - Copy Data to Additional Sheets
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SPORT CLIPS BUILDS SHARE IN CROWDED MARKET BY FOCUSING ON MALE CLIENTELE



First customer of the day, Richard gets a trim from Katie at Sport Clips in Ox Bow Crossing.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—For a busy parent, the prospect of taking a boy or two or even three



Store Manager Sasha heads a team of six.

for haircuts can intimidate--unless you happen to head for Sport Clips, located for the past seven years at Oxbow Crossing Shopping Center. "We are open every day, and we have a staff of six," Montrose Sport Clips manager Sasha said. "And our MVP treatment is exactly what it's all about!"

The Montrose Sport Clips sold recently to a franchisee who is also opening a store in Grand Junction on Oct. 4. There are about 1,200 Sport Clips locations in the United States, and the company's success is not

hard to understand; with plenty of sports channels, short wait times even during peak hours, and staffers who are trained to cater to men (though women are welcome as well for everything but styling), the Montrose location sees between 20 to 60 customers every day.

"I love everything about my job," Sasha said. "I love getting to talk to guys all day long--they are so laid back and easy going. And this is an exciting environment because we always have sports on!"

Staffers vary from brand new beauty school graduates to stylists with 10 and 25 years of experience, she said. Men and boys are welcome to come in between cuts for trims.

"At Sport Clips we believe our ultimate success depends on our commitment to provide a champion haircut experience to every client," Sasha said.

"We each take classes about every three months to keep up on new trends and make sure we are all on the same page, doing the same things at all Sport Clips around the world." Sport Clips is located at 1541 Oxbow Drive, Suite 1475.

The phone number is 970-252-1155.

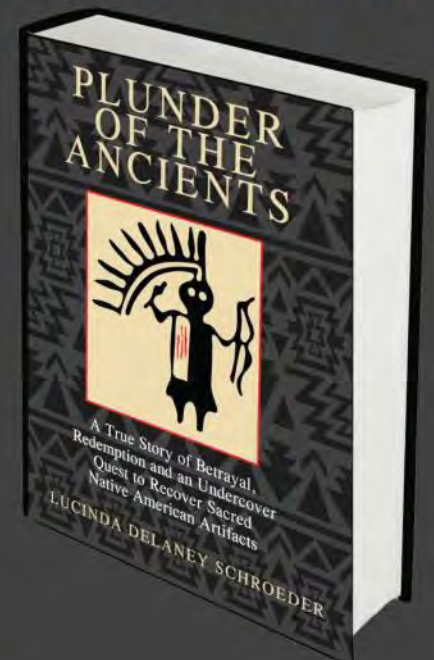
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FOCUS WILL BE ON NEW, CURVED STAGE WHEN NIGHTCLUB OPENS IN MASONIC BUILDING, MEEK SAYS



Yvonne Meek plans to open her new venue over the holidays or by Valentine's Day.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Expect understated elegance, and a menu and amenities that ap-

peal to the ladies when Yvonne Meek opens her upstairs-downtown venue in the historic Masonic Building (509-511 Main Street).

"We are on our last set of architectural drawings," Meek said, "and should have the final ones by the end of the month. We plan to target the front room first; we will put in a bookcase, and probably a spiral staircase to the offices in the loft. Then we plan to clean, and paint, and finally re-surface the floor. I can't wait!"

Meek said that she has already acquired two pianos—a console for the front room and a grand piano for the performance space.

Though she is in the process of designing the perfect "cocktail" bar for the main performance space, it will not be the main attraction.

"The focus will be on the stage," she said. "We will have a curved stage, with stair steps on both sides, and the extra risers will be gone."

And while the building still has a working "Inclinor" lift, Meek said that she is exploring plans for additional access. She hopes to eventually line the stairwell with

reproductions of historic photos, drawings and timelines pertaining to the Masonic Building, which was originally designed by White and Okey and once housed the mortuary where the body of Chief Ouray's wife, Chipeta, was brought pending her burial in Montrose.

"I want things that give a little of the building's history," Meek said.

The façade will eventually be restored to showcase the original glass panels, she added.

"We don't know if they are still there," she said, "but we are assuming they still are."

Montrose resident Juli Messenger toured the building with Meek last week, and spoke for many when she said, "I just love this building—it speaks to my soul."

"I am thrilled that someone who cares as much as I do will restore it and give it the love and attention it deserves."

Meek expects to open to the public either for the winter holidays or for a Valentine's event, depending on how the restoration proceeds.

"I can't wait to open the windows, and step out onto the balcony!" she said.

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MONTROSE COUNTY NEWS AND INFORMATION

JOIN THE MONTROSE COUNTY FAIR BOARD!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The Montrose County Fair Board is looking for energetic applicants who are passionate about the Montrose County Fair & Rodeo. There are currently several vacancies on the board, and there is an urgent need for applicants as the board prepares to elect officers next month. "We are looking for individuals who have an interest in participating in a community event," said Fairgrounds and Business Manager Emily Sanchez. "Fair is more

than just agriculture--it is a celebration of the community both in regard to our roots and looking forward." Sanchez also noted that the fair board needs applicants interested in not only animals, but arts, horticulture, general science, living arts such as knitting, crochet, food preservation and of course, the baking and pie entries. Applicants are appointed by the Montrose Board of County Commissioners following an interview and selection process. The Montrose County Fair Board is responsible

for planning, preparation and implementation of the Montrose County Fair & Rodeo.

The volunteer fair board meets every third Tuesday of the month at the fairgrounds, and as needed for planning sessions and more.

For an application, please visit: <http://www.montrosecounty.net/175/Applications>. For questions and more information, please call Kathy Kacso at 970-249-7755.

HANDS-ON GRASS PASTURE FIELD DAY SET FOR OCT. 3 AT DELTA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



A grass pasture field day has been set for Oct. 3 in Hotchkiss. Courtesy image.

Special to the Mirror

HOTCHKISS--Tri-River Area specialists from CSU Extension, USDA-NRCS, Delta

view of 17 irrigated and 17 dryland grass species that can be used for agricultural and natural resource conservation purposes,

such as: grazing livestock, weed suppression, erosion control, and enhancement of wildlife habitat. In addition, there will be discussions and practical information on soil testing, soil preparation, grass species selection, time of planting, irrigation, weed management, insect and disease management, expected yields, and livestock grazing. The cost is \$10 per person, or \$15 per couple, including lunch. **Call Ginny Price at 970-249-3935 to register.**

The project is a cooperative effort with CSU Tri River Area Extension, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Delta County, Delta Conservation District, and The Colorado Association of Conservation Districts.

For more information please contact program coordinators:

John Rizza – 243-5068 ext. 128

or john.rizza@colostate.edu

F. Isaac Muñoz – 249-3935 or

f.isaac.munoz@colostate.edu.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WILL JAMES SOCIETY DONATES BOOKS TO COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Cottonwood Elementary recently received ten books (\$200 value) through the Will James Society Book Gifting Program. It is the mission of the Will James Society to provide books written and illustrated by Will James in the western genre for readers of all ages to enjoy stories of the real cowboy life.

The Society donates books to schools and libraries throughout the United States and Canada. For further inquiries to have a donation of books provided to a school or public library of your choice, contact Charlie Nightengale, Director of the Will James Book Gifting Program, P.O. Box 2767, McCall, Idaho 83638 or email WillJamesSociety@yahoo.com or visit their website www.willjames.org.

Pictured are Cottonwood Elementary Students with Ron Morris, Vice President of the Will James Society.





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MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT!



Ace sound team Michelle and Rob Jones at the Sharing Ministries Street Dance Sept. 20.



Realtor Mandy Norris-Snell of Norris-Snell Real Estate welcomes clients to her firm's new offices at 306 East Main Street in Montrose.



At left, Marcelena and Tara made a day out of giving back, heading straight for the Sharing Ministries street dance on Sept. 20 after finishing the Sunrise Creek Alzheimer's Walk in the morning.



Alpine Lawns staffers Ruthy Miller and Theresa Miller help to beautify Main Street near Bank of the West.



Above, Karen Connor of the League of Women Voters of Montrose and Delta counties registered voters at the Delta-Montrose Vo-Tec Sept. 25.

ONE STEP CLOSER TO HELP AND HOPE WALK/RUN SET FOR OCT. 11

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Memorial Hospital is proud to present the 22nd Annual "One Step Closer to Help and Hope" 5K Walk and 5 & 10K Run on Saturday, Oct. 11th. The walk/run begins at 9 am with registration beginning at 8 am at the Montrose Pavilion. The cost for the event is \$25 before the event and \$30 on the day of the event, which includes a long sleeve T-shirt. (If you do not pre-register, your T-shirt will be mailed to you after the event.) Registration forms are available at Montrose Memorial Hospital, City Markets, Safeway, KUBC/ KKXK, San Juan Cancer Center, and online at www.MontroseHospital.com and www.bosombuddiesswc.org.

ALL money raised during these events stays in Western Colorado to help individuals who have been touched by breast cancer. If you are unable to attend and would like to send a donation to this year's annual fund raiser, please mail it to Bosom Buddies, P.O. Box 1263, Montrose, CO 81402.

FIND FRESH CHOICES YEAR ROUND AT CITY FARM! *From page 1*



Above, City Farm Partner Scott Scarborough shows some of the sunflower sprouts (top) and dill that he and his partners grow year round in the storefront space on North Cascade Avenue.

as you need and come back for more, right here in Downtown Montrose," Scarborough said. "If you don't want to come down, you can rent one of our units and put it in a spare room. We will provide the lights and the nutrients--we can even order ladybugs 10,000 at a time.

"This is not your typical 20-acre farm," he said, "but our lettuce is not grown in Peru or Mexico and then shipped--it's grown right here. The goal is, 'from farm to fork.'

"In 600 square feet, we can grow enough produce to maintain a small, indoor farm market all winter long," he said.

"We have designed vertical towers that will grow 600 plants in 10 square feet--our big breakthrough.

"Our home units have two trays with lights, and come with \$50 worth of plants," he said.

The Scarboroughs, who own a longtime local real estate business as well, had dabbled in hydroponics in the past, and eventually met a basil grower who inspired them to begin growing their own and supplying fresh vegetables and greens to local restaurants. The results have been featured on elegant tables and at culinary events like the Bridges Breakfast Sampler during the recent Savor the San Juans fundraiser.

The best part of the business is having a constant supply of fresh food, Scarborough said.

"You can buy lettuce or basil as seed-



Partner Scott Ludian offers fitness classes, free consultations and individual wellness programs at City Farm.

lings, and as they matures add more seedlings, so instead of running to the store, you simply walk over to the 'unit,' for a salad," he said.

Thanks to the growth of City Farm itself, the Scarboroughs have turned an underused building into a thriving business with office space for their real estate company, Montrose-Realestate.com, as well. Partner Scott Ludian brings the essential fitness and wellness components, offering fitness shakes and daily classes at City Farm and for South-side residents with a regular presence at Anytime Fitness.

Just call us for a free consultation," Ludian said, "and we will set up an individual wellness program for you." City Farm is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. The phone number is 970-209-2234.



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▲ Representatives of several of our communities' vital businesses and organizations graciously receive their capital credit checks. (L to R) Russell Stover Store Manager, Amanda Morris, Oxbow Mine Representative, Rob Thurman, Delta County School District Assistant Superintendent, Kurt Clay, and Superintendent, Caryn Gibson, Montrose City Councilor, Kathy Ellis, Montrose County School District Superintendent, Mark McHale are presented checks from DMEA Board President, Olen Lund.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MHS SAFE SENIOR GRADUATION PARTY FUNDRAISER!

Bridges Golf and Country Club Golf Tournament

For the benefit of the 2015 MHS Senior Safe Party and Baccalaureate

SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 2014

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SHOTGUN START AT 8:30 AM

\$70 per player includes golf and lunch

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The poster features a dark blue background with a yellow horizontal band across the middle. On the left, the word "Elect" is written in a white, cursive font. Below it, the name "Tammy Theis" is displayed in large, bold, yellow-outlined letters. To the right of the name, there is a yellow map of Montrose County with a white outline of the county. Below the map, the text "MONTROSE COUNTY" and "DISTRICT 2" are written in white. At the bottom right, the text "MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER" and the website "www.votetheis.com" are written in yellow. A small line of text at the very bottom reads "PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT THEIS FOR BOCC DISTRICT 2".

Elect

Tammy Theis

MONTROSE COUNTY

DISTRICT 2

MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

www.votetheis.com

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT THEIS FOR BOCC DISTRICT 2

2014 SEASON SUPER HOT FOR CHILES, FARMERS MARKET! From page 1



Above, Market manager Lois Harvie on the job (far left); above left, Brett Pejsa plays music to accompany the market; below right, Ann Marie and Jock Fleming shop for vegetables together.

Farms said. "Every year is good for chiles, but this season is a very good one. The peppers have a nice color, especially the Big Jims--they are a beautiful size."

For Montrose Farmers Market Manager Lois Harvie, a New Mexico transplant, promoting Colorado's passion for growing and consuming chiles is a labor of love.

"I am a big green chile fanatic," Harvie said, adding that chiles and other peppers have been highlighted in recent events at the market and will continue to play a starring role. "The chiles here are really going strong, which I love because they are a personal favorite!"

On Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the market will host a harvest festival complete with pumpkin carving, a petting zoo, tractor show, live music from Noon to 2 p.m...and plenty of pre-roasted, locally-grown green chiles.

"We used a lot of green chiles during our burrito competition too," Harvie said.

"People were really excited--we had savory burritos with green chiles and local eggs--local everything. When I smell chiles roasting I want to use them in recipes--so I have several recipes that I am happy to share, for things like green chile pork stew, green chile corn chowder, and harvest burritos."

Local growers bringing chiles to the Farmers Market this year include Skeeter Chamberlain, who also has several varieties of jalapenos, Harvie said, as well as Mattics Farms, Blue Gamma, Macario Suarez and Wags World.

Harvie noted that with the market going year-round, shoppers can come out to find the perfect, artisan-created Christmas and Holiday gifts. Space is still open for additional holiday vendors, she said.

"We will be open three Saturdays in November and December," she said, "with 20



vendors selling Western Slope craft items and food, and we will have special promotions to correspond with the DDA (Downtown Development Authority)'s second Saturday promotions." The Montrose Farmers Market is currently open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, behind the Straw Hat Farm Market Store.

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HEY IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE, IT'S A STUPID BAND DANCE PARTY!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Hey, it's not rocket science --it's a Stupid Band Halloween Dance! So get your costume ready, find a non-perishable food item for Sharing Ministries, and be sure to wear dancing shoes! The 28th Annual Stupid Halloween Dance takes place on Oct. 31, at Turn of the Century Saloon.

Doors open at 8 p.m.

"There's always some great costumes!" Bass player Chris Tarman said.

Expect the event of the season, Stupid Band drummer Brad Switzer said.

"Want a taste of Montrose? Nothing could be tastier than the Stupid Band," Switzer said.

"The band has written more than 100 original songs, music that is locally grown, produced and marketed. Most of what we play at our shows is original, with a few well-chosen covers in the mix.

"Our music appeals to young and old alike, but you have to be 21 to get in," he

said. "This is going to be our Montrose 'Rocktoberfest,' second only to Vinotok in Crested Butte, and that is HUGE!"

Rumors are flying that one of the original Stupid Band lineup, Tim Gilliland, may return to Montrose for this year's show. Switzer, however, refused to comment.

"We just want to encourage everyone who likes to dance to come out, and support our canned food drive," he said.

"Michael Erie and I have written some new songs for you--'Going up to Colorado,' 'Beat Goes On (Not the Sonny and Cher version),' and 'De-Railment,' which has great personal relevance to me, coming from a railroad family and being a former switchman who used a switchyard lantern, which by the way I still have.

"Don't let your own plans derail!" he added. "Come out to the Halloween Dance and help us roll out a rockin' November!"

Admission is \$10 and a non-perishable food item for Sharing Ministries.

Call 970-209-1260 for more information.



Leave the homework at home! Be smart, and get Stupid!

CELEBRATE OCTOBER AT FIRST FRIDAY STROLL DOWNTOWN!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--At A+Y Design Gallery, Missy Rogers and Kurt Isgreen are the featured artists for the month of Oct. with "Art of the Wild", celebrating 50 years of the Wilderness Act. Works inspired by wilderness areas on the Western Slope of Colorado will be featured, many done on location in the surrounding areas near Montrose. Both artists have been hiking into and working on location, directly from nature in these treasured areas for many years. Opening reception will be Oct. 3rd, 5:30 - 8:30. Enjoy a cup of treat while experiencing the "Art of the Wild." Exhibit ends Oct. 31st.

Mike at Simpson Gallery will be showing watercolor and oil paintings of fall colors in the wilds of Utah and Colorado. Mike will also be demonstrating an oil painting of fall colors.

Around the Corner Art Gallery will have a special show called "Around Town in Montrose". There are some great scenes depicted in the paintings. This juried show is open to local artists and it challenges

them to create outside their comfort zone. Come meet the participating artists while enjoying complimentary appetizers and wine at the opening reception, Oct. 3rd, 5:30 to 8pm. The show will hang for the month of Oct.

Amazing Glaze is featuring a free "Funky Feather" workshop during the Stroll. You will learn how to etch into the glazes creating a fun and unique design. This design could easily be changed into a fall leaf. The workshops are always fun and can be done with ease regardless of your skill level! Pre-registration is suggested as class space is limited. Call or stop by! 219 E. Main St., 970-252-7225. Workshop is from 6:30 to 8:30.

For the First Friday Stroll, Nina Suzanne's will be offering store specials from 5:30 till 6:00. Stop by and see all the new fall fashions and summer clearance rack.

Visit Tiffany, etc. while touring your favorite Galleries and Main Street. Sample our new Gourmet Hot Chocolate flavors and see our new fall arrivals. Tiffany, etc.



Alley, by Lewis Williams (courtesy image), is part of the "Around Town in Montrose" show at Around the Corner Gallery this month.

"Truly A Downtown Montrose Shopping Experience."

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

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MIRROR IMAGES...SAYING YES FOR OUR SCHOOLS!



Above, Ben Hale of Montrose shows his support for increased funding for local schools.

At right, new Montrose resident Bob Sorrell said that he supports Measure 3A, because he believes in the value of education, and besides, "It's just pennies."



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OP-ED-LETTERS

PROPOSED MILL LEVY OVERRIDE-THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

Dear Editor:

Now comes the School district seeking \$14.5 million in new taxes. As it was with the Rec District, proponents have ignored the bleak facts of the state of our economy, and the increased financial burden more taxes will place on taxpayers and struggling businesses. Unlike the question of increasing sales/real tax for the Rec District, all Montrose voters get to have a voice on this proposition. Astute voters will take the time to become fully informed, separating fact from hype, before they vote.

When any initiative seeks higher taxes, you can bet there is another side to the story that is more sobering. Such is the case with the override, which is being peddled as "the most conservative solution." Residential and business taxpayers will be hit with a 27.2 percent school tax increase! Over the five year period, that translates to an increase in school tax dollars of 136 percent over current rates.

When that massive tax increase is applied to our total tax bill, the effect is an "across the board tax increase" of 10.3 percent for all taxpayers! The result over five years is an increase in tax dollars of 51.5 percent over current rates! You could sell the Brooklyn Bridge to a low information voter faster than you can sell this tax increase as "conservative."

Main St. is littered with empty commercial buildings, and most businesses struggle to survive in our still ailing economy. Yet, businesses are subjected to a real tax rate 364 percent higher than the residential rate, and will be sorely affected by an "across the board" 10.3 percent tax increase. No business can absorb such a tax hike without increasing prices to us all. This proposed mill levy override is a regressive anti-business, anti-economic recovery tax that will harm our economy for years.

Unspoken is the shaky assumption that none of the other local taxing entities will increase taxes over five years. The Rec District is already scheduled for a 19 percent tax increase. The School District won't talk about their planned mill levy increase in addition to any override. Does anyone think the County will go five years without a tax increase? What about the Library District? What about the Fire District?

Promoters point out that spending per pupil in Montrose ranks 41 in Colorado. The clear implication in the sales pitch for higher taxes is that if we just spend more per pupil, achievement will surely improve. Many statistics on achievement, however, point to an inverse relationship between dollars spent per pupil and actual achievement. What occurs all too frequently is that more dollars spent

per pupil actually results in less student achievement. What we should be asking is what is the money really spent on and what are our students being taught?

The District claims "overcrowded classrooms of 30-40 students", as the reason for allocating \$8 million for 26 new teachers necessary to "lower the student/teacher ratio." The misleading implication is that a high ratio exists and overcrowded classrooms are the norm. Such is not the case. District financials tell a completely different story from the sales pitch we are being given. Current average class size is: Elementary-21.2, Middle school -23.8, and High school -25. Far from the claimed 30-40 noted as one reason for higher taxes.

For five years, student/teacher ratios have never exceeded 17-1. It seems clear, that if any classes of 30-40 actually do exist, it is due to an administrative class scheduling problem and not the teacher shortage being claimed. Frankly, we are not getting accurate information about overcrowding and the student/teacher ratios. Is this by design? Or is it because no one verified the District story line?

The District implies a great loss of teachers due to cutbacks. Records show that between 10/11 and 11/12, 23 teacher positions were cut. Since then, funding has returned to within \$239,000 of 10/11 levels and teachers have been rehired.

For 14/15, 338.5 teacher positions were budgeted, but the current teacher level is at 355. That means the District is currently 16.5 teachers and more than \$1 million over budget. This puts us 11 teachers above 10/11 level. The question then arises, why do we need 26 new teachers at a cost of \$8 million in new taxes, with a consistently low student/teacher ratio and no shortage of teachers?

Promoters state a need to be competitive with the private sector to attract and retain teachers. The subtle implication being that teacher pay is substandard and teachers are leaving the District in droves. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The current average nine month teacher salary/benefit package totals \$64,285. Underpaid? The average teacher length of service is 10 years--certainly not indicative of a retention problem.

The District claims it failed to receive \$30 million in state funding, leaving the clear impression the District was in dire financial straits. Financials, however, show that over the last five-year period, cumulative funding was only reduced by \$3.1 million. In response, the District cut non-personnel expenses just over \$2.5 million. Great business decision! A hiring freeze was instituted. Great business decision! But, average salaries and benefits increased by \$1.7 million. Not such a great business decision!

Meanwhile, the top five District salaries total over \$677,800 annually, including: Superintendent-\$183,484, Deputy Superintendent-\$126,416, CFO-\$123,435, Principal Vista-\$123,593, and Principal Montrose High-\$120,876. While average District salaries and top heavy administrative costs increased, taxpayers were seeing their incomes drop and expenses increase, while our businesses suffered and our economy declined further.

One of the stated goals of the override is "technology rich classrooms", with new computers to be able to adequately serve all children. The District has proposed that a total of \$1,750,000 of the override will go toward this goal. What the District will not tell you is that last year DMEA, in the midst of upgrading all their computers, generously offered to donate all of their computers to the Montrose School District. That offer was declined and the computers were donated to the Delta School District [whose taxpayers were happy], and Community Options.

This donation could have drastically reduced the need for higher spending in Montrose, but, then maybe that's not a real priority. Well, golly, gee whiz, guess what? When asked later why the offer was declined, the response was that it was too much trouble to reconfigure all those free computers, and the District really wanted all new computers anyway. So, tough luck Montrose taxpayers, perfectly good free computers are good enough for Delta, but not our 2nd graders! Are you beginning to get a picture here yet?

As noted above in several instances, the District's own financials, and information provided by the District CFO, differ considerably with much of the narrative being employed by volunteers. Why would they use conflicting information? Were they given talking points by the District to utilize in the override campaign? It certainly seems that in the conflicting instances above, no one considered verifying the veracity of that information. In the quest for more dollars, has the District, like far too many suspect, manipulated information? With much of the narrative as noted incorrect and misleading, what else in the sales pitch is inaccurate? Yet, we are being asked to trust the District with \$14.5 million in new taxes? The real question before us is not, "do we say yes to our schools," but, do we blindly accept the sales pitch as fact and fork over \$14.5 million in new taxes based on hype? Do we further burden taxpayers and businesses, risking more business closings, more job loss or layoffs, and higher costs of goods and services for all? Take the time to become well informed, then cast your vote of confidence, or lack thereof, on Nov. 4.

Dee Laird, Montrose

WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...NANCY HOVDE



Nancy Hovde.
Courtesy photo.

Interview by Gail Marvel
CEDAREDDGE—Generally speaking Nancy Hovde doesn't intentionally seek leadership positions, "I tend to go into things where I see a need for change." Many years ago Nancy was instrumental in bringing health care to the

Cedaredge area in the form of the Surface Creek Family Practice, and from 2000-2014 she served on the Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board; two of those years as board president. Currently Nancy is active in Altrusa and under the club's umbrella she is a teen leadership advisor for ASTRA.

Taking a respite from her 13 plus years on the DMEA Board, Nancy leaves the door open for other opportunities. "I need a challenge. I'm not self-serving; I want to feel like I am contributing and accomplishing something."

Nancy credits high school debate with learning the power of persuasion — and the huge responsibility that accompanies it. Her topic was pornography and she won both sides of the debate. "If you roll up your sleeves and do your research, you

have the power to convince — even if it's something you don't believe in."

When Nancy learned of a vacated seat on the DMEA Board she tried to convince her husband, Delta County Commissioner Bruce Hovde, to apply. Bruce wasn't interested, but challenged Nancy to run. "I told Bruce, they won't take a woman!" The reality was that Nancy really didn't know whether or not a woman could get appointed, and she would never know if she didn't try. Nancy was selected and she brought an element of diversity to the all-male DMEA Board.

Nancy described work with male counterparts as having both advantages and disadvantages.

"On one hand I was a workhorse and did a lot of work [additional committee work] that others would not attempt to do. Most, but not all, respected and acknowledged my work. I think that helped me over the gender hurdle." Elements of stereotyping forced Nancy to prove herself. She laughed, "If they were strong, I had to be stronger [in order to be equal]."

Teamwork describes Nancy's style of leadership, although it is extremely hard to achieve. "It doesn't work well when you try to go it alone and together we are stronger than one person."

Hearing another person's side helps overcome dislikes and prejudices; and in tense situations Nancy supports using a facilitator

to work through issues. "It is counter-productive to attack one another. You need to be positive and forward thinking, but when you can't overcome difficulties, you need to ask for help."

In her interactions with organizations Nancy is a self-described "boat rocker," often pushing an issue to the point of tipping over the boat.

"If you're not growing, you're dying. I'm fierce in my arguments, both pro and con." She laughed, "But I don't always win!"

Nancy feels respected in the community, however, she is not out to win a popularity contest. "I'm impervious to threats and impervious to rewards. I won't be pressured and I'm not easily swayed...but I can be swayed with a good argument."

In an interesting observation Nancy noted that most women do not support, or vote, for other women in elections.

"I think women have a hard time believing that if they themselves don't have a certain skill set [reading a budget] then women running for elections must also be lacking in that area."

Nancy's advice for women embarking on leadership roles: "Start small, grow and learn. Be open to ideas that may be a contradiction to what you currently believe. Look for facts, not emotion and have a listening ear. Don't be afraid. Take classes to improve yourself. You have to strengthen yourself in areas where you are weak."

FRANKLIN ECCHER HONORED AS ROTARY STUDENT



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE—The Montrose Rotary Club honored Franklin Eccher as Student of Week. Upon graduation, Franklin would like to pursue a future in political analysis. He plans on majoring in Political Science, and either a double major or minor in Sociology and/or Statistics. Franklin will apply to Stanford, Reed, Princeton, Columbia, Harvard, Rochester, Pomona, Williams, Amherst, and CU. Pictured L to R: Lori Tucker-Eccher (mom), Franklin and Melanie Hall (Rotarian).

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Upcoming Events for Connect for Health Colorado

Informational Presentation and Q&A

Tuesday, October 14

Montrose Library

12pm – 1pm

Light refreshments served

Informational Presentation and Q&A

Tuesday, October 14

Montrose Recreation District

7:15pm – 8:15pm



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Old City Council Chambers, Montrose

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Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS CHRIST'S CHURCH OF THE VALLEY



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—My visit to Christ's Church of the Valley took place on Aug. 3, 2014 and in full disclosure, this is my home church. The facility, a repurposed restaurant, retains much of the ambiance of its former self. With shades of Noah's Ark, a menagerie of mounted animals hang in nooks, crannies and the foyer — a cougar, caribou, moose, trout, pheasant, and duck.

At the back of the auditorium the back-bar, which once held liquor bottles, now accommodates coffee and donuts, the communion trays and a receptacle for written prayer requests. One might say that the venue has gone from liquid spirits to the Holy Spirit!

Fellowship is a high priority with this group and it was no easy task to get roughly 130 people to stop their conversations and take their seat for worship. After the opening prayer, announcements consisting of prayer needs, birthday and anniversary recognition, and upcoming events, were given.

A three-member praise team, accompanied by a pianist on a keyboard, led the congregation in a medley of hymns and praise songs in varying tempos. Selections

included, "We Believe," "Glory to His Name," "He is Lord," "At Calvary," "At the Cross," and "Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord."

This church celebrates communion each Sunday by passing trays with the emblems (the bread and juice) throughout the congregation. The accompanying communion meditation this day was given by Virgil Plume, who used the words of the hymn "Wounded for Me" as the basis for his thoughts. The inspiration for the post-World War I hymn, written by William Ovens, came from watching a wounded veteran limping as he walked down the street. Following communion the children were dismissed to attend Children's Church for an age appropriate message and activities.

The sermon, titled "Check Your Attitude on Christian Conduct," was based on Philippians 1:27-30, and presented by Senior Pastor Gary Hodges. "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ ..." (Phil 27a NIV).

The pastor engaged the audience interactively by asking questions on bad attitudes, or a more politically correct term might be, "conduct disorder."

Pastor Hodges related a work incident in which he and another man had a difference of opinion. He laughed, "I was right and he was wrong ... and I thought I was up to the task of correcting him!" Technically the pastor was right, but spiritually he was in the wrong. "I had no excuse, I knew I had misbehaved..."

The pastor then challenged the audience to reflect on their conduct in different surroundings. Do you act differently in public than when you are at home? Recalling his childhood he said, "I understood that my actions flowed back to my parents. No one had to tell me — and my parents never said, "You need to make us look good!" My conduct [as a Christian] is representing the One who saved me. We need to reflect the goodness of God and be consistent in our behavior."

The worship service concluded with an invitation for those who want to make a decision in faith to come forward.

*Contact information:
Christ's Church of the Valley
10 Hillcrest Way (located on East Main)
Montrose, CO 81401
970-249-0530*

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.



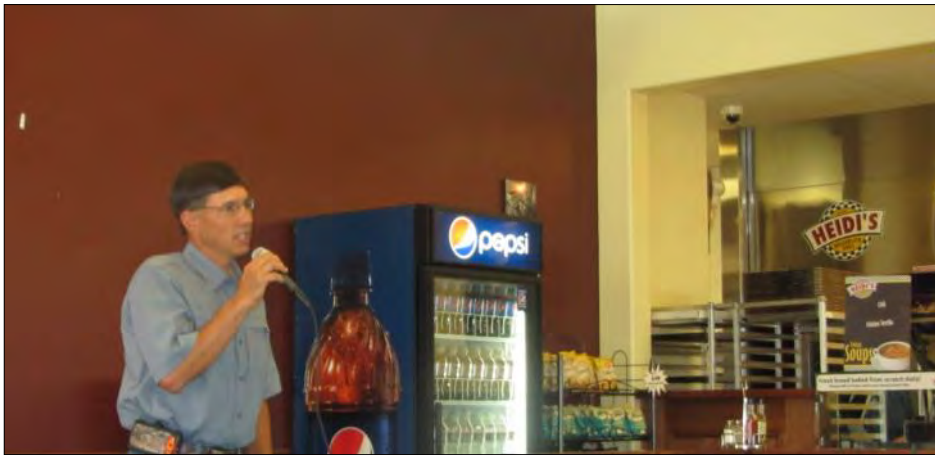
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KEEP AN EYE ON STATE WATER PLAN, OFFICIALS SAY



Adam Turner of Project 7 Water Authority spoke to the crowd at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli Sept. 24.

MONTROSE--For years, Montrose residents have heard Marc Catlin speak about the importance of sustaining water for agriculture. Now, Catlin would like you to know that in the end, conservation of our most precious resource is important not only to farmers, but to us all--especially as the state continues work on the proposed [Colorado Water Plan](#).

"It's not just about agriculture in this day and age," Catlin told a healthy crowd at the Heidi's Brooklyn Deli Forum on Sept. 24. "Now, I talk about Grandma's supper and the baby's bottle too."

As water rights development coordinator for Montrose County, Catlin finds himself on a bigger stage than the one he had when he served as Manager of the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA) for close to a decade.

The real subject is conservation, and awareness of water as a finite resource. Joining Catlin at the Heidi's Forum as speaker was Adam Turner of Project 7 Water Authority, which supplies the region with clean water for domestic use.

"We are a water-based community," Catlin told listeners. "We see water running in the canal, we see it in the river, and we know it's our water. Here in Montrose County, more than any other county, we developed our water at the first shot with the Gunnison Tunnel. Our main water shed is Monarch Pass, and that water flows into the Gunnison River Basin. The Gunnison Tunnel (which brings water from the Upper Gunnison for use in the Uncompahgre Valley) carries on average 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs)--imagine that going by!"

Catlin noted that two cfs equals an acre foot, or enough water to meet the needs of a family of five for one year.

"There is an assumption that we have more water here than we need," Catlin said. "But every drop of water in this valley is metered. Every day, we know how much is being used by every person. But in Southern California, there are 500,000 houses without water meters--does that anger you? Because it twists my rope hard--how can you tell you are out of water if you are not even measuring it?"

With golf courses, pools and houses that use as much as 938,000 per day, Southern California is "not talking conservation," Catlin said.

"All they do is tell us, look at Lake Meade--we are short!" Catlin said. "It's the best PR gimmick I have ever seen. Our farmers are being asked to step aside and fallow land--I suggest that they water their golf courses every other day out there in Southern California. Because when we stop irrigating fields here, that means money that doesn't come to Main Street. The economic activity generated by one acre is far more than what the farmer was paid."

"Everybody is going to have to conserve," he added, and urged listeners to read and understand the work being done on the proposed statewide plan. The state's longtime Prior Appropriations water doctrine, "First in Time, First in Right," was modeled on the mining industry and its system of prior claims, he said.

Following Catlin's presentation, Adam Turner of Project 7 Water Authority spoke about the evolution of the local domestic

water system, a cooperative system created in the 1970's by seven local water entities.

"There were a lot of water shortage issues at the time," Turner said, "so they got together, bought facilities from the City of Montrose, and started construction of Project 7 on the old, 1934 water plant site."

Today, the system handles 450 gallons a minute he said, and average per capita use per day is 165 gallons. Because agricultural users here can access irrigation water through UVWUA, he noted, usage numbers remain far below those seen on the Front Range. Turner also noted that usage has dropped since the economic crash of 2008. And like Catlin, Turner urged locals to pay close attention to the work being done on the Colorado Water Plan.

"We are right in the crosshairs," he said. "Denver and the Front Range want to grow, and the down river states are saying, 'we need more.'"

While nobody likes to pay more for water than necessary, Turner also urged a greater respect for the resource.

"We don't keep things in perspective," he said. "We pay a cell phone bill of \$100 a month and don't think much of it, but if we pay a water bill of \$100 we think it is a bad deal. However, if you don't have water for a few days you would be in bad shape--while without a cell phone, your life might actually improve."

The forward thinking that has been part of the Uncompahgre Valley's water community from the beginning means that the region has enough water for the near future, he noted.

"We supply 49,000 people with drinking water every day," he said, adding that the next goal of the Project Seven Water Authority will be to site a plant at the Ridgeway Reservoir.

"A wildfire would be disastrous for our water treatment plant," he said. "With two ways to supply water from two different water sheds, we would have a redundant system--the best of both worlds."

Also key to future plans are the construction of strategic alluvial wells, to store water in the event of a tunnel collapse.

"The Gunnison Tunnel is a miracle, and it is 100 years old," Turner said. "If it were to collapse, we would not have a lot of options right now."

To learn more about the proposed Colorado Water Plan, visit www.coloradowaterplan.com.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TELLURIDE MOUNTAINFILM HIRES SAGE MARTIN AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE – Sage Martin, a ten-year Telluride local, has been hired as Mountainfilm's Executive Director by the organization's board of directors. Current Executive Director Peter Kenworthy announced his resignation in July and will assist Martin in transitioning into her new role before his departure on Oct. 18th.

Martin was the Director of Development for the Telluride Mountain School since 2007 where she led all aspects of fundraising, marketing, events and community relations for the private school. Prior to her tenure there, Martin was Director of Planned Giving for the Trust for Public Land where she managed their national fundraising and stewardship campaigns. Kenworthy's extensive and strategic efforts were critical in shaping the organization's future over the past eight years, said Mountainfilm board president Beth Gage.

FOURTH ANNUAL NORTH RIM 20K RACE AND 8K RUN/WALK BENEFITS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The San Juan Mountain Runners are excited to present the **4th ANNUAL NORTH RIM 20K RACE AND 8K RUN/WALK** at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park on Sunday, October 5th. This is the third event in the Black Canyon Race Series and features unique views of the canyon from the North Rim. The cost is \$30 for the 20K and \$25 for the 8K thru 10/3. Race-day registration is available for \$35 for both events. All proceeds benefit the Montrose Community Foundation. Registration and more info is available at www.sjmr.club or check in with Jan at jbridgway@msn.com.

UNLOCK KEYS TO FACEBOOK FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS!

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Businesses are invited to "Unlock the Keys to Facebook: Success for your Business in 90 Minutes," on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce. This class is meant to take your business Facebook to the next level, with some in-depth discussion on the best marketing strategies, how to make your page more engaging, and how to create a simple, strategic social media plan that's right for you and your business. Bring your laptop for this hands-on workshop. Seating is limited; please call to reserve your space. Cost is \$15. Call 874-8616 for questions or to RSVP.

TREASURES YARD SALE TO BENEFIT DELTA COUNTY SENIOR RESOURCE COUNCIL

Special to the Mirror

CEDAREdge — Those heading to Cedaredge for Applefest may want to make their first stop at The Treasures Yard Sale to benefit the Delta County Senior Resource Council, on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Cedaredge Storage Units, 455 S. Grand Mesa Drive, Cedaredge, next to Connie's Restaurant.

This sale will offer gently used and pre-owned furniture and other quality items.

There will be no clothes. Coffee, hot chocolate, cider, lemonade stand, baked goods will be available for a small charge.

Those who would like to donate for this fundraiser can drop off items at People Care Home Health, 1565 Highway 50, Suite B, Delta, in the middle of the North Delta curve.

Items can also be dropped off at the DCSRC office, 823-B Main St., Delta, or bring them to Cedaredge on sale day! We

encourage donations to sell of honey, jams, jelly, salsa, baked goods, etc. The Delta County Senior Resource Council is a non-profit organization which works to serve the senior population of Delta County.

Success at this event will help us to keep serving others!

For more information, contact the Delta County Senior Resource Council office at [970-712-2295](tel:970-712-2295).

DELTA SENIOR EXPO SET FOR OCT. 23

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The 2014 Senior Expo, sponsored by Bank of the West, and produced by the Delta County Senior Resource Council, is happening on Thursday, Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., at the Bill Heddles Recreation Center, 530 Gunnison River Dr., Delta. The theme of this year's Expo is "Celebrate Life — Tools For Successful Aging," with programs and information on awesome retirement, life celebrations, and exercise, and a free lunch for seniors! There is no charge for the Expo, but reservations for the free lunch for seniors would be appreciated by Oct. 21 for a meal count. To reserve attendance, or for more information and vendor deadlines, please contact Leah at [970-712-2295](tel:970-712-2295).

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DIVISION OF INSURANCE APPROVES 2015 HEALTH INSURANCE RATES

Special to the Mirror

Denver – The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), a division of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), reviewed and approved 1,072 health insurance plans from 20 carriers that offer health coverage to consumers and small businesses for 2015. Consumers will have a wide range of plans to choose from, with many variations across plan types and premiums.

“We are pleased to see that our health insurance market is so competitive, especially compared to the other states that have released their 2015 rate information,” said Colorado Insurance Commissioner Marguerite Salazar. “With so many options, people in Colorado will need to spend time shopping to find the plan that best fits their needs, as well as consider that it's not just about what you pay, it's about what you get for your money.” What the new rates mean to the consumer—On average statewide, plan premiums will increase 1.18 percent over 2014, although premiums vary by carrier, age and geographic area. Premiums also vary by plan type - known as bronze, silver, gold or platinum plan types. For individual plans, the statewide average increase is 0.71 percent, and for small group plans, the average increase is 2.54 percent. It is important to note however, that these are averages, and consumers should look carefully at the specific details for plans available in their area.

For 2015, DOI realigned the geographic areas in the state, consolidating the higher health cost regions into larger rating areas. Geographic rating areas are used by insurance carriers to price premiums. This realignment reduced the number of areas from 11 to nine. For 2015, individual plans in the West rating area, which in-

cludes the mountain areas, but not Mesa County, will see average premium decrease of 7.44 percent. In the East rating area, comprising southern and eastern parts of the state, the average individual premium will decrease 5.01 percent.

“This past year, the premiums in the mountain areas of Colorado have been a concern for many,” said Commissioner Salazar. “We are encouraged to see carriers such as Anthem and the Colorado Health-Op working with healthcare providers in the mountain areas to develop more affordable insurance options for 2015.”

It's important to note that under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), consumers cannot be denied coverage because of their health, nor can they be charged higher premiums due to a health condition. In addition, coverage has expanded and improved under the ACA. People get access to coverage for 10 essential health benefits, including recommended preventive care at no cost. This adds up to consumers getting more for the dollar.

How DOI reviews plans—Over the summer, DOI reviewed plans submitted by insurance carriers to make sure they meet federal requirements for coverage. DOI also reviewed the rates to ensure they are not excessive or inadequate. DOI verified whether the plans meet the federally defined metal tier coverage levels: bronze (60% of medical expenses paid by the plan), silver (70%), gold (80%) and platinum (90%). These percentages are referred to as “actuarial value.”

Financial assistance options—These premiums do not account for those who may qualify for federal tax credits, known as Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTC), which help to make premiums

more affordable. APTC and other federal financial assistance are only available for coverage purchased through Connect for Health Colorado. Eligibility for the APTC depends on a consumer's household income in relation to the federal poverty level. The tax credit itself is calculated based on income, age and the cost of insurance in a community. For more information about APTC, contact Connect for Health Colorado at www.connectforhealthco.com or 1-855-752-6749.

Tips when shopping for health insurance—Having many options is good news for Coloradans, but with so many choices, it is important for consumers to comparison shop and look at more than just the premiums before making their decision. For example:

Is your doctor or hospital of choice included in the plan's provider network? Seeing an out-of-network doctor typically is more expensive.

Lower premiums often mean higher costs when receiving care. Find out if there is a deductible and how much it is, as well as the out-of-pocket maximum. Determine what you would have to pay for a doctor's visit.

Find out about prescription coverage, especially if you need specific medications.

Does the plan cover procedures you may need some day, such as back surgery, ambulance service, MRI scans or knee replacement?

Consumers who have questions about their current plans should contact their insurance carrier, Connect for Health Colorado, their insurance broker, or their employer. More information about the approved 2015 plans is available online at www.dora.colorado.gov/healthinsurance.

MONTROSE-DELTA COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EVENTS



- Oct. 2-Ballot Issues Forum, Montrose Library Community Room, Noon-1:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3-Meet and Greet-Colorado State Board of Education Dist. 3 Candidates Henry Roman and Marcia Neal at Two rascals Brewpub, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 7-Candidate Forum - Memorial Hall, Hotchkiss, 6:30 -State House 61 & Senate 5.
- Oct. 8-LWV Ballot Issues Presentation at Heidi's Deli Forum 8 a.m.
- Oct. 9-Montrose County BOCC Candidate Forum-Montrose City Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14-Delta County Ballot Issues Forum - Memorial Hall, Hotchkiss - 6:30 pm
- Oct. 25-Insurance Informational Fair, voter registration from 9 a.m. to Noon, Centennial Room.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY®

invites and encourages the public to attend its

NOVEMBER BALLOT ISSUES FORUM

Thursday, October 2, at Noon

Montrose Library Community Room



**a non-partisan presentation of the pro's and con's of
issues on which you will soon vote.**

LWV ballot issues brochures will be available.

Bonus: Fran Tipton-Long, Montrose County Clerk & Recorder, will provide an update on the recent changes to Colorado's election laws

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*.

Together, We Can Make A Real Difference.

Are you interested in making a difference in the lives of others while building your network of friends, strengthening your leadership skills and implementing new ideas?

Share your gifts and talents and become part of meaningful change for an older adult.

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



THIS IS WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO.™

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



DANIEL GRANBERG HONORED AS ROTARY STUDENT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Rotary Club hosted Daniel Granberg as the Student of Week. Daniel has a long list of academic achievements and community involvement. He is applying to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California Institute of Technology, Harvard, Princeton, and Colorado School of Mines. In college Daniel will pursue a double major in mathematics and physics. Pictured L to R: Jean Granberg (mother), Daniel, and Amy McBride (Rotarian).

**STUPID BAND HALLOWEEN DANCE
OCT. 31 TURN OF THE CENTURY!**



CITY CONDUCTING ASPHALT REPAIRS ON 6530 ROAD

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose is conducting asphalt repairs on 6530 Road, beginning Sept. 30th, to prepare for a chip seal that will be placed at the end of the work. Chip seal is a pavement surface treatment that combines one or more layer(s) of asphalt with one or more layer(s) of fine aggregate.

To perform this work safely, traffic will be detoured around the area while work is being performed, typically between 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The city asks that motorists and pedestrians please exercise caution near the work area and respect all coned-off areas. Short delays in the area should be expected. If possible, motorists should use an alternate route.

Questions regarding the project may be directed to Streets Superintendent Jerry Sieverson at [\(970\) 240-1482](tel:9702401482).

TRI-RIVER AREA MASTER GARDENERS HOLD 17th ANNUAL TREE AUCTION AND PLANT SALE

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-The CSU Extension Tri River Area Master Gardeners will be holding their Annual Plant Sale and Tree Auction Oct. 4, at the Fairgrounds behind the CSU Extension Building, 2775 US Hwy 50. This is the main fundraiser for the Master Gardener Program. The plant and book sale, silent auction, concession stand and registration for the B&B Tree Auction will start at 9 am and ends at 1 pm. The Auction will start at 10 am.

HONORABLE MENTION

To Volunteers of America Homestead, for bringing us that enjoyable and free series of summer concerts on the lawn!

To the Montrose Historical Society, for bringing local history to life and helping us remember our roots...

To Dolphin House of Montrose, for helping so many local kids and families heal....

...and to our first Mirror intern Claire Clemens, Happy Birthday!

ARTS AND CULTURE

A+Y GALLERY TO FEATURE KURT ISGREEN, MISSY ROGERS FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Missy Rogers and Kurt Isgreen are the featured artists for the month of October at the A+Y Design Gallery with "Art of the Wild", celebrating fifty years of the Wilderness Act. Works inspired by wilderness areas on the Western Slope of Colorado will be featured, many done on location in the surrounding areas near Montrose. Both artists have been hiking into and working on location, directly from nature in these treasured areas for many years. As a tribute to and celebration of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act, the works in this show are a testament to the wild and beautiful landscape in which we live. Opening reception will be October 3rd, 5:30-8:30 during Montrose's First Friday Art Walk at the A+Y Design Gallery. Enjoy a delicious treat while experiencing the "Art of the Wild." Exhibit ends Oct. 31st.

At A+Y Design Gallery, Missy Rogers and Kurt Isgreen (shown at left) are the featured artists for the month of Oct. Courtesy image.

FIRST FRIDAY FUN!



At left, Amazing Glaze is featuring a free "Funky Feather" workshop during the First Friday Stroll Oct. 3. Courtesy image.

Shopping the Sneffels Fiber Arts Festival

At right, Kirsten McGough and Allie Deuter take a moment to enjoy the festivities in Ridgway Sept. 27; below, Kirsten models an antique kimono. Photos by Tania Hajjar.



CANYON CREEK LAFF INN COMEDY NIGHT AT AH CHIHUAHUA OCT. 4



Comic Brian Kohatsu (left) will open the next Canyon Creek Laff Inn Comedy Night, and Mike James (right) will headline the show, which takes place Oct. 4 at Ah Chihuahua (235 North First Street). Show starts at 7 p.m., and tickets are \$15. For more information or [tickets](#) call 970-249-2886. Courtesy images.





Caring for people with dementia through Validation communication

Volunteers
of America®

What is **VALIDATION**?

Validation is a way of caring for and communicating with older adults who are often diagnosed as having Alzheimer's-type dementia.

Validation is the foundation of the comprehensive dementia services provided by Volunteers of America. As an Authorized Validation Organization, we offer focused tools and resources that empower caregivers at home as well as those in senior communities. Our passion is to positively impact the quality of life for those with dementia.

Visit **www.voavalidation.org** for more information on Validation and **www.voahealthservices.org** for a list of providers in Western Colorado.



WESTERN COLORADO CONGRESS WELCOMES WINONA LADUKE OCT. 12



National Activist Winona LaDuke will speak at the Western Colorado Congress'(WCC) 34th Annual Meeting in Grand Junction Oct. 12. Courtesy photo.

By Liesl Greathouse

GRAND JUNCTION-On Oct. 12, National Activist Winona LaDuke will be speaking at the Western Colorado Congress'(WCC) 34th Annual Meeting in Grand Junction.

The Meeting will be at the CMU Ballroom, 1100 North Avenue in Grand Junction. In addition to LaDuke's talk, there will be a silent auction, reception, photo contest and business meeting.

According to their website, the WCC is "a grassroots, democratic organization dedicated to challenging injustice by organizing people to increase their power over decisions that affect their lives. WCC's community groups and members work together to create healthy, sustainable communities, social and economic

justice, environmental stewardship and a truly democratic society."

LaDuke is considered a powerful speaker, who is outspoken, engaging, and dedicated to matters of ecological sustainability, aiming to inspire her audiences to action and engagement. An Anishinaabekwe (Ojibwe), she is an internationally renowned activist who has devoted her life to protecting the lands and life ways of Native communities.

LaDuke will be speaking on a number of topics, including current environment and energy issues, sustainability and diversity. "The Western Colorado Congress Annual Meeting has two functions; a business meeting and a tour or guest speaker of interest in support of the mission of our organization," Dennis Olmstead, Secretary of WCC, explained. "Ms LaDuke is a Native American Activist and has been

speaking for many years with her interests and experience similar to that of WCC."

The official website of White Earth Land Recovery Project, of which LaDuke is the founding director, gives this bio on her: "[LaDuke] is...the Executive Director of Honor the Earth, where she works on a national level to advocate, raise public support, and create funding for frontline native environmental groups. In 1994, Winona was nominated by Time magazine as one of America's fifty most promising leaders under forty years of age. She has been awarded the Thomas Merton Award in 1996, the BIHA Community Service Award in 1997, the Ann Bancroft Award for Women's Leadership Fellowship, and the Reebok Human Rights Award, with which she began the White Earth Land Recovery Project. A graduate of Harvard and Antioch Universities, Winona has written extensively on Native American and Environmental issues. She is a former board member of Greenpeace USA and serves, as co-chair of the Indigenous Women's Network, a North American and Pacific indigenous women's organization. In 1998, Ms. Magazine named her Woman of the Year for her work with Honor the Earth."

On what the goal of such events as the Annual Meeting is, Olmstead said, "The primary goal of each of these meetings has been to provide the vehicle to bring together like minded individuals working toward common ideals. We know in advance those attending will leave with renewed energy and new knowledge on many subjects."

Olmstead encourages anyone who has never attended an event held by the WCC to attend this one, especially students. "WCC is built upon citizen action and community organizing," he said. "Every year our Organizers work toward effective public participation in conservation or community issues. You will not be disappointed."

Tickets to the Meeting are \$15 for adults, and \$5 for students.

Montrose United Methodist Church to Host Annual Fall Festival

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose United Methodist Church Fall Festival. Free to the community. Saturday, Oct. 18 from 10am-2pm. Free carnival games, face painting, bouncy house, hot dogs. Costumes welcome. In the street at the corner of Park Ave. and S. 1st Street. Contact the church at 970-249-3216 or www.montroseumc.org for more information.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATE TO HOST CANNABIS EXPLORATION DINNERS, MEET AND GREET

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Lee Mulcahy, independent candidate for Colorado's 5th Senate District, has announced a cannabis exploration dinner at Hotchkiss Motor Inn at 8:15 p.m. on Oct. 7.

"As the independent, I am doing a series of "meet and greets" which highlight Colorado's stance on federal overreach," Mulcahy said. The "meet and greets" will be in Hotchkiss Oct. 7th, Buena Vista- Oct. 9th and Aspen- Oct. 12th.

"These cannabis tastings are newsworthy because the libertarians are the only political party to do events such as this," he said. Admission is free, but reservations are required. To RSVP, go to leemulcahyforsenate@gmail.com.

"HIGH POINT" EQUINE-THEMED ART FEATURED AT CREAMERY ARTS CENTER

Special to the Mirror

HOTCHKISS-To celebrate the year of the Horse, Barbara Haynie and Cheri Isgreen will be presenting a two-person equine art exhibition at the Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss. The show connects their two passions: horses and visual art. The opening reception will be held on Friday, Oct. 10th from 6 to 8pm. This exhibit will be on display through Nov. 10th

Isgreen and Haynie state: "The show references where and how we live: the rural, high country of Colorado. We entitled the show "High Point" because we wanted a strong connection between the idea of an art show and the idea of a horse show: High Point- the horse with the highest average placing in one year of competition, High Point- a high altitude place with a beautiful view, such as found in Colorado, High Point- the best part of an experience. As horsewomen, the high point of our days is when the connection between the horse and rider is both elegant and sublime. High Point- an art show for art lovers, horse lovers, equestrians, and artists." Barbara Haynie: "Horses are huge in my life, inexorably woven into my psyche, practically part of my DNA. The older I grow, the deeper are my feelings about them. Art is huge for me too. Put the two together and through some form of magic, the whole becomes larger than the parts. While working for my fine arts degree, I refused to paint horses. At the time I thought it was too convenient a subject and perhaps too conservative for the avant-

garde art world. But eventually I reached a point where horses HAD to be in my art. I push the envelope with hog-wild color, giving my paintings a twist between pop art and Fauve".

Cheri Isgreen: "I am fascinated by the relationship between light and shadow on natural forms. Compositions for watercolor paintings develop as I respond to the interplay of light and dark shapes with initial value studies. As I paint, I seek fresh, unexpected color mixtures through poured techniques and spontaneous wet-into-wet brushwork. I strive for a sense of mystery and narrative in each painting. A lifelong horsewoman, I study dressage and teach Equitherapy. Monarch, my wise and sensitive partner in this healing work, is a Lipizzan X Andalusian gelding and frequently appears as a subject of my paintings".

This is a must see show for all horse lovers in the area. Please join us for an evening of hors d' oeuvres, local wines, microbrews and to meet these two dedicated artists. It's sure to be a "High Point" in your week! The Creamery Arts Center is located at 165 W. Bridge Street, Hotchkiss. For additional information call 872-4848. You can also find us on Facebook,



Works by local artists Cheri Isgreen, left, and Barbara Haynie, right, will be featured at Creamery Arts Center in "High Point" this month.

or www.creameryartscenter.org Creamery to Offer Kids Classes During October Break Week Guest instructor Sandy Scheefer will be teaching two different art classes for kids at the Creamery Arts Center in October. Sandy has recently moved to Paonia from California, where she taught elementary aged children, and she's excited to get involved in our art community. "The Creamery's whole education program is so enriching for the kids in this area, and becoming a part of it is exciting and rewarding to me," said Scheefer. The classes are for kids ages 8 and up and require pre-registration by calling 970-872-4848. \$10 per class includes materials. The classes that will be offered are: "Leaf it to Me" - a Fall leaf watercolor project will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 14 from 1 to 2:30pm. Students will learn about watercolors using a special glue resist process.



Style to boot.
Coverage to last.

The Mirror

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

JORDAN LYNCH RECEIVES 2014 ALPINE BANK CMU SCHOLARSHIP



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Jordan Lynch, sophomore at Colorado Mesa University, has been awarded the 2014 Alpine Bank scholarship specific for students attending the Montrose Campus. The Alpine Bank scholarship was established last year with the

focus on assisting students both traditional and non-traditional that wish to attend CMU in Montrose. Additionally, we look for applicants that are not only good students but also good community members.

Jordan is a returning CMU student, studying business administration. Her focus on a business degree is directly related to

her skill with numbers, people, organization and motivation; which will all assist her with her future plans for a career in business. She is dedicated to her education and the scholarship will assist her in focusing her energy on school and learning. Not only is Jordan a dedicated student

she is also involved in the community, volunteering her time and skills to help with various 4-H projects and local nursing homes.

It was a great honor to be able to help a local student continue their education. “We strongly believe in giving back and the importance of education. Our customers who utilize their Education Loyalty VISA Debit Card do too. Each time an Education Loyalty VISA Debit Card is swiped, we donate 10 cents to education related projects in the Montrose community,” states Allison Nadel, Alpine Bank Community Relations Director. This scholarship is made possible through our Education Loyalty VISA Debit Card. university, Colorado Mesa serves students on its main campus in Grand Junction, its satellite campus in Montrose, its community college, Western Colorado Community College and via online offerings. For more information, visit www.coloradomesa.edu.

DELTA COUNTY LIVING

**YOUR ONLINE GUIDE FOR ACTIVITIES, ADVENTURE AND LIVING
IN DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO**

Deltacountyliving.com
Deltacountyliving@gmail.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BANK OF COLORADO DONATES TO ABRAHAM CONNECTION



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Abraham Connection homeless shelter in Delta is \$500 closer to their goal of building their own shelter, thanks to a generous donation from Bank of Colorado, with branches in Delta, Olathe and Montrose. The donation came from a 50/50 match from the bank and its employees. Each week, employees pay to wear jeans to work, and the bank matches the contributions. Quarterly, they donate the funds to an area charity. Pictured are the Delta branch staff: branch manager Lindsay Roberts; teller/new accounts Angela Richecky; Cheryl and Ed Oeltjenbruns with the Abraham Connection; bank teller Dixie Fouch; and John Musser, with Raymond James at Bank of Colorado. “We really appreciate the generosity of all bank staff for this donation. This means a lot to us, and will really help the homeless of Delta County,” Cheryl said.



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.”



REGION 10
Economic Assistance
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MONTROSE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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\$20

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- Should you do email marketing?
- Should you be on radio?
- What does a good newspaper ad look like?
- What should your website really be doing?
- Should you be blogging?
- How long should you try a form of marketing?
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- How do we know if something is working?

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Please RSVP by calling Claudette at Region 10

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

VETERAN'S HOMELESS PREVENTION, REHOUSING, AND EMERGENCY HOUSING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OFFERED THROUGH BACK HOME PROGRAM TO WESTERN SLOPE VETERANS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE –As part of Volunteers of America's (VOA) Colorado Branch's continued commitment to providing Veterans Services across the state of Colorado, the Denver affiliate planned in 2013 to expand their scope of services to include the Western Slope. As part of this plan for expansion of Veteran Services across the state, the Western Slope Field Office was opened in October of 2013 in Grand Junction with the Back Home Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) Program. The program was tasked with providing supportive services to Mesa, Garfield, Montrose, Delta and Pitkin Counties.

The Back Home SSVF Program is a homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, and supportive services program funded by the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) designed to provide emergency assistance to Veterans and their families. Clients and their families who qualify who have found their housing situations destabilized, being either currently homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless will receive assistance in immediately stabilizing their housing. Follow-up, wrap around services designed to help them attain housing going forward is also provided.

Through these efforts, it is the intention of the Back Home Program to break the cycle of homelessness for our nation's Veteran population and to once again welcome them "Back Home". The Back Home Program provides case management, and other services such as education support services, emergency financial assistance, housing search assistance, move-in assistance, transportation assistance, and referral services as outlined in their hous-

ing stability plan.

Back Home SSVF Project Manager, Diane Rino, said she is excited that VOA is expanding its Veteran's services to include the Western Slope. She said there are many examples of how the program has assisted local veteran families with the assistance of other local agencies.

"We received a referral from Homeward Bound of the Grand Valley regarding a family of five who had moved to Grand Junction from out of state and found themselves homeless after a series of unexpected events had occurred," she said. "In working with partnership with a number of local organizations, the family was provided temporary housing at a local motel, received help with transportation and basic living needs, while SSVF helped the family to locate and secure permanent housing appropriate for their needs."

The program also works to prevent homelessness before it happens. Rino said, "A family of four found themselves at risk of losing the home that they lived in for the last ten years due to a sudden and substantial loss of household income. SSVF was able to quickly provide temporary financial assistance in the form of rental assistance, which helped this family to remain in their home and avoid becoming homeless. In addition, SSVF was instrumental in helping the Veteran, who was the head of the household, to secure employment. This family's housing situation is now stabilized."

Veterans with one day of active duty with a discharge other than dishonorable, at imminent risk of losing their permanent housing or currently homeless and earn 50% or less of the area's median income are eligible. All clients must be Veterans



VOA's Western Slope Field Office was opened in October of 2013 in Grand Junction with the Back Home Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) Program. Courtesy image.

as defined by the SSVF program or family members wherein the head of household is a Veteran. The motto of the staff of the Back Home Program is "Semper Gumby" (always flexible). They seek to always be cognizant of the ever-changing needs of their client families, being ready to adapt and overcome whenever the need arises. The Western Slope Field Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Wednesday from Noon to 5:00 pm and located at 815 North 1st Street, Unit D (Between Mad Margaret's and Quick Temps). The office phone number is 970-644-5220.

300 EAST MAIN STREET
MONTROSE, COLORADO

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT IN OURAY!



Clockwise from above, Robert Stouffer at Buckskin Booksellers in the Beaumont continues the book shop's tradition of excellence; beautiful storefront of Blue Pear boutique; Beaumont Hotel; Twin Peaks Lodge Sshowing Halloween Spirit.



Valerie Meyers' Weekly Monday



**REAL ESTATE
MARKET REPORT**

from the Road

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

Facebook 102

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Computer!

**Do you want to take your Facebook account to the next level
and start marketing your business effectively?**

In this workshop you'll learn how to:

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- Manage the right amount of privacy for your business
- Create a simple strategic social media plan that's right for your business
 - Improve and share your posts in class

...and much more

Tuesday, October 28 • 1-2:30 pm

Please RSVP to 970-874-8616

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

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

REGION 10
Economic Assistance
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DELTA AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

City of
DELTA

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.

MONTROSE STAMP (PHILATELIC) CLUB meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 420 Alta Lakes Dr. from 7-8pm. For Beginners to Pros! Please contact Brenda Moureaux at 970-765-6948 for more information.

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.

Oct. 2—Montrose County league of Women Voters Ballot Issues Forum, Noon at the Montrose Library Community Room.

Oct. 4—Clay Jenkinson to portray John Wesley Powell, Montrose Pavilion from 1 to 5 p.m. Sponsored by Montrose County Democratic Party. Tickets are available at The Coffee Trader in Montrose—\$25 for adults, \$20 for students or by calling 970-596-5158.

Oct. 4—Yard Sale to benefit the Delta County Senior Resource Council, on Saturday, Oct. 4, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Cedaredge Storage Units, 455 S. Grand Mesa Drive, Cedaredge, next to Connie's Restaurant. This sale will offer gently used and pre-owned furniture and other quality items. There will be no clothes. Coffee, hot chocolate, cider, lemonade stand, baked goods will be available for a small charge. For more information, contact the Delta County Senior Resource Council office at [970-712-2295](tel:970-712-2295).

Oct. 5—The San Juan Mountain Runners are excited to present the **4th ANNUAL NORTH RIM 20K RACE AND 8K RUN/WALK** at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. This is the third event in the Black Canyon Race Series and features unique views of the canyon from the North Rim. The cost is \$30 for the 20K and \$25 for the 8K thru 10/3. Race-day registration is available for \$35 for both events. All proceeds benefit the Montrose Community Foundation. Registration and more info is available at www.sjmr.club or check in with Jan at jbridgway@msn.com.

Oct. 7—League of Women Voters Delta County Candidate Forum - Memorial Hall, Hotchkiss, 6:30 -State House 61 & Senate 5

Oct. 8—Heidi's Brooklyn Deli (1521 Oxbow Drive) Forum presents Karen Connor of the Montrose County League of Women Voters on upcoming ballot issues. 8 a.m. Coffee is \$1.

Oct. 9—GMUG Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) project. Working group kick-off meeting hosted by Public Lands Partnership Thursday, 1-3pm, Pioneer Room, Montrose County Fairgrounds. For more information please contact Chris Miller @ [970-640-7076](tel:970-640-7076)

Oct. 9—Montrose County LOWV 2014 BOCC Candidate Forum, City Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 9—Montrose Recreation Center fundraiser, 2Rascals Brewery, 5:30 to 9 p.m. Great silent auction items! Food by Ah Chihuahua.

Oct. 10-12—Telluride Horror Show Film Festival, Telluride.

Oct. 11-12—Pagosa Makers Tour, Pagosa Springs. 120 Makers, two expo locations, 14 studios and workshops to tour.

Oct. 11—Montrose Memorial Hospital presents the 22nd Annual “One Step Closer to Help and Hope” 5K Walk and 5 & 10K Run. Registration forms are available at Montrose Memorial Hospital, City Markets, Safeway, KUBC/ KKKK, San Juan Cancer Center, and online at www.MontroseHospital.com and www.bosombuddhieswc.org

Oct. 12—4:30 p.m. “Uniting for Colorado”—International activist, Winona LaDuke, at the CMU Ballroom in Grand Junction. Come early to meet Ms. LaDuke at a 3 pm Reception, Cash Bar & Silent Auction as part of the Western Colorado Congress 34th Annual Meeting. The presentation will focus on national environmental & conservation challenges & their relationship to our local issues. Tickets: \$15 & students \$5 can be purchased at the door or at www.wccongress.org; Call [970-256-7650](tel:970-256-7650) for information. Everyone Welcome!

Oct. 14—Connect for Health Informational Presentation and Q&A—Noon to 1 p.m. Montrose Library.

Oct. 14—Connect for Health Informational Presentation and Q&A—7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Montrose Recreation District.

Oct. 14—4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Long-Term Care Planning, Brown and Brown PC.

With 70% of people over the age of 65 ultimately needing some form of long-term care, you'll want to learn about payment sources, including private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and long-term care insurance. Region 10 Area Agency on Aging, 300 North Cascade. Call our office to sign up or register on our website at www.browncandbrownpc.com.

Oct. 14—LWV Delta County Ballot Issues Forum - Memorial Hall, Hotchkiss - 6:30 pm.

Oct. 15—Region 10 and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce present “Running a Social Media Contest,” from Noon to 1 p.m. at the Region 10 Enterprise Center, 300 North Cascade. Call 970-249-2436 to RSVP. Cost is \$20.

Oct. 18—Montrose United Methodist Church Fall Festival. Free to the community, from 10am-2pm. Free carnival games, face painting, bouncy house, hot dogs. Costumes welcome. In the street at the corner of Park Ave. and S. 1st Street. Contact the church at 970-249-3216 or www.montroseumc.org for more information.

Oct. 21—Anchors Aweigh! Medicare Education and Open Enrollment - sponsored by Region 10, presentation by — Mabel Risch, Medicare SHIP Counselor. Learn how the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselors can assist with health benefits counseling service's for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers. Sign-in begins at 11:45 and we will promptly start at noon. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room. Register online at www.region10.net or call 249-2436.

Oct. 23—The 2014 Senior Expo, sponsored by Bank of the West, and produced by the Delta County Senior Resource Council, is happening from 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., at the Bill Heddles Recreation Center, 530 Gunnison River Dr., Delta. The theme of this year's Expo is “Celebrate Life — Tools For Successful Aging,” with programs and information on awesome retirement, life celebrations, and exercise, and a free lunch for seniors! There is no charge for the Expo, but reservations for the free lunch for seniors would be appreciated by Oct. 21 for a meal count. To reserve attendance, or for more information and vendor deadlines, please contact Leah at [970-712-2295](tel:970-712-2295).

Oct. 23-24—Hospitality Summit, Montrose Pavilion Events Center, visit westerncoloradohospitality.com or call 970-901-6761 for information.

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

Oct. 28—Businesses are invited to “Unlock the Keys to Facebook: Success for your Business in 90 Minutes, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce. This class is meant to take your business Facebook to the next level, with some in-depth discussion on the best marketing strategies, how to make your page more engaging, and how to create a simple, strategic social media plan that's right for you and your business. Bring your laptop for this hands-on workshop. Seating is limited; please call to reserve your space. Cost is \$15. Call 874-8616 for questions or to RSVP.

Nov. 7—Ridgway Moonwalk—Creative District and Weehawken creative Arts presents independent filmmaker screenings at the historic Sherbino Theater on Clinton Street from 6 to 9 p.m.

Nov. 7-8—Montrose Woman's Club is sponsoring their annual Hobby and Craft Bazaar at Friendship Hall at the Montrose Fairgrounds. Friday 10AM -5PM; Saturday 9AM-4PM. No admission charge. Call Lexy for a table 275-3336. Proceeds go to charitable organizations in the community.

OBITUARIES-FRANK GAUNA 1930-2014



"Sometimes, when one person is absent, the whole world seems depopulated."

Alphonse de Lamartine

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Frank Gauna, the surrealist painter whose portrayal of Christian symbols made miracles seem tangible, and whose technique blended his modernist background with trompe l'oeil, died on August 4, in Montrose, Colorado, in the company of his wife Audrey, his daughters Laura Boyer and Linda Merlo, and a large gathering of his friends. He was 84.

Frank Gauna was born in 1930, and began painting as a high school student when he was hospitalized for tuberculosis. During his lengthy stay, the German expressionist Hans Weingartner, an artist funded by the WPA, taught him to paint, and became his long-term teacher and personal mentor. Weingartner continued to influence Gauna into the 1970s, up until he died. While Weingartner's ochres and oranges and the textured brush strokes were reflected in Gauna's early works, Gauna was also a master at the soft, playful curves that graced children's records for United Artists' Tale Spinners. An accident that temporarily injured his hand forced Gauna to turn to photography, and he created memorable album covers in jazz, including the majority of covers for Candid Records, the label started by Nat Hentoff. A 2014 documentary on Hentoff, *The Pleasures of Being: Out of Step*, featured Gauna's album covers of Duke Ellington, Charlie Mingus, and other greats.

Later Frank Gauna became the art director for United Artists, and was nominated for a Grammy for his art direction on the Bill Evans / Jim Hall album *Undercurrent*. Gauna's oil paintings, which he produced throughout his life, were featured in *Playboy* magazine as companions to feature

articles.

His surrealism was the vehicle for anti-war paintings such as the upturned soldier's helmet spilling over with blood titled, *Our Cup Runneth Over* and a companion painting of a dove nesting in an upturned helmet. That white dove was to become Gauna's most recognizable symbol.

Also a sculptor, Gauna worked mostly in bronze and wood, also with surrealist subjects. Sometimes he even designed whimsical pieces as jewelry.

Gauna's father, Jose Maria Gauna, was born in the 1800s in New Mexico where he worked as a sheriff in the wild west and later worked as a judge. His mother, Maclovía "Mac," died of cancer when Gauna was 11. The family lived with Gauna's older sister, Catherine "Ina," in Newark, NJ. From those humble beginnings, Gauna successfully reinvented his artistry and craft many times, leaving New York City and United Artists in 1970 to live in Spain and connect with his Basque roots.

Most of Gauna's time in Spain was spent in the pastoral pueblo of Benavides de Orbigo, where he was embraced by the farmers and shop keepers and especially the post man, Bernardo Guerra, whom Gauna referred to as his "Spanish teacher," but who really was his dearest friend. Guerra frequently came to the studio to watch Gauna paint.

In Benavides, Gauna raised doves in order to master painting the light through their wings, and he was a celebrated fixture in the daily life of the community. Many of the townspeople of Benavides became his models, including: a nun, Loli,

whose face was replaced with the bitten apple of Adam and Eve; her brother Toño who spent a summer with his arms outstretched and his wrists suspended by ropes attached to the ceiling as he posed as Christ; and their father Isidro who posed as the town drunk for a painting where Gauna replaced the man's body with an animal skin filled with wine. Gauna's Catholic subjects were the main focus of his work in Spain, although he also created many portraits and other works including still lifes that adorn the homes of so many of the people he loved there. Following the death of Generalissimo Francisco Franco and amidst the political changes taking place in Spain, Gauna returned to the United States to be closer, once again, to his two daughters who were living in California. There, in Hollywood, he returned to commercial success as an artist for the record and film industries.

Throughout his career, Gauna painted many commissioned portraits including the portraits of a Los Angeles judge and her family, record producer Alan Douglas, Jimi Hendrix, and Manek Daver, author of *Jazz Album Covers: The Rare and the Beautiful*, which has a section featuring Gauna's works.

In 2006, Frank and his wife Audrey Gauna moved to Montrose, Colorado where they quickly became well-loved members of the community. Gauna donated much of his time and artwork to humanitarian projects such as the library, an artists' group, the anti-meth campaign, and Empowering Dads. He also designed logos and commercial artwork for local businesses such as the Pancake House and Tim Frates Laser Engraving and Custom Framing.

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At left, a crowd begins to gather for the Ralph Dinosaur concert (top right) on the lawn at Volunteers of America Homestead at Montrose Sept. 26. Above right, a motorcyclist in Lower Montrose (LoMo).



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