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# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Issue No. 95 Nov. 3 2014

## HELP KICKSTART A MONTROSE COMPANY !



*The SOM shoe is minimalistic, comfortable and cute, as modeled by SOM staffer Grimmer Morrow. The company, which relocated to Montrose a year ago, hopes to purchase a computerized cutting machine.*

*By Caitlin Switzer*

MONTROSE-It is a product produced completely in Montrose Colorado, one uniquely suited to the high-energy, active lifestyle of local residents. The small company that produces it can barely keep up with the orders pouring in from across the country. Obviously, the Sense of Motion (SOM) shoe appeals to the universal desire for comfortable footwear.

In the beginning, however, it was personal.

Olie and Nathalie Marchal of SOM Footwear are runners, and when, out of frustration, Olie developed a shoe that would allow him to have a more "barefoot" relationship with the ground, they both knew he was onto something.

With its bright fabric, clean lines and tough but flexible sole, the Sense of Motion (SOM) shoes look great. It's the way they feel that is making them a favorite nationwide, however. With a roomy toe box that helps runners stay balanced, the shoe also appeals to MS patients, notes Nathalie Marchal.

"MS patients love our shoes, because they feel connected to the ground," Marchal said. "Having enough room for your toes is very important when you want to stay grounded."

Now, the local footwear manufacturer hopes to kick things to a higher level,

*Continued on page 11*

## "IF YOU VOTE, YOU CAN COMPLAIN..." MHS GRAD COVERS FIRST LADY'S VISIT TO CSU!



*By Claire Clemens*

FORT COLLINS-The crowd filled out, rock music played over the loudspeakers, and those lucky enough to be at the front of the line crammed as close to the stage as they could, chatting excitedly. People snapped pictures of themselves and each other with as much of the American flag backdrop as security and the growing number of attendees would allow.

It was Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and I was inside the Lory Student Center Grand Ballroom at Colorado State University. Hours earlier I had been panicking about typical college student stuff, but now all of that seemed irrelevant. Here I was sitting in the press pen at a Mark Udall campaign event, watching people flow into the ballroom and waiting to hear the first lady of the United States speak. I had skipped my political science class to be here, and it was totally worth it.

Eventually, enough people had filed into the ballroom to justify turning on the Udall campaign videos. These were filled with endorsements from

*Continued on Page 5*

**in this  
issue**

*City's 30K Data  
Report is Out!*

*Ask not for whom  
the Bell trolls...*

*Gail Marvel interviews  
Noelle Hagan!*

*Marissa Isgreen on  
Lo De Marcos!*

*Art on Trout  
Road 2014!*

## MONTROSE RELEASES 30K DATA ANALYTICS REPORT- MOST VISITORS COME FROM WESTERN SLOPE, FRONT RANGE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-At long last, the City of Montrose has released the [Visitor Data Analytics Report](#) it funded in 2013 and promised in May of 2014. Assistant Montrose City Manager Rob and Michael Martelon of the Telluride Board of Tourism presented the report's findings at a Montrose City Council work session Oct. 20. The report, funded with a \$30,000 payment to Visit Telluride in July of 2013 and entitled *Economic Cohorts Segmentation Analysis--City of Montrose Visitor Analysis*, provides an in-depth look at who is coming to Montrose, and why.

After careful segmentation and analysis of the 9,621 names included in the Montrose Visitor Database, the report compares Montrose's largest visitor clusters with marketplace trends, in an effort to provide a basis for targeted marketing efforts. Some of the key findings: visitors who come to Telluride "have a propensity" to be more affluent than those who visit Montrose; those who do come here are largely suburban empty nesters and age 55 or over; and retired singles are less likely to stay in Montrose, but likely to spend money if they do.

The report further states that, "Telluride drives more affluent visitors with 65 percent of households having an income of \$100K or greater, while the majority of

Montrose visitors have an income ranging from \$50K to \$100K, closely followed by households with an income of \$100K-\$200k per year."

Finally, based on a careful look at CBSA's, or Core-Based Statistical Analyses, the report concludes that most of those who visit Montrose come from 15 main regions--the list is topped by the Montrose "micropolitan statistical area," followed by the Durango, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Denver statistical areas.

"It is very clear that those CBSAs within Colorado (Montrose, Durango, Grand Junction, etc.) have the highest propensity for visitors which makes sense as they are some of the closest to Montrose," the report states.

Lowest on the list of 15 CSBA's is the Los Angeles metropolitan statistical area, below (in descending order) Boulder; Greeley; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Salt Lake City, Utah; Phoenix, Mesa and Glendale Arizona; Dallas, Fort Worth and Arlington, Texas; Houston, Sugarland and Bay Town, Texas; and Chicago, Joliet and Naperville, Illinois.

Affluent suburbanites across the nation are 2.57 times more likely to visit Montrose than would be expected given their actual percentage of U.S. households. The report concludes with "Leisure Travel



*A city-funded study finds that most visitors to Montrose come from the surrounding region.*

Takeaways," including: The near-term horizon line of demand for travel services is the brightest it's been in seven years, but troubling world events add considerable uncertainty about future; Matures are where the money is for leisure travel, but Millennials are the new market makers; The incidence of utilization of conventional hotels/resorts is in decline and there is growing preference for alternative lodging; "Brand.com" is now challenging the OTAs as the dominant source for "best prices" and "most convenient"; and "Markets of one" represent an under-leveraged opportunity for travel service providers. Read the entire report here <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2042>.

## STUDENT ART ON DISPLAY AT A+Y GALLERY NOV. 7

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – A Student Art Show will be held Nov. 7, 2014- 6 pm at A& Y Design Gallery (513 E. Main Street, Montrose) during the Friday Night Stroll. The exhibit consists of eleven paintings and/or drawings selected by art teachers at each of the schools in Montrose & Olathe School District. The exhibit will be on display at A&Y the entire month of November. The public is encouraged to attend.

## AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—Nov. 9-Standing on Sacred Ground American Indian Heritage Film Festival at the Montrose Pavilion (1800 Pavilion Drive) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Music by Paul "Three Bears" Chamberlain. Presented by the Ute Indian Museum. Admission is free to the public. For information call 970-249-3098.

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**  
MONTROSE

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**Owner/Editor:** Caitlin Switzer

**Art and Advertising Director:**  
Brad Switzer

Post Office Box 3244  
Montrose, CO 81402  
970-275-5791

[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)  
[editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:editor@montrosemirror.com)



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON WATER SPORTS PARK

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE - Contractors working for the City of Montrose have started to construct the Montrose Water Sports Park on the Uncompahgre River within the City's Riverbottom Park. Haynes Excavation and Stonefly Earthworks, both based in Montrose, have teamed up to construct this project which will include the construction of six wave stimulator structures within the river, stabilization of unstable river banks, construction of terraced spectator areas, and construction of more than one-half mile of ADA-accessible recreation trails. Construction is expected to last through May of 2015.

Several holes on the disc-golf course

immediately adjacent to the river will be closed during construction as necessary to provide staging areas for the project. Construction traffic will access these staging areas via a haul route along the western side of the City's Cerise Park. The remainder of Riverbottom and Cerise Parks, including all roadways and recreation trails, will remain open throughout construction. The City asks that residents exercise caution near the work area and please respect all signage and barricaded areas.

After nearly two years of planning the City is excited to be constructing the water sports park and would like to thank the following partners who helped to make

this project a reality: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Great Outdoors Colorado, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, the Montrose Recreation District, Montrose County, the Montrose Recreation Foundation, Friends of the River Uncompahgre, LiveWell Montrose-Olathe, and the Montrose Community Foundation. A grand opening celebration will be held following completion of the project in the spring of 2015. Additional details on this celebration will be provided at a later date. Questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at [\(970\) 240-1498](tel:9702401498).

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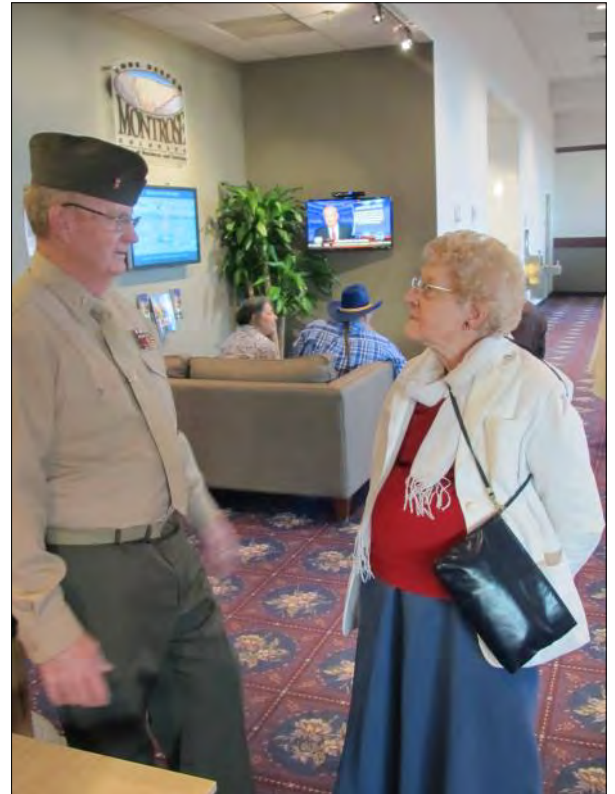


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## MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT



Above, new Backstreet Bagel owner Scott Cassidy on the job with staffer Stacy Kelley. At right, Veteran Gary Gratton talks with Bess Sprankle at the Welcome Home Montrose community outreach and fundraising event at the Montrose Pavilion Oct. 29. Photo by Brad Switzer.

## SHOE REPAIR... BEYOND SHOES



“ Since 2010 Montrose has not had a cobbler. We have convinced a retired master Cobbler from the Montrose area to work with us. He picks up on Saturdays and returns all repaired items the next Saturday. All workmanship on repairs is guaranteed. So bring in those tired and ailing shoes, boots, belts and handbags and give them new life with our cobbler. ”

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## IF YOU VOTE, YOU CAN COMPLAIN...from page 1

from several big names, and received cheers from the crowd as they mentioned key issues. The videos also included some Cory Gardner slams (because would this be real politics otherwise?), which the crowd consistently booed.

There was even more cheering as the speakers took the stage. Several Colorado Democrats spoke, including Betsy Markey, Jared Polis, Michael Bennet, John Hickenlooper, and Mark Udall himself. Each of the candidates hit several of the same key points about raising minimum wage, promoting renewable energy, a woman's right to choose, equal wages, affordable education, health care, etc. Many of the candidates threw in more Gardner slams.

Regardless of whether the tactics used to amp up the crowd were positive or negative, they worked. The noise level grew with each candidate. Chants increasingly filled the room, with everything from, "VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!" to the favorite CSU chant, "I'M PROUD TO BE A CSU RAM!"

By the time Udall took the stage, the chants were all about him. He began his speech by emphasizing everything he loved about Colorado, and how high the stakes were in this particular election. The greatest emphasis in his speech spoke to the importance of actually voting, though. "If you vote, you can complain," he said. Regardless of any individual's political views, there's no arguing with that.

Despite the fact that this was Udall's own campaign, the main event was yet to come. Even the bored fashion reporter beside me perked up when Michelle Obama took the

stage. Suddenly, all reporters in the press pen were scrambling for photo ops. Armed with my smart phone's camera, I found myself leading a group of us in standing on chairs to get pictures of the first lady. We got in trouble for this, of course; the people supervising the press pen thought it was too much of a liability issue. I kept it up when they weren't looking anyway. I'm a rebel at heart, and besides, I have ObamaCare.

Mrs. Obama started out her speech by endorsing Udall and Colorado's record of improvement under his and Hickenlooper's leadership. She touched on many of the same topics as those who spoke previously, and threw in her own personal touch. She reminded the audience of the challenge given to the president at the start of his term, and how far the country has come since that time. She spoke to the room full of mostly college students, saying that the young demographic made the difference in electing President Obama, and that young people can continue to make a difference in elections by continuing to cast their votes. She emphasized that even five votes per precinct can change an entire election's outcome.

This was the biggest message in Michelle Obama's speech. It struck a nerve with the audience, and Obama closed her speech to wild screams from the crowd.

"I appreciate the first lady encouraging students to think of themselves as important," said CSU student and Delta High School Graduate Iris Hentze after the speech. "I totally understand being pessimistic [toward politics], and it is important



*MHS grad and proud voter Claire Clemens. Courtesy photo.*

to know that individuals can make a difference." The first lady's message applies to more than just college students, Democrats, or even Coloradans. It is important to remember that our country fought so that every citizen can have the right to vote, and this right is just as important now as it was then. The difference of five votes per precinct is not much, and it is not too late to register and exercise your voting rights if you haven't already! Whether you are for Udall or Gardner, whether you like the Obamas or want to impeach the president, or whether you hate all popular candidates and want to elect a conspiracy theorist, now is the time to express your opinion. Make some noise, Mirror readers! Head out today and VOTE!

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## IT'S TIME FOR ART ON TROUT ROAD!



**"Lonesome Dove," by Gina Grundemann.**  
Courtesy image.

*"I love it that Art on Trout Road comes before Thanksgiving. You can see hand-crafted items, talk a little art and philosophy and drink some yogi tea in Bill's homey studio before the crazy holiday rush starts."*

Montrose Artist Gina Grundemann  
By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-As the 2014 Thanksgiving holiday nears, many families will share special traditions and time-honored rituals as they prepare for the feast and for the season of festivities to follow.

Here in Montrose, one local Pre-Thanksgiving tradition is Art on Trout Road, the annual open house and art show hosted by Montrose artists Bill Wilson, Gina Grundemann, Ron Hoeksema and Paul Wiesner at Wilson's pottery studio (68408 Trout Road) Nov. 22-23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The works on display at the Trout Road shows never disappoint, and this year should be no exception.

Expect gorgeous and functional pottery, ceramics, landscape paintings, abstract art, tiles and gift items in a friendly and relaxed home studio. Enjoy the company of friends and neighbors, and refreshments--including Bill's traditional Yogi tea.

Wiesner is the "wild card" in this year's display, Wilson notes--a local Ophthalmologist, the doctor has recently immersed himself in the art of making pottery.

"Medicine as a vocation can be all-consuming, and I have always found joy in trying other endeavors," Wiesner said. "When I got the crazy idea that I wanted to make a set of dishes for each of my chil-



**Top, an abstract oil by Ron Hoeksema; below, pottery by Paul Wiesner.**

dren for Christmas, Bill generously allowed me to come out to his studio. Little did I know how much time, energy, science and physical skill went into just making a basic coffee mug!

With Wilson's help and encouragement, Wiesner finished a functional set of pottery for his daughter and is working to complete two other sets.

"What a creative release for the mad scientist in all of us, combined with the childhood joy of playing in the mud!" he said.

Bill Wilson's pottery and ceramic works are well-known for their beauty and functionality, and he looks forward to welcoming friends and community to his studio once again.

"I have been making wonderful objects out of clay for over 40 years and have loved every minute, except for a bad firing or two," Wilson said.

"It is a great Joy to see the support of communities up and down the valleys for our local artists. This show pushes me to make a wide variety of pots both large and small. It also gives me a chance to hear feedback from my supporters, which is always welcome."

Collectors of Painter Gina Grundemann's work can catch up with one of the region's most sought-after artists, and revel in the



**Bill Wilson has been doing a little cooking for Art on Trout Road...**  
courtesy image.

rich color and vibrant energy of her latest works. Gina depicts the rural landscape, gathering ideas as she explores back roads and mountain hillsides, so reminiscent of her childhood in Montana. Her paintings are impressionistic and alive with saturated colors.

"I strive to add movement and energy in my landscapes by including a winding path, road or a fence line through a scene," Grundemann said. "Colorful birds are also drifting into little paintings where I can play with gold leaf and collage."

A regional favorite, Ron Hoeksema has been creating his popular serigraph landscapes and oil paintings for many years, and will show a new body of abstract oils for this year's Art on Trout Road. Ron will include some serigraphs at the show, both framed and unframed.

"I spent most of 2014 refining my abstract technique and enjoying the challenge and discovery of this genre," Hoeksema said. "I also painted several impressionistic landscapes which border on the abstract."

The November weather can be unpredictable, but Art on Trout Road is sure to please--just a short country drive, four miles south of Montrose and one mile east on Trout Road, brings you to this seasonal showing of art and pottery.

Call 970-249-4293 for more information.





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TYLER NORDHAUSEN WINS PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD AT RIDGWAY OPEN EXHIBIT

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Ridgway Creative District and Weehawken Creative Arts held its Competitive Open Exhibit of Regional Artists and opening reception at Resource Gallery on Friday, Oct. 10. Shown here is Tyler Nordhausen with his photograph, "Seeking Home," winner of the People's Choice Award. Judges Robert Weatherford and Maria Marcantonio awarded prizes as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Gene Goff (photography); 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Daphna Russell (sculpture); 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Joyce Withrow (Folk Art). Artists Ed Werner (sculpture), Natalie Heller (photography), Leah Cerise (negative monoprint) and Nordhausen (photography) received Honorable Mentions. There were 40 entries in this year's exhibit, representing 23 artists from Ridgway, Cedaredge, Gunnison, Montrose, Olathe, Ouray, Placerville and Salida. (Photo of Tyler at right by John Clark).



## THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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THE WESTERN SLOPE AND BEYOND!

### NOV. 20 IS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS DAY

#### *Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Nov. 20, 2014 is National Children's Grief Awareness Day. HopeWest is hosting an event to bring awareness to the community about children, teens and grief.

The awareness event is on Saturday, Nov. 15 at A&Y Design & Gallery, 513 E. Main Street in Montrose, CO from 1 - 4 pm. At the event there will be craft projects designed to help kids begin to heal, an opportunity to honor pets that have died, story time related to grief and refreshments available for purchase.

One in five youth will experience the death of someone close to them before they graduate high school and one in twenty youth will experience the death of one or both parents before their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, according to [childrensgriefawarenessday.com](http://childrensgriefawarenessday.com).

HopeWest Kids provides comprehensive grief support through school grief groups, summer camps, family grief support groups, Equine Assisted Learning and individual counseling. Last year, nearly 700 children and teens were served by HopeWest Kids. More than half of those children and teens participated in school grief groups in Delta, Mesa and Montrose counties.

"Children's Grief Awareness Day is a day to come together and show support for kids, a day to learn, to better understand that children and teens grieve differently than adults and a day to educate our community about how to help children express their grief and heal," said Shirley Harvey, Coordinator of Youth Services at HopeWest. "We are excited to show our support for these children and teens."

HopeWest invites the community to

wear blue on Thursday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> to promote awareness of grieving children.

#### *Tips for Helping Grieving Children and Teens*

Many people are hesitant or confused about how to help a young person who is facing such a devastating loss and give them advice on how to cope with grief. These are a few ways in which you can help the children and teens in your community being faced with this challenge:

Answer questions clearly and accurately  
Encourage a variety of outlets for grief  
Model honest expressions of grief

Keep the memory of the loved one alive  
Share your grief

Find a peer support group

For more information about HopeWest Kids, call 970-240-7734 or visit [www.HopeWestCO.org/HopeWest-Kids](http://www.HopeWestCO.org/HopeWest-Kids).

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### REGION 10 RELEASES RFP FOR CONSULTING SERVICES IN DELTA, GUNNISON COUNTIES

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-The Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning has released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for professional consulting services in Delta and Gunnison counties.

"We hope to create a broad-based plan for economic diversification in that area," Region 10 Regional Development Coordinator Jay Stooksberry said. "We intend to start with a blank slate, be very objective, and build a strong market analysis that targets low-hanging fruit--those key industries that we can attract and promote in these counties."

The goal of the RFP will be to hire a consultant or team of consultants to create a third-party feasibility study, he said, with the intent of moving both counties away from dependence on agriculture, mining and extraction industries by empowering newer industries and a diverse local economy, thus strengthening resiliency in the face of an economic event or downturn.

"We know that Gunnison and Delta counties are very different," Stooksberry said. "They represent the dichotomies present throughout Region 10--from skiing in the mountains to agriculture and mining to high desert rural, they encapsulate our re-

gion as a whole. The populations are diverse as well--we are seeing both a young demographic and an aging population of retirees."

The project has generated funding and support from a wide-ranging spectrum of local municipalities and agencies; community partners include Delta County--which spearheaded the DOLA grant--the City of Delta, Delta County Economic Development, Gunnison County, Western State Colorado University and Gunnison Energy. "Coming together with this kind of broad partnership is rare, and we frankly need more of this activity," Delta City Manager Justin Clifton said.

"Gunnison County, its municipalities, and major employers are eagerly looking forward to identifying and implementing specific strategies and actions through this economic planning project," Assistant Gunnison County Manager for Economic and Community Development Russ Forrest said. "This effort will both improve the resiliency of our economy and complement a visioning process that will occur concurrently with the project."

The resulting feasibility study will be a substantial plan that will facilitate growth, rather than gathering dust on a shelf, Stooksberry said.

The study is funded through an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant supported by funding from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and from local communities.

The complete RFP is available on the Region 10 web site, at <http://www.region10.net/rfp/>.

A non-profit organization, the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning was formed in 1972 and serves six-counties (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale and San Miguel); operates an Enterprise center (300 North Cascade); administers the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit program; oversees the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Community Living Services; coordinates regional transportation planning, and offers a loan program for small business through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center (SBRC). In addition to loans, the Region 10 SBRC provides business education and counseling services at reduced or no cost for small businesses. To learn more about Region 10, call 970-249-2436 or visit the web site at [www.region10.net](http://www.region10.net).

## It's the 40th Annual Basement Boutique

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ALPINE BANK RECEIVES COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



*Alpine Bank VP David Miller, Sr. VP Karrie Fletcher and ELP Manager Lynette Myers. Courtesy Photo.*

*Special to the Mirror*

GLENWOOD SPRINGS – On Thursday, October 2, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recognized more than 150 companies for their outstanding environmental achievements that help keep Colorado a desirable place to work and to live.

The department, in cooperation with the

Pollution Prevention Advisory Board and the Colorado Environmental Partnership, presented the 15th annual Environmental Awards at the Seawell Grand Ballroom at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

The awards recognize Colorado organizations with Gold, Silver and Bronze designations for voluntarily going beyond compliance with state and federal regulations and for their commitment to continual environmental

improvement.

Alpine Bank was recognized as a renewing Gold Leader, and the status applies for another three years. Alpine Bank first earned its Gold Leader designation in 2008 and is the only financial institution that participates in the ELP.

The Colorado Environmental Leadership Program is a statewide environmental

recognition and reward program administered by the Department of Public Health and Environment's Office of Environmental Integration and Sustainability. The program is open to all Colorado businesses, industries, offices, educational institutions, municipalities, government agencies, communities, nonprofits, and other organizations.

Alpine Bank's environmental practices have been vast and longstanding: what started as a grassroots effort by bank employees in 2003 evolved into an extensive, bank-wide Environmental Management System (EMS), which has greatly reduced the bank's environmental footprint and has been recognized since 2006 with ISO 14001 certification – the international EMS standard of excellence.

To date, Alpine Bank is the only financial institution in North America to hold this registration. Additionally, in 2013 alone Alpine Bank contributed more than \$145,000 to local environmental nonprofits through its Environment Loyalty Debit Card initiative. For more information about Alpine Bank's environmental efforts, please visit [www.alpinebank.com](http://www.alpinebank.com).

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# DON'T LET THE BLACK WIDOWS BITE!

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-They are small and dark, and it can be easy to forget they are even there. But anyone who has been bitten by a Black Widow spider knows that the tiny arachnids pack a powerful nerve poison.

Should you ever suffer a widow bite, it's wise to see a doctor immediately because reactions vary widely among individuals, Delta County Health Department Environmental Health Specialist Larry Hudnall said.

Because Black Widow bites are not tracked, they tend to be underreported, Dr. David Dreitlein of Montrose Memorial Hospital said.

"They really are the only poisonous spider in our area," Dreitlein said. "Ten times as many people claim to have been bitten by Brown Recluse spiders, but I have never actually seen one of those bite anybody here, ever. We do see between two to four Black Widow bites a year."

Though it is rare for a Black Widow bite to cause a fatality, small children and the elderly are vulnerable, as are those who may have allergic reactions to the bite and require administration of anti-venom.

Unless the person who has been bitten realizes what has happened, they may mistake symptoms for the flu or other illness, Dreitlein said.

"I have Black Widows in my garage," he said, "and I think I may have been bitten a few years ago. This is the time of year that spiders come inside, so use common sense. Black Widows like dark, secluded places--so don't stick your hand in the woodpile without looking. They do get into shoes, which is where most known bites occur."

Though the number of actual deaths from Black Widow bites is amazingly small, they can certainly make you feel bad, he said.

"They make everything hurt," Dreitlein said.

Paonia resident Rand Kokernot, who suffered two bites in his own bed just over a week ago, said he is finally starting to recover, but would not wish the experience

on anyone.

"The weather is getting cooler and everything is wanting to stay warm by coming inside," Kokernot said. "Please take a flashlight and look under the covers before you get in bed. I have experienced six days of the most intense pain I've ever felt... like having the worst tooth ache of my life but all over your body."

According to Colorado State University (CSU) Extension, the Western Widow spider is common to Colorado. These Black Widows, identified by the presence of red or red-orange markings on the underside of the abdomen, build their webs near the ground in dark, undisturbed sites. Window wells, entrances to crawl spaces, old rodent burrows, corners of garages, and abandoned rodent burrows are some of their favorite sites for building webs, notes CSU. If you are planning to clean out an area where Black Widows might be nesting, better wear gloves, Hudnall advised.

"They don't just walk down the street and bite you," he said, "but if they are agitated, they definitely will bite. If you put your hands into a dark place like an irrigation control valve, or if you are clearing away lots of cobwebs, be very careful."

The [CSU web site](#) points out that while Colorado's Black Widow spiders are generally non-aggressive, they can become angry if provoked, "for example, when an unwitting person presses down on a spider that is resting."

According to the [Mayo Clinic web site](#), you may not even realize at first that you have been bitten. The bite itself resembles a pin prick, possibly followed by redness, itching, or swelling and eventually, intense pain and stiffness.

Other signs and symptoms include chills, fever, nausea, vomiting and severe abdominal pain.

Because some people can suffer more dangerous allergic reactions to Black Widow bites than others, Hudnall advises removing these kinds of spiders as you would any other household "pest," and taking some common sense precautions such as wearing gloves in areas where



*A black widow spider. Courtesy image, CSU extension.*

there could be spiders.

"There can also be snakes this time of year," he noted, "and mice can come inside anywhere there is an opening of more than a quarter-inch in height. We recommend wrapping steel wool around pipes in winter, to prevent mice from chewing them."

"Also, if you are going to be cleaning out a shed or sweeping anywhere there is dust or might be mice and the potential for Hanta virus, where a HEPA mask."

For areas packed with wasps, removals are best accomplished during morning or evening hours when they are lethargic, Hudnall said.

"Wasps do have memories, and if you agitate them, they will come after you," he said. "Do not try to remove them at midday!"

"It's really just about common sense, and taking a few precautions," he said.

For Black Widow victim Rand Kokernot, the worst is over. However, he now has a far greater respect for the small, black spiders with the red-orange markings--and a new appreciation for life.

"Take nothing for granted," Kokernot said. "This widow bite is the most painful experience I've had in my life. I couldn't sleep or eat for three nights."

He no longer feels as safe in bed as he once did, he said.

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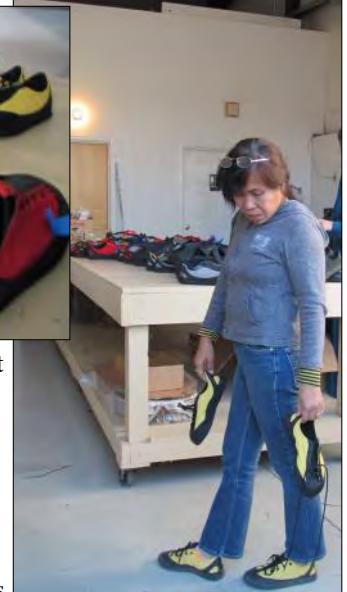
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## HELP KICK START A MONTROSE COMPANY! from page 1



*Clockwise from above, Nathalie Marchal displays a shoe in the early stages; staffer Grimma Morrow laces a shoe; Grimma models her own SOM shoes; more colors and sizes will be available if the company is successful in its bid to raise funds to purchase a computerized cutting machine. SOM has a Kickstarter campaign that will be live through Nov. 26. The shoes can be purchased locally through the company or at Nina Suzanne's Boutique on Main St.*



with a [Kickstarter](#) campaign active through Nov. 26. The company, located at 1006 North Cascade, has just released its newest model of shoe. If the Kickstarter campaign succeeds in raising \$30,000, the company will be able to purchase a computerized cutting machine, and further expand its popular line of made-in-America footwear with additional colors, styles and sizes.

SOM Footwear relocated to Montrose from Norwood last year, and has found this city to be the perfect fit for its operations. The Marchals have found support for their growing company through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center (SBRC), which has helped them develop a business plan and obtain references. Region 10 SBRC Director Vince Fandel said that assisting companies like SOM

makes sense for Montrose.

"I see this as an opportunity for a light manufacturing company within the Montrose community, something that is integral and necessary to a strong economy," Fandel said. "And they employ people."

"It's very rewarding to offer jobs in our community, and we have five employees already," Nathalie said. "We are off to a good start, and we have such a good product. I wear these shoes all the time! They are comfortable; once you try them it is hard to go back."

The company's newest model incorporates fashionable design and increased impact absorption with the "barefoot"

comfort that SOM is known for, company marketing manager Cody Wright.

"Our shoes allow the foot to conform naturally to the touch of the ground," Wright said. Reach SOM Footwear (1006 North Cascade Avenue) at 970-765-2616. Click [here](#) to help fund the company's Kickstarter campaign.







# MONTROSE COUNTY NEWS AND INFORMATION

## TRUNK OR TREAT!



*On Oct. 31, Montrose County welcomed throngs of families to a special Trunk or Treat event at Friendship Hall at the Montrose County Fairgrounds. Local merchants and community groups shared treats, games and information in a safe environment.*





# OPINION/EDITORIAL...

## ASK NOT FOR WHOM THE BELL TROLLS...HE TROLLS FOR ME!

By Caitlin Switzer

Editor and Publisher, Montrose Mirror

MONTROSE--When someone wearing the mug of Frederick Law Olmstead smacks you down on Facebook, you know you're in trouble. When your City Manager spends his days (yes, he earns more than \$120K per year) spying on your personal Facebook site and blasting out memos to public officials based on his findings, however, he ought to find himself in a little hot water as well.

The incident in question began with a touch of citizen activism--my expression of dissatisfaction with the [City of Montrose Government's](#) social media pages, which until recently appeared to "like" local businesses on an arbitrary and non-inclusive basis.

After numerous phone calls to city officials, I finally received a Facebook message from City Manager Bill Bell on Oct. 20 acknowledging my concerns and promising that the city would be "neutral" in its future social media preferences.

However, within hours I also learned that Bell had then perused my personal Facebook page (not my news site, and no we are not "friends"), where he found that I had mentioned my dissatisfaction with the City promoting one local business over another.

Unable to restrain himself, Bell hastily blasted out a memo--replete with misspellings, vague allusions, but very specific names--to a city-controlled board of Directors, threatening not to work with anyone who had liked a particular comment on that thread (no one actually had liked that comment, including the two individuals whose names were mentioned by Bell in the official email, an oversight that he later apologized for).

On learning of this mid-morning communication, I filed a complaint with Montrose City Council, reminding them that as a public servant, Bell has better uses for his days than perusing the personal Facebook sites of journalists and using that information to bully a public board of directors.

Since then, I have been contacted by an angry Bell via phone and email on at least four occasions. I also received a lengthy email justification for the City's stance from longtime City Councilor Kathy Ellis

and a much-appreciated offer by Councilor Judy Ann Files to facilitate if I did choose to meet with Bell and Asst. City Manager Rob Joseph to resolve my issues. Following these contacts, a friend of a Facebook friend (the aforementioned "Frederick Law Olmstead" weighed in on how very impolite I was to leak Kathy's "personal" letter to my social media news site--despite the fact that the missive in question was sent in response to my official complaint, and did not exactly sing my praises.

Forgive me Mr. "Olmstead," but I have no regrets. After all, there is a little something called Freedom of the Press that overrides my responsibility to avoid the "negativity" referenced by both Mr. Bell and Ms. Ellis and the "impoliteness" you cite. And because all relevant communications have previously been released on the [Mirror's Facebook news site](#) between Oct. 20-23, I will not waste space by reprinting them here. However, I will summarize the highlights for my fellow citizens, who may want to avoid doing anything to make the City Manager mad.

In one email, Bell acknowledged his activities, but like Ellis, justified them: **"I was only upset with Mr. Harding's attack on our city council. I misread the likes which wss (sic) my fault. There is no facebook police as you mention but the city staff do check Facebook throughout the day to see if there are citizen concerns out there that need our attention. This is becoming a very common way for governments to understand the populous (sic)."**

However, Bell's second phone call to me on the morning of Oct. 22--16 minutes of mostly yelling about how those who are "on his team" find him easy to work with and pressuring me to "sit down" with him and Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph--will probably keep me from agreeing to an in-person meeting any time soon.

"I have worked hard to make Montrose better," Bell told me on the phone.

"It bothers me when people promote that kind of negativity in our community. Don't confuse my actions as my own agenda, because I only do what Council wants."

While he acknowledged searching my Facebook page, he did not acknowledge the right of citizens to disagree--even on

personal social media sites.

"Richard Harding may have free speech," Bell said, "But that doesn't make it right. Don't talk bad about our elected officials. I am proud of this City Council; they really promoted the Rec

Center. People may have freedom of speech, but it's not the right thing to do."

Eventually, I ended the call by hanging up. Before doing so however, I did use the occasion as any reporter would--to pepper Mr. Bell with questions that he has refused to answer or return my calls about in the past. And on this occasion, he paused to answer them.

"So where IS that \$30,000 data analytics report promised by the OBT last May?" I queried, pen in hand.

Bell proudly noted that the [report](#) had been examined at a City Council work session Oct. 21, though not formally presented to Council (see related story on Page 2 of this issue), and not yet read by him (obviously, he has other priorities).

I also asked Bell about the OBT's first Visitor Guide, released after the closure of the summer tourist season, a delay he was quick to blame on the professional staff at the *Montrose Daily Press*, despite that publication's long history of turning out quality special sections on time.

And finally, because I have in the past obtained some records of the City's Office of Business and Tourism's tsunami of wasteful expenditures, I asked what had become of a \$400 do-it-yourself copywriting course ordered by OBT Director and Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph earlier this year. Bell told the Mirror at the time that the course would be used to educate "citizen journalists" to promote Montrose and reduce the City's advertising expenditures--a program that has not yet materialized or even been mentioned elsewhere.

"I don't know," Bell said, momentarily caught off guard, "it's hard to know. \$400 out of \$41 million is kind of hard to track."

The personal sites of local journalists, unfortunately, are not.



Caitlin Switzer.

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

# SNOWBIRD GETAWAYS

## CORRESPONDENT MARISSA ISGREEN VISITS LO DE MARCOS



*Whale watching is just one of many enjoyable activities that await you in Lo De Marcos.  
Photo by Marissa Isgreen.*

*By Marissa Isgreen*

COLORADO-The seven-day streak of single-digit winter weather is wearing on you. Each time you throw on an extra coat, double wrap a scarf around your neck and trudge out to start your protesting car, you curse your decision to move to Colorful Colorado.

It's time for a vacation.

Cozumel, Mexico, is nice this time of year, but it's littered with tourists. Arizona is warm, but your idea of a vacation is farther then a state away. What about getting off the beaten path and trying the tiny town of Lo De Marcos, Mexico?

Lo De Marcos is a small town of about 2,500. Quaint cobblestone streets wind west through town to the mile-long curved beach.

Conveniently located just an hour north of Puerto Vallarta, Lo De Marcos makes a perfect home base for a trip to Riviera Nayarit, a 200-mile stretch of coastline between San Blas and Nuevo Vallarta. It's located on the main highway, buses come into town to pick up passengers and it's close to many other attractions. The tight-knit community is a healthy blend of re-

tired snowbirds from Canada and the U.S., tourists from inland and the locals of Lo De Marcos.

Traveling Riviera Nayarit can be a tourist trap, or a wonderful window into the local culture off the beaten path. Here are five activities you should experience while visiting Lo de Marcos.

### **Watch the sunset beachside in San Francisco (San Pancho)**

People from around the world travel to this village exclusively to watch the sun dip below the crashing waves. A combination of dangerous waves, jagged rocks, and a latitude of 20.9 degrees north produces vibrant pink and orange sunsets-- and a sun so close you could snatch it out of the sky.

Don't forget to plan for transportation home because the buses will have stopped running by the time the sun sets.

### **Go whale watching... with a local**

Sure, you could hire a professional whale-watching company, spend at least 100 bucks per person and maybe see a whale. Or, you could sit on the beach enjoying a Pacifico, watch a whale breach the ocean and hit up that local boatman who's been asking if you want to go whale watching

for a week now. The locals go out on your schedule, know where to find the whales and will give you an insider's perspective. Plus, it'll cost around 300 pesos per person, that's about \$22.

### **Breakfast at Olivia's**

Olivia's is a quaint little palapa restaurant centrally located on Lo De Marcos's beach. The menu is conveniently printed in English and Spanish, and the servers graciously help their customers practice Spanish by ordering off the menu. One of my favorite Olivia's dishes is chorizo-style scrambled eggs accompanied by fried potatoes, refried beans and handmade [tortillas](#) for 26 pesos, or roughly \$2.

### **Spend the day at Playa de Los Venados**

Only located about one mile from Lo De Marcos, this secluded beach is perfect for a day trip. Getting to Los Venados is an easy hike on a country road to the next headland. The beach is known for its enormous waves and scarcity of people. Venture to the north end of the beach and view tiny ecosystems living in the rock's crevasses. Amidst the small striped fish and camouflaged crabs, tiny fluorescent blue fish can be spotted darting out of sight.

This beach has one family-run restaurant serving fresh fish caught every morning. Indulge in a coco frio made from fresh coconut, and don't forget to sample the fish tacos. Which brings me to...

### **Eat street tacos**

Street tacos are an authentic, traditional Mexican food bursting with flavor. My favorite was a hole in the wall place that serves the best "tacos al pastor" in all of Nayarit. The shop is located on the right side as you're walking towards the beach on the main drag in Lo De Marcos. Look for an outdoor cooking setup with a large beehive shaped piece of meat on a rotating vertical rod.

The meat is shaved off the surface and served with fresh tortillas made right in front of you. One kilogram of meat costs 80 pesos and includes fresh tortillas and homemade salsas. That's a lot of tacos for six dollars.

### **Time to plan**

Book your plane tickets, reserve a bungalow and brush up on your Spanish because Mexico is calling. Tacos, secluded beaches, beautiful sunsets and warm sunny weather, yeah, I'll take that over scraping my car's windows any day.



# SNOWBIRD GETAWAYS...LO DE MARCOS SIDEBAR

## From Previous Page Getting There

Getting to Lo De Marcos is simple. Fly in to Puerto Vallarta and catch a taxi or bus north. Or, rent a car and take Highway 200.

## Where to stay

Lo De Marcos has a few small hotels as well as bungalows and RV parks available for rent.

## Money

The best time to exchange money is before leaving Puerto Vallarta because the exchange rates are much lower. ATM cards or debit cards will work.

## Foods to try

Fish tacos, al pastor tacos, coco frios, fresh bread

## Phrases to know

Por favor hable más despacio // Please speak more slowly

No comprendo // I don't understand

¿Habla Usted inglés? // Do you speak English?

Sólo estoy mirando// I'm just looking

No gracias // No thank you

¿Cuánto cuesta? // How much?

Dónde está el autobús? // Where is the bus?

## ALTRUSA NEWS BRIEFS

# OLATHE TEACHER PEGGY RENFRO HONORED WITH ALTRUSA APPLE AWARD



## Special to the Mirror

OLATHE--Dr. Sheryl Solow of Altrusa International of Montrose, CO., Inc. awarded Peggy Renfro, Teacher at Olathe Elementary, the Altrusa Apple Award along with some Montrose Bucks.

Joe Brummitt, Principal at Olathe Elementary, informed members of Altrusa that Ms. Renfro was nominated by other teachers at Olathe. She has been a teacher for 35 years, teaching first grade teacher for 18 years and is now teaching fourth grade at Olathe Elementary.

Since she is a blogger, she read us her blog, "Being a Fourth Grader." Congratulations to Ms. Renfro!



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITY ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY MONTROSE BUCKS OFFER

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE - The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism wants to help you celebrate the holidays with some extra cash. Pick up an extra \$40 when you buy \$200 in Montrose Bucks between Monday, November 24 and Saturday, December 20.

Montrose Bucks can be described as "Montrose currency," because they can only be redeemed by Montrose merchants. Montrose Bucks are an incentive to shop local and help keep retail dollars circulating in our community, which supports local businesses. They are accepted like cash by most Montrose businesses. Bucks can be purchased for a variety of uses and make fantastic gifts any time of the year.

Montrose Bucks purchased during this special promotion are limited to \$200 purchase per person and are available in \$100 increments. Simply fill out a form, pay \$100 cash (sorry, no credit cards or checks for this promotion), and receive \$120 back in six \$20 checks—or pay \$200 cash and receive \$240 back in 12 \$20 checks. Montrose Bucks are available at the Downtown Visitor Center (107 S. Cascade Ave.) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Sales are on a first come, first serve basis, while supplies last. You must be present to purchase (no pre-sales or over the phone purchases).

#### **Promotion Rules**

- Promotion runs from November 24

until December 20.

- Payment by cash only.
  - Limit \$200 purchase per person in \$100 increments.
  - Bucks purchased during this promotion must be used by December 31. Expired checks will not be re-issued.
  - Montrose Bucks are not redeemable for cash.
- Promotional Montrose Bucks are available while supplies last.

For more information about the Bucks program, go to [VisitMontrose.com/bucks](http://VisitMontrose.com/bucks), email [bucks@VisitMontrose.com](mailto:bucks@VisitMontrose.com), or call the Downtown Visitor Center at [\(970\) 497-8558](tel:9704978558).

*On Nov. 22, the San Juan Weavers Guild presents its annual show and sale Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Express, 1391 S. Townsend, Montrose, Colorado. Exhibits, sales, free hands-on instruction. There is no admission charge and the public is welcome. For information: Bobbie Irwin, (970) 249-2981; [irwin@rmi.net](mailto:irwin@rmi.net).*

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# WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...NOELLE HAGAN

Interview by Gail Marvel

**GUNNISON**-Growing up Noelle Hagan was extremely shy and lacked self-confidence. In sixth grade she ran for class secretary, "I lost — but no, I didn't have any sense of myself." As a stay-at-home mom and in her mid-thirties, Noelle became active with her children's education and joined the Parent Accountability Committee. "At the first meeting I was elected chairman." She laughed, "But then I lay awake all night long worrying about how I was going to chair a meeting." Noelle had just dipped her toe into the waters of leadership.

Noelle's leadership credentials include seven years on the Montrose Library Board; two terms on Montrose City Council (2000-2008), serving as both Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem; and an unsuccessful bid for State Representative in 2008. The Hagans moved to Gunnison in 2009 and Noelle currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Western State Colorado University, the board of the Temple Buell Foundation, and the Community Foundation of Gunnison Valley. Along with volunteering time to non-profits, Noelle owns a consulting business that focuses on strategic planning and facilitating; and one of her clients is Sharing Ministries.

In the area of media relations, Noelle feels she was treated very well. "I managed to avoid conflict," she laughed, "and I was just lucky that they had other people

to pick on!" Referencing the glass-ceiling she said, "There are some things women can't get away with. If you are forthright, speak your mind, and are very direct, some people will totally discount what you are saying. They focus not on what you said, but how you said it. Men are admired for being forthright, but people don't want to see that in a woman." Noelle feels the world is changing and today's young men, having grown up as products of single parents and working mothers, treat female counterparts more respectfully. She recalled a newspaper letter-to-the-editor in which a middle-aged man called her a "harriidan." She laughed, "I had to look it up in the dictionary ... I'd never heard that word before!"

Noelle's style of leadership is facilitative. "I don't beat people over the head, but I bring people around. Working as a team is satisfying work." An organized person who knows the importance of laying a foundation, Noelle questions herself and asks why someone would oppose what she is trying to accomplish, and then how might they be persuaded. "Persuasion is an underrated skill, but first you need to know where the other person is coming from."

On the subject of public relations Noelle said, "Part of public service is that you will be misunderstood." She laughed, "I made everyone mad — the pro-development and the anti-growth people! More discussion goes into making decisions than the public

realizes, but when you are misunderstood it is extremely frustrating."

Noelle believes communication is imperative in leadership. "I've always been articulate. I like to read and it has made me able to convey my thoughts well." In Noelle's experience the words of women in public office

come under greater scrutiny than the words of their male counterparts. "Women have to be perfect and watch what they say."

Noelle has a warm spot in her heart for Montrose. "I treasure that a newcomer can participate in the community. People saw something in me and helped me become a leader." As for her ambitions, "I don't know what the future holds. I don't envision running again for an elected office. I have no fire-in-the-belly [for it] and I think there are better and higher uses of my time and skills."

Advice to other women in leadership: "Leadership is about getting things done. Relationships are how you treat people and you build relationships, not so you can get something, but so you can get things done."



*Noelle Hagan.  
Courtesy Photo.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MUMC BROADWAY BENEFIT A SMASH HIT

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Lookout New York - Broadway has come to Colorado! On a recent Sunday some of Montrose's most talented musicians performed an array of hit Broadway show tunes for a packed house at the Montrose United Methodist Church for their "Lettuce Turnip the Beet" fundraiser.

More than 130 community members attended and were delighted by stellar renditions of some of the country's most beloved show tunes, including "If I were a Rich Man" from *Fiddler on the Roof*, "I Dreamed a Dream" from *Les Miserables*, "America" from *West Side Story*, and many more. During intermission patrons

delighted in a dessert bar, featuring well over a dozen delicacies contributed by local bakers. The sold-out show was a fundraiser for the MUMC Community Fellowship Garden which is opening in the spring. The garden is being organized with the assistance of the Valley Food Partnership and LiveWell Montrose Olathe, and is open to all members of the public.

No gardening experience is necessary to join; assistance will be provided to any gardener who requests it. Any interested persons may direct their questions Connie Stoutt at [stouttbiz@gmail.com](mailto:stouttbiz@gmail.com).

At right, MUMC Music Director Kelly Thompson. Courtesy photo.



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# Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS CROSS & SPURS COWBOY FELLOWSHIP



By Gail Marvel

My visit to Cross & Spurs Cowboy Fellowship took place on Aug. 3, 2014 and in true cowboy fashion folks sauntered into the Pioneer Room at Friendship Hall. There were 20 people present when worship leader Gary Lear picked up his electric guitar and literally filled the room with his talent. This professional entertainer, who has played with the likes of Bryan White, still plays venues in Nashville and Missouri. For his day job, this Gospel singer is the owner of Spring Canyon Home Improvement LLC.

Gary opened the worship service with the 1948 cowboy song, "Ghost Riders in the Sky," written by Stan Jones. The lyrics:

"As the riders leaned on by him, he heard one call his name

If you want to save your soul from hell a riding on our range  
Then cowboy change your ways today or with us you will ride

Tryin' to catch the devil herd across these endless skies

Yippie I oh, yippie I ay,  
Ghost riders in the sky..."

Following the song Gary pointedly told

the audience, "If you don't change your ways you're going to go down the wrong road." Other song selections included "Why Me Lord," "God Only Cries," "Baptism," and "Amazing Grace."

Pastor Terry Hedrick, an ordained Nazarene minister, also preaches in Delta and for the Hotchkiss Cowboy Fellowship. Wearing a cowboy hat, boots and jeans Pastor Terry engaged the audience with an old mule joke before launching into his sermon on the, "Salt of the Earth," based on Matthew 5:13-16.

The pastor expounded on the properties of salt (healing, preserving, and flavor) saying that believers are called to add flavor to society by bringing Christ to preserve life [for eternity]. With a dry sense of humor he chuckled, "God called us to be salty — a little bit of an irritation to the world. Most people know whether or not they are saved; I don't have to tell them that. God has already written it down."

According to Jesus, when salt lose its saltiness, "It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men" (Matt 5:13b NIV). Pastor Terry reiterated, "We get our saltiness

from Christ. Without the power of God, we are only fit to be walked on by men."

Using a personal example the pastor told of a good friend who passed away. The man's Christian heritage came from a mother who was faithful in church attendance, "He always said he went to church even before he was born. He was a quiet man and most people never heard him say two words, but everyone knew him as steady and faithful. You could see God's light and he allowed his salt to be savored."

Relating to his audience, the pastor painted a picture of a ranch hand getting bucked off his horse, "God picks him up, dusts him off and puts him back in the saddle." The cowboy looks for strays, those who are lost and have wandered away. "We're just there to help folks along the trail."

The worship service is scheduled for 6 pm Sunday evenings and part of their fellowship is sharing in a light potluck supper at the conclusion of the service. In the past these folks have met in local area barns, however, the space at the Montrose County Fairgrounds works well for their current needs.

*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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## It All Comes Down to the Heart

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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

### 2015 Special Event Funding Application Due Date Approaching Grants due Nov. 10; Community Impact Awards accepted starting Nov. 3

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— The application deadline for funding from the City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) is fast approaching.

The OBT rolled out their 2015 special event funding programs and process at their September 24<sup>th</sup> Special Event Summit. Grant applications (requests over \$500) for funding consideration are due November 10<sup>th</sup>.

New for 2015 is the introduction of Community Impact Awards (requests up to \$500). “CI Awards are the OBT’s way of supporting local events and fundraisers that serve residents and enhance the quality of life in the city of Montrose, while not necessarily impacting tourism or retail sales activity,” explained OBT Director Rob Joseph. CI Awards are limited to \$5,000 for 2015 and will be available on a

first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be accepted beginning November 3, 2014.

“We’re glad to have had this year’s summit in the fall, giving event organizers plenty of time to prepare for the 2015 event cycle,” said Special Events and Public Information Coordinator Stacey Ryan. “We encourage event organizers to apply for support from the city, and, at the very least, to provide the OBT with event dates as soon as they’re available, so that we may help drive attendance to local events.” The OBT may include event information in various regional, state, and national marketing efforts throughout the year—as well as in the state-of-the-art visitor center—as long as the information is available.

Sharing dates and event information with the OBT also ensures consideration for a

listing in the 2015 Visit Montrose Magazine.

The OBT manages the city's Retail Sales Enhancement and Tourism Promotion Programs. Its mission is to attract new businesses, enhance the vitality of existing businesses, and promote the raw natural beauty and myriad outdoor recreational opportunities in and around Montrose. Its special event program helps facilitate those objectives. Among 2014 OBT-funded special events are the new Adventure Film Festival, the Food and Farm Forum, Oktoberfest, and the Western Colorado Hospitality Summit.

Application information is available under “Annual Application for Assistance” at [CityofMontrose.org/events](http://CityofMontrose.org/events) or call [\(970\) 240-1402](tel:9702401402) or email [events@visitmontrose.com](mailto:events@visitmontrose.com) for more information.

### CITY, BOTANICAL SOCIETY COLLABORATE ON PAVILION SIDEWALK

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—A sidewalk was recently installed across the Montrose Pavilions Commons Area, linking the Pavilion Events Center to the Montrose Botanic Gardens, to make walking between the two landmarks easier for event attendees. This has been a collaborative effort between the City of Montrose and the Montrose Botanical Society. Multiple city departments worked together to make this sidewalk a reality, and City Engineer Scott Murphy specially designed the pathway to meet event needs and complement the surrounding environment.

## HONORABLE MENTION

In memory of our neighbor Tim Major, 59, who passed away earlier this month due to injuries suffered when he was hit by a car while crossing the street at East Main and Cedar. Oct. 1. Please drive carefully Montrose...

To Domino’s Pizza of Montrose, for building a whole new restaurant at their current location...

To Straw Hat Farm Market, for the cinnamon rolls...

To new Delta Chamber of Commerce Director Leslie Workman...

To everyone who cares enough to be an educated, informed citizen...one who votes!

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY WINS STATE AWARD FOR FIELD TRIP COLLABORATION

#### *Special to the Mirror*

LOVELAND—At a ceremony in Loveland on Friday, Oct. 17, the Colorado Association of Libraries gave its Library Community Partnership Award to the Montrose Regional Library, Montrose County School District, Montrose Rotary Club, and Altrusa International of Montrose for their collaboration to provide first graders with a library field trip, library card, and free books.

The Rotary Club initiated the partnership in 2007, when the Club's Literacy Chair, Amy McBride, asked the Library's Children's Department for ideas for a new project to improve literacy in the community.

They suggested bringing each first grader in the Montrose County School District to the Library for a field trip to promote the summer reading program. Each field trip includes an original puppet show related to the summer reading program theme, a tour of the library, a story, and a craft. Prior to the field trip, Library Director Paul Paladino visits each classroom to give out library cards. Since its inception, more than 3,000 first graders have toured the Library and received library cards.

The Rotary Club pays for the buses to bring students to the Library, and Rotarians attend each field trip to promote the

importance of literacy. Altrusa joined the collaboration in 2013, and its members visit classrooms with Paul Paladino to distribute two free books to each child.

"[This project] is a positive and worthy endeavor," wrote Olathe Elementary School Principal Joe Brummitt in a letter of support for the award. "It has helped initiate and sustain children's access to books and to promote a lifelong love of reading."

Jana Ackerman, Literacy Chairperson for Altrusa wrote, "This collaboration serves to support the research-based notion that the way to improve literacy in a community is to get books into the hands of children."

Cottonwood Elementary first grade teacher Dianna Beshoar wrote, "The benefits of this project are far-reaching. Students have their own library cards to visit the library or bookmobile and stir up some literacy fun over the summer and throughout their lives."

The Library Community Partnership Award recognizes achievements in planning and implementing collaborative library programs or services between Colorado libraries, or between a Colorado library and a business, organization, group or individual.



*Amy McBride accepts the award. To her right is Kirsten Seger, Circulation Supervisor. To her left is Lizz Martensen, Children's Librarian. Courtesy photo.*

The CAL Awards Committee judges nominations on their innovative nature and impact on library services.

**FREE FILM SCREENING...Producer Laurie David's "Fed Up."  
7 p.m. Nov. 19, 2Rascals Brewing Company,  
147 North First Street**

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Volunteers  
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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](http://www.voavalidation.org)** for more information on Validation and **[www.voahealthservices.org](http://www.voahealthservices.org)** for a list of providers in Western Colorado.

[www.facebook.com/VOAWesternSlope](http://www.facebook.com/VOAWesternSlope)



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### WEAVERS CELEBRATE 37 YEARS



*A young girl weaves her first fabric on a simple loom at the 2014 Hotchkiss Stockdog Trials, in a booth sponsored by the San Juan Weavers Guild. Photo by Deanna Grider.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE--Did you know that weavers are warped and spinners are twisted? Come find out why at the San Juan Weavers Guild 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Show & Sale Saturday, November 22, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This one-day event at the Holiday Inn Express, 1391 S. Townsend Ave. in Montrose, is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

Educational outreach has always been a prime focus of the guild, which now has about 60 members on the Western Slope of Colorado and beyond. As in past years, this year's Show & Sale will feature free hands-on opportunities to learn how to spin yarn and weave fabric, as well as related activities. And it's not just for kids anymore... people of any age are welcome to try! All equipment and materials are provided, and guild members are on hand to guide beginners who want to try these ancient skills. Additional demonstrations are scheduled throughout the day.

What were once necessary chores have evolved into pleasurable activities for mod-

ern spinners and weavers, who derive great satisfaction from the processes. Guild member Bobbie Irwin explains, "Part of the reason we enjoy these activities is because we don't *have* to do them in order to have something to wear. We can spin and weave just for the joy of it!"

Special exhibits will also be part of the education and inspiration at the event, including a return of the popular Postcard Challenge exhibit. Earlier in the year, some members swapped postcards in an exchange designed to encourage creativity. The projects inspired by the photos will be on display, along with the photos and explanations, to be returned to the postcard donors after the event.

This year a special display of antique textiles will also be featured. Coverlets from members' collections, more than a hundred and fifty years old, will be exhibited. Many modern weavers create reproductions of these classic bedcovers for their own homes.

Last year, one of the most popular sale attractions was a display of beautiful baskets created by Ngurunit Basket Weavers from Kenya, Africa.

The San Juan Guild supports their efforts by paying for the Kenyans' membership in Weave a Real Peace, an international organization that helps revive traditional weaving techniques and provides marketing opportunities and income to women in many communities around the world. A new and larger selection of these exquisite handmade baskets will again be offered for sale, and the net profits go to the talented women who made them. Last year's supply sold out quickly.

As always, the guild's annual sale celebrates a year's creativity by its members, showcasing an amazing variety of items for the home and personal use at prices to

suit any budget. Rugs, towels, placemats and runners make wonderful gifts; hats and scarves are practical as well as beautiful accessories. One-of-a-kind clothing, fiber jewelry, felted catnip toys (your cat will love you!), bags, handspun yarn, fiber for spinning...all have been featured at previous sales and are likely to return. However, even the organizers don't know until the night before what the current sale's temptations will be, when the inventory is checked in. "That," says Irwin, "is part of the fun."

The guild's sale is not intended as a profit-making venture for the organization. Participating members pay a commission to cover the guild's expenses for the sale, giving them an opportunity to showcase their creations. Many participants do not have other sales outlets.

This is not just another holiday craft sale. First-time customers are often surprised that there are no individual booths, and there is a central check-out table for sales. Members' items are mingled together by category, as in a department store.

Guild standards guarantee high quality craftsmanship in items not available elsewhere in the region.

"Our sale draws customers from a wide area," according to Irwin, "including some who come over from Denver just for our event. While many customers line up before the doors open, our large inventory assures we will still have many wonderful choices for later shoppers.

We encourage everyone to come, see our exhibits, try out these crafts, and go home with special gifts for friends, families, and themselves. There's nothing else like it in western Colorado."

For more information about the annual sale or the guild, contact Bobbie Irwin in Montrose, (970) 249-2981; [irwin@rmi.net](mailto:irwin@rmi.net).

### RIDGWAY MOONWALK HOSTS INDEPENDENT FILM FEST NOV. 7

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Ridgway Creative District and Weehawken Creative Arts invite you to the Ridgway MoonWalk: Independent Film Fest on Friday, Nov. 7, from 6 to 9 pm at the Sherbino Theater (604 Clinton St.). Seven short films directed by Colorado independent filmmakers will be screened with a couple of the filmmakers on hand to discuss their films. View a beautifully animated film about a fruit bat and a cassowary with a haunting original sound track, as well as a documentary about the collaborative making of this film. Three of the films recognize the creative inspiration of locals Tom Hennessy, Kelie Day, and Tom Bennett. One film posthumously commemorates the innovativeness of local Zina Lahr, only a few weeks away from the first anniversary of her death. Another film investigates the issues of mining drainage, clean-up efforts, and Good Samaritan legislation.

Please join Rick Weaver, master of ceremonies, to honor the creativity of filmmakers and their films. For more information on MoonWalks, go to [www.ridgwaycreativedistrict.com](http://www.ridgwaycreativedistrict.com) or [www.facebook.com/RidgwayMoonWalks](https://www.facebook.com/RidgwayMoonWalks).



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COMMUNITY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN 2014 PARADE OF LIGHTS

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE, CO - The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) is now accepting applications for the 2014 Downtown Montrose Christmas Parade of Lights that will take place Saturday, December 6, beginning at 5 p.m., along Main Street from Stough to Rio Grande Avenues. This year's parade theme is "Christmas Stories: Portray a holiday story from a favorite book, film, or song!" All area clubs, churches, organizations,

schools, performance groups/teams, businesses, and individuals are encouraged to take part in this popular community event. Judged on originality, quality, use of theme, and overall appeal, winners will receive Montrose Bucks: first place - \$250, second place - \$150 and third place - \$100. The OBT is proud to present the annual Parade of Lights with the guidance and assistance of the Montrose Police Department, the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, the Montrose Lions Club, and the

Montrose High School Band Boosters. Submission deadline is Wednesday, December 3. Registration is required; application is free. Parade rules, regulations, and applications can be downloaded by visiting [www.cityofmontrose.com/parade](http://www.cityofmontrose.com/parade) or contacting the OBT at 107 South Cascade Avenue, (970)240-1402, [orinfo@VisitMontrose.com](mailto:orinfo@VisitMontrose.com). For ongoing updates and logistics on the parade, follow [Facebook.com/MontrosePoliceDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/MontrosePoliceDepartment).

### VOA, DCMH TEAM UP TO GET COLORADOANS COVERED

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-Volunteers of America (VOA) and Delta County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) are continuing their commitment to work together in support of Connect for Health Colorado's campaign to get as many Coloradans covered by health insurance as possible. According to DCMH CEO Jason Cleckler, having insurance helps the whole community by reducing the amount of unpaid health care provided by the hospital and medical providers. Unpaid health care drives up costs for everyone, as it is absorbed into the costs of services and sometimes must be subsidized through additional fees or taxes. Thanks to

a decrease in uninsured and self-pay patients, Delta County Memorial Hospital has seen improvement to its financial standing. VOA's Regional Director, Craig Ammermann, pointed out that not having health insurance can cost much more than a monthly premium, especially if an unforeseen medical situation arises.

All health insurance policies cover preventive care which is aimed at catching serious medical conditions early while they are treatable.

This affordable health insurance is available through the State's Marketplace-Connect for Health Colorado-where people can qualify for financial assistance to help

reduce insurance costs.

In support of the campaign, DCMH will have information available about how to access affordable health insurance through the Marketplace.

Certified Health Coverage Guides from VOA's assistance sites in Montrose and Delta County are available to community groups and organizations to present information on how to access health care and financial assistance.

To arrange a presentation or for general questions, contact VOA's health coverage guides Alicia Plantz or Lynn Carretta at 970-252-0660 or Maria Forster at 970-872-2233.



# DELTA AREA

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**Thursday, November 6 • Noon-1pm**

**Come with all your marketing questions and  
get them answered by a local agency!**

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- Should you be blogging?
- How long should you try a form of marketing?
- Why isn't what you are doing right now working?
- How do we know if something is working?

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Please RSVP by calling Claudette at Region 10**



## REGION 10 UPDATES

### MENTORS SOUGHT FOR REGION 10 SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-For a busy entrepreneur, time is money--so free or low-cost classes that enable you to make the most of your time and your schedule can mean the difference between struggling and achieving success.

Just ask Montrose business owner Sheree Wanner of Camelot Gardens, who took a course in Quickbooks accounting software through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center (SBRC).

"I think the Region 10 Quickbooks classes have been invaluable," Wanner said. "I bought Quickbooks, but I didn't know anything about it, and now I have learned so much more--the course was wonderful! The tension and fear of not knowing what to do are gone."

Whether you need marketing advice, industry-specific tools for budgeting or inventory management, want to learn more about cloud-based software options, or simply want to know how to choose the right point-of-sale system, Region 10 can help. We offer industry-specific classes in everything from Accounting, Social Media

and Facebook marketing to use of Excel spreadsheets.

And because we know that every industry has unique issues and challenges, we are always seeking those with experience in specific fields to serve as mentors through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center.

"Nothing can replace the guidance and perspective of those who have learned through real world experiences," Region 10 Small Business Development Center Director Vince Fandel said, "especially for companies that are just starting out."

From cost-saving strategies, marketing tips and social media tools to pitfalls to avoid, Region 10's experienced mentors can save small business owners time, money and aggravation.

Mentors and counselors are now available not only through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center, but through our partner, The Hive, in the North Fork Valley as well.

Share the knowledge you have gained with new business owners, and position yourself

as an expert in your field! Retired executives, educators, entrepreneurs and others are encouraged to email Vince Fandel at [Vince@region10.net](mailto:Vince@region10.net). Businesses seeking mentors are encouraged to contact Vince as well.

A non-profit organization, the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning was formed in 1972 and serves six-counties (Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray, Hinsdale and San Miguel); operates an Enterprise center (300 North Cascade); administers the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit program; oversees the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Community Living Services; coordinates regional transportation planning, and offers a loan program for small business through the Region 10 Small Business Resource Center (SBRC). In addition to loans, the Region 10 SBRC provides business education and counseling services at reduced or no cost for small businesses.

To learn more about Region 10, call 970-249-2436 or visit the web site at [www.region10.net](http://www.region10.net).

## KEEPING THE COMMUNITY CONVERSATION GOING

*Region 10 Community Living Services*

REGIONAL-Every four years the Area Agency on Aging is given the opportunity to provide our state and national authorities with a picture of older adults in our six-county region. Region 10 Community Living Services recently wrapped up an 11-stop Community Conversation tour. We visited nearly every community served by Region 10, asking residents questions about aging in their community.

Stakeholders and older adult consumers were asked to provide input about what services are currently available and working for them and more importantly what needs are not currently being met. So far the most obvious gaps are a lack of hospice services, affordable housing, and transportation in several communities. Universally, older adults stated they want to remain in their homes, and will need a variety of services in order to accomplish that.

"So far the most obvious gaps are a lack of hospice services, affordable housing, and transportation in several communities. Universally, older adults stated they want to remain in their homes, and will need a variety of services in order to accomplish that."

In our very rural areas bringing services to older adults makes much more sense than building facilities people don't want to utilize. Our job is making sure that Older Americans Act and Older Coloradans Act funding is used to best meet the needs of those we serve. Supportive programs like senior transportation, nutrition programs, homemaker, personal care, legal aid and caregiver support help people stay at home. It is often just a little extra support like a home delivered meal and some housekeeping that can



keep a frail older adult at home.

The final four year plan is due May 2015; a summary of the Region 10 plan will be posted on the website. If you have ideas you would like share please call or email Eva Veitch at 970-249-2436 x 207 or [eva-veitch@region10.net](mailto:eva-veitch@region10.net) we want to hear from as many people as possible.

**THANKS FOR READING! CALL 970-275-5791 FOR AD RATES AND INFORMATION!**

## ARTS &amp; CULTURE

## SWING DANCE AT THE SHERBINO!

*Special to the Mirror*

RIDGWAY-Don't miss the best swing classes in the tri-county area. Classes will be taught by Chris & Wendy Shima, Lindy Hop teachers for over 15 years! Beginning on November 4th, 2014 Weehawken Creative Arts is offering swing classes out of The Sherbino Theater in Ridgway, CO. Classes run from 6:30-8:30pm and are every Tuesday in November. (November 4, 11, 18, 25) There is a \$10 discount for couples and college/high school students. \*Beginner class 6:30-7:30pm. Intermediate class 7:30-8:30 pm.

## TALKING GOURDS WELCOMES PRESTON PIERCE NOV. 4 TO ARROYO



Poet Preston Pierce. Courtesy photo.

*Special to the Mirror*

TELLURIDE-Telluride Literary Arts presents Preston Pierce as Talking Gourds guest performer for Tuesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at Arroyo's.

A former stone-mason, river guide and radio tower climber, Pierce explains that as a poet he gathers "the continually changing culture in his arms like sand, sifts the gold and performs it with an exuberance, rhythm and energy that will take your breath away."

The theme for November is "Death." Next month the award-winning author Amy Irvine McCarg will read some of her poetry. The theme for Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> will be "Descent Narratives--Down the Rabbit Hole We Go." As always, following Club announcements and performances, we'll have a short break and then pass the gourd

around the room to give Club members and attendees a chance to read poems from the monthly theme -- pieces of their own or the work of a favorite other.

Talking Gourds Poetry Club is a joint venture of the Telluride Institute, Wilkinson Library, Between the Covers Bookstore, Arroyo Telluride and the newly formed Telluride Literary Arts. Members meet monthly, on first Tuesday evenings, at Arroyo Fine Art Gallery & Wine Bar at 220 E. Colorado Ave. (next door to Telluride Hardware and the Masonic Hall), beginning at 6 p.m. in Telluride, Colorado. TLA also sponsors the annual Telluride Literary Arts Festival the weekend before Memorial Day weekend. Call 970-729-0220 for more info. Or visit the Telluride Literary Arts website, [tellurideliteraryarts.weebly.com](http://tellurideliteraryarts.weebly.com).

*Valerie Meyers' Weekly Monday*



# REAL ESTATE MARKET REPORT

*from the Road*

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





# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

### WATER STORAGE, CONSERVATION STILL ON THE TABLE

Traveling around my district for meetings and events is always a scenic journey and the fall colors have been spectacular. Seeing more of the mountain tops with snow is also beautiful.

That snow is making an appearance at higher elevations gives me hope that winter in the southern half of Colorado will bring more moisture than we had last year. Rains in the late summer and early fall have helped, but they also bring the rapid growth of the forest understory that dries out, becoming a wildfire's kindling.

Water and wildfire issues continued to dominate my work over the last month as the interim committees on these topics wrapped up our Denver meetings. New bill ideas came out of those committees and I'll be carrying a few of those as the Senate sponsor.

The water resources interim committee also completed its task of holding public hearings in each of the state's water basins on the idea and contents of a state water plan. We held these hearings in Gunnison, Glenwood Springs, Durango, Alamosa, Pueblo, Steamboat Springs, Walden, Fort Collins and Denver.

While the conversations were spirited and strong concerns raised on different points, we legislators were welcomed in each area

by the basin roundtables and general public. Much appreciation was expressed for our outreach to hear the viewpoints.

The many miles on the road in attending all of the water hearings was valuable time spent for me and reinforced how different the water basins are across our state. Accessing water supplies, whether from the ground's surface or from underground aquifers, is a challenge nearly everywhere, but the dynamics are different in each region. For example, some aquifers are being depleted at an alarming rate while, in the upper northeast corner of the state, basements and farmers' fields are being flooded by groundwater.

That Colorado can do more on water conservation on the individual and municipal level was raised by the public at each hearing. Some spoke to this having moved here from other dry, Western states and suggestions for improvements were abundant. During the roundtable discussions and in the public comment period of each hearing, attendees mentioned that sufficient water availability in their homes, but also in the environment, directly impacts the quality of life values they hold dear as Coloradans.

Not surprisingly, there's much concern from Western Slope residents that their

communities will be dewatered for the benefit of Front Range urban populations. Another theme raised, statewide, was the importance of keeping food production nearby, recognizing that would only be possible if farming and ranching remain viable pursuits, with sufficient water needed for that food production.

More storage was also repeatedly mentioned at these hearings as a way for Colorado to address the water supply gap. It was recognized that this could mean expansion of existing reservoirs, but also likely would require the construction of new storage projects.

The recent dedication of the new Taylor reservoir in La Plata County is encouraging to many as this storage will help Colorado meet its water delivery requirements to New Mexico and make available more water to that area's agricultural community. This project was completed with the participation and financial assistance of the Ute Mountain Ute tribe, support from the Southern Ute tribe, and the state of Colorado, which is also encouraging.

**Ellen S. Roberts, State Senator**  
**Interim Contact Information:**  
**P.O. Box 3373 Durango, CO 81302**  
**Home phone: (970) 259-1589**  
[www.ellenroberts.com](http://www.ellenroberts.com)

## HEAD DOWNTOWN FOR FIRST FRIDAY STROLL NOV. 7!

### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Downtown stores and galleries are gearing up for the holiday season! Check out the exciting holiday gift selections Downtown. For a fun night out join us for the Montrose First Friday Stroll Nov. 7, 5:30 to 8pm.

Around the Corner Art Gallery's guest artist for November is Terry Ouimet, an impressionist plein air oil painter. We welcome this noted landscape artist to Montrose and our Gallery with a gala reception. We will exhibit 12 new oil paint-

ings by Ouimet.

We will also kick off our 2014 Holiday Art Market – many handmade items specially produced by local artists and artisans for your Holiday shopping pleasure.

Nina Suzanne will have a Sweater Weather Sale. 25 percent off on all sweaters in the store!

A+Y Design Gallery will feature a Student Art Show consisting of 11 paintings and/or drawings selected by art teachers at each of the schools in Montrose and Olathe School District.

The exhibit will be on display the entire month of November.

Tiffany, Etc. will have their Annual Warehouse Sale and Auction. Rock bottom prices on furniture. Place your bid and if you're the highest bidder, it's yours! 10 percent - 90 percent off selected items.

Amazing Glaze: First Friday Workshop: "Abstract Fall Trees." Pre-registration is suggested and workshop is free. 6:30 to 8:30pm.

Art @ 33 will be open for the art stroll featuring new art and some artisan works.

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH THE OBT



*Montrose Ambassadors: Champion Volunteers Marty Campbell, Randy Leonard, and Susan Gray accept kudos for their outstanding service to the Office of Business and Tourism and for their integral part in providing a warm welcome to visitors and locals alike. Courtesy image.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – In September of 2013, the City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) invited the public to tour the new visitor center (VC) and announced the development of the “Champion Volunteer Program.” The center was in the early stages of becoming a highly-recognized, state-of-the-art interactive facility, and the volunteer program was designed to acknowledge and reward community members who assist the OBT in offering exceptional guest services to the growing number of out-of-town visitors and special events. Following the tour, several people signed on as volunteers.

A year later, the first OBT volunteers to achieve the designation of “lead volunteer,” Marty Campbell, Susan Gray, and Randy Leonard, are celebrating their year anniversary with the OBT. “Each has given countless hours and offered diverse experiences and services to enrich our guests’ experience of Montrose,” said Visit Montrose Coordinator Jennifer Loshaw. “We proudly celebrate their volunteer anniversary and truly appreciate their gift of time to us.”

According to statistics released earlier this year by OBT, roughly 1700 out-of-area visitors stopped in to the Visitor Center during the 2014 season.

Beyond providing valuable guest services, volunteers are matched with tasks that align with their interests, experiences, and expertise, like business communications, itinerary development, special event assistance, and display development. The OBT offers volunteers on-going opportunities to keep them engaged and enhance the learning environment.

Whether locals or newcomers, volunteers find their time at the VC a rewarding way to connect to the community. “When I volunteer at the VC, I get to know more about the area, and it’s fun to meet guests,” said Campbell. “The staff at the VC is a pleasure to work with as well.” Gray agreed. “I started volunteering at the VC a couple of months after moving to Montrose. I knew very little about Montrose and local happenings, and I didn’t have many friends yet,” she explained. Gray appreciated the warm welcome she received and the opportunities to learn about Montrose and the surrounding area. “I love volunteering, and consider the OBT staff as my new friends,” she said. “I hope I can be that to other people who come visit us.”

As the OBT grows, so do volunteer opportunities. Do you enjoy meeting new people? Are you familiar with area resources, assets, businesses, and restaurants? Do you enjoy hiking, biking, hunting, or other regional recreation? Are you enthusiastic about Montrose and willing to share your excitement? The OBT invites you to become the next champion volunteer. Tours and informational sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2014 (3-5pm) and Saturday, November 22, 2014 (8-10am). To RSVP, call (970) 240-1435 or send an email to [info@montroseoht.com](mailto:info@montroseoht.com).

### COMEDY NIGHT NOV. 8 AT BRIDGES OF MONTROSE

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Canyon Creek Comedy Night will be at The Bridges Golf & Country Club for the Nov. 8 show.

The restaurant and bar will be open before the show and the show will start at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale at [www.canyoncreek.eventbrite.com](http://www.canyoncreek.eventbrite.com).

Chris Simpson, near right, headlines, also featuring Vince Royal, far right.





## MIRROR IMAGES... STUPID BAND HALLOWEEN DANCE!



*Clockwise from top left, Locals showed up at for a Montrose tradition Oct. 31; Deborah Thompson has the prescription; dancers prep for the costume contest; Dennis Olmsted, out on the town with a beautiful young blonde (daughter April); Art Goodtimes and Tricia Winslow; a view of the band.*

## ARTS & CULTURE

### NOVEMBER SHOW AT THE CREAMERY FEATURES RON MACKENDRICK



Wood turner Ronald MacKendrick with one of his works. Courtesy image.

#### Special to the Mirror

**HOTCHKISS**—The November show at the Creamery Arts Center brings an array of new artwork featuring wood turner Ronald MacKendrick, photographer and clay artist Kyle Hewitt, and woodworker Ralph Sandmann. An Opening Reception will be presented on the evening of November 14<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 pm. Refreshments, beer and local wines will be available. This exhibit of finely crafted woodwork and vivid photographs will run until December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Wood turner, Ronald MacKendrick is a native of Hotchkiss - born just three blocks

from The Creamery Arts Center. Talented in laminated, turned wooden bowls and vases, he creates designs that do not exist in nature while maintaining the beauty of the wood itself. Strongly influenced by Southwestern Indian design, Ron incorporates those motifs into many of his works. A laminated vessel is made by gluing together pieces of contrasting wood to create a design or "picture". Built one layer at a time, using very precisely cut pieces, it is not uncommon for a vessel to contain several hundred pieces of wood and to take 40 to 80 hours of work.

Ron has been a valued member of the Creamery Arts Center family for several years. He has served on the Board of Directors and volunteers in many capacities, including assisting with fund raisers and helping to maintain the facility.

Kyle Hewitt is a new member of the Creamery, working with multiple disciplines including photography, ceramics and handmade musical instruments. Several hand thrown and artfully glazed drums will be in the show along with his photographs, mounted on acrylic. Before moving to the North Fork Valley in 2013, Kyle spent the previous decade photographing the American West and teaching photography at locations throughout the world.

"Although dramatic locations and natural landscapes seem to be the primary subject of my images, it's really the light and ge-

ometry that I am concerned with. When composing a photograph, that's what I am paying attention to. In any given scene, there is so much light that we can't see with our limited vision. Technology is providing more tools to record and translate these light bands. I love the idea of pushing beyond our eyesight to capture heat, frequency....it's all just light." – Kyle Hewitt

Woodworker, Ralph Sandmann will also be joining these two artists in the Peach Gallery for the month of November. His hand carved chests and hutches, adorned with buffalo themes have been displayed at the Creamery recently. For this show Ralph will be displaying his lovingly crafted jewelry boxes smoothed and fashioned from whole logs featuring individual compartments lined with felt for all types of treasures. Ralph's unique boxes are one of a kind, collectable pieces, which are also very useable.

Don't miss this show, it's sure to have some great ideas for the people on your list this Holiday season. The Creamery Arts Center is located at 165 W Bridge Street in Hotchkiss. Their hours are 11 to 6 Monday-Saturday. For more information about this show or other upcoming classes or events call 970-872-4848 or email: [gal- lery@creameryartscenter.org](mailto:gallery@creameryartscenter.org). They can also be found on Facebook or visit the website at: [www.creameryartscenter.org](http://www.creameryartscenter.org).

## AUTHOR, AUTHOR! MONTROSE LIBRARY TO SHOWCASE FIVE WITH TALES TO TELL

#### Special to the Mirror

**MONTROSE**—Every reader loves a compelling, well-told tale. Montrose bibliophiles have a rare opportunity to catch up with four successful, local authors in the Montrose Library's community room at 7 p.m. on Nov. 6.

From retired federal agent Lucinda Schroeder's gripping tale of bringing tribal artifact thieves to justice in the Southwest, *Plunder of the Ancients*, to the latest in adventurer Diane Winger's *Faces* series, to Delta historian and researcher James

Wetzel's *Murder and Mystery on Grand Mesa* and Banks, *Bullets and Bodies*, to Climber Gerry Roach's nine books and two video guides and local romance novelist D'Ann Lindun's latest, *Mississippi Blues*, this fun event offers something to suit all tastes.

Each author will give a short talk and will bring copies of their works. Afterward, enjoy refreshments and the chance to ask questions and chat with the authors.

For more information call Meg Nagel at 970-964-2548.



Author Diane Winger's latest. Courtesy image.



Author Lucinda Schroeder. Courtesy image.



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



### ROTARY STUDENT OF THE WEEK

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Montrose Rotary Club honored Caitlin O'Meara as the Student of the Week. Caitlin would like to attend college to major in Pre-Law or Pre-Medical studies. She would like to attend the University of Chicago, or Regis University in Denver. Pictured L to R: David Crane (Rotarian), Caitlin, Madeline (mother).

A wide-angle photograph of a busy outdoor market street. People are walking along a paved road lined with market stalls and tents. Some stalls have signs, like 'Feed My Pillows'. In the background, there are trees and mountains under a clear blue sky.

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## SERVICE CLUB NEWS

### ALTRUSA MAKES A DIFFERENCE AT PASSAGE CHARTER SCHOOL



eracy Committee. In keeping with the Teddy Bear theme, Jana read from several board book versions of the ***Corduroy*** bear book series.

Following storytime, Altrusa members served a picnic lunch to the students, children, and staff (catered by Straw Hat Farms).

Finally, each young parent or parent-to-be was given a box set of the ***Corduroy*** board books to take home and add to their home library of children's books.

By encouraging young parents to read to their babies and toddlers, Altrusa hopes to enhance the future language skills of these children.

Researchers have found that reading bedtime stories to babies and talking to them from birth boosts their brain power and sets them up for success at school.

Each year, Altrusa of Montrose chooses a special project for the nationally-recognized [Make a Difference Day](#).

On October 29, 2014, Altrusa hosted a Teddy Bear Picnic at [Passage Charter School](#), an alternative high school for pregnant and parenting teens with an on-site daycare center.

*Storytelling during the Teddy Bear Picnic at Passage Charter School. Courtesy image.*

*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**--Each year, Altrusa of Montrose chooses a special project for the nationally-recognized [Make a Difference Day](#). On Oct. 29, 2014, Altrusa hosted a Teddy Bear Picnic at [Passage Charter](#)

[School](#), an alternative high school for pregnant and parenting teens with an on-site daycare center.

The event began with storytelling by retired teacher and librarian Jana Ackerman, who also serves as Chair for Altrusa's Lit-

## ALTRUSA SUPPORTS THE MONTROSE COMMUNITY



*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**--The Annual Bosom Buddies Walk/Run Fund-Raising Event gets help with kitchen duty from Altrusa members Diane Winger, Dorothy Causey, Marianne Cross, and Bonnie Coffman. Other Altrusa members helped in the registration and pre-registration areas. They were Margaret Goodhue--the organizer, Dena Brooks, Marianne Cross, Kaye Hotsenpiller (and her daughter Grace), Gail Kubik, Sandra Tyler, and Janyne Yehling.



*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**--Recently, members of Altrusa International of Montrose were joined by residents and staff from [Community Options](#) of Montrose (pictured) to help pick up trash along "our" two-mile stretch of US 550 south of town. Altrusa members, Dana Gleason, Jeanne Kuchynka, Lori Michaels, Allison Nadel, Linda Riba, and Sandra Tyler also volunteered.



# SEEING THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Vince Farnsworth is a local photographer who has been providing a different point of view for about six and a half years now.

Vince specializes in landscape and nature photography, with his primary focus being capturing the landscape in panorama. He is probably most recognized for his panoramas of the Black Canyon, with the Montrose Airport, Gold's Gym and the Montrose Visitors Center displaying his panoramas as floor-to-ceiling murals. "Recently, I have been doing panoramas at night, which allows me to photograph the incredible night sky above the beautiful local landscape," he said. "One of these photographs, showing star trails above Painted Wall, was chosen as the cover for *Colorado Life* magazine and another, showing the motion of the stars above the entire landscape, will be published in *Sky and Telescope* magazine."

Vince and his wife Maggie moved to Montrose from southern California after vacationing here. "It is the perfect place for doing nature photography," Vince said. "And there is a national park less than a half hour away!"

Vince has two businesses that are closely related, Farnsworth Scenics, founded in 2008, and PanoPal Photo Products, started in 2011. "The Scenics business was started so I could market my fine art photography," he said. "My customers are other businesses that sell art and photography. The Black Canyon National Park Visitors Center and the Montrose Visitors Center are two examples."

In addition to being a photographer, Vince is also an inventor, with PanoPal being started so he could sell his invention for doing panoramic photography.

"It is called the BluPano because it is constructed of blue-anodized aluminum," he explained. "It allows photographers to position their cameras in exactly the right spot for eliminating parallax error while capturing a multi-image panoramic photograph. I had been using something similar that I cobbled together for years and then decided others may benefit from the device. It is made right here in Montrose. I also give classes in panoramic photography and I have written a book entitled *Getting Up Early*, describing how to successfully photograph the Black Canyon."

With so many photographers in the area, Vince has had to work on ways of standing out.

"I try to make photographs that are unique in some important respect," he

said. "We live in an especially photogenic part of the world but it is still relatively difficult to create a truly compelling image that captures the essence of the place. This is why I think that being in the right place at exactly the right time is very important, even if that means staying up all night to get the perfect star trail image or rising at two a.m. and hiking up a mountain in the dark to capture the sunrise. Some people think this is crazy, but to me it is simply part of my job."

In addition to contributing some of his photos to charity auctions to help support local organizations, Vince also tries to keep the physical material part of his business local. "As a photographer I am always purchasing the raw materials to assemble my products," he explained. "I used to buy things over the Internet but now almost all of my purchases are local. I buy all of my mats locally. Almost all of my larger photos are printed and framed locally, also. I am always amazed, and very thankful, that there are such talented people operating the relevant businesses locally. Even the BluPano is made in Montrose."

While landscape and nature photography can lead to unique adventures in the great outdoors, Vince has one specific adventure that comes to mind. "Probably the most interesting experience for me as a photographer was the discovery in April, 2012 of The Dragon's Tongue in Black Canyon National Park," he said. "I was finished with my morning shoot at the canyon and decided to explore the area for new places. As I was walking down the trail to Devils Overlook I spotted a glowing tower of light off to my right. I photographed it for about an hour before it faded away and then sent the pictures to Paul Zaenger, the supervisory ranger. He had never seen nor heard of this phenomenon, which is at its best in spring and summer early in the morning. After discussions with Paul and other park personnel I named it The Drag-



Vince's photo of the "Dragon's Tongue" phenomenon at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Courtesy photo.

on's Tongue. It has been a very popular sight for visitors to the canyon ever since."

Even though there is so much involved with photography, Vince has two specific parts he enjoys the most. "One is just being outside in the beautiful countryside, hearing the rushing water in a river, the solitude," he said. "The other is meticulously processing the photos so that they convey the essence of the scene at a particular moment in time."

Photography is not just a one-man-show, and Vince has had a great team of supporters behind him along the way. "I would like to thank Ken Holyfield and all the wonderful people at Megapixel Digital Imaging for the help I've received in making my prints," Vince said. "I would also like to thank Wil and Amy Harmsen of the Canyon Gallery for their encouragement and enthusiasm. Rob Joseph and Jennifer Lowshaw at the Montrose Visitors Center have been very supportive of my work and continue to promote art and photography in Montrose. Thanks to Mike Simpson of the Simpson Gallery for giving me my first gallery experience. Thanks to the folks at Black Canyon National Park for their continuing support. And to Robert and Steven at High Country Manufacturing for machining the BluPano and actively supporting my endeavors."

So what does the future hold for Vince and his photography? "My future plans are simple," he said. "I will keep doing what I love and hope to be able to share images of this beautiful world for many years." For more information about Vince and to see his photos, call 970-252-1641 or visit [farnsworthscenics.com](http://farnsworthscenics.com) or his blog [farnsworthscenics.blogspot.com](http://farnsworthscenics.blogspot.com).

# **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY**

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## **BROADBAND IN OUR FUTURE?!**



**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014, NOON  
MONTROSE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**MICHELLE HAYNES, DIRECTOR, REGION 10 ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE AND PLANNING**

**VIRGIL TURNER, DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION AND CITIZEN  
ENGAGEMENT, CITY OF MONTROSE**



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](http://www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org) and click on *Calendar of Events*.



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SCHOOL BOARD TO PETITION STATE FOR TESTING WAIVER

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – The Board of Education from Montrose & Olathe School District unanimously voted to pass a resolution to petition the Colorado State Board of Education and Colorado Legislature for a waiver from the new computer-based state testing PARCC and CMAS (Performance Based Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers and Colorado Measures of Academic Success).

Board Members and staff will travel to Denver to present the approved resolution to the State Board of Education on Nov. 12, 2014 and to the State Legislature once the session begins. The Board of Education, along with district administrators and

school principals, are concerned with the significant resource burden the test imposes on the District. The District currently has an 8:1 ratio of students to computers. With the new online assessments, learning labs will not be accessible for instructional time for 60 days. In some instances it will take six days to get one class of high school students tested in two content areas because of the limited number of computers. The testing disrupts staffing patterns and class schedules. Additionally, the District will not receive the results in a timely manner. Teachers are already feeling like they do not have the time to do what is already being asked of them. The new test will only add to the time taken away from direct instruction

and deplete the District's already limited resources. According to Superintendent, Dr. Mark MacHale, "the new tests do not add value to what we are doing to increase student achievement, and the tests may actually be hampering our efforts."

The School Board and Administrators understand the need for rigorous standards, accountability and high quality assessments to better gauge and understand student learning; but, given the massive amount of change and mandates, the District does not believe that the new and additional testing will help. The District is requesting a waiver from mandatory state tests for five years. Stu Tolen, Board Member, believes "it is time to stand up and be heard."

### Affordable Art Boutique Opens at the Creamery Thanksgiving Weekend!

*Special to the Mirror*

HOTCHKISS-Think handcrafted art is expensive? Think again! Each year the Creamery Arts Center sets up a special Holiday Boutique in their main gallery especially geared to "Affordable Art" pieces. There will be hundreds of items from \$15 to \$50! If you would like to offer your handcrafted items for sale at the Creamery for this month long sale, just bring a sample of your work to be juried to 165 W Bridge Street, Hotchkiss, or call 970-872-4848 for more information.

### San Juan Apts Fourth Annual Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE--The seniors and disabled residents at San Juan Apartments will be hosting their 4th Annual Holiday Bazaar to raise money for their Social Committee Fund. Vendors include many local crafters and home based businesses.

Date: Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014

Time: 9 AM-4 PM (Set up for vendors is 8-9AM)

Location: San Juan Apartments, 1650 Church ST. Montrose CO (APTS behind Murdoch's)

Please contact Jolene Hartman, 970-252-3431 for information or to sign up. We can have forms emailed to you.

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—Margot and Bob Wurst



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—Bob

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North Fork call 872-2233



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# HYPOXIA -THE NEW ACTIVE WEAR PARADISE

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Local active and outdoor enthusiasts now have a one-stop-shop for all things active wear, including clothing, shoes, accessories, and tools: Hypoxia.

Hypoxia aims to offer fashionable, comfortable, durable, and quality products perfect for any active or relaxed lifestyle.

Owner Debbie Blanchard is already well known in Downtown Montrose, keeping herself busy with D'Medici Footwear and Warehouse Clearance Store. "Hypoxia just sort of developed," Debbie explained. "At D'Medici we did well with active wear and the customers wanted more, but we did not have enough space for more brands. After we went to a show in Salt Lake City that highlighted active and sports wear, we went by the brands that customers asked for and opened Hypoxia."

Hypoxia has already established itself as the go-to store for active and outdoor wear, carrying specialty, high quality brands that are not available elsewhere locally. "People will spend more on stuff that lasts," Debbie explained. "Hypoxia offers items that fit fashion, comfort and quality."

With so many quality products comes a huge variety of sizes for customers to pick from, so customers do not have to make special orders. In clothing, customers will find ladies size XS-2XL, and in men's clothing S-2XL. For shoes, there are sizes 5-12 for ladies and 6-15 for men.

Just some of the high quality items offered include clothing brands such as Kuhl Clothing, Salomon, Icebreaker, Ibex, Patagonia, and Horny Toad. For yoga lovers there is Lucy Activewear. For eye wear there are Costa Sunglasses, Suncloud, and Smith Optics. Belts by Bison are also offered, which include a multi-tool belt buckle, complete with a screwdriver and beer opener. For water bottles, customers will find brands such as AVEX and Hy-

drapak. A fun line offered is ENO, makers of lightweight hammocks, which are colorful and big enough to hold two people.

One part of the store that is unique is called the 'Museum Section'. It features original pieces of ice climbing equipment from the early 1970s. So far customers love the section, whether or not they are ice climbing enthusiasts. "The founder of Patagonia, first started a great ironworks company, where he forged his own ice climbing equipment," Debbie said. "Technology has changed a lot since the early 1970s, and a lot of people who are into ice climbing get to see how crazy people were then and are amazed that anyone survived."

The reactions from locals has been positive. "Our customers are very happy to have the brands they love available here," Debbie said. "Shopping online can be difficult, especially if an item is not the proper size. Shopping online is best when you already know what works best for you. Hypoxia offers a place where you go in, get product knowledge from the staff, and then get to try on several items to compare."

Hypoxia adds another storefront to Downtown Montrose, a welcome sight in the present economy. "Hypoxia gives the local economy more diversity and improves the Downtown area," Debbie explained. "It is also another retail store, which means more sales tax, and it helps increase employment."

As Debbie loves to help Downtown Montrose and the local economy, she also has ideas to help other towns as well. "I'm not opposed to the franchise concept," she said. "I would want to go to a local area that I believe in. But we would not put the same products in the same area. We don't want to hurt other businesses."

While her days may be full, the joy of

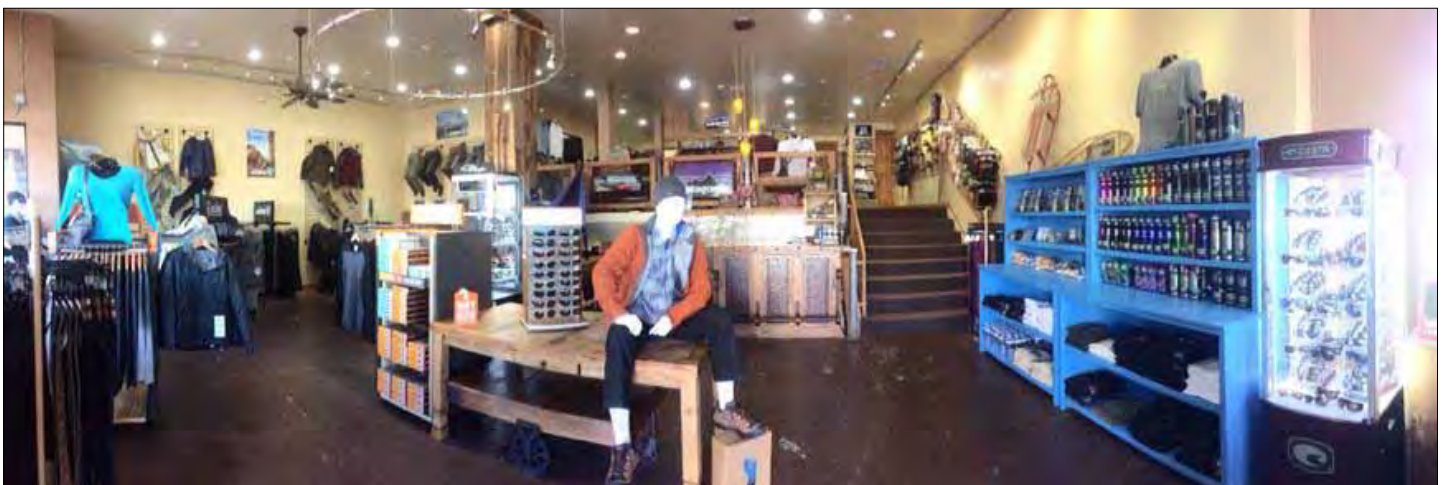


*Look your best while enjoying your active lifestyle. Courtesy images/Hypoxia.*

opening a new store has not left Debbie yet. "I most enjoy the setting up of a store," she said. "It makes every day like Christmas, with opening boxes and pulling out items that I have been waiting to get. There is joy in seeing products come in and getting stuff out. Even though I work in retail, I'm not jaded, I still look forward to looking in boxes."

"I love what I do."

For anyone that wants to check out Hypoxia, be sure to visit on the Second Saturday Girl's Day Out on Nov. 8. With fun events and great offers by Downtown businesses, Hypoxia adds itself to the line up with 25 percent off all products (just be sure to mention that you are there for Girl's Day Out). Hypoxia is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and is located at 300 E. Main Street in Montrose. For more information, visit Hypoxia on Facebook or call 970-249-1622.





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO ACHIEVES STATEWIDE FIREWISE DESIGNATION

*Special to the Mirror*

FORT COLLINS— More than 100 Colorado communities have now earned Firewise Communities/USA® recognition – an accomplishment achieved by only three states – for taking steps to reduce their wildfire risk.

“Reaching the one hundred community benchmark is a major accomplishment,” said Cathy Prudhomme, the community outreach program manager for the National Fire Protection Association’s Wildland Fire Operations Division.

“Until now, only two of the program’s 41 participating states have achieved that level of participation.”

The national Firewise Communities/USA recognition program is administered by the NFPA and provides a template for wildfire safety at the neighborhood level. The Colorado State Forest Service serves

as the liaison between Colorado communities and the NFPA to help private landowners with wildfire mitigation and education efforts.

Under the program, communities develop an action plan that guides residential risk-reduction activities, while engaging and encouraging neighbors to become active participants in building a safer place to live. To become a recognized Firewise Community/USA, communities must:

Obtain a wildfire risk assessment from the state forestry agency or a local fire department.

Form a board or committee, and create an action plan based on the assessment.

Conduct a “Firewise Day” event at least once every year.

Invest a minimum of \$2 per capita in local Firewise actions annually.

“Becoming a Firewise Community/USA

helps communities learn about wildfire risks while working with local firefighters, forestry professionals and national researchers to reduce those risks,” said Courtney Peterson, wildfire mitigation education coordinator for the CSFS.

“Neighbors build stronger bonds with each other when they rally toward a common cause for the good of the neighborhood.”

In just the past three weeks, three Colorado communities received the Firewise Communities/USA designation for the first time, bringing the total of such communities in the state to 101.

For more information about the Firewise Communities/USA recognition program or to view a full list of Firewise communities, go to [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).

To learn more about wildfire mitigation in Colorado, go to <http://www.csfs.colostate.edu/>.

### CELEBRATING WELCOME HOME ALLIANCE FOR VETERANS



*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—Welcome Home Montrose welcomed guests and supporters to the Montrose Pavilion Oct. 29, for an evening of inspiration, friendship, refreshments and music. At right, speakers included Welcome Home inspiration, wounded warrior Jared Bolhuis.

Courtesy images.

## 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](http://www.montroseumc.org).

**Nov. 5**-Estate Planning 101 with Julia Prejs and Attorney Lincoln Anderson, presented by Alpine Trust & Asset Management. 2 to 3 p.m., Sunrise Creek, 1968 Sunrise Dr., Montrose.

**Nov. 6**-Local author showcase-Montrose Library Community Room, 7 p.m. From retired federal agent Lucinda Schroeder's gripping tale of bringing tribal artifact thieves to justice in the Southwest, *Plunder of the Ancients*, to the latest in adventurer Diane Winger's *Faces* series, to Delta historian and researcher James Wetzel's *Murder and Mystery on Grand Mesa* and Banks, *Bullets and Bodies*, to Climber Gerry Roach's nine books and two video guides and local romance novelist D'Ann Lindun's latest, *Mississippi Blues*, this fun event offers something to suit all tastes.

**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**-70Girl70 opens at Magic Circle Theatre-970-249-7838 for tickets and information.

**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.

**Nov. 8**- Montrose High School Band & Guard's Band on the Run 5K, Riverbottom Park, 9 am start time, online registration [http://www.starunnerenterprises.com/mb\\_home.html](http://www.starunnerenterprises.com/mb_home.html) or call Ethel at 209-9840 for paper registration. Early registration \$25 thru Oct 31. Regular registration \$30. All proceeds to benefit MHS Band & Guard.

**Nov. 8**-8 a.m. to 3 p.m.-Down Home Country Bazaar, 19 South Park, Montrose United Methodist Church. The Coffee Shop will be serving all day and the delicious hot lunch will be served from 11 to 1 for \$5. There will be tables of wonderful crafts plus the great bargains in Granny's Attic. The Bake Shoppe which has the fresh home-made goodies will also feature a Children's Table with 25 cent treats. Fresh Pecans will be available. For bazaar information contact Suzanne Carter 240-3616.

**Nov. 8**- Winter Indoor Market Begins -10-1pm [Behind Straw Hat Farms Market next to the Plaza.](#)

**Nov. 8**-Canyon Creek Laff Inn comedy night at Bridges of Montrose, featuring Chris Simpson and Vince Royal. . Remington's restaurant and bar will be open before the show and the show will start at 7 p.m.. Tickets are on sale at [www.canyoncreek.eventbrite.com](http://www.canyoncreek.eventbrite.com).

**Nov. 11**- 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. What to Do When Someone Dies. Have you lost a loved one recently? Learn about probate versus non-probate, creditor claims, handling assets and important issues surrounding the estate administration process. Region 10 Area Agency on Aging, 300 North Cascade. Call our office to sign up or register on our website at [www.brownaandbrownpc.com](http://www.brownaandbrownpc.com).

**Nov. 12** - 7 PM **THE MONTROSE BOTANICAL SOCIETY** will hold their Annual Meeting at the Centennial Room off Centennial Plaza in Montrose. Learn about past and future Garden plans. Vote for officers. For information, contact Sara at 249-1115 or [www.montrosegardens.org](http://www.montrosegardens.org).

**Nov. 14**--Validation Communication - Basic Intro for Caregivers: - Learn how to better communicate, reduce stress and enhance dignity for those with Alzheimer's. Presented by Volunteers of America. 11 am and 2 pm, 300 S. Cascade Ave. Sneffles Meeting Room. RSVP 970-275-1220 or [eberge@voa.org](mailto:eberge@voa.org).

**Nov. 15**-Open enrollment period begins, Connect for Health Colorado.

**Nov. 15**-San Juan Apts. Fourth Annual Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser. San Juan Apartments, 1650 Church St. behind Murdoch's. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please contact Jolene Hartman, 970-252-3431 for information or to sign up.

**Nov. 15**-National Children's Grief Awareness Day Event. HopeWest is hosting an event to bring awareness to the community about children, teens and grief. The awareness event is at A&Y Design & Gallery, 513 E. Main Street in Montrose from 1 — 4 pm.

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

**Nov. 19**-Screening of film, Fed Up at 2Rascals Brewery (147 North First) 7 p.m.

**Nov. 21**--Validation Communication - Family Intro : - Learn how to better communicate, reduce stress and enhance dignity for those with Alzheimer's. Presented byVolunteers of America. 11:00 am and 2:00 pm, 300 S. Cascade Ave. Sneffles Meeting Room. RSVP 970-275-1220 or [eberge@voa.org](mailto:eberge@voa.org).

**Nov. 22**-San Juan Weavers Guild presents its annual show and sale Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Express, 1391 S. Townsend, Montrose, Colorado. Exhibits, sales, free hands-on instruction. There is no admission charge and the public is welcome. For information: Bobbie Irwin, (970) 249-2981; [irwin@rmi.net](mailto:irwin@rmi.net).

**Nov. 22**-Montrose Farmers Market [Indoor Holiday Market 10-1 produce, baked goods, gifts, crafts and more!](#)

**Nov. 22-23**-Art on Trout Road! Visit from 10am to 5pm in a relaxing home studio with Artists: Bill Wilson-Ceramics, Gina Grundemann-Oil Paintings, Ron Hoeksema-Oils/ Serigraphs & Paul Wiesner-Pottery. One mile E. on Trout Rd., 4 miles S. from Montrose. 970-249-4293.

**Nov. 28-29**-Basement Boutique Craft Show, Montrose Pavilion, Saturday, 8 to 5 p.m.

**Dec. 5-7**-Ridgway Holly Dayz.

**Dec. 7**-Weehawken Arts Gingerbread house Decorating Workshop, 1 to 3 p.m. Pre-registration is HIGHLY encouraged, as only a number of houses are available. Register at [www.weehawkenarts.org](http://www.weehawkenarts.org) or call Weehawken at [970.318.0150](tel:970.318.0150).

**Dec. 13**-Weehawken Arts Gingerbread house Decorating Workshop, 10 a.m., to Noon, Ouray Community Center. Pre-registration is HIGHLY encouraged, as only a number of houses are available. Register at [www.weehawkenarts.org](http://www.weehawkenarts.org) or call Weehawken at [970.318.0150](tel:970.318.0150).





**Aging and Disability  
Resources for Colorado**

# **SNOW BASH CHALLENGE!**

**Sponsored by the Aging and Disability  
Resources of Colorado!**

**Come join community members and  
civic groups around the region to remove  
snow for the elderly, and adults with  
disabilities!**

**Cash prize of \$500.00!**

## **Snow Bash Challenge Kick-off Dinner:**

**Location:** 300 N. 3rd Cascade, Montrose, CO 81401

**Date:** November 6th, 2014

**Time:** 5:30-6:30pm

**Chili, Beverages, and Desert provided!**

**Call 249-2436 for more information and to  
register.**



Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
Post Office Box 3244  
Montrose, CO 81402  
970-275-5791

Email Us: [Editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:Editor@montrosemirror.com)  
[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)

*Top right, Ridgway artist Lucy Boody (Firehouse Studios) with some of her new works in felt, and a bronze by her partner Michael McCullough; Below left, Debra Harding, Richard Harding, Tammy Theis and Bob Theis show their community spirit at the 28th Annual Stupid Band Halloween Dance at Turn of the Century Oct. 31; Below left, Alex Shelley, Virginia Harman, Mr. Power and Greg Hobbs at the Delta-Montrose Electric Association open house event Oct. 21.*





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