MULTIPLE ADDICTIONS CAN IMPACT TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY
Federal law requires states to transport poor addicts to clinics 6 days a week

By Caitlin Switzer
MONTROSE- According to numbers released in the first quarter Montrose Police report, certain crimes are on the rise in Montrose—including officer observed instances of Driving Under the Influence; motor vehicle thefts, and juvenile felony arrests—all situations that are frequently connected with substance abuse.

In January, Montrose officer-observed DUI’s rose by 400 percent over 2016, motor vehicle thefts rose 500 percent over 2016, and juvenile felony arrests were up by 300 percent over last year. In February, officer-observed DUI’s rose by 57 percent over 2016, motor vehicle thefts were up by 200 percent over 2016, and juvenile felony arrests were up by 1,400 percent over last year. In March the trend continued, with officer-observed DUI’s up by 78 percent over 2016, motor vehicle thefts up 222 percent over 2016, and juvenile felony arrests up by 600 percent over last year.

In addition, Montrose County saw

NEW LIFE BLOOMS @ OLD POTATO GROWERS BLDG

By Liesl Greathouse
MONTROSE-The Potato Growers building (on the corner of West Main and Grand Ave.) has been an empty monument to days gone past for decades. But now this building has a chance to become a place for community, rather than an eyesore, and a chance to be preserved rather than destroyed.

The building was originally built in the early 1900’s to store potatoes and other crops. It even had a train that came right up next to it to pick up produce. It was used by the Potato Growers Co-Op in 1923. Once potato production fell in 1967, the building closed down and has been sitting empty ever since. A green warehouse was built on the property and is still there, but the original brick building has continued to sit idle.

Continued on page 7
By Gail Marvel

Jesus said, “For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them” (Matt 18:20 NIV).

MONTROSE-The switch to Daylight Savings on Sunday March 12 failed to dampen the spirit of roughly 75 worshippers at New Life Family Worship Center, half of whom were teens, youth and preschoolers.

Members Soozie Lasley, Dave Gallant, and Michelle Haynes were quick to extend a welcome, “Glad you are here, make yourself at home.”

The New Life facility is a converted warehouse and the soundman does a balancing act of filling the worship space and the hearts of attendees with music, while also keeping eardrums intact.

The accompaniment for the six-member concert worthy praise team consisted of two keyboards, guitar, drums and 12 speakers. Song selections included, “My God is Awesome,” “I Worship You Almighty God,” and “Where Would I Be?”

This is an interactive congregation with hands lifted in praise, clapping and bodies keeping time with the beat. Similar to a cheerleader warming up fans at a sporting event, the opening song spurred one man to run throughout the auditorium with enthusiastic fervor. Announcements, prayer requests and the collection of tithes and offerings preceded an alter call. Some members left their seats to kneel in prayer with those who responded to the request.

Using the example of the woman at the well (John 4) who had been married five times and was now living with a man who was not her husband, Moran said, “Jesus knew the condition of the woman’s life, who she was and her social standing and he didn’t reject her. Jesus knows us as we sit here today, every detail of our life...the good and the bad. He knows exactly who we are...not the image we want to portray. Not the facade we put up. Jesus sees you!” Moran contended that people of faith are challenged by God to be some-thing greater today than they were yesterday. “God has the ability to reach into the heart of man and create something that is brand new. We forget the power of God’s Word.”

Romans 5:14-20 was the Bible text for Pastor Michael Moran’s sermon. “I don’t have to request or qualify to be in God’s presence. It’s the condition of my heart that God is looking for. He doesn’t look for a better day to come to us. God loves you the way you are, but He loves us enough that He doesn’t leave us in the condition that He finds us.”

CAUTIONING on human desire Moran said, “Sometimes we listen to the situation and not to the Word of God. We want everything to be right and in order. Anyone’s life like that? Do you have perfect kids who make straight A’s, a perfect job, a perfect car...Life will never be perfect! God removes things from your life that causes separation [from Him]. How we respond to God determines where we will be with God.”

Cautioning the audience about becoming casual and comfortable with their station in life the pastor said, “What God wants to do is not contingent on us. What I want, what I see...it’s contingent on Him. If you and I are going to be changed then we have to respond to the challenge. We can leave here changed, or we can leave here the way we came in.”

Contact info:
New Life Family Worship Center
15 W, Main Street
Montrose, CO 81401
Pastor Michael Moran
970-497-6009
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ABRAHAM CONNECTION HOSTS COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Special to the Mirror
DELTA-Wouldn’t it be great if you could visit dozens of yard sales, all in one place, without driving around town all day long?

Now you can! Volunteers with the Abraham Connection Homeless Shelter are organizing a community-wide yard sale on Saturday, June 3, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the parking lots on 6th & Main Streets in Delta (old Chaco building and the office of Edward Jones - Isaiah St. Peter).

The event is an opportunity for sellers to showcase their wares to a huge audience, all in one location! A 10x10 space costs just $10. Spaces are limited, available on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be reserved and paid in full prior to setting up your vendor spot. Though this event is mainly for those wishing to sell or buy yard sale/flea market type items, organizers are allowing for-profit businesses, food vendors, artists/crafters and home based businesses to purchase spots as well, for a higher rate. All fees will go towards the operations and direct guest services at the Abraham Connection Homeless Shelter.

Last season (Oct. 15, 2016 - April 30, 2017), volunteers provided emergency food and overnight shelter to over 150 individuals and provided over 2,660 bed-nights. The Abraham Connection is a community mission, relying on the generosity of volunteers to provide case management, overnight shelter, meals, administrative work, and other roles in order to serve those most in need. Please visit us online at www.DeltaAbrahamConnection.org, call or text us at 970-773-8290 or visit our Facebook page. More information and vendor registration forms for the Community Yard Sale are also available on the web, Facebook or by calling us.
The Montrose Mirror | May 1, 2017

MONTROSE ELKS LODGE: ELK TRACKS!

Montrose Elks Lodge
MONTROSE—Welcome to Elk Tracks, a periodic update of what is taking place at our local Montrose Elks Lodge, located at 801 So. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401.

Bingo April 25, 2017 6:30 PM Results: Card sales started at 6:00 and the “Early Bird” games paid $21 each. The main Bingo session paid 4 Winners $85 for Regular games and $90 consolation prizes for 3 Progressive games. The last Game 8 paid $200 to one lucky Winner.

Bingo April 25, 2017 6:30 PM Progressive Game 2 has reached “Must Go” status and $500.00 will be awarded Tuesday May 2, 2017 no matter how many numbers or balls it takes to reach Bingo. Progressive Game 4 is valued at $835.00 and will reach Must Go status at $1,199.00. Game 4 can be won in 37 numbers or fewer. Progressive 6 is worth $4,380.00 and must be won in 53 numbers or fewer or the prize posted will be awarded. Based on attendance, last game 8 may be in excess of $200.

For the best Bingo game in the area be sure to visit Montrose Elks Lodge every Tuesday evening to play Bingo. Doors open at 5:00 PM and Card sales start at 6:00. An “Early Bird” set of 5 quick games begins at 6:30 and the main Bingo session of 8 games, including 3 Progressives starts at 7:00 PM. It’s a wonderful way to spend the evening having fun! (Public is welcome).

CLARIFICATION:
Our article last week on the Abrams Company’s mis-use of $17.5 in Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) funds employed the abbreviation “CFA” in one paragraph. However, while City Officials are undoubtedly coveting CFA (Colorado Flights Alliance) funds, in this instance we refer only to the monies provided to Abrams through Director David Spear’s Montrose Office of Business & Tourism, funds which must be repaid to the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) after Abrams provided falsified room night numbers to the City in return for the funding.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SPRING MEANS INCREASED WILDLIFE ACTIVITY

Special to the Mirror
REGIONAL-Springtime in the Rockies means wildlife are on the move again: deer and elk are moving to their summer habitats, and that means they will be crossing highways and roadways. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) reminds motorists that wildlife-vehicle collisions are high this time of year.

“Our maintenance personnel are being called upon more and more over the past couple of weeks to the sites of wildlife-vehicle collisions,” said Greg Stacy, CDOT maintenance superintendent. “Of course these crashes happen year-round, but we definitely see an increase in the fall and now, during the spring.”

CDOT biologist Mark Lawler added, “We need to understand that while roads have been built for our convenience, they are sometimes paved in the middle of animal movement corridors. As weather becomes milder the animals’ natural instinct sends them to desirable locations in search of food and water sources which means crossing our state’s roads and highways.”

Motorists should be aware that wildlife can cross roads without warning at most any time of day or night, but a majority of animal-vehicle collisions occur at dusk and dawn, when wildlife are more active and unfortunately more difficult to see.

INFORMATION: For more information about wildlife and our highways, visit CDOT’s wildlife webpage: www.codot.gov/programs/environmental/wildlife. The website contains videos, data and information about crash mitigation programs.
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MUTIPLE ADDICTIONS CAN IMPACT TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY
From page 1

The highest number of DWAI/DUI charges in the entire West Central Region last year, with 157 in 2016.

According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc., Alcohol and drugs are implicated in an estimated 80 percent of offenses leading to incarceration in the United States, and Alcohol is a factor in 40 percent of all violent crimes today. According to the Department of Justice, 37 percent of almost 2 million convicted offenders currently in jail report that they were drinking at the time of their arrest.

“Alcohol, more than any illegal drug, was found to be closely associated with violent crimes, including murder, rape, assault, child and spousal abuse.”

In some ways, what is happening in the Montrose community reflect what is happening across the nation. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Addiction is the number one public health issue in the United States today. Like many other communities, Montrose has seen a spike in the illegal use of opioid drugs in recent years, particularly Heroin. And according to information provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, “Methadone is a man-made narcotic that is used legally to treat addiction to narcotics and to relieve severe pain, often in individuals who have cancer or terminal illnesses.”

When the City of Montrose and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce announced recently that a new Methadone Clinic is planned for Montrose, it was touted as a step to economic development. “City and law enforcement officials are welcoming Montrose’s first methadone clinic, which Colorado Treatment Services LLC will be opening this summer in leased property at 2355 S. Townsend Ave,” gushed an April 7 article in the Montrose Daily Press entitled, “Drug’s Toll Drives Methadone Clinic Here.”

However, other rural communities have established methadone clinics with mixed results.

In Washington State, where an emphasis on Methadone had resulted from an effort to cut costs, higher Methadone death rates were seen among Medicaid patients than in the general population.

“Starting a decade ago, states discovered a new way to save money on prescription-drug costs, which were increasing about 17 percent a year. All but four created a Preferred Drug List, a register of medications the state will pay for in cases where it covers a patient’s care,” the Seattle Times reported in 2011. “The goal is to steer patients toward less expensive drugs without sacrificing safety; plus, by consolidating purchases, states can often negotiate better deals with drug companies.” The list of Preferred Drugs/Long Acting Painkillers was limited in Washington, with one of two options being Methadone, the Times reported.

Another result of Washington State’s emphasis on Methadone treatment centers has been a high incidental cost to the non-addicted taxpayer, in the form of transportation. “Federal law requires states to pay to help poor addicts get to clinics six days a week,” reporter Jon Humbert stated in Seattle’s Komo News in 2015. “Whether it’s a bus pass, gas vouchers or a regular taxi cab, taxpayers foot the bill.”

In Maine, Methadone treatment has corresponded with a rise in public spending, writer Richard Malaby pointed out in a 2012 editorial in the Bangor Daily News. Malaby served on the state’s Human Services Committee.

“In 1996, under Gov. Angus King, Maine launched a methadone program. That year we had 148 people seeking treatment at an annual total cost of $300,000 — paid for by MaineCare...By 2010, we had 3,971 people seeking treatment at our nine clinics. Slightly fewer than 500 of them either paid for their treatment or had their insurance pay for it. The rest, numbering 3,498, were being treated and paid for by MaineCare at a cost of $9.75 million. Transportation costs added another $7 million. Methadone recipients receive free rides to the clinic in some cases, they take taxis and bill the fare to taxpayers.”

Here in Colorado, the state’s List of Preferred Drugs/Long Acting Painkillers includes Fentanyl patches; Methadone (generic Dolophine); Morphine ER (generic MS Contin); and Tramadol ER. However, unlike illegal drug users, patients who suffer from chronic pain rather than addiction can find it very difficult to obtain the legally-prescribed medications they need at an affordable price.

In the words of nationally recognized pain physician, Dr. Richard Radnovich, “We need to take chronic pain, as a disease, at least as seriously as opioid abuse.”

Another syndrome that must be taken seriously, especially in Montrose, is alcohol abuse.

One who has witnessed the devastating impacts of alcohol abuse firsthand is Matt Rendon of Touchstone Counseling Services.

Touchstone provides classes for individuals who are convicted of driving

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Matt has worked with Nelly Montano of Touchstone for ten years, but Montano has been in the business for 30 years, Rendon noted. “When they started the D.U.I. classes here, the thought was that they would go for five years and people would learn a lesson,” Rendon said. “But the classes are still going strong today; when you get a felony for a fourth-time offense, that’s really bad.”

Public transportation is an obvious need; though Montrose has a strong public bus system by day with All Points Transit, the service does not continue into the evening hours. Local taxi services are sporadic, and Montrose currently has none.

Also needed here, however, is awareness that for some people, alcohol is the deadliest drug of all.

“The numbers of repeat offenders on the Western Slope have been really bad,” Rendon said. “For the last couple of years, we have been leading the whole state for re-offenders.”

Still, “When you drive past the bars on a Friday or Saturday night, the parking lots are always full.”

In Gunnison County, Alpine Express offers a late-night shuttle service to keep the community safe, an idea that Rendon believes has merit.

“If the bars here would get together and help fund a shuttle service, it would stop a big number of D.U.I’s in this town,” he said. “It would open a couple of jobs up too.”

For now, local convenience store workers and fast food staff are essential in spotting individuals who are driving after having had too much to drink, Rendon added.

“We’re all helping each other out. Because nothing will change until they are charged.”

Unfortunately, Colorado State Patrol statistics show that DUI accidents are also on the rise statewide. In 2017 to date, there have been 6.5 percent more DUI-related fatal and injury crashes than there were at this point in 2016.

Calls to Montrose County School District RE-1J concerning current drug and alcohol education programs targeted to young people were not returned by press time. The City of Montrose Youth Council did use state drug and alcohol education funding several years ago to erect a scoreboard at the City’s Sunset Mesa Youth Ball Fields with the message to youth, “Drugs. You Use, You Lose.”
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CONCERNED CITIZENS FORUM QUESTIONS FORMER BOCC CHAIR DAVID WHITE, FORMER ASST. COUNTY MGR. DAVE LAURSEN

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose is home to some large organized public forums; however, there are also small pockets of folks in the community who meet regularly to discuss issues and politics — local, state and national.

The Old Geezers is one such coffee klatch that gathers every Tuesday in a home. Lacking any agenda, other than to keep themselves informed, the group meets for two-hours and includes Gerry Witt, Brian White, Jim Chantler, Tim Heavers, Dan Bradburn and Bill Codd.

Witt said, “Basically were a group of guys who are interested in the political scene. Brian is our resident researcher.” Heavers said, “This group figures that half of what we hear is incorrect.” Witt chimed in, “... and half of what we know is incorrect!”

For the April 25th gathering the Geezers wanted to hear about the county event center and to sort out fact from fiction for themselves. Going to the horse’s mouth, so to speak, the group invited former Montrose County Commissioner David White and former Assistant County Manager Dave Laursen to join them for a Q & A.

Right out of the gate Brian White said, “If the event center was going to make so much money, why did the county have to be involved? Why wasn’t it private enter-

prise putting up the money?”

Unapologetically Laursen said, “It couldn’t be done privately because it would lose money. Who makes the money is the community, especially the city. The events center will bring people here and that grows the economy.”

Laursen and David White compared the events center to the fairgrounds and the Pavilion, “Both of these facilities lose money every year. The fairgrounds are subsidized by the county and the Pavilion is subsidized by the city. Neither could have been built with private funds.”

Witt said, “Rumor was that you guys [commissioners] made the decision on your own.” Giving a brief history David White said, “Expanding the county fairgrounds has been discussed for 10, if not 20 years, and from what I’ve seen the ag community is 100 percent behind it. It will be a regional draw and there is nothing like it between Denver and Salt Lake.”

Three or four years ago the county started putting plans together and conferred with stakeholders which included 4-H, Colorado State University and local rodeo event organizers. Fairgrounds Manager Emily Sanchez researched and visited other facilities and the county went out to 15 or 20 contractors with Request for Proposals (RFP). Of the three returned RFP’s only the lowest bid was deemed accepta-

ble. Laursen said, “A lot of thought went into the design, the layout and the size of the arena.”

When asked about taking the event center to a vote of the people Laursen used the examples of the recreation district, the school district and the library district who all had multiple attempts at the ballot box. He said, “Overtime you can sell the public, but it’s hard to get something passed with a vote. The concept of growing the economy is hard for some people to understand. It takes government to build infrastructure in order to build a community.”

Specific rumors circulating in the community addressed by the David White and Laursen included:

**The arena was downsized for financial reasons.** Response: The size of the arena was scaled back from 150 X 300 feet to 120 X 250 feet because research showed the larger arena was not warranted.

**The plans did not include a finished kitchen.** Response: The original plans called for a finished kitchen designed for catering and vendor space. The original plans did not call for a commercial kitchen.

**Competition between Grand Junction and Montrose.** Response: Montrose moved forward with plans for the events center in October, which was prior to Grand Junction proposing an events center. There are a large variety of venues available and duplication of events could be avoided. Grand Junction voters did not support an events center.

**Research done on the payback in similar type event centers.** Response: Other centers and communities were compared. The events center is a driver to bring people into the community and the more amenities that can be offered the longer people will stay.

**The county is footing the bill, but the city will reap the benefits.** Response: The city will have increased sales tax, but a small percentage also benefits the county. During the most recent ranch rodeo Murdoch’s had the biggest sales day outside of Christmas that they’ve ever had.

**Tax dollars are being spent to build the event center.** Response: The county has
CONCERNED CITIZENS FORUM QUESTIONS FORMER BOCC CHAIR
From previous page

never asked for increased taxes, but rather is moving tax dollars internally. Elected officials are given the authority to use tax dollars to improve the community.

**Funding.** Response: There is about $22 M in the general fund and the estimated cost for the events center is $8.5 M. The recommendation was that approximately half of the debt would be long-term financed.

**Finances were not in place at the time the contract was in play.** Response: There was never any problem about financing. The county was in discussion with local banks, who were enthusiastic, but nothing was formalized. Financing was put on hold by the new commissioners.

**The county had no business plan.** Response: The county had a financial plan and business plan, albeit not to the standards of the new commissioners. However, the financial plan and business plan of the previous commissioners satisfied the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) enough that they awarded the county $1 M toward the construction of the events center.

**Is any county employee acting as an agent, getting a commission, or underwriter fee?** Response: No, no and no. How much of what you put into place is in jeopardy with the new commissioners? It’s going to be built. The steel (domestic) has been ordered and it would cost more to unwind the project than to move forward.

Immediately after the meeting the Old Geezers felt that the information they gathered made them more comfortable about the events center. However, readers should temper that thought knowing that these skeptics believe that half of what they hear is incorrect.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**BOAT RAMPS OPEN MAY 1 AT CRAWFORD, SWEITZER LAKE STATE PARKS**

Special to the Mirror

DELTA - Two of western Colorado’s favorite reservoirs open May 1 at Crawford State Park and Sweitzer Lake State Park.

Crawford Reservoir is located south of the town of Crawford in Delta County just off Colorado Highway 92. Sweitzer Lake is located south of the town of Delta just off U.S. Highway 50.

At both reservoirs the aquatic nuisance species inspection stations will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; on May 15 inspection hours change to 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and continue through September. Boaters must be sure that their boats are clean, drained and dried before going to the ANS station. Boaters with a seal are responsible for presenting their receipt.

Boat owners are also reminded to be sure they have registered their craft for the 2017 season; and don’t forget about getting your new fishing license.

Boaters must carry the proper number of Coast Guard-approved life jackets and a noise-signal device. Please review Colorado boating regulations to be sure your boat is equipped with all required safety gear.

Water temperatures in most Colorado reservoirs will remain very cold well into June, so boaters are cautioned to be prepared. CPW recommends that you wear your life jacket whenever you’re on the water. For more information, call the parks at 970-921-5721. Campsite reservations can be made through the Colorado Parks and Wildlife web site at: http://cpw.state.co.us.
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38 LOCATIONS FROM DENVER TO DURANGO
The Montrose Mirror

Most commercial properties experienced primarily on location and property type. Commercial value changes varied depending played a wide range of dispersion. Commercial value changes varied depending on location and property type. Most commercial properties experienced value changes between a 5% increase and a 2% decrease. Stabilized rental rates, moderate vacancy, and decreasing capitalization rates assisted in maintaining an overall increase of about 3% for all commercial property. Agricultural land experienced the largest increase in value of all property classes. Agricultural land is valued based on the earning capacity of the land; the calculation uses a ten-year statewide average of commodity prices. For this re-assessment cycle, two historic “low years” of commodity prices were removed and two more recent “higher” priced commodity years were added. This factor along with stabilized operating expenses resulted in a significant increase of about 27% for irrigated land within Montrose County. Most agricultural grazing land increased by about 9%. This trend of double-digit increases in irrigated land and single-digit increases in non-irrigated land was experienced not only in Montrose County, but across the entire western slope of Colorado. The following is a general review of property assessment and taxes. Three factors determine the level of taxes on a property: the market valuation, the assessment rate, and the mill levy.

(Market Value * Assessment Rate = Assessed Value
* Mill levy = Taxes)

The Assessor’s office is solely responsible for establishing valuations, not taxes. To accomplish this, the assessor uses actual market sales transactions to build a mass appraisal valuation model that is then used to set the values on all properties within the county. Assessment rates are dictated by the Colorado Constitution and State Law for all 64 Colorado Counties. Currently, the assessment rate is 7.96% for residential properties, and 29% for most all other property types. However, House Bill 17-1349 is currently in the Legislature awaiting approval. If this bill is passed, it will reduce the current residential assessment rate to 7.2%. If approved, this change will offset a portion of the residential tax burden created by the increasing home values. Preliminary indications project that a 15% residential increase in actual value will translate to only about a 4% increase in assessed value. The last component used to calculate taxes is the mill levy. Mill levies are established by the county commissioners, school districts, and the boards of the various taxing entities (fire, recreation, library, sanitation, cemetery, etc...). A summation of these various individual levies is applied to the assessed value to determine the taxes due. The County Treasurer’s office collects and distributes these taxes for the various taxing jurisdictions.

Ultimately, the assessor’s goal is to equalize property values and ensure that the tax burden is distributed fairly and equitably among property owners within the statutory and constitutional guidelines of the State of Colorado.

After receiving your new Notice of Valuation in early May 2017, please review your change in value. If you disagree with the new valuation, there are detailed procedures on the back of the notice explaining how to appeal your valuation. If you would like to review your property characteristics, view sold properties, or research property records please go to our online public records search program at http://eagleweb.montrosecounty.net/eagleassessor/web.

If you have any additional questions, concerns, or comments please call the Montrose County Assessor’s Office at (970) 249-3753 or email us at assessor@montrosecounty.net.
NEW LIFE BLOOMS @ OLD POTATO GROWERS BLDG
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Recently the property was purchased by Greg and David Fishering, who have some big plans for both buildings over the next couple of years. “With the current parking lot space separating the two buildings, we want to put a distillery in the green warehouse and a mixed use retail space in the Potato Growers building,” David explained. “That space will be anchored by a restaurant and bar. We want it to feel like The Source in Denver or a bigger version of something like The Vine on Main Street. The property as a whole has not been used for what we perceive as its full potential. The Potato Growers building is a really cool place to have this happen in.”

The basic plan so far is that the restaurant will be in the back of the Potato Growers building, with a bar in the middle of the space and potentially a rooftop dining option, if engineers agree that it’s safe. “If you look out from the top, it’s a cool, unobstructed view of the entire valley,” David said. “We would like to offer Montrose a rooftop dining experience, which would be nice to have especially in our warm, sunny weather.”

The distillery aspect has been a dream of David’s for a while now. “I grew up in Montrose and moved back a couple years ago,” he said. “For the last six years I’ve really wanted to open up a distillery. Over the past two years we’ve been trying to purchase this property, but things would fall through. We kept revisiting it and eventually everything worked out. My Dad has always been very entrepreneurial, and so was his Dad; it’s a family trait. So for me this is fulfilling a desire to follow in their footsteps and at the same time allowing me to do something I am passionate about.

“For my Dad, I know he will never retire so I think he is just excited about a new entrepreneurial challenge...he already makes his own wine so why not add whiskey to the list. As a family, it’s doing something that we hope adds vibrancy to the community and helps Main Street.”

A project of this undertaking will take a lot of work and a lot of time, so their first focus will be on building the distillery, with the estimated opening being in early 2018. For the Potato Growers building, the primary focus over the next 12 months will be to have a new roof put on. “It doesn’t really have a roof and it’s doing damage, even though the inside is still fairly put together,” David explained. “The distillery will be our big focus. We want to get people in there and become a viable business. We have family that might be the lead on the restaurant and bar in the Potato Growers building, so that can be the anchor for that building and then getting local retailers in will be easier.”

With the growth of Montrose and the developments over the past few years, David believes that Montrose can now start to sustain new types of businesses, such as The Vine on Main Street and what they want to do in the Potato Growers building. “A lot of people our age, whether they have a family or not, who might want to move to Montrose are looking at if there are any of the experiences of the big city here, but there aren’t really any,” he said. “We want to encourage people of our age and demographic to move here. Even the older demographics that move here are moving here from places like Arizona or California, places where they are used to having more vibrancy and stuff to do, so we are working to help provide that here.”

The excitement for the property’s plans has begun to build as word has spread. “I have not met a single person who wasn’t really excited about this,” David said.

“I have friends that grew up here, left, traveled around, and have come back but miss those things from the big cities, especially a place to hang out for a couple of hours and not just eat and leave.”

Even with all the craziness that comes with a project of this magnitude, David’s excitement about it is contagious. “The most fun part so far has been the day we purchased the still for the distillery and I thought ‘We’re actually doing this!’” he said.

“It’s not just a dream anymore or just something that we’ve been talking about around the dinner table for months, [now] this is actually going to happen!”
BOWMAN NAMED MUSIC PRODUCER FOR RIDE THE ROCKIES, CITY TO CONSIDER LIQUOR LICENSE FOR KINIKIN

Montrose City Council member Dave Bowman. Courtesy photo.

Mirror Staff Report
MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council will discuss the fate of the Downtown Development Authority at the regular work session on Monday, May 1. Alcohol permits for Main Street events will also be a focus, presented by Program Coordinator Stacey Ryan. A permit, attached to the work session packet, reveals that Music Producer for the upcoming Ride the Rockies event will be City Councilor Dave Bowman.

Council will review the Panorama View Addition Annexation as well as the Banner Road Property Lease Amendment.

Included in the Work Session Packet are a first quarter police department report, a report from the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning; and a report from the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Subjects up for possible discussion at upcoming work session include a Winter Marketing Pilot Program report May 15; a City Youth Council proclamation, HEAL Cities and Towns Presentation, Better Hearing Month Proclamation, Hoyadi LLC Liquor License Application, Doogan Additions No. 1 and 2 Annexation hearings, and a first quarter budget review will be May 16. On June 6 will be the Miami Road Farm Addition annexation hearing, Sunset Mesa Land Transfer Rezone Ordinance, and High Plains Pizza, Inc. Liquor License Transfer Application.

At the regular City Council meeting of May 2, Council will hear proclamations in support of National Hospital Week, National Police Week, and National Police Day.

Council will consider a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 1032 6450 Road for Kinikin Processing LLC; and Resolution 2017-05 setting June 19 as the hearing date for the annexation of the Panorama View Addition.

Also to be considered are Ordinance 2417 on second reading, for the Sunset Mesa West partial conveyance of land; and Ordinance 2418 on first reading, amending the zoning district designation of 12825 6700 Road from from B-4, Neighborhood Shopping District, to R-6, Medium Density/Manufactured Housing District.

Following a public information officer report Council will adjourn.
SAN JUAN RURAL PHILANTHROPY DAYS
Elevating Leadership and Collaboration

Montrose, Colorado | June 14-16, 2017
Montrose | San Miguel | Ouray | Gunnison | Hinsdale

A 3-day conference convening nonprofit professionals, funders, elected officials, business leaders, and public agencies.

Registration ($150) is now open - hurry to reserve your spot for this highly-anticipated event!

Register Now! www.sanjuanrpd.org
DONATE BOOKS, SUPPORT TWO LOCAL NON-PROFITS @ ONCE

MONTROSE-The Salvation Army has something for everyone but it has one thing in particular the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club is lacking; books.

At left, Tyler Reed, Store Manager of the Montrose Salvation Army, notes that is one thing the local non-profit always has in abundance. In fact, some books sit on the shelf for so long they have to be thrown away.

Reed wants to remedy that and a partnership with the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club will help. Throughout the month of May, the Salvation Army will be taking book donations for children ages six to 16 to build up a library at the Montrose and Olathe branches of the Boys and Girls Club. Executive Director of the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club, Bud Taylor, thinks it is a perfect partnership.

“You get to help two local non-profits at once. You support the Salvation Army with your purchase of a book while the kids at the Club receive a new book to read; it is a win/win!”

The Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club Book Drive will go on until May 31, 2017. The Montrose Salvation Army is located at 1210 N Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO 81401.
REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2017 SMPA BOARD CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-At the April 25th San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board Meeting, the candidates for the upcoming SMPA board election were announced. In district #5, which includes Mountain Village and Ophir, the candidates are Joseph Shults and Rube Felicelli. In District #7, which includes Silverton and Ouray, the candidates are Dawn Glanc, Deedra Williams and Terry Rhoades.

Anyone who purchases power from SMPA and resides within the SMPA service territory is a member. SMPA Board members are elected from the membership, by the membership. They are chosen from seven different districts within the territory. Each district contains approximately 1,300 members who vote only for their own district representative. SMPA’s board members serve four-year terms. View the director district map at www.smpa.com.

> About Us --> Board of Directors.
San Miguel Power members elect their board of directors by secret mail-in ballot or at the Annual Meeting of the Membership, held this year at the SMPA Ridgway office (720 N. Railroad St., Ridgway) on June 8th from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. (Polls close at 5:30 pm.) Ballots will be mailed to members of districts #5 and #7 on May 15th. Mail-in ballots must be received by June 7th, or members may vote at the Annual Meeting.
San Miguel Power’s Annual Meeting is one of the most important events for all SMPA members to attend. It is an opportunity for members of the cooperative to gather and review the activities of the association over the past year. The theme of this year’s meeting is “The Challenge of Change,” and at the meeting, members can learn about new SMPA programs that are responding to member desires and the changing electric industry. Members will also be given dinner and a $10.00 bill credit for their attendance. Other exhibits, games and prizes will also be there. Board Election results will be announced at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.
San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 14,000 meters and supports local communities with $300,000 annually in property taxes and $400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PICK UP COUNTY FAIR & RODEO ROYALTY APPLICATIONS NOW

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-From now through May 31, Montrose County Fair & Rodeo Royalty applications are available for pickup for any girl who wants to try out for the 2017-2018 year Royalty. Locations are CSU Extension Office in Friendship Hall and Producers’ Coops in Montrose and Olathe. Please call Rhonda Castle with any questions @ 970-323-6438.
SOLUTIONS EXIST FOR STUDENT BULLYING, VIOLENCE, ADDICTION

By John W. Nelson

MONTROSE—Last week there were 2 more student suicides (Fruita and Palisade) and recently, a 13 year old was arrested for planning a Columbine-type school shooting in Grand Junction. With Montrose designated as a “hot spot” for drug addiction, according to the new methadone clinic spokesman, the School Safety Conference sponsored by Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. and the City of Montrose on Wednesday was both timely and outstanding.

Susan Payne, founding executive director of the Safe2Tell anonymous school safety program, is with the Co. Attorney General’s Office and was the primary presenter. She was teamed with Tanny McGinnis, Security Coordinator for the Mesa County School District, and Mark Johnson, a School Resource Officer (SRO) in that District for an outstandingly informative and motivating presentation. The Safe2Tell Communication system allows students to report bullying, crime and potential suicides anonymously. The system is monitored 24/7 and has saved countless young lives in Colorado. It uses the same communication system, P3, as our region’s Crime Stoppers program. The effort is underway with this team and the creator of P3 to take the triad system now employed by the Mesa School District nation-wide. It is a triangle, with points at Administrative Communications, Safe2Tell and Crime Stoppers.

The information conveyed in the Administrative part is not anonymous portion and provides for normal student to teacher and school administration communication on items of concern by the students. The information conveyed in this system is neither anonymous nor monitored by law enforcement 24/7. The Safe2Tell and Crime Stoppers information remains anonymous and is communicated to Law Enforcement Dispatch 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The Law Enforcement Dispatch Center then contacts the correct Law Enforcement Agency and School Administration for quick action to be taken.

The S.R.O. from Grand Junction described how quickly and effectively appropriate responses are made to any threats, crimes and crisis with this program.

Susan Byrne, Montrose County Sheriff’s Office Regional Communications Coordinator, and Barbie Abbott of the Montrose Police Department shared information about the Crime Stoppers Tip program, which includes the anonymous Tip telephone number, 970-249-8500, the mobile app, P3Tips and the web address, P3Tips.com. Heather Darbe presented information from the Center for Mental Health on suicide prevention. Members of the student leadership at Montrose High School were present and confirmed the basic premises of communications with today’s students on which the Safe2Tell and Crime Stoppers programs are based. All of these programs help stop suicides, bullying and serious crisis. While the Mesa County formula has only recently been developed and implemented, it has already had a number of successes. Last month, their Safe2Tell program received 32 Tips.

It was indeed a successful and encouraging conference of law enforcement, school administration and mental health professionals.

Attendance included the Montrose Mayor, County Commissioners, School Administration, and representatives from Olathe, Hinsdale County and the 7th Judicial Region and several City and County Law Enforcement members.

Attendees at last week’s School Safety presentation in the Centennial Room. Courtesy photo.
May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. What a great time to literally get on track and start some type of exercise routine. It’s also a great time to encourage your friends, family and loved ones to start on a healthy lifestyle path that includes a physical fitness plan and/or participation in sports. Have you seen our new recreation center (the largest recreation center in Western Colorado) and all of the choices available from the climbing wall and aquatic opportunities to the indoor walking track and high tech machines?

We don’t have time to explore every sport but having taught yoga for over ten years and as a current swim instructor, let’s start with those two activities and explore their benefits. See if you can find some of the similarities between both of these activities as well as how they complement each other.

**YOGA**

Opinions may differ when an Eastern practice, like yoga encounters modern-day medicine. However, it’s hard to deny that the mix of breathing, physical movement, peace and body - mind well being that yoga fosters, could have anything but a positive impact on the mind, body and spirit.

**Yoga Makes Us More Flexible** - Studies indicate that those who regularly practice yoga have greater overall strength and a lower percentage of body fat versus those who don’t get bendy on the mat. You already know that yoga promotes flexibility but did you know that Bikram yoga, which is a series of 26 postures performed for 90 minutes in a heated room, was found the most effective form of yoga when it comes to promoting shoulder, back, and hamstring flexibility, according to a Colorado State University study.

**Yoga Leads to Better Breathing** - The way we breathe affects many functions of the body. For instance, your lung capacity and the oxygen you take into your body affects your brain, blood and physical function, as well as waste removal optimization. Luckily for yogis, a Ball State University study in 2000 found that Hatha yoga, a combination of physical poses and breath work, improved overall lung capacity (or the amount of air taken in with each breath).

**Yoga Fosters Balance & Core Strength** - Do you ever wish you had better balance? A regular yoga practice may just be the answer and science backs up that claim. Research from Temple University found older yoga-practicing adults enjoyed improved balance and core-strength, which led to fewer trips and falls in females over 65-years old.

**Improve Desire with Yoga** - Yoga does more than boost strength! Studies show regular yoga exercise increases sexual desire, orgasm and overall sex life satisfaction for women. It may have something to do with the fact that yoga also increases body image and self-confidence.

**Yoga Enhances Bone Density** - Studies show that yoga not only increases lost bone density among older adults but actually replaces bone mass. In fact, one study entitled “Yoga for Osteoporosis” tracked and measured the bone density over a period of 2 years. The group that performed yoga gradually gained bone over the 2-year period while those who didn’t practice yoga gradually lost bone.

**Yoga Keeps Blood Sugar Balanced** - Diabetics typically have issues when it comes to keeping their blood sugars level. Luckily, yoga can help! According to a 2011 Diabetes Care study, diabetics were able to better control blood glucose and even shed a few pounds after 3 months of regular yoga practice.

**Yoga Expands Brain Function** – You’ve likely heard the phrase, “he or she is lacking oxygen to the brain?” Well, maybe not if you’re a yogi. Regular practitioners of Hatha yoga, which focuses on breath accompanied asana postures, were found to have better cognitive function, stronger focus, and enhanced memory function.

**Yoga: The Best Medicine** - If you suffer from chronic back pain or a mood disorder think twice before reaching for that bottle of prescription drugs. Several studies argue that yoga is more effective in treating pain and mood conditions than standard medical treatments and prescription drugs aimed at bandaging chronic problems. In fact, yoga is touted for reducing anxiety and increasing feel-good brain chemicals (i.e. serotonin), required to reduce depression and anxiety-related disorders.

**SWIMMING**

**Good for Your Heart** - Active.com claims that swimming “provides unparalleled cardiovascular conditioning,” but you have to keep up a regular routine in the pool (with proper techniques) to reap the benefits. Your cardiovascular system encompasses your heart, as well as your blood vessels, and a healthy system can help lower the risk of related diseases and even heart attacks. High blood pressure can also be addressed by regular trips to the pool.

**Good Part of a Cross Training Program** - Hitting the pool doesn’t mean you need to give up other forms of exercise. In fact, swimming can be a vital component of cross training that balances out the impact on your bones and muscles from other sports like running or weightlifting. Research suggests that by creating a balanced workout routine, athletes avoid injury by allowing their body time to heal, while not forgoing daily training sessions. So if you’re feeling a bit achy from the other forms of exercise, the pool is a great place to get a good lower-impact workout while also still getting great health benefits.

**Full-Body Workout** - Unlike some forms of weight training, which target certain muscle groups, swimming can challenge your entire body (in a friendly way) during a visit to the pool. While water allows for more fluidity of motion, it doesn’t mean you’re not getting a proper workout. In fact, according to experts, 30 minutes of activity in a pool is worth 45 minutes of the same activity on land. For those of us still living in the fast lane, those 15 minutes can be put to use working on something else on our to-do list.

**Drowns Depression** - PsychCentral.com reminds us that swimming is not only good for your body, but also your mind. A...
blog post from the source notes that swimming is one of the exercises that “stimulates brain chemicals that foster the growth of nerve cells,” as well as positively influencing serotonin, a mood-related neurotransmitter.

The author of the post explains that swimming 3,000 meters (close to 10,000-feet or just under 2 miles) can pull them out of a “depressive cycle” for short periods of time more effectively than running. It’s also effective for quieting anxiety and promoting general de-stressing. Besides possible biochemical changes in the brain, swimming requires the alternating stretch and relaxation of skeletal muscles.

**Aids in Meditation** - Continuing on the mental health theme, swimming can also help you quiet your mind and stay in the moment, which are key components of meditation. According to some psychologists, being in the water allows you to tune out the outside noise that is sometimes associated with high-impact aerobics or dance classes, and other fitness classes, that may play loud music.

In a way, swimming can then be regarded as a “solo” activity, even if you have people swimming in the lanes next to you.

It’s just you and your mind moving through the water, which is very liberating, and because swimming is so rhythmic, it’s like doing yoga in the water.

**Helps Prevent Overheating** - The trouble with some forms of exercise, like training for a marathon in the summer, is that if you don’t properly hydrate then you could end up with big problems (not to mention with bad sunburn if you don’t use the proper sunscreen).

Swimming indoors means you won’t get all sweaty, as the water is constantly cooling you down. However, keep in mind that you can still get heat stroke if you’re swimming outside in the hot sun (kids are especially at risk).

**Boosts Metabolism** - Swimming is a great way to boost your metabolism, which can make you feel more energized after a rigorous workout in the pool.

No other workout burns calories, boosts metabolism, and firms every muscle in your body (without putting stress on your joints) better than a swimming workout according to Women’s Health magazine.

Did you know that an “easy swim” can burn 500-calories per hour, while adding more hustle can burn up to 700-calories per hour. While you’re activating your fat-trimming mechanisms, you can also build lean muscle.

However, research suggests you should-n’t overdo it and its best to use a variety of swimming strokes from backstroke to breaststroke for best results.

Please feel free to contact me at Michel-eGad.fame@aol.com or 970-948-5708 if you have, questions, comments or suggestions and check our the new recreation center’s schedule of classes and activities by visiting them at montroserec.com.
By Mark Rackay

MONTROSE—With spring finally starting to make an appearance here on the Western Slope, it is time to start thinking about some outdoor activities. One of my favorite ways to spend a day is riding my ATV on one of the many trails we have in Montrose County.

It has been a long winter, and most likely, your machine has sat idle in a corner of the garage. An ATV is just like a car in that it requires preventative maintenance and routine service. It is a good idea to start the season with a fresh oil change and new plugs. I am always suspicious of batteries, so I generally start the season with a new one.

The State of Colorado requires all ATV’s to have an OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) registration. Be sure yours is current as they expire March 31 each year. Check the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website at www.cpw.state.co.us for more information.

The night before my trip I always start with a visual inspection. Aside from the fluid levels, fuel, oil and coolant, I check everything over; making sure nothing is broken, loose or missing. I will make sure that the tires are also properly inflated.

Speaking of tires, don’t go by the inflation numbers shown on the tire. Most ATVs require five pounds of air or less. Check with the owner’s manual or your dealer to be sure. Too much air can cause a “ballooning effect” which can turn the machine over, causing a serious accident.

Many of us have some type of boxes, bags or similar combination attached to our machines to carry extra supplies and gear in. I start out by taking out all of last year’s snacks and candy bars and pitching them. Left over water bottles should be exchanged for fresh ones. Now is a good time to clean out any dust, mud or other debris that may have accumulated there from a season of riding.

I prefer the hard boxes rather than the soft canvas ones. They seem to hold the dust out better. I keep one box for the emergency equipment only. Here is a list of what I carry in mine: Water, enough for drinking during the day plus extra; First aid kit; Flashlight and extra batteries; Tow strap and a length of strong rope; Tool kit with tools fitted to your ATV; Tire repair kit with small compressor or CO2 fill kit; Extra warm clothes and rain poncho; Cell phone and GPS; Jumper cables; Leatherman tool; Roll of duct tape.

You can customize your kit to fit the needs of the trip being taken and whom you have along. If someone has special medicines, be sure to carry extra along in case you get stranded. I keep a small shovel and an axe strapped under the rear rack of my machine. You never know when you might get stuck in a leftover snowdrift or a mud hole. All of these items can be stowed away neatly and securely with a little practice with your own quad.

Before you go on your trip, take some time to study a map and familiarize yourself with the area. You might also find some places to stop and rest along the way that may provide something interesting or scenic to do. Stop by the BLM office, or the National Forest office and get some maps of the area. You will be amazed at just how many trails there are open to us. Be sure to tell someone where you are going and when to expect you to return. This person should be instructed to call the Sheriff’s Office if you do not return by a given time. This simple step of preparedness has saved countless lives.

Remember that there are things that simply cannot be repaired on the trail. Because of this, it is most important to have at least one other person and quad along with you. Not only for safety but it is more fun to share a ride with friends.

When you ride, be careful and ride safely. Wear your helmets, gloves, eye protection and other safety gear. The posse responds to several ATV accidents every year. Most of the injuries we have seen could have been avoided if the rider had helmets and other gear. Summer is coming so ride safely and enjoy the outdoors.

Mark Rackay is a freelance writer who serves as a Director and Public Information Officer for the Montrose County Sheriff’s Posse. For information about the Posse call 970-252-4033 (leave a message) or email info@mcspi.org.
SHANTY OWNER STRUGGLING IN MEXICO, POPULAR RESTAURANT NOW LEASED TO ILLEGAL ALIEN, SISTER SAYS

Mirror Staff Report
MONTROSE—Nora Robinson, the sister of Shanty II Restaurant owner Luis Guillermo Cadena, informs the Mirror that the Shanty II Restaurant, though still legally owned by her brother, has now been leased by Cadena’s former girlfriend Lorena Dominguez to an illegal alien as the “Cabin Restaurant,” despite explicit court instructions that it belongs to Cadena.

“I have rights to his estate,” said Robinson, who is her brother’s conservator while he is in Mexico, “and my rights continue to be violated by Lorena Dominguez. She has not paid for the March rent from the restaurant as agreed.”

In a letter to Cadena’s Attorney Daniel Lowenberg, Robinson states, “The rental agreement should be considered void, since I, did not approve of it. I want (the current tenant) evicted from the property immediately.”

A Go Fund Me site created to help Guillermo, who was suddenly deported in August of 2016 prior to his daughter and Dominguez seizing control of all of his business and personal assets, states that “Luis, known as "G" to his friends and customers, has managed to eke by on no income in Mexico and his health has seriously deteriorated due in part to the malicious betrayal he has suffered. He is in need of financial support for adequate medical care, his everyday needs, and to help pay his legal fees in seeking justice.”

Cadena’s daughter Veronia Heisler angrily called the Mirror last week in response to our coverage of the matter, informing us that her father actually intended to give her all of his money and assets. However, a promised letter detailing this was not provided by Press time as agreed.

While the Court case has been continued until June, the Go Fund Me site is live for those who wish to help Guillermo.
Healing Harmonies
Music is Medicine

Featuring Dr. Rhonda Parker and Bethany Ward

Sunday, May 21
6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
19 S. Park Ave - Montrose

A concert benefiting the Healing Arts Fund | Music Therapy at Montrose Memorial Hospital

Free admission
Donations encouraged

For more information
(970) 252-2744

Montrose Memorial Hospital
MIRROR IMAGES: SPRING BLOOMS

Despite snow showers on Saturday, gardens across Montrose basked in the sun on Sunday. Pictured, Allium, Russian Hawthorn and pansies delight the senses. Montrose Mirror staff photos.
Barn Dance & BBQ

June 10, 2017 - 5:30

Live Band—Narrow Gauge Country

BBQ catered by Camp Robber

Cash bar—Colorado Boy

Antler Ridge
72005 Kinikin Road
Montrose CO 81401

Tickets available—www.whafv.org
Or at the Warrior Resource Center
11 South Park Avenue
Montrose Co
MHS FBLA STUDENTS @ STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE— After competing at the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) District Leadership Conference in Grand Junction in February, twelve Montrose High School FBLA members qualified and chose to attend the State Leadership Conference. The State Leadership Conference was held in Vail last week – Wednesday, April 19 to Friday, April 21. The students attended sessions with motivational speakers, participated in workshops and competed in their individual events. Over 2700 students were in attendance at the conference from across the State of Colorado.

Two Montrose High School students placed in the top five at the State level. Kaileigh Lyons was the State Champion in Journalism.

Ang Sherpa placed 3rd in the Community Service Project which documented the work the Chapter did with Sharing Ministries throughout the year. This competition involved a written report and presentation. “It is quite commendable to place at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in the top five, so I am very excited for Kaileigh and Ang!” said adviser Jayna Simpson.

Pictured, Kaileigh Lyons, Esteban Viqueira, Wendy Padilla, Jessica Alvarado, Ang Sherpa, Kathy Serna, Cinthya Luna, Lupita Luna, Addison Saunders, Maggie McHugh, Miranda Ceniceros, Raunak Tuladhar, Kaileigh Lyons, Ang Sherpa.
COLORADO YURT COMPANY TO BE ON HGTV’S TINY HOUSE HUNTERS MAY 1

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE—Colorado Yurt Company will be featured on the popular HGTV show “Tiny House Hunters.” The episode will premier on May 1, 2017 at 9:30 pm eastern/8:30 central/7:30 mountain (check local listings). The episode, called “Living Cozy in Colorado” was filmed in Montrose and Paonia in the fall of 2016. Pie Town Productions, the producers of “Tiny House Hunters”, worked with Colorado Yurt Company and Chris and Natalie Haines of Paonia to create the episode.

The episode is described on the HGTV website: Fort Collins, Colorado, couple Natalie and Chris have decided to sell their three-bedroom home and move into a tiny house so they can enjoy more of what life has to offer, like exploring the outdoors, brewing their own beer and spending time with their infant daughter, Amelie. They have a budget of $200,000 for a tiny home and a large plot of rural land to put it on. Chris wants a house with modern style, Natalie is looking for something with a Craftsman feel, and they agree that their daughter needs her own sleeping space. Can they find a home that’s a good fit for the whole family?

“We had a blast working with the crew from Pie Town Productions,” says Emma Kigar, co-owner of Colorado Yurt Company, “we spent a sunny Saturday filming some scenes at our own yurt in Ridgway, then they went up to Paonia to film some more.”

The featured yurt is the 16’ model from Colorado Yurt Company, measuring only 200 square feet.

http://coloradoyurt.com/.
The band Snootch plays at the RnR Sports Bar in Montrose Saturday night. Photos by Jennifer McClanahan.
OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THANK YOU TO COMMISSIONERS CADDY AND RASH

Dear Editor:
“The truth is the truth even if no one knows it, admits it, agrees with it or follows it.” Thomas Jefferson said that “Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.” It is heartening to have Mr. Caddy, one of our elected officials, actually address an issue in the public forum with the history, reasoning and facts behind a decision. He actually held himself and Mr. Rash accountable to his constituency for their educated and studied decision regarding impact fees. This, instead of perpetuating the falsehoods, drivel and balderdash we citizens have been fed (if we ever got anything) from the previous BOCC.

Our county government and services already collects upwards of $12,000 in charges one must pay upfront to build a house. Why ‘rob’ the owner of ten percent more for apparently non-existent ‘impacts’? It is not right to take money from the citizen, to lessen his standard of living by the loss of that money to him forever, for an unidentified purpose——— only to pad the coffers of the public treasury simply to create a pot of gold that will eventually be squandered by future politicians simply because it is there.

In Montrose the expression often used by one government entity or another to justify a particular project is ‘and we have the money in such and such account anyway’. It is ‘like’ because it has been taken from the citizens without need in the past, that it is now FREE! Well a lot of taxpayers did without something after that money to be taken from them. It is not free! I am overjoyed to see that Mr. Caddy and Mr. Rash ‘GET IT’!

Somewhere I heard the line “Do what is right and let the consequence follow.” It is past time. Thank you gentlemen!

Bill Bennett, Montrose

EDUCATION NEEDED FOR NEW BOCC

Dear Editor:
When I read Commissioner Keith Caddy’s response, The Montrose Mirror April 24, 2017, to my dissertation on Impact Fees, a famous quote came to mind about Commissioner Caddy, Mark Twain: “Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and to remove all doubt.”

In response to Commissioner Caddy’s Fake News cheap attack on my research abilities, I requested an agenda item at the next Board of County Commissioner’s meeting on May 1st and an allotment of 45 minutes to attempt to continue the education of both Commissioner Caddy and Rash. The last time I met with Commissioner Caddy and Rash they couldn’t answer a single question about our road maintenance or about a firm the county has spent thousands of dollars with to provide expert advice on such subjects as development impact, impact fees and sales taxes.

Granted, 45 minutes trying to educate Commissioner’s Caddy and Rash is a long shot, but, I thought I might motivate them to at least earn their paycheck, not the one they are getting for retiring from being life long government employees, the one we are paying. They are perhaps the most unprepared Commissioners to enter office in a long time, except for fine-tuning their plan of retaliation, locating where the donuts are and turning our representative republic into a monarchy complete with a King, Court Jester and exiled Nobleman.

Needless to say, Commissioner Caddy refused my request and has chosen to limit his education sessions to 3 minutes each. While this may be helpful for an individual with a short attention span, it would mean I would be required to make 15 trips to achieve the 45 minutes. I requested the 3-minute time limit be waived, as Commissioner Caddy had done for one of his friends. While his friends receive advance approval, you guessed it, it depends on what mood he is in when I get there!

To give Commissioner Caddy advance notice so he can mobilize the “Caddy Shack” of minions, lesson one will take place on May 1 at the Board of County Commissioner’s meeting!

Richard Harding, Montrose
By Timothy Storrs
"Without Understanding there can be no Compassion, Without Compassion there can be no Love -Jung" MONTROSE-No one Cares 'Who' We Are on the Internet. The Internet is all about information, Not judgment, before a person can care about a person’s judgment, they have to care about the person, the act of caring is an act, not words, when someone on the internet claims 'I care about you' the words are hollow, to show that you Care on the internet Requires Understanding, how much does one understand a stranger?

When a person first gets on the internet to socialize, they try to justify how they were taught or what they learned, which means they argue with anything that does not line up with what they were taught. Most think a Facebook group is akin to the cork board at the local laundromat that people post help wanted or for sale or local events to be monitored and rigidly cleaned up, bad comments are to be deleted and difficult users are booted out.

A Facebook group is more like a community meeting to discuss issues that are of concern. It would be considered rude and inappropriate to tell someone to shut up or get out of the community if they brought up an issue of concern that someone else did not like.

There are millions of Facebook Groups. The best ones for truth are the ones that let everyone have a say. They do not Police their sites as much as amateurs do. An admin’s job is not to play judge, jury and executioner to the disagreements in their groups. The more diverse the groups are, the closer to truth they get. We all have to step up, to create reason and to create open discussion. No one person will have all the answers, and on the internet, no one cares who you are. The internet is about information. Since the inception of social media, people have been communicating their opinions. Most are just echoes of how they were taught. Some were not taught and seek understanding. There are hidden treasures on the internet. If you know where to look, you can find some really good stuff.

The internet was created by scientists, so the first generation of internet users were technologically savvy people interacting with one another for professional purposes. Unwittingly, they created the first social dynamic for what would become social media. This began to change, however, as the internet kicked off and more people, most less savvy than their predecessors, began to interact with one another over this new astonishing communications medium. I would have loved to have had that first wave.

Perhaps, it would have changed the way that I view the internet now, but I could not. Anyways, as more people made their way onto this new communications medium, discussion forums and chat rooms began to interact with one another over this new astonishing communications medium. I would have loved to have been on that first wave.

In its truest form, trolling was meant to generate discussion, so that fewer people would be taken by the false dichotomies of the pseudoscience gurus who were attempting to take over the information base via the internet.

It has since evolved into the reverse mode, where pseudoscience gurus, now on the outside, attempt to make real facts illegitimate by insulting the experts or backing them into corners with questions that are not meant to be answered so much as they are meant to just numb the experts into silence. The ultimate goal is always to spread their own misinformation across the internet, making the real facts questionable. You are responsible for how you react, not them.

On the internet, if you React, you are Troll food. Trolls Love Emotional people. Internet 101: Do Not React!"
MONTROSE FOOD TRUCKS BRING GREAT EATS TO THE STREETS!

By Rachel Boschen

MONTROSE-A cloudy Friday afternoon at lunch time finds the grilled cheese truck, CHEE-Z DOES IT, on the corner of South Fifth Street and Townsend Avenue. The Real Estate group’s parking lot rumbles with the noises of tractors and the piercing beeping as they reverse from across the street where the new Town Centre is being built. The grilled cheese truck is a bright spot in the blear of construction; the smells waft from the truck in the breezy afternoon with the din of the traffic layering in the background. I pick up hints of green chilies, maybe, and a plethora of cheeses. An excited child exclaims when hearing that her mom ordered her an American Classic, a five-dollar grilled cheese sandwich from the truck. Today they have a “tomato bisque and a beer cheese” soup, I hear Rachel Zelazney say from behind the window of the truck. A line of people of all ages, children, high schoolers and adults alike, wait in a small line, sharing a common love of grilled sandwiches, “a niche” that hasn’t been explored among mobile vending, says Jayme Evans who manages the truck. The grilled cheese truck is operating Tuesday through Saturday from 11-2 and as of Saturday April 29, they will be operating in the lot next to Taco Bell. After only four weeks of operation, the truck seems to be making an impact in Montrose and Jayme says that they also have plans to make appearances at the Montrose Summer Music Series and in Paonia this summer. They will be making a special appearance on Tuesday May 2 at Gypsy Bell, next to Pitchfork Tavern in South Montrose for an anniversary of the business that is open to the public. Follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for updates and daily locations. You can’t miss the truck with its bold paint job by TreeFeather Creative. A bold black and yellow design proudly displays the caption Take it “Chee-Z.”

The Real Estate Group also hosts another favorite Montrose food truck, 99 Thai, that has gained a following in Montrose—“where their love is”—says owner Nathan Greninger. They have “Delicious, fresh affordable Asian food under $8...” rated one Jabba D. on Yelp. Another user Jared H. said “Solid Thai food...” The Thai truck can be found next to U.S. Bank on South Townsend and Woodgate on Tuesdays and Wednesdays as well as the Real Estate Group’s parking lot on Saturdays and Mondays. Around since 2014, the truck makes appearances at festivals around Western Colorado; this summer they intend to appear at Montrose Summer Music Series, Paonia’s Pickin in the Park and the Ouray Concert Series. Serving up

Continued next page
authentic Thai food, Nathan and his wife Nuttaya have noticed that “more and more people are open to the food.” They have no doubt that Montrose is their home and where their heart will stay.

Lisa Mettscher, the office manager of the Real Estate Group, tells me that they host the trucks in their lot to show community support. She gushes about how delicious the food is on both trucks. “Delicious... yea. Her mother still lives in Thailand... yea her food is delicious,” about 99 Thai Food.

And “as for the grilled cheese truck... it’s not like any other grilled cheese you’ve ever eaten. Their menu is amazing; they are really different...”

Don’t hesitate to stop by either of the locations that the trucks make regular appearances this summer for a quick, but delicious, bite to eat.

**CALLING ALL VISUAL ARTISTS!**

Special to Art & Sol
OURAY-Artists’ Alpine Holiday 57th Annual Juried Art Exhibit
Online registration is open NOW through June 26.
Categories: Oil/Acrylic, Watercolor, Drawing & Printmaking, Pastel, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Photography and a Student Division. All entries will be eligible for Best in Show ($500) and each category will be have awards for first ($400), second ($200) and third ($100) place. Show dates: July 27 - Aug. 5, 2017
Place: Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave., Ouray, CO
Go to ourayarts.org for more information and to register!
COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & NATURE

Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE-Bears have emerged from hibernation and are on the prowl for food. Colorado Parks and Wildlife is sending its annual reminder, asking Colorado residents and visitors to be “Bear Aware.”

In early spring, bears can usually find sources of natural food as wild plants begin to grow nutritious new sprouts. Bears also prefer natural sources of food. But if food becomes scarce some bears will go to residential areas looking for a meal.

Significant bear/human conflicts usually don’t start until mid-summer. But now’s the time to start thinking about how you can be bear aware. By taking some simple precautions, you can avoid conflicts with bears at your home and in your neighborhood.

Here is a list that will help us to keep bears wild:

**Around the house**
Keep garbage in a well-secured location.
Only put out garbage on the morning of pickup.
Clean garbage cans regularly to keep them odor free. The scent of ammonia can deter bears.
Use a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster. These are available from your trash hauler or on Internet sites.
Bears have an excellent sense of smell, so try to prevent odors. If you don’t have secure storage, put items that might become smelly into the freezer until trash day.
Keep garage doors closed.
Lock your doors when you’re away from home and at night.
Keep the bottom floor windows of your house closed when you’re not at home.
Clean-up thoroughly after picnics in the yard or on the deck. Don’t allow food odors to linger.
Talk to your neighbors and kids about being bear aware.

**Minimize items that attract bears or other wildlife**
Do not attract other wildlife by feeding them.
Don’t leave pet food or stock feed outside.
Bird feeders are a major source of bear/human conflicts. Attract birds naturally with flowers and water baths. Do not hang bird feeders from April 15 to Nov. 15.
If you must have bird feeders: clean up beneath them every day, bring them in at night, and hang them high so that they’re completely inaccessible to bears.
Bears have good memories and will return to places they’ve found food.
Allow grills to burn for a couple of minutes after cooking to burn off grease and to eliminate odors. Clean the grill after each use.
If you have fruit trees, pick fruit before it gets too ripe. Don’t allow fruit to rot on the ground.
Secure compost piles. Bears are attracted to the scent of rotting food -- and they’ll eat almost anything.

If you keep small livestock, keep animals in a fully covered enclosure, don’t store food outside, keep enclosures clean to minimize odors, hang rags soaked in ammonia around the enclosure.
If you have bee hives, install electric fencing where allowed.

**Be careful with vehicles and at campsites**
Do not keep food in your vehicle; roll up windows and lock the doors of your vehicles.
When car-camping, secure all food and coolers in a locked vehicle after you’ve eaten.
Keep a clean camp, whether you’re in a campground or in the back-country.
When camping in the back-country, hang food 100 feet or more from campsite.
Don’t bring any food or fragrant items into your tent.
Cook food well away from your tent; wash dishes thoroughly.
For more information go to the Living with Wildlife section on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife web site: cpw.state.co.us.

#clarity
montrosemirror.com
COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

MOAB AND PORTLAND MUSICIANS TO PERFORM EVENING OF MUSIC

Scott Ibex, left, and Jacob Raab, right. Courtesy photos.

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE - Healthy Rhythm Music Services (HRMS) is pleased to announce “Scott Ibex & Jacob Raab: Music for the Soul”, Saturday evening, May 6, 2017, at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery (HRCAG) in Montrose, Colorado.

Scott Ibex • Guitar

Over the course of the last twelve years, Scott Ibex has emerged as a popular artist who regularly performs all over the US. His solo-acoustic tapping music layers tonal harmonics over free-flowing melodies that delight audiences throughout the land. It’s not unusual for Ibex to perform hard-hitting slide blues, psychedelic bluegrass, folk, rock, country, reggae, or soul during a set. In fact, he often improvises memorable one-of-a-kind tunes on the spot.

For the past 20 years, Scott has entertained prestigious audiences at Opera Houses, Events Centers, Colleges, Museums, International Film Festivals, and famous venues throughout the world. The result of his labors has brought him critical artistic acclaim.

Jacob Raab • Trumpet

Jacob Raab started his journey as an impressionable young trumpet player who moved from Indianapolis to Portland in search of adventure. Since moving west, he has grown into a full-blown alpinist and mountain runner — two disciplines that require many of the same improvisatory sensibilities as in his jazz roots.

Jacob’s most recent musical endeavors include playing trumpet/flugelhorn with a reggae band in Portland and an acoustic trio in Moab, and honing his singer-songwriter chops on the piano at the Heretic House. Multiple future projects are also on the horizon; performing, recording, and composing are all in the works, so stay tuned to see what comes next!

Healthy Rhythm Music Services’ owner, Ken Vail, said “Having these two high caliber musicians perform an intimate show at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery, continues to show support for quality live music and helps put Montrose on the map as a musical destination for artists and concertgoers alike.”

Advance GA is $5 & VIP seats are $10 at the Gallery. Private after show Meet and Greet included with VIP. Online purchase is also available at www.healthyrhythm.net. Doors open at 7 PM. This is a ticketless show.
COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

NATION CHANGING FILM TO BE SCREENED AT SAN JUAN CINEMA MAY 24

Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE-Senisim Pasin (Change Your Ways) is a national campaign about gender-based violence in Papua New Guinea (PNG) that is built around a film by the same name. The campaign is getting a lot of attention not only in PNG but also in the developed world because of its innovative approach and the fact it is having a significant impact. The campaign has been adopted into Papua New Guinea Government’s National Strategy and has also received support from the Australian Government and the U.S. Embassy in PNG.

“I never realized the potential women have until I watched this film. I’m going to have to change my thinking,” said Daniel, a man from remote Hela Province who spoke to the community at recent village screening in Papua New Guinea. The SP Hunters, PNG’s national rugby team, recently joined the campaign and Assistant Coach Nigel Hukula said that watching the film with his team was a very emotional experience. The Hunters each signed a pledge to be part of the cultural change and will be involved in public service announcements in the coming months. These are a few of many examples of the cultural shift that is happening in PNG.

Senisim Pasin is a strategic initiative of the Papua New Guinea Tribal Foundation, a Montrose, Colorado based charity that is known for taking inventive measures to address health and education challenges in PNG.

Gary Bustin, Tribal Foundation’s President said, “We built the campaign around seven strategies for positive change and had high expectations for impact in PNG. What we didn’t expect is the interest the campaign is generating in other countries. “Colorado has been good to us and it is exciting to bring our film to the hometown crowd,” says Geoff Ila, Tribal’s Partnership Development Manager.

Bustin is not new to innovative strategies having established Samaritan Aviation in Montrose in 2001. He ran that organization as President until 2012 before leaving to focus on the Tribal Foundation which he also established in Montrose. “We now have partners around Colorado that include Project C.U.R.E and Children’s Hospital Colorado. The Tribal Foundation is currently working on a project with Montrose, Telluride, and Carbondale Rotary Clubs to deliver a medical container with $450,000 in dental and medical supplies to a hospital on the north coast of PNG.

“Colorado has been good to us and it is exciting to bring our film to the hometown crowd,” says Geoff Ila, Tribal’s Partnership Development Manager. Senisim Pasin will be screened in partnership with the San Juan Cinema on May 24 at 7pm. Following the screening there will be a talk about the making of the film, the campaign, and strategy to change a nation. Attendees will be given an opportunity to help sponsor some of the 9,000 mobile theater screenings planned in Papua New Guinea. For more information go to: www.pngtribe.org or call (970) 252-7488. To purchase a ticket go to: https://app.etickets.to/buy/?e=15052

Contact: Geoff Ila 209-5133 geoff@pngtribe.org. Wendy White 688-1636 Wendy@pngtribe.org

Special to Art & Sol
PAONIA-Join us in Paonia, @ the CO School of Clinical Herbalism – Paonia Campus this summer for one of our wonderful weekend workshops! MAY 19-21 HONEY PHARMACY WORKSHOP. Opening circle & presentation by local beekeeper Amber Kleinman. Craft Arabic style honey pastes, syrups, elixirs & medicinal meads! With CSCH Director Lisa Ganora & Jake Engle (CCH) $125 LOCALS (no camping or meals) $249 INCLUDES supplies/camping & meals For more information & to sign up: www.clinicalherbalism.com/elderberry’s 970-722-4372 Stay tuned for more upcoming workshops July-Sept.
Black Canyon Golf Course Golf Scramble
for the benefit of the

MHS 2017 Senior Safe Party

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH, 2017
REGISTRATION AND RANGE OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.
SHOTGUN START AT 9:30 A.M.

$60 per player includes golf and lunch
Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
Mulligans available

Proceeds from this tournament will go to support the
MHS Class of 2017 Senior Safe Graduation Party

There have been NO serious accidents since the inception of this event in 1985.

We are looking for golfers as well as
individuals and businesses interested in sponsoring a hole

If you have any questions about the tournament contact
Carla Reed at 433-9701 or Aimee English at 209-4011

Deadline is May 3rd, 2017

Senior Safe thanks the following sponsors:
MEET REGIONAL COMMUNITY OF WRITERS @ 2ND ANNUAL AUTHORS’ AFFAIR MAY 6!

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Montrose is home to many authors, who cover a wide range of topics. On May 6, enjoy an opportunity to visit with some of those local authors at the Second Annual Author’s Affair, 1-4 p.m. at the Centennial Room off Centennial Plaza in Montrose.

The event, presented by the Montrose County Historical Museum, will feature local and regional authors with books ranging from poetry, inspirational topics and the challenges of care giving to local history, ghost stories, fictional works (including psychological thrillers and historical fiction), as well as fantasy and children’s books.

“We have 18 authors signed up and their books are not just in the historical genre,” explained Sally Johnson, Coordinator at the Montrose County Historical Museum. “Last year we had six authors and each one sold a book. I have gotten a lot of phone calls about this year. People are excited to come meet the writers and the writers are excited to be able to sell their books.”

The event will be in ‘Meet & Greet’ style, with each author having a table showcasing their books for sale and will be around to talk with visitors. The list of authors includes: Greta Hemstrom, Carol McDermott, ZillaMay Brown, Fore-Kin Trails Genealogy Society, Sandra Eastman, Chuck Gaylord, San Juan printing and Publishing, Debra Anderson, Judy Buffington Simmons, Joe Colwell, Joan Elliott, Mark and Kym Todd, Peggy Carey, Elizabeth Van Liere, Gary P. Johnston, Audrey Serazio, and D’Ann Linscott-Dunham.

This year’s event was a spin-off of a successful event held at the Museum held last year. After that event, and after Hastings closed its doors, some local authors voiced their concerns. “They told me, ‘We have no place to sell our books now,’” Johnson said. “I thought ‘the first event went well’, so we decided to do it again. I think people want to get back into reading physical books, not just e-readers.”

In the future, Johnson hopes to build the Author’s Affair into a bigger event. “I don’t think people know how many writers we have here,” she explained. “We want to get people in to see that we have a lot of local writers. For the writers, they need a place to showcase their books and provide an opportunity for [readers] to meet them. I hope to turn this into an annual event, with maybe a small workshop before. But people will still get to talk with the writer and get signed copies of their books.”

With the enormous amounts of new books that are published each month, Johnson also hopes that this event will benefit new authors. “We would like to promote as many people as the place can hold,” she said. “We also want to encourage high school kids and anyone who wants to write a book but thinks ‘why publish a book if I can’t get anyone to read it’ to come. They can meet the writers, and talk with people who have been published and ask about it. All these writers had to start somewhere and they would be glad to help someone else out.”

The importance of books and their role in history is a big reason why Johnson is looking forward to this event. “I love a good book like everyone else and I hope we never get rid of books,” she said. “They are part of our oral history. We need to keep the community together and promote what is here. Books are important and they help anchor our community.”

For more information, call 249-2085.

WRITING WORKSHOP TO BE OFFERED IN RIDGWAY ON JUNE 3 THROUGH WEEHAWKEN CREATIVE ARTS

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Visiting Weehawken instructor Alissa Johnson wants to help people write. She knows that you can get stuck and of this she said, “The urge to write is hard to ignore, and yet there are so many ways to get stuck. Life gets busy. Your idea gets complicated once you start to write. You’re not sure what happens next. Not to mention, what will people think of what you have to say?”

In “The Clear, Focused Writer,” visiting instructor Alissa Johnson provides the tools you need to feel clear and focused as a writer. She says of the class, “We’ll identify the top three ways that writers make things harder than they need to be and the shifts in thinking that will help you write more and better. We’ll also look at how to stay motivated and finish the things you start. You’ll also come up with an idea (brand new or related to something you’re already writing) and leave with a work in progress. If you think about writing more than you write, feel overwhelmed by starting a new project, get stuck part way through, or have been working on the same project for a very long time, this workshop is for you.”

Alissa Johnson is a nationally published and award-winning writer whose work has appeared in The Wall Street Journal, Dirt Rag Magazine, and the Aifé literary magazine among other publications. Her first short story publication is forthcoming in The Master’s Review. She is associate editor at the Crested Butte News and her writing has won awards from the Colorado Press Association and FundsForWriters. She holds an MFA in Creative and Professional Writing from Western Connecticut State University (WCSU). You can read more about her more at www.writingstrides.com.

Join Weehawken June 3 at the Ridgway Public Library from 9 am to 3 pm with a half hour lunch break.

The six-hour session includes lecture, discussion, writing and the opportunity to share. Tuition for this class is $80, laptops or writing pads are encouraged. For more information, visit Weehawken Creative Arts at www.weehawkenarts.org or visit facebook at facebook.com/weehawkenarts - or call them at 970.318.0150.
REGISTER NOW FOR SAN JUAN RURAL PHILANTHROPY DAYS
Community Leaders and Front Range Foundation Staff Convene for 3-day Conference

Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE – Registration is now open for the 2017 San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days Conference, which will take place in Montrose, CO on June 14 – 16, 2017.

Nonprofits, foundation staff, government leaders and community volunteers will convene for a three-day conference to learn from one another and collaborate on projects and funding opportunities to improve efforts and outreach in the region. The San Juan region includes Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties.

Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD), a statewide program of Community Resource Center (CRC), promotes excellence in Colorado’s rural communities by providing nonprofit leaders access to resources they need to make a stronger impact. For over 25 years, local communities have worked to coordinate RPD in partnership with CRC, the Anschutz Family Foundation (AFF) and other statewide grantmakers. The RPD program provides a powerful opportunity for the state’s most influential funders and local grantseekers to strengthen partnerships to better meet the needs of rural Colorado communities. It results in increased access to resources, relationships and skill building opportunities for important community projects.

Online registration is now open at www.sanjuanrpd.org through May 31st. Regular registration rates are available at $150. Your registration fee covers three days of programming including capacity building sessions, funder panels, networking opportunities, funder roundtables and meals. Also included in your registration is the opportunity to attend a Pre-Conference Training workshop, provided by Community Resource Center and the Anschutz Family Foundation, to help local organizations and agencies understand how to position their nonprofit to compete with Front Range entities, how to use RPD to their best advantage, and how to increase their capacity to compete for grants.

Each conference culminates in a series of round table discussions that take place on the last morning of the conference. Each grantmaking entity hosts a table in a “speed dating” style session. During several sessions, nonprofits rotate tables to share their story, briefly presenting their nonprofit mission and program focus. This exchange provides grantseekers and funders with a sense of whether there is enough of a fit to move forward with a proposal for funding.

This year’s conference has expanded to include a range of topic-focused funder panels in addition to a wide variety of skill-building workshops. Detailed session descriptions are included on the SJ RPD webpage.

SJ RPD will be a three-day conference held June 14 – 16, 2017, where nonprofit professionals, public agencies, elected officials, business leaders and funders learn from one another and collaborate on projects and funding opportunities to improve the region. Networking opportunities encourage relationships that lead to mutual understanding, successful grant proposals, and more resources for rural Colorado.

The conference is designed, organized, funded and planned by community volunteers in the San Juan region of Colorado. Residents from the five-county region are encouraged to attend. Registration closes on May 31st. For more information about the RPD conference, please visit sanjuanrpd.org. Community Resource Center (CRC) creates opportunities, tools and strategies to develop nonprofits and community groups to strengthen Colorado. We are a mission driven nonprofit that offers a continuum of services throughout the state of Colorado.
BUDADA LIVES ON

JACK MUELLER ...

However, is dead. That’s a Tibetan gong going off in my temple of lyric valuables ... Jack was a hermit in the last years of his life. Living alone on the mesa edge escarpment of Log Hill Village near Ridgway, gazing out over the upper Uncompahgre. Communing with squirrels and mountain lions, Heidegger and Hanuman ... For the extended poetry community of the Western Slope he was our Li Po. Our Pablo Neruda. Our Ernesto Cardenal ... He never failed to challenge us. Make us choose our voices carefully. Thoughtfully. Or risk some badass literary slapstick barb, making fun of one. Although Jack always followed up after his point-on smartass with nurturing strokes. Sometimes a hug. Lawrence Ferlinghetti of City Lights Bookstore -fame told the San Francisco Chronicle the day after he died, “Jack Mueller is the biggest-hearted poet I have ever known” ... He was also the one man who connected my own San Francisco street poet past to our present Western Colorado poetry karass (Vonnegut’s neologism in Cat’s Cradle for “a network or group of affiliated people”) ... I was privileged to be one of the late-night friends he’d call up to spin verbal whirlpools via the telephone lines – voice to voice. Creating spontaneous poetry – as brilliant as it was occasionally incomprehensible. They were treasured performances. Ephemeral. Gone in the moment. But intoxicating. Language heated red-hot, dipped steam-

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

PUBLIC LANDS PARTNERSHIP ... Last week former PLP coordinator Mary Chapman pulled together many of original and ongoing collaborators of the group for a three-hour Ford Legacy project review with academic facilitators from Colorado State University: Maria Fernandez-Gimenez, Tony Cheng and Kathy Mattor ... In 1993 PLP formed to bring warring local factions to the table to talk to each other in a productive and civil way. It took years. But it worked. The Montrose/Delta-based working group built a table of trust among its many stakeholders, and pulled in Ouray and San Miguel Counties. In the process Chapman secured a $750,000 Ford Foundation grant for collaborative landscape-wide work on forest health ... One of the award-winning projects that came out of that grant was the Burn Canyon Community Monitoring initiative. The Forest Service listened to local citizen and government input and mixed one of three proposed salvage logging timber sales after the Burn Canyon fire. San Miguel County wrote in support of the other two timber sales. But regional enviros threatened to sue and tie up the sales in court. PLP brokered a face-to-face field trip meeting among Forest Service, enviros and PLP community members. When it became clear that the enviros were worried that monitoring of the sale – something they felt very strongly about and which they’d seen often cut from limited budgets on other sales, PLP stepped in with a community monitoring proposal. The monitoring was done (and is still being carried out). The sales went through.

And an economic study showed that the two timber sales amounted to significant value for neighboring counties, and even for San Miguel County. The Burn Canyon project became an early successful model of community collaboration, and it won awards and got written up in land management studies ... That old project and PLP’s new SBEADM project for the Forest Service were two examples of how PLP in the past made significant ripples in public land management policies, and how it’s continuing that work today ... www.publiclandspartnership.org

COLONA EARTH DAY ... Ouray County’s northern near-ghost town is coming back to life, thanks to Craig Jackman. He has a new vision of what employee housing might look like in a new up-zoned village using the existing infrastructure of historic Colona.

To that end, he teamed up with District 3 Indivisible to host a D3 Friendraiser & Earth Day celebration April 22 ... I got to hear great tunes from Niceness – and Joe Ouelette’s band keeping the vibe high – in the Colona Stockyards...

Continued next page
Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

... And D3, the new Colorado District 3 chapter of the national Indivisible movement focusing on resisting Trump’s agenda, sponsored a march for science, with oldsters & kidsters parading around the corrals in support of the scientific method. It’s a little unsettling to think supporting science is something that needs a public demonstration, but such are the times we live in.


THE TALKING GOURD

Return

the lilacs are in bud
we will not see them bloom
this trip we come too soon
and yet we come

but dooryard daffodils
unfurl a welcome here
they brave the snow this year
yet still they come

the canyon calls him back
and will not be denied
sandstone and bluebird skies
and so we come

this canyon calls him home
and so we come

-Poem & Photo by Carol Anne Modena
Wrenheim, Naturita Creek
This week’s article will be brief as it will simply be an overview of things to come. The focus of this column has been on opera, chamber music, and classical music. In the coming weeks we will be looking at opposites in each category. For example, a very popular opera will be discussed followed by a much lesser known as less performed opera. The discussion format will be the same very each so that the contrasts can readily be identified. For example, there may be an overview of Giacomo Puccini’s Madama Butterfly followed by the very obscure work by Dmitri Shostakovich titled The Nose. The same format will be used for chamber and orchestral works.

The short story series featuring Olivia Prentaz and her musical adventures at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City will proceed forward with two to three new installments. The short story may conclude and it may reach the point where it needs to take a grand pause only to make an appearance once again in future articles. Straight fiction will be followed with more from the “High Command” storyline that is a mix of fact and fiction. It is important to veer off into the fantastical once in a while so that the discussion of fact and reality does not become stagnant. Listening guides to particular pieces will show up every so often. It does appear that people enjoy these and like the timing marks (so and so happens at 1:21) along with information on the recording used. These articles not only offer a listening guide but also feature some of the greatest works in the genre.

Late spring and summer bring music festivals and summer seasons for opera companies such as Santa Fe Opera. An overview of the Aspen Music Festival, Bravo Vail Music Festival, and performance reviews from the Santa Fe Opera and Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival will show up in July and August. Recommendations of what performances to see will be offered for the Aspen and Vail festivals. Attendance is not inexpensive and first timers should have some information on hand before making a decision regarding ticket purchases. You do not want to pick at random and end up hearing three hours of music that puts you to sleep after the first 45 minutes.

I hope this preview makes it so that you want to continue to read this weekly column and continue to explore all that classical music has to offer. Enjoy.
Proudly Presents the 2nd Annual

AUTHOR’S AFFAIR

Join us for the Opportunity to purchase books and visit with various local authors.

May 6th

1:00pm-4:00pm

At the Centennial Room
(off of the Centennial Plaza)

Local and regional authors will be showcasing their work for the public. The books presented range from poetry, inspirational topics and the challenges of care giving to local history and ghost stories. The fictional works include both psychological thrillers and historical fiction. And lovers of fantasy won’t be disappointed either. Don’t miss the opportunity to celebrate our local writers! For more information, call Sally at 249-2085.
COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & RECREATION

ACTING DISTRICT RANGER APPOINTED FOR THE GUNNISON RANGER DISTRICT

Special to Art & Sol
DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests announced the appointment of an Acting District Ranger for the Gunnison Ranger District today. Beth Anderson will be serving in this capacity beginning May 1. Ms. Anderson is currently the Forests’ Watershed Program Manager, stationed out of Delta, Colorado. Prior to her tenure on the GMUG, she was the Forest Soil Scientist on the Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests in Great Falls, Montana. She brings a wealth of professional experience with her, having also worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Agricultural Research Service, in Utah, Georgia and Washington, DC. She holds both Bachelor and Masters of Science degrees in Soil Science and Environmental Science. In her free time, she enjoys exploring and traversing the landscapes of Colorado.

According to Ms. Anderson, “I am looking forward to this leadership opportunity to serve the greater Gunnison area and working with the various partners and local governments as the Acting District Ranger.”

Ms. Anderson will fill the vacancy behind District Ranger John Murphy who will retire at the end of April.
COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

MONTROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: THIS PLACE MATTERS!

Montrose County Historical Society
MONTROSE—May is Preservation Month, and we are ready to celebrate! Everyone has places that are important to them. Places they care about. Places that matter. This Place Matters is a national campaign that encourages people to celebrate the places that are meaningful to them and to their communities, and the Montrose County Historical Society is excited to highlight the places that matter most to YOU! Preservation Month is the perfect time to share it with the world. The Montrose County Historical Society invites the community of Montrose to accept a challenge in putting on our Montrose some special places we love. It’s easy to share your favorite place in Montrose using these 3 steps. .

#1 Pick your Place – Any structure in Montrose County that holds a special place in your heart and you feel it’s important to preserve.

#2 Get your Sign – Stop by the Montrose County Historical Museum to pick up an official “This Place Matters” sign, visit SavingPlaces.org/ThisPlaceMatters to download and print, or get crafty and create your own.

#3 Snap a Photo – Take a photo (selfies are totally OK) with your sign that clearly showcases the place that matters to you. Share your photos on social media. As you spread the word about Preservation Month, make sure to use the #ThisPlaceMatters and #MontroseHistory hashtags. This campaign isn’t just about photography, after all. It’s about telling the stories of the places we can’t live without. Feel free to share the reasons your special place matters to you in your posts. Through This Place Matters, we hope to encourage and inspire an ongoing dialogue about the importance of place and preservation in all of our lives that we hope lasts far beyond the month of May. We encourage you to come to the Montrose County Historical Museum to learn more about the historical significance of the places that matter most to you in Montrose. We’re ready to help you shine a spotlight on all the special places in Montrose County that are important within our community! For more information on the “This Place Matters” campaign, call the Montrose County Historical Museum at (970) 249-2085 or visit www.savingplaces.org/thisplacematters.

WATCH THIS VIDEO AND LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOUR BEEHIVES

Special to Art & Sol
DURANGO—Backyard beekeeping is growing more and more popular and Colorado Parks and Wildlife wants to help you keep your honey safe from bears.

CPW provides materials for electrified enclosures to protect small hive operations. The enclosures are easy to set up and effective at keeping wildlife out. To learn about the enclosures and to show how easy they are to assemble and operate, CPW has produced a short how-to video that can be viewed on YouTube. In the YouTube search bar, type: PIO POV: How To Make a Small Electric Fence Enclosure. The web address for the video is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8EHmcUu7pE.

The enclosure is 8-feet by 8-feet and is large enough to protect one or two hives. The system to electrify the fence is safe, and simple to operate and control. If you live in bear country, you should protect your hives; and an electrified fence is the most effective way to do it. For beekeepers who live within city limits, please check local rules regarding electric fencing.

For more information, call the Colorado Parks and Wildlife game damage unit at, 970-252-6007.
APRIL ONGOING-
NOW - JUNE 26, ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN
Artists’ Alpine Holiday 57th Annual Juried Art Exhibit
Categories: Oil/Acrylic, Watercolor, Drawing & Printmaking, Pastel, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Photography and a Student Division. All entries will be eligible for Best in Show ($500) and each category will have awards for first ($400), second ($200) and third ($100) place. Show will be held at Ouray Community Center, July 27 - Aug. 5. Go to ourayarts.org for more information and to register!

OURAY MUSEUM-The Ouray County Historical Society Museum is now Open for Spring Season. April 13 - May 14 - Thursday through Saturday 10 am - 4:30 PM. Further inquiries please contact 970-325-4576, Email: ochs@ouraynet.com or visit our website: ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org.

AWANA EVERY WEDNESDAY: @ Rosemont Church 1598 E Niagara Rd Montrose CO. FREE Awana Clubs for Preschool—6th Grade. EVERY WEDNESDAY beginning January 18, 2017. We will have snacks/meal, certified teachers & tutors. 2:15- 3:30 pm - Homework/Tutoring/Study Time. Middle and High school students are welcome! 3:30- 5: pm - AWANA for Grades Preschool - 6th grade. 5- 5:30 pm - Meal provided for all Awana kids & adults present. Register/more info at 970.249.4887, email: office@rosemontbaptist.org or at www.RosemontBaptist/Awana.

MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER LUNCH & LEARN: $3 Lunch& Learn, admission to program, is free. Lunch $5.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL, non-profit organization, was founded and introduced to the world at a ceremony held at the White House on March 1, 1977. FFI provides opportunities to explore new cultures by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado’s regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE @ THE GALLERY • MUSIC BY YOUTH, Second Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery in Sampler Square.

THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets every second Tuesday at St. Mary Catholic Church in the St Paul Room, 1855 St Mary’s Drive, Montrose. The Public is welcome to attend. For more information, email alpinephotoclub@aol.com.

FREE JAM SESSION AND SING ALONG, Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM-“Montrose County Historical Society Presents” is held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd St. The public is invited to free programs based on topics of regional history. For more information please call 249-2085.

MONTHLY-
May 1 Opening day, Montrose County Historical Museum.
May 1 - Opening day, Montrose County Historical Museum.
May 1 - 6:30 p.m. in the Centennial room behind Montrose City Hall, off plaza-Citizens’ Climate Lobby networks with a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan to educate and influence legislators to support a sustainable environment.
May 1– Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 6:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ sue@suehansenspeaks.com or Benziger @ phebenator@hotmail.com.

May 6- HRMS Presents “Scott Ibe & Jacob Raab: Music for the Soul”, Live at the Gallery, 7:30-10:30 p.m., For tickets and more information go to www.healthyrhythm.net.
May 7-9– Library Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of the Montrose Library. Hours are Sunday, May 7, noon to 5 p.m.; Friends members only from noon to 2:30 (you can join at the sale); open to the public 2:30 - 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, May 8-9, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bag sale Tuesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.--fill a reusable bag with books for $4. For information, contact Holly, 240-6028 or holly@hplimited.net.
May 9- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House for Sharing Ministries Food Bank. Tuesday, May 9th from 10 am to 2 pm. The ribbon cutting will start between Noon and 12:15 pm.
May 18- The Baccalaureate celebration for the Montrose High School Class of 2017 is at 7 pm, Thursday, May 18, at Grace Community Church, 1673 Woodgate Rd., 249-7887.
May 20--The 42nd Annual Black Canyon Ascent sponsored by the San Juan Mountain Runners takes place on Saturday, May 20. The race starts at the junction of US Hwy 50 and CO Hwy 347 just east of Montrose, walkers @ 7:30 a.m. and runners @ 8 a.m. Go to http://www.sjmr.club/ for a link to runnignuru to register and for more info. Race day registration is also available 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the start.
May 20-Montrose Wine & Food Festival, 1pm-4pm at The Bridges. General Admission $50.
June 10-Ties that Bind will be shown at Gallery De La Luz, 128 Palmer St., during the month June, with an artists reception and opening on Saturday, June 10, 4-8 p.m. For information: AnnMBarker@hotmail.com.
June 10-Barn Dance & BBQ, 5:30 @ Antler Ridge, benefit for Warrior Resource Center. Live music by Narrow Gauge, catered by Camp Robber, cash bar. For tickets visit www.whafw.org.
June 14-17-The 2017 San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days Event will be in Montrose, CO June 14-16, 2017 - learn more at www.sanjuanrpd.org. For Scholarships Available: Apply by April 7th! For Early Registration at $125 rate: April 3 - 28th. For Regular Registration at $150 rate: April 29 - May 31st. July 21-23-The 22nd annual Black Canyon Quilt Show, Kaleidoscope of Stars, will take place at the Montrose Pavilion July 21-23, 2017. Entry forms, challenge information, class schedules, and questions can be answered at the web site: www.BlackCanyonQuiltShow.com.
Aug. 7—Montrose Giving Club at the Bridges of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Giving Club meetings for 2017 are scheduled for Feb. 6, May 1, Aug. 7, and Nov. 6, and are open and inclusive to all. For more information contact Hansen @ sue@suehansenspeaks.com or Benziger @ phebenator@hotmail.com.
Give Back Days

At Mi Mexico Mexican Restaurant
Come enjoy a delicious meal and we’ll donate 20% * of your total check to a local non-profit.

Every Wednesday...Every Month...All Day (11 am - 10 pm)
Over 200 entrees to choose from!
1st Wednesday: The Homestead at Montrose
2nd Wednesday: All Points Transit
3rd Wednesday: Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club
4th Wednesday: Valley Manor Care Center
5th Wednesday: Community Options Inc.
(Note: 5th Wed dates are: Mar. 29, May 31, Aug. 30, Nov 29th, 2017)

After dining, attach the coupon to the bill and deposit it in the box labeled “Give Back Days.” 20% of your total bill will be donated to the designated charity.

SUPPORTING IS NOW DELICIOUSLY REWARDING.

*Mi Mexico Restaurant
1706 E Main St (Hwy 50)
Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 252-1000
(970) 252-1111 Fax
The house was packed when AJ Fullerton returned to Montrose for a quick performance @ Horsefly Brewing Company Saturday night. At left, Susan Bony snaps a photo. Mirror staff photos.

**FAME** is a series of customized exercises, designed to develop new neural pathways in the brain (referred to as neuroplasticity), which can improve focus, attention and memory. The program embraces a holistic approach to brain health, provided in the client’s home.

**Benefits healthy aging adults and may effectively treat:**
- Stroke Survivors
- Depression & Anxiety
- Youth & Adult ADD/ADHD
- PTSD & Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Alzheimers & Dementia

**Michele Gad** is a Certified DelGiacco Neuro Art Therapist, who assists individuals with cognitive or mental health challenges to live life as fully and independently as possible. She developed **FAME** in 2010 to better assist her clients. Sessions are specifically designed to meet client’s individual needs, goals, abilities, and level of commitment...and have fun!