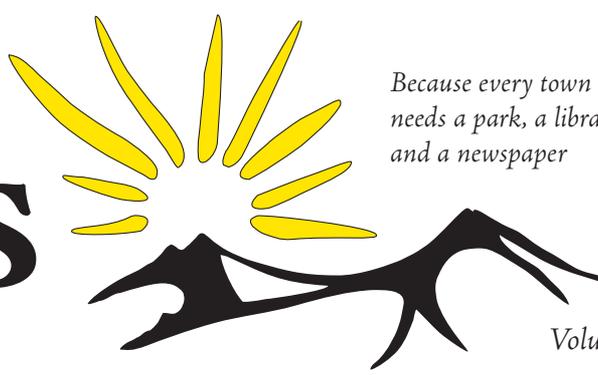


the Sopris

Carbondale's weekly community connector



Because every town needs a park, a library and a newspaper

Sun

Volume 10, Number 49 | January 10, 2019



Tag... you're it!

Six-year-old Tag Speaker, along with dozens of others — including twin brother Tris (behind)— took to the ice on Jan. 4 during Carbondale's First Friday Family Skate Night at the Fourth Street Plaza ice rink. The freezing temps didn't seem to dampen the spirits of those on the ice or the others who choose not to warm up that way, but instead, nuzzle up to the bonfire to roast hot dogs, marshmallows and sip hot chocolate.

Photo by Jane Bachrach

DAILY DEALS

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The views and opinions expressed on the Commentary page do not necessarily reflect those of The Sopris Sun. The Sopris Sun invites all members of the community to submit letters to the editor or guest columns. For more information, email editor Will Grandbois at news@soprisun.com, or call 510-3003.

The most important piece of equipment

Goggles. Check. Helmet. Check. Ten-year old skis and jacket with questionable waterproofness. Check and check.

I can't help that as I pack my bags to go on this ski adventure halfway around the world with some fancy clients, some feelings of inadequacy start bubbling up. It's funny how it's always the little things that can trigger these emotions.

In an instant, I'm catapulted back to all those times in school when we were required to head out on some big outdoor adventure that called for all sorts of outdoor equipment — gear that my family didn't have, couldn't afford, or knew nothing about.

Over the years, my mom — bless her little corazón — tried her absolute best collecting items like packs, rain gear, and even sleeping bags (Ew!) from the Aspen Thrift Store. Even though my mamá swore up and down she washed everything really well, I always imagined some big sweaty lumberjack was the former owner of my sleeping bag. But, none of my concerns mattered to her. Her children were participating in every Outdoor Ed. trip no matter how out of our comfort zone we sometimes felt, or how ragtag our gear.

On one particular adventure, my entire class cross-country skied up to Weller Campground where we then proceeded to spend a night in sub-zero temperatures. As we departed that morning, I looked around and noticed that my backpack was many times bigger than the modern, sleek ones my classmates carried on their backs.

I was sure I was lugging what was probably the last external frame pack left in all America. I suppose it wouldn't have been an issue if the old pack was my size. "I bet it belonged to the same broad-shouldered lumberjack," I thought. "He must have gotten sick of life in the woods and donated everything to the thrift store where my mom then snatched it up for our outdoor education adventures."

Anyway, as we made our way up Independence Pass, a teacher saw I not only was sweating like a pig, but so demoralized as I lagged way behind the whole class. Someone finally noticed the

beastly size of my pack. The hipbelt was already on the smallest setting and was no help. Basically, the pack's entire weight fell on my shoulder straps that were ill fitted themselves. That teacher did what any savvy outdoor person would do in this situation and duct taped the crap out of my pack, so it fit snugly on to my body. Despite the fact that I wasn't able to relieve my bladder until we arrived at camp where someone cut the tape, it was amazing! Duct tape for the win.

After we survived the cold night, the next morning we made our way back down towards town. On the way the teachers organized a friendly ski race with packs, skis and all. I won, beating every boy and girl in my sixth grade class. As we rode the bus back to school I thoroughly enjoyed my prize, which was an entire Hershey bar all to myself.

That memory helps disperse any of those pesky feelings, the ones that for a split second make me doubt that this Mexican gal even belongs on an adventure that requires avalanche beacons, probes, shovels, A/T gear, packs, etc. I know from experiences like the one at Weller, that despite the fact that I'm never the one geared up to the gills with the newest, top-of-the-line equipment, I'm going in with this big heart of mine.

Without a doubt, the most important piece of equipment, for any adventure in life, is a heart that is open to new adventures and a spirit that says, "Yes-I'm in!" Oh, and duct tape. Don't forget the duct tape.

Judith Ritschard was born by the sea in Mexico then transplanted to the Roaring Fork Valley where she turned full on mountain girl. You might spot her in her huarache sandals on her townie bike trying to keep up with her two wildlings in Carbondale. She would like give a shout out to all those friends who offered the use of their equipment and to stores like Ragged Mountain Sports and Replay Sports because us mere mortals on a budget still need actual gear.

OPINION



Bits & Pieces

By Judith Ritschard

"... despite the fact that I'm never the one geared up to the gills with the newest, top-of-the-line equipment, I'm going in with this big heart of mine."

Letters

The Sopris Sun welcomes your letters, limited to no more than 500 words via email at news@soprisun.com or 250 words via snail mail at P.O. Box 399, Carbondale CO 81623. Letters exceeding that length may be returned for revision or submission as a guest column; please include your name, town, and contact information. The deadline for submission is noon on Monday.

Our treasured places

Dear Editor:

Many of the most treasured places were saved because of the attention by those who had experienced the peace, excitement, beauty, and astonishing value of the place — the true sense of place.

John Muir with Yosemite, or Roosevelt with Yellowstone, Edward Abbey with the desert lands of Utah, or the Great Old Broads with Maroon Bells/Snowmass Wilderness Area... the list goes on and on — to the special place in your hometown; the place with beauty and magic and meaning.

And those who saved those special places from development or destruction were those who had been able to wander there, to step quietly in the wild places, to share the space with quiet and beauty and wild things. We do not learn to protect our special places from a book or a story or a regulation or a keep out sign. We learn to respect and care for our special places when we create a bond with them.

Our children, today, have lessons and classes and activities and play dates. Perhaps a walk, in quiet, along the old Ute Trail, the wagon road, the old railway

might instill some of the magic and belief in the concept of "take only memories, leave only footprints." It seems we need more of that.

Dorothea Farris
Crystal Valley

Trails rebutted

Dear Editor:

I burst out laughing as I was driving west into Glenwood watching two people on bikes, slow pedaling through a herd of Mountain Sheep. The sheep never looked up.

Another time, a friend was walking her dog near No Name when her pup showed interest in the lambs of a ewe, the old girl head butt the dog, jerking the leash out of her hands, rolling the pup down to the river.

Deer have hung in our garden every night for the last month and most of the day during hunting season. Carbondale is critical wildlife habitat half the year. Why is it that everyone that protests the trail has built their home in pristine wildlife habitat?

They know that despite their dogs, fences, lights, noise and commotion the

animals remain. Why don't they protest the trails in National Parks, Wilderness Areas and National Forests? Why don't they protest CPW hunts? Why don't they protest the millions of tons of herbicides, pesticides and oily road waste that go into our rivers to kill and evaporate and blow with the poisonous dust that covers the land, killing wildlife?

Every dog I've had died of cancer and I've never used poisons.

John Hoffmann
Carbondale

Holiday baskets thanks

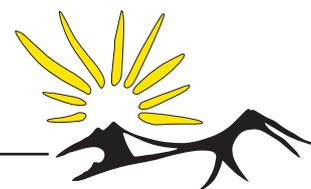
Dear Editor:

The Holiday Baskets Program, a totally volunteer project, was once again, a joyful community effort.

For 37 years, this program has provided new gifts and toys for those in need in our valley from Aspen to Glenwood Springs. This year, we served 251 families (1,055 individuals).

People are referred to the program by 11 social service agencies and are then "adopted" by individuals, the faith community, businesses, city and county em-

LETTERS page 14



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The Sopris Sun, Inc. is a proud member of the Carbondale Creative District



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Creative districts unite in CMC galleries

By Megan Tackett
Sopris Sun Staff

Carbondale is a well celebrated Colorado Creative District — and while that certainly makes the town special, it's not unique in its classification.

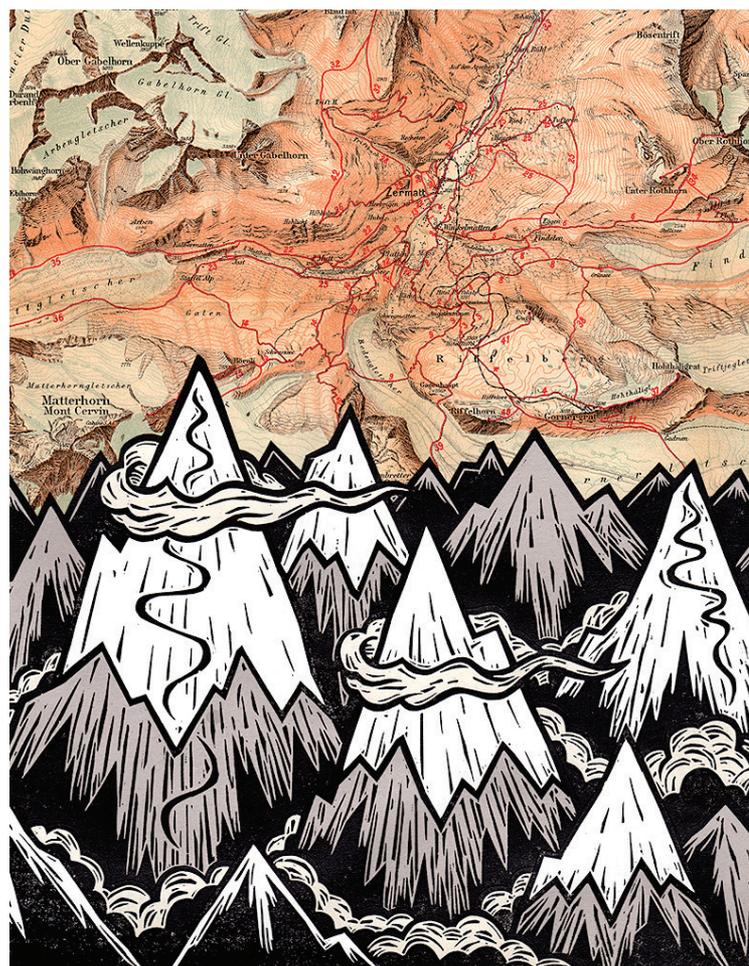
There are 20 officially certified creative districts throughout the state, and while a collaboration has long been discussed, they've mostly acted as artistic silos.

That's about to change, as of Friday, Jan. 11. Carbondale Arts Executive Director Amy Kimberly has been working feverishly in recent weeks to make sure of it, facilitating "Impressions on Ink: Colorado Creative District Printmakers."

"CMC (Colorado Mountain College) had approached us about putting together a series of shows that feature creative district artists with the idea that they would show at other CMC galleries as well," Kimberly said. "It's something as a group, creative districts, we've been talking about for several years: how can we start sharing our artists and getting other exposure? So when CMC brought it up, I thought here's the perfect venue to do that and see how it goes."

The exhibit, which will run at the ArtShare Gallery at the Morgridge Commons in Glenwood Springs until Feb. 4, features eight printmakers whose residences include Carbondale, Paonia, Steamboat Springs and Crested Butte. Each artist contributed two pieces to the show. Ali O'Neal, founder of Thimble Fox and resident artist at Studio for Arts + Works (SAW), is one such artist. She's particularly looking forward to the opening reception Friday from 6-8 p.m.

"It's a really great way not only to see the show but also to be able to talk to the artists about their process and the work that they're showing," she said during an interview on KDNK's Express Yourself. "I think I'm really kind of an extroverted introvert. If it's something I'm talking about that I really love and feel passionate about, then I really feel no introversion at all. Those events are really great, and I personally love going to openings. It's really special to see a piece, really relate to it, then be able to talk to the art-



John Fellows "Memories of the Mattertal", Crested Butte

"It's a really great way not only to see the show but also to be able to talk to the artists about their process and the work that they're showing,

— Ali O'Neal
Founder of Thimble Fox

ist about their process and their background, too."

As for her own process and background, O'Neal got her start in screen printing at Anderson Ranch.

"They offer a really wonderful scholarship program and especially favor local teachers, which I used to be, and I took a screen printing class there," she said. "Honestly, describing it is probably more complicated than doing it. You digitalize the sketch, print out a transparency and basically with a special UV light, you burn your drawing into a part of the screen. It's a really beautiful process."

While all of the works featured in "Impressions on Ink" are

paper based, O'Neal also does a lot with block and silk screen printing. Regardless of the medium, though, she always hopes to inspire conversation through her art.

"I like to have a really clean style with kind of a deeper messaging behind it. For my pieces in the show, one of them is a political commentary on our current president and the other is social commentary on what it's like to be dating in this Valley," she said.

Not that her work will be limited to a Roaring Fork Valley audience. One of the benefits of collaborating with CMC to host the exhibit is that it will rotate through several campuses, Kim-



Vanessa Porras "Como La Vibora", Glenwood Springs



Nadine O'Brien "Yellow Brick Road", Paonia

berly pointed out.

"Right now, Eagle CMC Gallery and Steamboat Springs Gallery are both planning on having this particular show," she said. "We love that we're going to be able to expose our artists from our creative district to Steamboat and Edwards."

It's also only the first in a line of planned exhibits of such a collaborative nature.

"It's sort of all getting off the ground with this one," Kimberly said. "The next show will be a watercolor show, and that's this summer — or spring."

Impressions on Ink

What: Opening reception Friday, Jan. 11, 6-8 p.m.

When: ArtShare Gallery at Morgridge Commons, (815 Cooper Ave., (Glenwood Springs), 2nd Floor

More info: Appetizers and beverages served, free admission



Reina Katzenberger
"All The Difference"
Carbondale

More art...

Carbondale Arts' 39th-annual Valley Visual Art Show returns next week with a 6 to 8 p.m. opening Friday, Jan. 18 at the Launchpad (76 S. Fourth St.).

The valley-wide, non-juried display of eclectic local art filled in a record-breaking 20 minutes on a first-come, first-served basis. While that caused some consternation for those who didn't get in, it does

show the high demand for local artist opportunities in the Roaring Fork Valley.

In the words of Carbondale Arts Executive Director Amy Kimberly, Carbondale Arts' mission is... "to bring as much color, interest and creativity to this community so to keep it authentic, interesting and diverse."

The public is encouraged to come view the show through Feb. 22, as well as to cast their vote for the People's Choice Award. The R2 Gallery is

open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information visit carbondalearts.com or call (970) 963-1680.

Meanwhile, the Aspen Chapel Gallery is featuring the works of 14 artists each from Roaring Fork, Bridges and Colorado Rocky Mountain School as well as four other local high schools. The 7x14 event opened on Jan. 9 and is viewable daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Feb. 17.



Brian Colley "Cassette Tapes For Days"
Carbondale

Time to shine

The Sun is working on figuring out exactly how the government shutdown is affecting Carbondalians, but we have heard plenty about its impacts on National Parks. It turns out the Libertarian Party of Colorado has taken it upon themselves to pick up the slack and is organizing a trash pick up day at Rocky Mountain National Park this Sunday, Jan. 13. All volunteers regardless of party or political affiliation are welcome to attend and will meet at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center (1000 US Highway 36, Estes Park).

Skip the straw

The Carbondale Environmental Board is launching an initiative to eliminate single-use plastic straws in our town. This simple step is a way for folks to help reduce millions of straws worth of plastic pollution in landfills and waterways. Ask your favorite business to only serve straws upon request, and switch to reusable or compostable straws.

And you know it

Nominations for Colorado Poet Laureate are open through Feb. 1 at coloradohumanities.submittable.com. The Poet Laureate position was created to promote an appreciation of poetry in Colorado and to honor outstanding Colorado poets and serves as an active advocate for poetry, literacy, and literature by participating in readings and other events at schools, libraries, literary festivals, and the state capitol. A review panel will be convened to make a selection will be based on artistic excellence, a demonstrated history of community service in the advancement of poetry, and the ability to present poetry effectively.

Let it snow

The latest snowpack report from the Roaring Fork Conservancy puts the watershed-wide total at 104 percent of the normal for this time of year. If that's less than you'd expect, keep in mind that the "powder" that makes for a good ski day is typically pretty dry, and snowpack is



Lova Harris was one of several participants in Carbondale Arts' LEGO Day on Jan. 8, in which youngsters were invited to create something and put it on display at the Launchpad. Photo by Jennifer Johnson

calculated by actual moisture content against a rolling median. In fact, snowpack up the Crystal in general and McClure Pass specifically is actually sitting at just 85 percent of normal, but is balanced in the overall equation by solid figures from the Fryingpan, with 161 percent at Nast Lake. That tracks with a general trend of increasing drought as you go south.

House help

The Garfield County Housing Authority has teamed up with Garfield County Libraries to help bring answers to your questions regarding housing. Stop in for a free

one-on-one session from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the third Tuesdays of the month at the Carbondale Branch Library Drop-ins are welcome, but to reserve a time email Bo@Garfieldhousing.com. Sesiones de español están disponibles, si reservas con anticipo.

Let's split

Learn the ups and downs of splitboarding at Cripple Creek Backcountry in a pair of classes at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 17 and Feb. 21. Experts from Colorado-based backcountry ski and snowboard manufacturer Weston will cover what splitboarding is, gear selection, helpful tips and tricks and basic planning including utilizing local avalanche forecasting and online mapping.

Sisu spirit

Volunteers are needed for the Mount Sopris Nordic Council's "Ski for Sisi" skiathon fundraiser on Feb. 3. Anyone who might be able to help with check-in or lap counting for a few hours on that date can contact info@springgulch.org.

Good books

For the tenth-straight year, Garfield County has earned the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR). The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) bestows this honor to governments that accomplish the highest standards in accounting and financial reporting. Garfield County was found to have met the GFOA's standards, and "demonstrated a constructive spirit of full disclosure" in communicating its financial practices during a 2017 audit.

They say it's your birthday

Folks celebrating another year of life this week include: Erica Sparhawk, Lorraine Escue, Ron Razzore, Mary Finley and Nancy Vories (Jan. 10); Crystal Holley (Jan. 11); Betsy Bingam-Johns (Jan. 12); Tracie Wright, Annemarie Zanca, Marianne Ackerman, Chuck Bauer and Michael Hassig (Jan. 14); Frank Nadell and Crista Barlow (Jan. 15) and Johann Aberger (Jan. 16).

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From Carbondale to Los Angeles, an American dad lives the dream

By Megan Tackett
Sopris Sun Staff

Whether it's the best of times or the worst of times, Soren Bowie has learned to just roll with the tide. Granted, navigating professional highs and lows in Los Angeles can bring an added drama that only Hollywood can deliver.

The "American Dad!" writer describes his current role as a dream job. The show, a brainchild of Seth MacFarlane that just wrapped its fifteenth season, uses outrageous farce and non sequiturs to tell the story of Stan Smith, a patriotic weapons expert for the Central Intelligence Agency, and his family.

Given the current political climate, there's a lot of room to play. "For someone like Roger (a pansexual alien living in the Smiths' attic), the jokes are a lot of fun to write. A lot of his stuff has to write itself; it's fun," he said. "I think just in television right now, it's all kind of surreal. The warden isn't looking a little bit, and you can make some really crazy choices in an episode."

Of course, in the world of television, the future's never guaranteed.

"The show has to keep getting picked up and I have to keep getting my option picked up for it," he said. "Everybody there is an amazing writer... it's very intimidating."

As of now, "American Dad!" will stay on the TBS roster; the network announced the sixteenth season will air Feb. 11. And as long as that's the case, Bowie hopes to remain on the team.

Somewhat ironically, some of his perspective that's helped him succeed in the big city stemmed from his small-town roots — particularly his time as a student at Colorado Rocky Mountain School.

"Anything that will come up that's outdoors based, it's only on the peripherals of the people I work with," he laughed. "They're vaguely aware of camping and ranching, and that's something I did there."

That rural know-how has helped him in more than just the professional arena. Home is where the heart is, as the adage goes, and growing up in Carbondale helped the clever writer think up an in with his now wife, Colleen Callahan.

"She was part of the environmental club, and I thought she was cute," Bowie said of their days at Occidental



"After Hours" fan Aaron Luttrell recognized Soren Bowie from the popular web series while lunching at Mi Casita. Photo by Libby Smith

"I think just in television right now, it's all kind of surreal. The warden isn't looking a little bit, and you can make some really crazy choices in an episode."

College. "So I joined the environmental club right around Arbor Day. At CRMS, I'd learned that ... the grazing land for cattle had a hugely negative impact on the environment. So I

was doing the research for that, and it was really appalling and terrible, and I haven't eaten beef since."

The rest is history. "And then we got married. I mean, not for those reasons!"

In some ways, maintaining a personal life in L.A. can be tough. Bowie admits even a twinge of guilt, as he acknowledges it's his career, not Callahan's, that keeping them and their 3-year-old son in the city.

"She works for an environmental research center at UCLA. There are plenty of jobs, like with the Aspen Institute, in the Valley that she would be great at and she would love, and I'm forcing her to stay here," he reflected.

Then, of course, there's the looming preschool saga. The unfortunate reality for Bowie and his family is that many of the public schools in his residential district are poorly rated, but private schools command tough competition, even before the elementary level.

All it's cracked up to be

All that said, Bowie doesn't take his circumstances for granted — he's seen firsthand how quickly a good gig can suddenly feel like a dead end. Before landing the "American Dad!" job, Bowie was a columnist and writer at Cracked for almost eight years. While these days he's a behind-the-scenes guy, longtime fans might recognize him from "After Hours," a web series that followed four friends' philosophical pop culture ponderings at a favorite diner.

"They're all caricatures of us. For some reason, that just became my stigma, the arrogant asshole, kind of cool guy. I look like an '80s bully, too, so it was an easy part to play," he quipped.

By 2010, Cracked passed 1 billion page views, the same year "After Hours" debuted. But in 2016, the E.W. Scripps Company purchased Cracked for a reported \$39 million.

"They did two different layoffs," Bowie recalled. "It was clear that they wanted to make videos more cheaply, if at all. A lot of the stuff they wanted us to do was less fun, so I actually left... in October, then in November everyone else got laid off."

All in all, Bowie doesn't have many complaints.

"Ninety percent, I've just gotten very lucky. When I've gotten the opportunity, I certainly do the work, but the opportunities I've gotten are not fair," he acknowledged. And when the city gets to be a bit much, he always has home to come back to — in doses.

"I like coming back for short periods of time," he said. "Going back to a small hometown, it feels a little bit like you're unplugging from wherever your life is, which can be refreshing, but for long periods of time, you feel a little like you're on life support. But you can feel like you actually breathe there — literally too, because the air's better there. My parents complain about traffic; they have no idea what traffic is. You can go to a restaurant and just get a table! At some point, I want to move back to a small town."

But for now, he's writing his own chapters in the city, one episode at a time.

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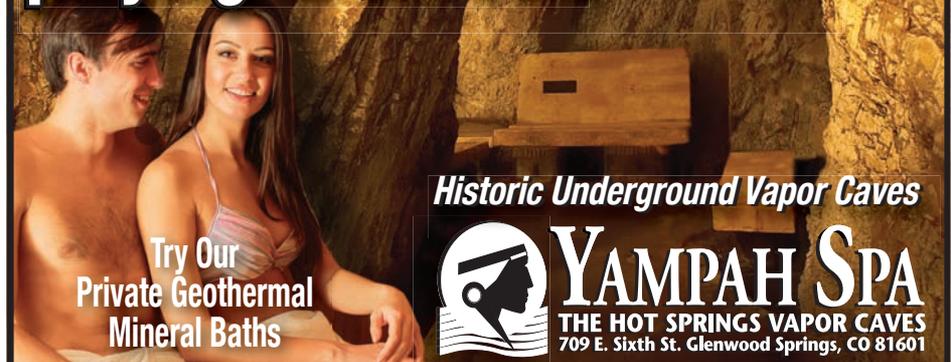
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A first at the rodeo

Full Moon Winter Tri comes to Carbondale

By Megan Tackett
Sopris Sun Staff

If your New Year's resolution included anything about fitness or trying something new or both, you're in luck. The Town of Carbondale, together with Aloha Mountain Cyclery and Independence Run & Hike, is sponsoring a first-ever Full Moon Winter Tri on Saturday, Jan. 19.

It's been a vision of Margaret Donnelly's for years, but the recreation coordinator — whose job title includes aquatics, health and wellness — has always been busy with Rassel the Castle this time of year.

"This year, we're not doing Rassel the Castle, and [this has] been in the brain for like three years," she said. "It's amazing how much is going on in the Valley, so it's hard to find a weekend and time, and I always wanted to do a full moon."

That said, Donnelly admits she and her co-sponsors had to settle for "full-ish moon." The actual full moon isn't until that next Monday, but nobody thought people would want to do a take on a three-part athletic event and party after a day at the office.

"We want the party atmosphere afterwards," she grinned. "It was so hard to pick a date."

The race will start around 4:30 p.m. with a 5k run, then transitions to a 5k cross-country ski race, then finalizes at the rodeo grounds for a 5k bike ride. Awards will be announced thereafter, and then several bonfires will kick off the after party.

"We might just ask people to bring instruments and do a sing-along kind of thing. That's kind of the vibe that we're going for, is just go out, have a jam," Donnelly said, adding that there will be plenty of food available. As it's mostly a nighttime event, she recommends people plan accordingly with headlamps and extra layers. "We're going to reconfigure the shed — we'll have male and female changing areas, so there will be a place to change into warm clothes in a warm building."

As for the racers themselves, the footwear is up to personal preference, especially for the run.

"RFTA grooms the trail ahead of time, so I do recommend they run in Yaktrax," she said. "If you want to go out and walk



Bikers racing on their wide-wheeled "fat" bikes, during Rassel the Castle last year. In the past, the Town of Carbondale and Aloha Mountain Cyclery co-sponsor the Redstone event. This year, they're turning their attentions with help from Independence Run & Hike, to launching a new event in Carbondale. Photo by Jane Bachrach

it in snowshoes, then by all means just walk it in snowshoes!"

This isn't for the hyper competitive ultra athlete, Donnelly noted. It's more about getting the community out together in a fun, healthy environment. It's that aspect that really gets Nic Degross animated when talking about the event.

"Low-key, local, grassroots, real simple," he said of what he likes most about the event. "It's by no means 'professional' as far as the athletes or the structure. First-timers are very welcome, and that's the whole idea of keeping it grassroots. We welcome first-timers; we welcome those who are very into their specific discipline — whether it's cycling, snowshoeing or cross-country skiing. It's very much a relay, so go find your people that are stronger in their individual discipline, or if you wanna go in beast mode, go do all three yourself."

There is one aspect of the race that everyone agrees on: if you're planning on biking, get thee a fat bike.

"We'll find you a fat bike," Degross said. "Contact Aloha Mountain Cyclery, and let us know that you'd like to do this

but you don't have a bike. You ask me personally, and I will do what I can to find pieces and parts. It's a small town — it's all personal!"

Even those who are making and managing the trails recommend having a snow-specific bike.

"Snow is kind of a funny surface to ride bikes on. You kind of have to geek out on tire pressure and all that," said Brett Meredith, who manages the Rio Grande Trail for the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA). "It does take a little bit of preparation. I know people kind of pack trails down, even single track, because bike tires will punch through loose snow."

The other thing everyone involved knows for sure? It's going to be a good time. You can pre-register for a \$5 discount online (more information at tinurl.com/fullmoontri) or in person at the Carbondale Recreation Center. Bonus points — and an additional \$5 discount — if you bring a non-perishable food item for Lift Up. Of course, you can register the day of the event (starting at 3 p.m.) or simply show up to the rodeo lot for the after party.

2019 Rams' basketball schedule

Winter break is over and the Roaring Fork High School student athletes are back on the court. While both varsity teams got some tournament play in December — the girls are 7-3 under Head Coach and Athletic Director Jade Bath and the boys are 4-5 under Head Coach Larry Williams, neither has had a league game yet, so it's anyone's season.

One of the perks of the winter season is that both teams typically play back-to-back on the same court against the same opponent. Sometimes preceded by junior varsity (not listed) the girls typically take the early timeslot, followed by the boys.

Jan. 11
RFHS @ Delta
6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 18
RFHS @ Olathe
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Jan. 25
RFHS @ Gunnison
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Jan. 26
Aspen @ RFHS
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Feb. 1
Basalt @ RFHS
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Feb. 8
Cedaredge @ RFHS
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Feb. 9
RFHS @ Moffat
4 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 12
RFHS @ Coal Ridge
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Feb. 14
Grand Valley @ RFHS
5:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

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A mild transition for a wild workshop

By Will Grandbois
Sopris Sun Staff

In the few months since the departure of longtime director Sloan Shoemaker, it's pretty much business as usual at Wilderness Workshop. That's partly because new director Will Roush and several of his coworkers have been with the conservation-minded nonprofit for years, but also because of its clear direction.

"Our mission around protecting public lands is wonderfully simple," Roush said. "The threats and opportunities haven't changed."

Roush grew up in Aspen and has a personal connection with many of the 4 million acres of public land the Workshop considers under its aegis.

"I've been spending time out in the woods since I can remember," he said. "I came to a realization that public lands don't protect themselves. They require citizen engagement."

With that in mind, he pursued an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies followed by a Master's in Geography and Environmental Science — which practically meant documenting the impacts of climate change on alpine forest with hard data and repeating historic photographs in British Columbia.

"It spoke to anybody who can look at a picture," he observed.

He continued to spend winters in the Valley, working for Snowmass Ski Patrol, and after a few short term advocacy roles, found his way to Wilderness Workshop in 2009. First, it was just a summer gig inventorying citizen Wilderness proposals. It transitioned into full-time work on the Hidden Gems proposal and its successors — some of which are still on the table — and ultimately more general public lands work. His last role before taking the top job was as conservation director.

In the process, he worked in an array of state and national partnerships.

"We're well connected and respected in the conservation community," he noted. "Neither the Hidden Gems



Will Roush

campaign nor the Thompson Divide work was easy or likely to succeed, but we were committed and ambitious."

Roush acknowledged that some of Wilderness Workshop's efforts have proven controversial locally as well as nationally, but said the team works hard to find consensus.

"We're really community based. A lot of our work depends on building relationships," he said. "We've got this whole chunk of programming and work that's supportive of our mission. It's not directly protecting public lands, but I think it's really crucial."

In the cold season, Wilderness Workshop partners with the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies for Naturalist Nights — a series of informational talks in Carbondale on Wednesdays and Aspen on Thursdays (full schedule at

wildernessworkshop.org/naturalist-nights).

In the summer, the team leads group hikes into some of the areas the Workshop is working to protect. While Roush acknowledges that there are some impacts to that use, he says they take efforts to mitigate it for the maximum good.

"I think the conflict between connection to place and protecting it is important to think about and not unique to our work," he said. "People care about things they know."

The broad community buy-in also helps insulate the nonprofit from too much influence from one donor or another.

"We want to hear from our members whether they give us \$1 or \$10,000 a year," Roush said. "I don't think we've ever felt beholden."

Instead, Wilderness Workshop chooses its proactive projects based on the maximum conservation potential — like an eponymous Wilderness designation — and reactive project by the risk of harm — oil and gas tops that list.

"It's important not to underestimate the power of large national industries," Roush said. "They've been playing this game for a long time."

Right now, Workshop efforts include wildlife crossing structures on Interstate 70 and Highway 82 and a Wild and Scenic designation for Deep Creek on the Flat Tops. The Continental Divide Recreation, Wilderness and Camp Hale Legacy Act, another pet project, is being considered by the state legislature.

"I think for the first time since we started work on that we've got a House that's more pro-conservation," Roush noted.

But all is not well in his assessment. Oil and gas pressure is ramping up, as are timber projects around the state.

"We're lucky to have some great local public land managers," Roush said. "But on one of the greatest conservation threats we've ever changed — Climate Change — the U.S. is just dragging its feet."

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Deceased local lived without a roof, but definitely had a home

By Megan Tackett
Sopris Sun Staff

Tommy Evans went out of his way to find The Sopris Sun office, tucked toward the end of a hallway in the Third Street Center. We admit, it can feel a little labyrinthine.

"Finally, I found you!" he exclaimed as he walked into the office. In his hands, he held a long piece of receipt paper. On it, he had scrolled a note to his deceased friend of the same first name.

"A lot of people thought it was me," he said sheepishly. "They told me, 'I thought you were dead!'"

Tommy Goodman, 61, was found in a tent outside of Carbondale last month. Though deputies initially suspected carbon monoxide poisoning because of the heater in the enclosed space, the toxicology report indicated the man died of natural causes.

"That was an initial theory. If you see a stove inside any enclosed structure, certainly we will investigate," said Robert Glassmire, Garfield County coroner. "It was a natural death. Carbon monoxide was not detected at all. His cause of death was... cirrhosis, due to Hepatitis C and chronic alcoholism."

But for his friends like Evans, Goodman

was more than his cause of death.

"Your friends and dog miss you dearly, I have seen people from Carbondale Downtown to City Market and the Pour House shed many a tear about losing you," Evans's note read. "Words alone don't seem like much, but you are missed. Maybe all of us should get together [and] help one another — pay it forward."

Goodman was a regular face in the Crystal River Valley, from Carbondale to Marble. Lynn Kirchner, who runs Carbondale Homeless Assistance with Suzy Parks Boyle, remembers Goodman fondly, as he often participated in the organization's luncheons.

"He's one of the boys," she said warmly. "When he wasn't consumed by his addiction, he was very good at anything he did. He was very social. He loved his dog — he was very good animals. He wasn't a bum; he wasn't treated as such."

In fact, as is often the case with much of the homeless and near-homeless populations, Goodman worked. Vince Savage, "the kind of psychologist that likes to get at the street level" and director of the Aspen Homeless Shelter, also owns the Marble

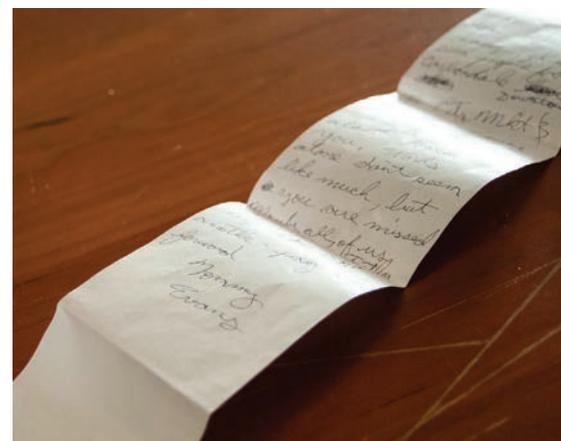
Lodge, formerly the Beaver Lake Retreat. Savage hired Goodman to help around the lodge for at least a decade, maybe two.

"I think it was... could've been 20 years ago, 15 at least," Savage mused. "Tommy worked for me for a lot of years. He had his own little business called Tommy's Handyman or something like that. This lodge I own needs a lot of little things done, like snow shoveling or plumbing or whatever."

Even more than his work ethic, Savage recalls Goodman's humor and easy-going demeanor.

"He was a pretty enjoyable guy; he had a great sense of humor. A lot of people have fond memories of him," he said. "Occasionally, around Christmas time, we'd take up a collection and put him on the AmTrak back to Omaha [to see his parents]. He was one of those guys you tried to help out if you could."

Goodman is survived by his mother, who still lives in Nebraska, and his dog Takota. At the moment, Takota is living on the Marble Lodge property with friends.



Tommy Evans visited The Sopris Sun office specifically to deliver a note he wrote to his deceased friend, Tommy Goodman, who passed away in December of last year. Photo by Megan Tackett

"I think Tommy's last dying wish was that if he doesn't make it, he'd either like [his best friend] Rob to have his dog or if his mom wanted it, he'd be happy to have her have it. I've tried to reach her," Savage said.

Takota, like her departed human companion, has a way of appealing to people's better natures.

"I'm in trouble because I got in the habit of bringing her back dog biscuits from Alpine Bank until I had so many in the car that a bear ripped the window out of my van," Savage laughed. "I thought, 'Oh my god, it's the dog biscuits!'"

Rare triple ice flow flushes through Roaring Fork River in Basalt

By Justin Patrick
Sopris Sun Staff

After an alert was issued by the Roaring Fork Conservancy (RFC) Friday afternoon, Basalt residents gathered near the banks and along bridges overlooking the Roaring Fork River to safely witness a rare natural phenomenon: an ice dam break.

Massive chunks of ice — some estimated at 12 to 18 inches thick and the size of a car's hood — along with wooded debris including whole trees, rushed down the river. The river's CFS (cubic feet per second) measurement more than doubled in some locations as the torrent charged through the channel.

Ice dams form in the extremely cold, single-digit or negative-temperature days that usually occur in late December or early January. The water is locked down as ice, causing the river's flow to slow to a trickle.

"The river gets iced up, it starts to loosen up and then some sort of a dam or blockage forms and obviously the water backs up behind that," RFC's Executive Director Rick Lofaro explained. Though he could not say the precise location of the ice dams, he guessed they formed around or slightly above Old Snowmass towards the canyon.

Lofaro awoke Friday morning with a feeling (as well as advice from his wife) that he should relay RFC's prediction to local authorities that an ice flow was likely to occur over the weekend. As it turned out, within a couple of hours of the alert's release, a first surge tore through the channel in town at 2:01 p.m. A video of the ice flow is available on the Conservancy's Facebook page and has received over 100,000 views.

"We knew it was going to come," he said. "It came a little sooner

than we thought."

A second, also powerful flow occurred later in the afternoon at 3:55 p.m. Christina Medved, RFC's Director of Community Outreach, noted that while an ice dam breaking is a relatively common occurrence, witnessing multiple events in one day is special. She pointed out that the second flow also had large chunks of ice, suggesting that that dam may have broken in a different geographical location from the first.

"The fact that there was that much ice in the second flow is pretty significant," she said. A third surge occurred later in the evening, around 9 p.m. "Two in the same day and three in a weekend was pretty significant," said Lofaro.

While some insects and fish certainly perished in the ice flows, according to Lofaro, he believes these events ultimately benefit stream health due to their scouring quality.

"In some ways you can liken it to a fire. There are some very beneficial cleansing, rejuvenating things that come out of a forest fire but also some things that aren't so good. Historically, there is not a detrimental fish or insect kill. I don't think it's a catastrophic event... It opens up the river again in a lot of places and helps connect the channel," he said.

While ice flows can pose a danger to humans, especially unsuspecting winter anglers, the Basalt police department reported no incidents of harm among people or pets, perhaps due in part to RFC's dutiful public warning.

"By the time the second one hit, the word was out, the buzz was out," said Lofaro. "People knew it was coming and safely got to the river's edge and bridges to witness it, and that's what we want—to alert and educate the community at the same time."



A day after the frozen dams broke, ice chunks collected along a stretch of the Roaring Fork River before the Hooks Spur bridge. Photo by Justin Patrick

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Rankin state senate appointment opens door for another decade in office

By Amy Hadden Marsh
Sopris Sun Correspondent

Carbondale's Bob Rankin heads for the state senate later this month.

Currently state Representative for the 57th District, which includes Garfield County, Rankin was recently appointed to take Randy Baumgardner's seat as Senator for the 8th District. Baumgardner is retiring Jan. 21 amidst sexual harassment allegations made last year.

Rankin spoke to KDNK by phone from Denver on the first day of the state legislative session and observed that the morning's business already showed differences between Democrats and Republicans, who are in the minority in both the House and the Senate. "The Family Leave Bill was one that was talked about this morning," he said. "That would put a burden on business to mandate — not just allow — but mandate that business provide for family leave."

He added that last year's Red Flag Bill, which would provide barriers to gun ownership by those with mental health issues, will also be another heavily-discussed measure this session. Rankin says it's a good concept but it's difficult to write a bill around it.

"How can we prevent gun violence by people who are mentally ill but at the same time not violate people's Second Amendment rights?" he said.

The Denver Post reports that the controversial bill cleared the House last



Randy Baumgardner



Bob Rankin

May but never made it out of the Senate's State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee. Democrats plan to re-introduce it this year.

Rankin told KDNK that his first order of business when he takes on the mantle of senator will be to get to know those he's working with. He'll continue to work on the state's budget and he plans on holding Town Hall-style meetings in Jackson, Grand, Summit, and Routt counties that comprise the new area of his constituency.

"I'll now represent some fairly popular and big resort areas, namely Breck-

enridge and Steamboat," he said. "The dynamics there for both the population and tourists are pretty different [than what he's used to]."

But, he added, Grand and Jackson counties, which include Walden, Hot Sulphur Springs, Kremmling and Winter Park, are remote and rural. "It's a mix," he said. Rankin will continue to represent Garfield, Moffat, and Rio Blanco counties as senator.

He said he'll continue to work on the cost of healthcare in rural Colorado, education, and fixing the impact of the Gallagher Amendment on rural special

districts. "We have many small districts, including fire districts, library districts... that will lose revenue because that calculation is on a statewide basis rather than taking into account the differences between rural Colorado and the Front Range," he explained.

He has been on the state tourism board for six years. "I think that's very pertinent for representing these resort areas," he said.

Rankin had entered his final term as state representative when he was appointed to the senate seat. Now, he'll serve out the remaining two years of Baumgardner's term and will be able to run for two more full terms. "It's interesting how this is all going to spin out," he said. "What kind of come-back can we Republicans stage in two years? Can we take back the Senate? Can we get some of the seats back in the House? All of that's going to be the subject of a lot of discussion in the next couple of years and we'll see how that goes."

As for who will be appointed as the next Representative of the state's 57th District, Rankin's wife Joyce has expressed interest. She was appointed to the state Board of Education in August, 2015 to fill a mid-term vacancy and was elected the following year to complete a six-year term.

Bob Rankin will be sworn in on Jan. 21. A vacancy committee for his House district seat will be formed to replace him.

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FRI to THU Jan. 11-16

MOVIES • The Crystal Theatre (427 Main St.) presents “The Mule” (R) at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 11-12, Jan. 15-17 and at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 13 also showing “Roma” (R) at 4:45 p.m. on Jan. 12. Closed Jan. 14.

FRIDAY Jan. 11

SKIER APPRECIATION • Sunlight Mountain Resort (10901 CR 117) hosts food, music, giveaways, games and an ‘80s costume contest from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with \$20 lift tickets all going to benefit United Way Battlement to the Bells.

ESCAPE THE LIBRARY • Basalt Regional Library (14 Midland Ave.) celebrates Sherlock Holmes’ birthday with an escape room for kids and teens at 4 pm. and adults at 5 p.m. — register by emailing lbaumgarten@basaltlibrary.org

OPEN HOUSE • Colorado Mountain College shows off its Continuing Education Program with demos, a meet and greet and feedback solicited from 4 to 7 p.m. at its Glenwood Center (1402 Blake Ave.).

SAY IT • The Art Base (99 Midland Spur) showcases internationally exhibited Aspen visual artist and educator Trace Nichols with a 5 to 7 p.m. opening reception.



LEGENDS • Join Lynne Mace in honoring her parents, Stuart and Isabel, and the community they fostered from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Toklat Gallery (255 Gold Rivers Ct., Basalt), with a painting reveal by Veryl Goodnight.

WAY OF COUNCIL • True Nature Healing Arts (100 N. Third St.) offers a grounded exploration and working with the diverse and meaningful formats for engaging with the wisdom of the circle from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the kiva.

IMPRESSIONS IN INK • The printmakers of Carbondale’s Creative District show their work at the CMC ArtShare Gallery (815 Cooper Ave., Glenwood Springs) with a 6 to 8 p.m. opening reception.

XICANO FUNK • The Temporary (360 Market St., Willits) host 7-piece Los Mocochetetes from 8 to 11 p.m. — \$19 in advance at tacaw.org or \$24 at the door.

HIGH-ENERGY COVERS • Union of None plays the Black Nugget (403 Main St.) from 9 p.m. ‘til the wee hours of the morning.

SATURDAY Jan. 12

COOKING CLASS • Terry Langley teaches you to make baklava beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Hub (412 W. Main St., Marble). Observe for free or bring a \$30 supplies fee, baking dish, saucepan,

pastry brush, measuring cup, knife and dish towel. Call 963-1455 for questions and reservations.

SALON • Under Alya’s Umbrella presents broad spectrum of artistic performance, including recent USA tango champions Cindy Giannini and Sean Ericson, a trio of classical harpists, singer songwriter Matt Johnson, slam poet Halle Zander, author and journalist Jon Waterman and David Taylor co-producer and director of the documentary “Whitewashed” with special appearance from co-producer Anuk Bald Eagle from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Launchpad (76 S. Fourth St.). Admission is \$23.14

BASSOON QUARTET • The World Music series at Paonia’s Paradise Theatre (215 Grand Ave.) wraps up with a 7:30 p.m. performance by Breaking Winds.

COMEDY • Shane Torres — who boasts his own Comedy Central half-hour special — takes the stage at 8 p.m. at The Temporary (360 Market St., Willits). \$21 in advance at tacaw.org or \$24 at the door.

ELEPHANT COLLECTIVE • Dango Rose of Elephant Revival brings his new project to Steve’s Guitars (19 N. Fourth St.) at 8:30 p.m. or thereabouts.

SUNDAY Jan. 13

YOGA • Chris Margatitis presents a traditional 26 and 2 moving meditation at 8:30 a.m. at White Horse Yoga (105 Village Ln.).

TUESDAY Jan. 15

CELTIC MUSIC • The Ferlies play from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Carbondale Beer Works (647 Main St.).

WEDNESDAY Jan. 16

MOVIES THAT MATTER • Basalt Regional Library (14 Midland Ave.) screens “Manufactured Landscapes” — which captures the changes industry works — at 5 p.m.

NATURALIST NIGHTS • Kathryn Bernier of Colorado Parks and Wildlife discusses the White-tailed Ptarmigan “an alpine icon” at 6 p.m. the Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.) and the next day at Hallam Lake in Aspen.

FAMILY TABLE • Batch (358 Main St.) partners with Carousel 42 for a 6:30 p.m. farm-to-table meal with beer pairings at \$40 a piece. Call 510-5934 for reservations.

Ongoing

WALK WITH A DOC • Aspen Valley Hospital invites you to meet in the cafeteria at 10 a.m. the first Saturday of the month for a short discussion on a health-related topic, such as high blood pressure, asthma, anxiety, etc.

HEALTH THROUGH NUTRITION • Free opportunities include: One-hour consultations Monday mornings by appointment (379-5718) about heart attack and other chronic illness prevention through plant-based whole foods lifestyle with retired family doctor Greg Feinsinger, MD. New at 6 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Oct. 23, a livestream of Just 1 Thing 4 Health’s interviews with featured doctors. At 7 p.m. the first Monday of the month, a Powerpoint presentation about the science behind plant-based nutrition. Finally, at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month, participate in a plant-based potluck. All events take place at the Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.).

CALENDAR continued on page 11

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OFFICE HOURS • Sun Editor Will Grandbois will be at Blue Spruce Coffee in the Third Street Center at 8 a.m. every Monday taking tips, questions, comments and complaints, and will be available in the office around the corner thereafter.

EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN • Staff and sources talk about this week's paper and more at 4 p.m. Thursdays on KDNK (88.1 FM).

SENIOR RADIO • Diane Johnson talks about senior issues and services on KDNK at 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

SENIOR MATTERS • The nonprofit Senior Matters, based in the Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.), offers numerous programs for senior citizens, including: tai chi with John Norton at 8:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays; tai chi with Marty Finklestein at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; Alaprima Painters at 11 a.m. on Thursdays; the Senior Matters Book Club at 4 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month; and the Roaring Fork Brain Train. Info: seniormatters.org; Diane Johnson at 970-306-2587; and Senior Matters, Box 991, Carbondale CO, 81623.

BRIDGE • The Carbondale Bridge Club hosts duplicate bridge (not sanctioned by ACBL) from 6:30 to 10 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.). \$6/per pair. Contact Marlene for more info: 928-9805.

THOMPSON TOURS • Check out the Historic Thompson House Museum (located at the end of Lewies Lane and complete with

its original contents) from 2 to 4 p.m. every second and fourth Saturday. Free and arranged by the Carbondale Historical Society (carbondalehistory.org).

WRITERS GROUP • Wordsmiths of all experience and abilities gather at the Carbondale Branch Library (320 Sopris Ave.) at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month.

BOOK CLUB • Join friends and fellow readers to discuss great books at Carbondale Branch Library (320 Sopris Ave.) at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month; call 963-2889 for this month's selection.

STORYTIME • Carbondale Branch Library (320 Sopris Ave.) hosts stories, songs and more for ages four and up at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays and three and under at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

STORY ART • Carbondale Branch Library (320 Sopris Ave.), in partnership with the Aspen Art Museum, invites kids to learn about artists and create masterpieces of their own at 4 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month.

YOUR STORY, YOUR LIFE • A free facilitated workshop for adults, writing your personal history, one story at a time. Facilitated by Shelly Merriam, historian/writer/genealogist. First and third Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon at the Glenwood Springs Branch Library, (815 Cooper Ave.). Info at 945-5958 or gcpld.org.

LIFE DRAWING • Drop in for figure drawing with Staci Dickerson at 6:30 p.m. Mondays at SAW (525 Buggy Cr. Unit C).

YAPPY HOUR • Colorado Animal Rescue's Yappy Hour at the Marble Bar (150 Main St.) takes place at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Sip on handcrafted cocktails and meet a C.A.R.E. dog, with \$1 from

every drink donated to C.A.R.E. Bring your own dog along as well.

COMMUNITY MEAL • Faith Lutheran Church (1340 Highway 133), in collaboration with Carbondale Homeless Assistance, hosts a free community meal from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Info: 510-5046 or faithcarbondale.com.

LOSS SUPPORT • The Compassionate Friends of the Roaring Fork Valley, a group for parents, grandparents of siblings who have lost a child of any age, meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at The Orchard (110 Snowmass Dr.).

LOVE ADDICTS • Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step group will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Holland Hills United Methodist Church (167 Holland Hills Rd. Basalt).

RUN AROUND • Independence Run & Hike hosts a run around town Saturdays at 8 a.m. Meet at the store 596 Highway 133 (in La Fontana Plaza) and run various distances, with different routes each week. Info: 704-0909.

RF INSIGHT • Monday Night Meditation meets from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. at Roaring Fork Aikikai (2553 Dolores Way) and offers instruction in the Buddhist practice of Vipassana. RFI also offers secular mindfulness at the Carbondale Community School and is working with CMC to provide a class on "Zen and the Art of Dying" — more info at roaringforkinsight.org.

MEDITATION • Free silent meditation sessions are held at the Launchpad (76 S. Fourth St.) from 6:45 to 7:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (info at 306-1015).

MINDFULNESS • The Mindful Life Pro-

gram in the Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.) offers group sessions Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Admission is by donation and registration is not necessary. Info: mindfullifeprogram.org and 970-633-0163.

GRIEF AND LOSS • Pathfinders offers a grief and loss support group every other Monday at 6 p.m., and a caregiver support group every other Wednesday noon. An RSVP is required to Robyn Hubbard at 319-6854. Pathfinders offers support groups from Aspen to Rifle and is located in Carbondale at 1101 Village Rd. Info: pathfindersforcancer.org.

ROTARY • The Carbondale Rotary Club meets at the Carbondale Fire Station (300 Meadowood Dr.) at 6:45 a.m. Wednesdays. The Mt. Sopris Rotary meets at White House Pizza (801 Main Ct.) at noon every Thursday.

YOGA • Get a donation-based introduction to Hatha Yoga Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. at The Launchpad (76 S. Fourth St.).

LET'S JUST DANCE • Feel great, have fun and dance Tuesdays at The Third Street Center (520 S. Third St.). Catch a free lesson at 7 p.m., then from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. it's open dancing with two-step, swing, waltz, line dance, salsa and more. No partner or experience necessary. \$8/person; \$14/couple. Questions? Call 970-366-6463 or email billypat4@gmail.com.

Save the date

SUNDAY Feb. 10

BIRTHDAY BRUNCH • The Sopris Sun celebrates a decade of independent newspapering — more details coming soon.

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▶ **CARBONDALE:**

Human Nutrition..... 1/14-4/29 (M) 1:30-4:20pm
Natural Bee Keeping 1/14-1/21 (M) 6-9pm
Positive Psychology 1/14-4/29 (M)..... 5:30-8:20pm
Intro to Integrative Yoga 1/15 (T)..... 6-7:30pm
Morning Conditioning 1/15-5/2 (TTh) 5:25-6:25am
Jewelry and Metal Work I..... 1/16-5/1 (W) 5-9pm
Introduction to Business 1/16-5/1 (W) 6-8:5pm
Conv. Spanish II..... 1/17-5/2 (Th) 6-8:50m
Introduction to Philosophy 1/17-5/2 (Th) 6-8:50m
Zumba, FREE "Sneak Peak" 1/18 (F) 12-1pm

Pilates Matwork 1/21-3/6 (MW) 10-10:50am
Intro to American Sign Language .. 1/22-3/26 (T)..... 6-8pm
Shakespeare: Macbeth/12th Night 1/24-3/7 (Th)..... 6:30-8:30pm
Yoga, FREE Intro 1/24 (Th) 6-7:15pm
Reading Electronic Blueprints..... 1/31-3/7 (Th) 6-8pm
Beginning Illustrator..... 1/31-3/7 (Th) 9-11:30am
Website Content in WordPress..... 2/4-3/4 (M) 6-8:30pm
Investing 101..... 2/13-3/6 (W) 5-6:30pm
Materia Medica..... 2/3 (Su)..... 1-4pm

▶ **BASALT AT TACFITNESS & GYM OF BASALT:**
Pilates Mat Plus 1/11-5/3 (F) 9:05-10:00am
Indoor Cycling 1/14-3/27 (MW)..... 5:30-6:15pm
Weight Training 1/14-3/27 (MW)..... 6:15-7:00pm

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Town Report

The following items are drawn from Town Manager Jay Harrington's weekly report to staff, trustees and others.

CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF is available through Feb. 4 at the lot directly east of Town Hall. Trees should be free of ornaments, garlands, tinsel, lights and the like and no wreaths are allowed because the wire may damage the chipper.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL kept the streets crew busy, with "some long and hard days."

A **WASTE HAULING** request for proposal has been posted and remains open until Feb. 22.

ART AROUND TOWN applications are open through Jan. 31 at callforentry.org. More info at carbondalegov.org.

ICE RINKS at the Fourth Street Plaza and Darien Arena are operational and open from noon to 9 p.m. — info on rules and rentals at carbondalarec.com.

HOCKEY for ages 6 to 9 and 9 to 14 began this week, as did adult broomball with six teams.

WINTER BASKETBALL for boys and girls grades 3 through 6 begin this week with eight teams competing against Aspen, Basalt and Glenwood.

SALES TAX totals for 2018 were up 7.7 percent year over year and 4.5 percent month-over-month for December. Finance staff is busy closing the year end and getting ready to begin the preliminary field work for the 2018 audit.

PARENT TOT ZUMBA takes place from noon to 12:45 p.m. Fridays. Regular zumba takes place from 10 to 11 a.m. Sundays.

MAHJONG MONDAYS is a free weekly gathering at 10:30 a.m. at the Rec. Center designed to help newcomers learn how to play.

CANNING 101 (part of the Town's Winter Cooking series) will take place Jan. 14 at the cost of \$10.

FITNESS CLASSES at the Rec. Center in 2018 totalled 15,363 participants, a 39 percent increase over 2017.

PLANNING AND ZONING will tackle two medical marijuana cultivation special use permits and a minor site plan review with variances at the commission's Jan. 10 meeting. It will also review suggested amendments to the Unified Development Code in a public hearing.

FROZEN WATER LINES prompted five calls to the Utilities Department, with only one still frozen as of the last report.

FLOWS from South Nettle creek have fluctuated with the lower temperatures, with a base flow around 380-390 gallons per minute. The wastewater plant experienced a brief failure with one of the clarifiers, but it was fixed within a couple of hours.



Cop Shop

From Dec. 28th through Jan. 3, Carbondale Police handled 232 Calls for Service. During that period, officers investigated the following cases of note:

FRIDAY Dec. 28 at 1:48 a.m. Following a traffic stop for weaving, a 32-year-old woman was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and released to a sober person.

FRIDAY Dec. 28 at 11:33 a.m. Someone reported fraud on a business bank account.

SATURDAY Dec. 29 at 12:34 a.m. A 911 hang up call led to the arrest of a 31-year-old man on suspicion of driving under the influence.

SATURDAY Dec. 29 at 12:33 p.m. Someone failed to pay for their gas.

SUNDAY Dec. 30 at 1:44 a.m. When a 44-year-old woman allegedly failed to stop at a stop sign, she was pulled over and arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence.

TUESDAY Jan. 1 at 2:12 a.m. A 63-year-old woman became Carbondale's first DUI arrest of the new year after reportedly failing to use her turn signal.

TUESDAY Jan. 1 at 12:13 p.m. Officers investigated a report of domestic violence.

TUESDAY Jan. 1 at 9:41 p.m. A report of someone jumping on cars at Catherine Store resulted in an arrest.

WEDNESDAY Jan. 2 at 2:10 p.m. Police were attempted to locate a missing kid after a request from New Mexico Child Protection.

WEDNESDAY Jan. 2 at 4:43 p.m. Officers spoke with a man about items missing from a storage unit.

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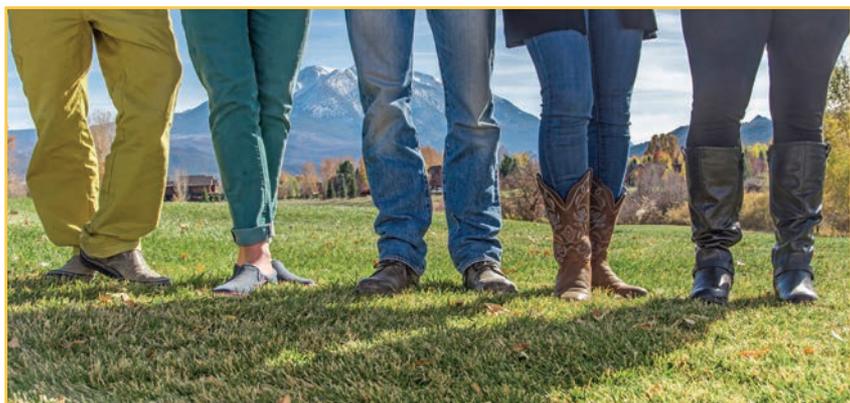
Also, on Jan. 5, a Gunnison County Deputy received a complaint concerning criminal mischief to a vehicle in the Marble area — and The Sun is looking into reports of several car break-ins in the area.

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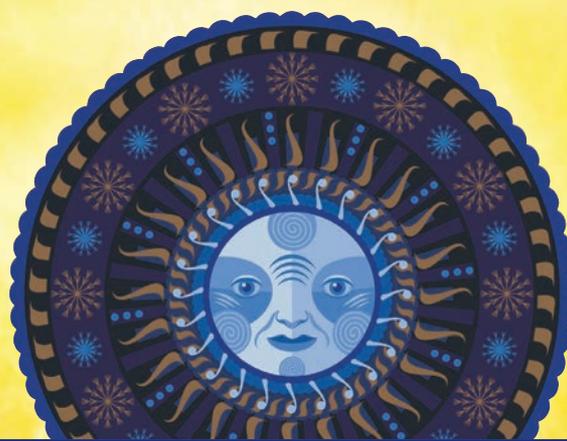
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the **Sopris**  **Sun**

Long-discussed projects about to go vertical

By Will Grandbois
Sopris Sun Staff

"It's going to be a busy year in Carbondale," Town Planner Janet Buck observed after Trustees approved steps for three different developments on Jan. 8.

In each case the process has been — and remains — incremental, but in each case, actual construction is imminent. Chief among them is the new City Market building, about which Trustee Ben Bohmfalk noted he is frequently asked.

Tuesday night's approval was of a partial release of letter of credit — followed almost immediately by a similar request from First Bank. The final step will be a building permit which, according to Town Manager Jay Harrington, should be filed in the spring. After that, "it takes eight or nine months to build a building and four months to stock it, actually," he said. That means folks could be lining up to shop in 2020.

"When we see progress like this, it seems

much more tangible," Bohmfalk said.

Also on the agenda was a development approval agreement with Sopris Lodge, a senior living complex across the Rio Grande Trail from downtown. The immediate issue was water rights and Ecological Quality Ratios, among other minutiae.

"It has taken a while to get through this process," Buck noted. "There are a lot of moving parts to the application."

Bohmfalk also expressed concerns about the plan for Second Street, which will see pavement and sidewalk improvements to support additional traffic.

"Right now it's a little dead-end lane and it's suddenly going to become a major connection to a major development," he said.

Project Manager Terry Claassen assured him that the final design, which the developer will foot the bill for, had plenty of public input. "From the conceptual stage last February to now it's come a long way.

It's fully engineered and it's ready to go."

Per staff recommendation, trustees approved the documents before them. Still pending is letter of credit a building permit and a final signed license from the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority for access across its right of way. In the meantime, demolition and site work is expected to start as soon as February.

Uneventful

One aspect of the meeting that inspired minimal debate was the passage of the final calendar of special events for 2019. Recently, a Special Event Task Force has vetted the agenda, providing public feedback earlier in the process.

"Years back this would have been your most contentious meetings of the year," Harrington noted. "I think bringing neighbors and promoters together and working on a number of issues before it even gets in front of you has been really productive."



Students of the month Emma Burrows (above) and Elliott Nelson.

Downed power line leads to unpredictable outage

By Will Grandbois
Sopris Sun Staff

Although only 78 meters experienced more than a brief interruption, a power outage downtown on Jan. 6 caused a fair amount of consternation and confusion.

According to Xcel Energy Spokesperson Mark Stutz, around 3,000 customers experience a momentary outage — which may or may not have been related to a reported transformer issue near the high school. The long-term outage, which lasted from just after 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., was related to a

downed power line near Seventh and Main.

Several internet outages were also reported, but do not appear to have been related. The Xcel report cited severe weather in the area, although Sun staff observed just light snow.

While some households and businesses reported some outlets working and others not, Stutz said "brownouts" aren't a thing anymore.

"In the '50s and '60s we'd sometimes lower the voltage to keep the lights on, but that causes all sorts of problems with mod-

ern technology," he said "Now we're either on or off."

A business or residence may have more than one circuit or a backup system, he noted, which seems to have been the case for Bonfire Coffee.

"I had lights, but the grills and espresso machine weren't working," said Kitchen Manager Brittney Rippy. "We stayed open until we were out of drip coffee and then closed up. It definitely affected business, but not as bad as it might another day of the week."

Indeed, many of the other restaurants that

may have been affected were already closed on Sunday. The Carbondale Recreation Center was able to stay open, while the Town Hall was impacted but lightly staffed.

"We had kind of a partial outage and some surges that even with protectors created some problems, but without any major systems malfunctions we were in pretty good shape," said Town Manager Jay Harrington. "You used to worry about heat, but now it seems like the biggest issue is the computers being down. It might have been different if the Broncos were playing."

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Blowin' smoke

From the archives of the Roaring Fork Valley Journal

Jan. 11, 1979

Jake Lucksinger recounted the beginning of the Midland Railroad main line to the Roaring Fork Valley. It all began with Homer D. Fisher, "a lumberman of imagination" who wanted a railroad to transport remote timber to town. The success of the line got him thinking of a standard gauge into Leadville, then over to Aspen with some help from Charles J. Hagerman.

In other news... Bill Gray, then 33, moved from New York to open up a real-estate appraisal shop (and later became Mayor).

Jan. 12, 1989

Trustees instructed staff to begin drafting woodstove restrictions based on six months of discussion and with the goal of reducing air pollution. The specifics were in flux, but it seemed likely that folks would be required to take out a permit to install a stove, while those with old stoves would be obliged to upgrade them within five years with loans available from the Town. The ideal result was complete adoption of efficient "phase two" stoves. (Many homeowners have also since opted for other heat-



ing methods, and winter woodsmoke is much less noticeable than it once was.)

In other news... The Redstone sled dog race was expected to be one of the biggest ever after the demise of a similar event in Utah.

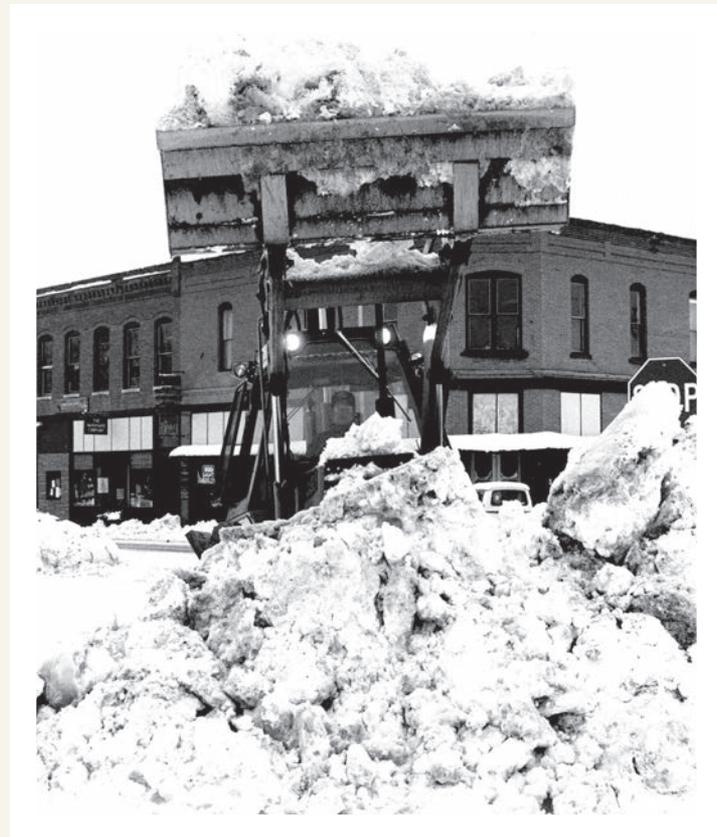
Jan. 14, 1999

Garfield County was considering moving its jail to Rifle — a proposal that riled Carbondale Police Chief Gene Schilling. He estimated it would cost the department an extra \$57,000 a year to transport prisoners all that way. Besides, he said, most of the arrests came from the eastern part of the county, anyway — mostly from Glenwood, but roughly six per week from Carbondale. Mayor Randy Vanderhurst also pointed out that most of the population and tax dollars were at the east end, as well. (That is likely no longer the case.)

In other news... Susorine Bon celebrated 90 years in Leadville, Marble and Carbondale.

Jan. 8, 2009

Carbondale was still without a newspaper, so a group of local journalists and community leaders had begun discussing starting their own.



It may seem snowy compared to last year, but the Valley Journal photo archives are here to remind us that it's still nothing like winters past.

Letters *from page 2*

ployees, schools, and other groups. There are always more families in need than are adopted. The gifts for these families are contributed by people who choose a gift tag and then purchase the requested gift. All these gifts are gathered at Christ Church in Aspen where they are sorted and wrapped for individual families. Each family member also receives a generous City Market food gift card.

The response this year was particularly generous with many people and groups participating for the first time. We received wonderful donations of toys, clothing, money and gift cards as well as incredible volunteer hours. There was lots of energetic help on our four Volunteer Wrap Days! We are grateful for grants from The Thrift Shop of Aspen, The Aspen Elks Lodge, The Aspen Rotary Club, Christ Episcopal Church and the Martens Foundation.

While it is not possible to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the program (we had over 350 volunteers!), there are several who deserve special recognition. Neal Batson, Elaine Bonds, Marsha Cook, Kathy Dreher, Elizabeth Parker, and Bobbi Teliska spent many, many hours and lots of energy matching families with Adopting Angels and making sure all the gifts were ready on pick up days.

We are also extremely grateful to Christ Episcopal Church for once again providing space in which to coordinate and distribute the thousands of gifts. It was heartwarming to observe so many people in our valley participating in this project with such love and generosity and it was truly joyful to see the happy faces of the recipients when they received their bags of gifts.

If you haven't seen our video, please go to holidaybasketsprogram.com

Anne Blackwell, Holiday Baskets Chairperson
Carbondale

National political dysfunction

Dear Editor:

I am a U.S. Citizen, living in Colorado, but I expect all of my senators to hear my plea.

I have contacted every single senator in every state in our Union and I expect compliance to and with our Constitution. It is shameful that all senators are stuck in your own corners of the boxing ring.

In 1978, the Supreme Court ruled that corporations became people. Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission in 2010, upholding the rights of corporations to make political expenditures under the First Amendment. There have been several calls for a Constitutional amendment to abolish

LETTERS page 15

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corporate personhood. This was the final blow to all citizens of the United States. Now \$ runs our government. Quality of life is based on self-serving \$, the new deity of our government.

I am a registered Democrat, but I stand in the center! This is not a tribal issue!

The majority of our nation is extremely concerned about the serious damages being done to our environment, our financial stability, our judicial system, freedom of speech - the Fourth Estate and most obvious, the damage to our National Security perpetrated by our mentally unstable, shoot from the hip, bombastic, rude President.

All of you senators, Republican and Democratic must find your moral compass. Reject big business money coming into your back pockets. Vote your moral conscience.

Work with each other for our country's best interests. Stop the insane behavior of a spoiled, narcissistic child. Trump's rise to power mirrors Germany's 1918 - 1933 rise of Hitler. You all may scoff at this analogy, but there are too many similarities. Trump and Hitler are cut from the same cloth — narcissistic, no compassion or empathy, insecure, thin skinned, pompous, loud and sadly charismatic to the weak minded, who want a savior.

The only savior for "We The People" is the partnership of a non-partisan, union of government for our nation's best outcome. Far right fascist leaning and far left ideologies need to come to the center for success.

Get a grip! Work with each other. Discuss issues and find the best solutions for each and every of our citizens.

We are a melting pot. Our government needs to serve everyone, not just the ones who have \$. Vote to keep our "Dreamers", making them legal and part of our social fabric. Support the South and Central American countries with extreme poverty and violence from drug cartels, because "We" are the consumers, stoking their problems. Upgrade the ancient immigration system and physical infrastructures on our side of the border to process sanctuary seeking immigrants. Value human rights with compassion and em-

pathy, which we have replaced with the Trump authoritarian agenda.

Holly McLain
Carbondale

Glory hallelujah, climate change is over

Dear Editor:

"One good thing about this cold, snowy weather," the denier said recently, "this should stifle all that crap coming

from those climate change geeks."

Fraid not, fella. You're confusing climate with weather. The weatherman does well to accurately predict a five-day forecast. Climatologists deal with yearly averages and speculate centuries out.

In the past few years, they've been right on the money. Scientists said 2016 would be the warmest year on record, 2017 the second warmest, and 2018 the fourth. All three proved true.

They base their prognostications on El Nino and the amount of greenhouse gas

being released into the atmosphere and that, unfortunately, is steadily rising. The United Nations World Meteorological Organization reports there's a 75-80 percent chance an El Niño event in February will result in 2016-like warming.

This winter's not over. If we have a warm, dry January, February, and March, we'll have no spring runoff, like last year, and be on our way to another record breaking hot yearly average.

Fred Malo Jr.
Carbondale

Parting Shot



OUT LIKE A LAMB • As the originator of the "Parting Shot" it's no surprise that Jane Bachrach had an assortment at her disposal which came in handy for her final issue as staff photographer — more on the back cover.

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