



THE Sopris Sun

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Carbondale Recreation Director Jeff Jackel and Mike Wagner, a representative from CIRSA (Colorado Inter-governmental Risk Sharing Agency), assess the damage from the photovoltaic heist on the roof of the Carbondale Recreation and Community Center. Photo by Lynn Burton

Catchin' Array

Solar panels recovered; investigation continues

By Jeremy Heiman

Cooperation between area police departments, good sleuthing and help from the community allowed the Carbondale Police Department to recover the 30 photovoltaic panels stolen early Memorial Day from atop the Carbondale Recreation and Community Center.

No arrests had been made as of the Sun's press deadline on Tuesday, but the investigation is continuing, said Carbondale Police Chief Gene Schilling.

"The DA tells us we don't have enough evidence to charge anyone yet," Schilling said. "So, we'll keep working on it."

The case broke open when a Carbondale resident came to the police with information about a truck she had seen parked at the rec. center late on the night of the crime. Schilling said the witness provided the license plate number and information

on the identity of the owner of the truck.

The truck and owner are actually quite familiar to members of the CPD and other police departments in the valley, Schilling told the Sun, referring to that individual as a "frequent flier." Frequent flier status is assigned to people who have numerous interactions with law enforcement officers and/or the courts.

A member of the CPD knew the owner sometimes spent time in Aspen. Officers at the Aspen Police Department were, in fact, familiar with the truck and had a good idea where it might be, Schilling said.

The APD located the truck at about 2 a.m. May 25 in the parking lot of a multi-family residence in Aspen, Schilling said.

While the truck fit the description, the fact that it is a large GMC work truck with all sides enclosed presented a chal-

lenge to investigators, Schilling said. They had to get high enough (from a distance) to look over the sides into the back, hoping to see something that indicated the panels were inside.

Once they were able to look down into the truck, they saw the ends of the panels, which were only partially covered, Schilling told the Sun. Police then obtained a search warrant based on the witness description and evidence they'd spotted in the back of the truck.

Police used serial numbers to confirm that the solar panels in the back of the truck were indeed stolen from the rec. center.

The panels are now in possession of the town of Carbondale. Two of the panels were damaged, but the rest are in usable condition.

PANELS page 4



Lights on at Third Street Center

Even as the community was wondering where the stolen panels from the rec. center had gone, a new solar system came on line in Carbondale last week. The solar array at the Third Street Center was officially activated last week. It is expected to provide a little less than half of the total energy used by the facility once it's fully occupied. Sol Energy, the company that designed and installed the system at the Carbondale rec. center, also designed the 52 kW Third Street system.

Pictured:

Ken Olson, Mike Bouchet, Marco Guevara, Kris Lathrop, Amanda Emerson, Andi Korber, Colin Martin (hidden), Kevin Lundy, Katharine Rushton, Jeff Quakenbush, Robin Scher, Anibal Guevara, Jeff Dickinson, Spencer Schacter and Gavin Brooke. Photo by Jane Bachrach

Great Photovoltaic Heist struck at the green heart of Carbondale

Kudos to the Carbondale Police Department for solving the Great Photovoltaic Heist. It took the police just over a week to leverage a tip or two into recovery of the 30 solar panels stolen from the roof of the Carbondale Recreation and Community Center.

The pickings for solar panels are not slim in Carbondale. Whoever did this put at least some thought into the crime, which panels to steal and where to either install or fence them.

There is, in fact, a market out there for stolen solar panels, so it's safe to say that the CPD's quick work saved the Town of Carbondale time and money and did the environment a bit of good, as well.

The crime is quite common in the Third World, where the panels offer a tempting high-tech target for would-be thieves. They're worth a lot in communities that are underpowered, or even unpowered. There is also a market for stolen panels in the United States, especially in California and other places where solar technology has been in use for a long time.

Talk on Main Street, Highway 133 and all around town this last week was about the theft. People were perplexed. A lot of them talked about it with their heads cocked a little to the side, or with a shake of bewilderment, as if they couldn't imagine such a thing.

Those of us who have been victims of theft know it can be a very personal crime. We grow attached to things our bicycles, cars and other personal items. When they're suddenly taken away, we feel bad.

The theft from the Rec. Center was a theft against the community. We were all victims because it struck at the heart of Carbondale, the way we define ourselves.

Visitors comment on how many solar arrays there are in town, how many bikes are parked throughout, on our recycling and composting, the environmental awareness of our children, the Carbondale Community Food Co-op and all the choices we have to buy locally raised food. They note our green builders, ecologically bent speakers, straw bale homes and the fact that Solar Energy International has been here for decades. Our Recreation Center is the greenest in the country.

Because the Rec. Center is a publicly funded building it truly was a crime against the Town of Carbondale, its taxpayers, its people. It's good to get back what's ours.

The police aren't the only ones who deserve kudos. Certainly the folks who phoned in tips to make a big round of applause, as well. And the town government for taking steps to secure the solar array atop the Rec. Center more secure.

Ideally, other public facilities with solar panels will take similar measures to secure their property. After all, panels cost about \$1,000 a piece when purchased new. A few hundred dollars spent to secure these assets seems a pittance in comparison.

The criminals who stole the panels may have taken a bit of our sun but they haven't darkened our skies.

And the week began a little brighter, thanks to alert citizens and good police work.



THE Sopris Sun

The Sopris Sun is an LLC organized under the 501c3 nonprofit structure of the Roaring Fork Community Development Corporation, P.O. Box 1582, Carbondale, CO 81623.

The mission of the Sopris Sun, LLC is to inform and inspire community members of Carbondale, Colorado.

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Letters

The Sopris Sun welcomes your letters, limited to no more than 400 words. Letters exceeding that length may be edited or returned for revisions. Include your name and residence (for publication) and a contact email and phone number. Submit letters via email to letters@soprisun.com or via snail mail to P.O. Box 399, Carbondale, CO 81623.

A vow to expand renewables

Dear Editor:

Most of you have recently received the Consumer Connection newsletter and ballot from Holy Cross Energy. I'm asking for your vote and also ask that you vote for Marshall Foote. Together we are running for the Holy Cross Energy board to develop real energy efficiency incentives and clean local renewable power for our members. Our focus will be to diversify our energy supplies so that prices remain fair, stable, and low, while reducing climate impacts. Not only are these efforts good for the environment, they also create local jobs and retain capital — every dollar of energy saved or generated locally is money which stays in our community rather than going elsewhere.

I have worked over the past 12 years on renewable energy and efficiency; formerly as the environmental coordinator for Vail Resorts, executive director for the Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability, and currently as the environmental policy planner for Eagle County. I will use my experience and leadership to create progressive programs through collaboration.

I live in Eagle with my wife, Kalie, and our two daughters, Montana and Savanna. As a father, I am committed to creating a bright future for our children. I'll work to expand renewables and ways to save energy, just as you asked for in the 2007 Holy Cross customer survey. I'd be honored by your vote so that, together, we can achieve these goals.

Sincerely,
Adam Palmer
Eagle

Turnbull the right choice

Dear Editor:

Over the 40 years I've lived in Pitkin County, I've never written a letter like this. But there comes a time for everything, and I feel this might be it.

Any day now, you will be asked to vote for the Board of Directors of Holy Cross Electric. One of those running for re-election is Board Chairman and 30-year member Tom Turnbull of Carbondale.

In today's world, and in the face of an economy run amuck by people and corporations we thought we could trust, I think the good people of our community are returning to what they can believe in ... to the core values they learned as a child: trust, honesty, compassion, understanding, loyalty and the belief in Doing the Right Thing for the betterment of us all.

Like so many of you, I've watched and learned from the people who live and work in our valley. Some good, some not so good, all valuable lessons. For nearly 30 years, I've watched Tom Turnbull and his Carbondale ranching family. I've watched Tom run a ranching operation that has thrived and prospered for 50 years, because of his sweat and his unwavering belief in Doing the Right Thing. Highly educated, Tom is an avid listener to all points of view, understanding that

he has an obligation to the customers of Holy Cross, to their families, to their budgets, to their well-being.

He's a neighbor, and I'm proud to call him a friend. It's not a term I use loosely. I can tell you that our valley, and our Holy Cross Electric cooperative, is in the best of hands: Tom Turnbull's. Please vote to keep him on the board, doing what he does so well: The Right Thing.

Michael Chandler
Carbondale

Vote for a brighter future

Dear Editor:

Although probably not from climate change, things sure have been heating up in our valley lately surrounding the Holy Cross election for Board of Directors! It's great that folks are paying attention to this — many for the first time ever. We should all be informed and involved.

Why? Because the management of our utility affects our economy, our environment, and our future.

So how should you vote? In many ways, the choices are clear.

Holy Cross Energy members just received a rather startling commentary from the current board president who is up for re-election. His message: Impacts from a warming climate are natural, and milder climates from Climate change are GOOD for civilization! Yikes.

I don't know about you, but I sure appreciate a couple of well-known local ski mountains, and a major chunk of our economy is built on attracting folks who like to slide around on snow — without having to go up to 12,000 feet to find it! Living as close to the outdoors as we do, most of us realize the impact of weather, climate and precipitation on nearly all aspects of our lives.

A big part of the Holy Cross generation mix is and will continue to be based on fossil fuels, but the balance, along with the rate of demand growth, are decisions that fall squarely on the laps of the HC Board of Directors. There are tough decisions to be made, but visionary solutions are attainable once we move beyond a "business as usual" mindset. That commitment comes from the top, and it's high time that our leadership actually leads.

The time for action is NOW — ballots are due in to Holy Cross by June 5. If you lost your ballot, call Holy Cross right away to receive a replacement. Your other choice as a member is to come to the Annual Meeting, which offers a free dinner and entertainment. You can vote in person there, but you must arrive before 6 p.m.

Let's help the "Old School" incumbents graduate so they can enjoy the warmer weather! There is important work to be done, and we can start by electing Marshall Foote and Adam Palmer. Their experience, commitment, and vision will translate directly into a better energy future for all of us.

See you on the slopes!
Dave Munk
Carbondale

Play Ball!

Just not in my dog park

By Allyn Harvey

It hasn't been unusual this spring to see what, in effect, is a line at the three public athletic fields around Carbondale.

While the boys and girls who play on one of the Carbondale Soccer Club teams practice on the field at Bridges High School, other teams — adult soccer players, lacrosse players and rugby players — can often be seen on the sidelines, waiting for their turn. As soon as soccer finishes, another group typically jumps in and plays until dark.

By all accounts, Carbondale has a shortage of playing fields. The town has only three general purpose fields suitable for soccer, lacrosse, rugby, bicycle polo and other sports — at Bridges High (at the old Carbondale Middle School), Triangle Park and Hendrick's Ranch Park — forcing organized sports programs for children and adults to juggle schedules and plan multiple-team practices on the same field.

Make-shift fields for children are set up at Miner's Park, and occasionally at the Tiny Nightingale baseball/softball diamond next to the new middle school.

Informal pick-up games are left with nowhere to play.

The situation is further complicated by the fact that the Hendrick field is undersized and thus reserved for children's games. And the Triangle Park facility, maintained and managed by River Valley Ranch, was out of commission this spring, reopening only last week, to allow the turf a year to recover from heavy use.

"We're always running adults off the Hendrick field because they don't have a field to play on," says Jeff Jackel, Carbondale's recreation director.

"We're within one field shutting down from creating a serious kink in our summer," said Dave Ritchie, the coaching director of the Carbondale Soccer Club, which is comprised of 20 teams and more than 200 kids.

A few seasons back, the last time the Triangle Park facility was shut down for a season of regeneration, the soccer club spent \$1,000 to reserve fields at Colorado Mountain College. The relocation caused a fair amount of frustration for parents and players, who were forced to drive to practice and games.

"When your home field is in another

town, every game is an away game," Ritchie said.

Demand exceeding supply

Carbondale's fields are fewer in number and older than those of every other community in the valley.

Aspen has Wagner Park, Rio Grande Park and several fields out near its schools and recreation center. Basalt has fields in town around the schools and at Crown Mountain Park in El Jebel. And Greenwood Springs has fields in town and out at CMC Spring Valley.

In Carbondale, two new fields that had been planned as part of the new Roaring Fork High School have been put on hold because of financing issues, Jackel said. That means the last time a new field was added to the town inventory was in the mid-1990s.

"It's been 12 years since we've had a new facility come on line, and in that time the demand curve has exploded," Ritchie said.

That demand has been driven by a burgeoning Latino population with a strong interest in soccer, the growing popularity of lacrosse and the recent introduction of bicycle polo. Local rugby players are also looking for a place to play.

"In my view, and [Park's Director] Larry Ballenger's view, additional soccer fields should be a priority in the near future," Jackel said.

Roaring Fork School District board member Bill Lamont has been putting together an analysis of all the outdoor athletic facilities at the schools in the district that would allow the district to invest where needed, in some cases with partners like the Town of Carbondale.

"What we're trying to do is getting a plan together that we can both agree on and then take advantage of the opportunities that are out there," Lamont said.

In Carbondale, that may mean new fields around the high school and middle school that could be shared between school and public athletic programs.

Lamont said the district has always been open to sharing its facilities with the community at large. "In all three communities,



Enrique Abarca, right, goes for the goal while friend Uber Alvarado looks on at Hendrick's Ranch Park. Despite the rainy day, the two were among more than a dozen others using the field Monday evening. Photo by Trina Ortega

we work with them to schedule the fields, maintain the fields, and make sure there's liability insurance in place for organized activities," he said.

There's also been talk at town hall of trying to purchase 11 acres adjacent to the Gus Darien Riding Arena from the U.S. Forest Service, which would accommodate two or three additional fields.

"The town would love to acquire that property," Jackel said, "but right now with the recessionary times we're in right now it's more difficult."

The third rail solution

For Jackel, Ritchie and others familiar with the situation, the most obvious site for a new multi-purpose field is the Delaney parcel, also known as Carbondale Nature Park.

The property is already owned by the town, so costs would be limited to building the field and providing sufficient parking. Local leagues would have priority for its use, instead of having to schedule in behind the school teams. And its location on the northeast edge of Carbondale puts it within walking or biking distance of nearly every neighborhood.

But development of Delaney has become the third rail of Carbondale politics. Town trustees are having an easier time with a proposal for 200-plus new units in the proposed Overlook neighborhood than they would putting a ball field on Delaney.

A conversation among town leaders last year about possibly enforcing leash laws on

the Delaney Parcel was answered by a vocal and well-organized group of dog owners who successfully urged no change.

The parcel was originally planned for fairly intense development, with a field and a nature park, but a combination of funding shortfalls and community disinterest kept it from being changed at all. A community survey conducted several years ago, Carbondale residents made it clear that they preferred passive uses of the property.

Currently, the 33-acre Delaney parcel is the ultimate canine playground, with open fields to run on and a ditch and a pond to jump in.

"Dogs aren't really into playing soccer, so I don't think they would really use it," said Amy Krakow, whose border collie, Flora, was celebrating her 16th birthday with a walk around the parcel.

"I like it how it is — the serenity of it, the fact that it's raw and undeveloped," said Damon Crocker as his two dogs, Hudson and Denise, both of unknown origin, made their way back to the car the other morning.

"I think this dog park, as it is, is one of the absolute best things about Carbondale," he added.

Next spring, dog walkers will have to start sharing 2 acres with a community garden that's been approved and is in the planning stage, but neither Crocker nor Krakow objected to that use.

Jackel said Delaney could accommodate the canine community, gardeners, soccer players and others with room to spare. But

News Briefs

'Marketplace' rezoning gets nod

The "Marketplace" development proposal — now called The Village at Crystal River — that has been in the works for nearly 10 years, got the green light for rezoning from the Carbondale Planning & Zoning Commission on May 28.

Developer Rich Schierburg asked the town to rezone the 24-acre parcel along north Highway 133 near Colorado Rocky Mountain School. His development proposal is mostly commercial and retail, with a 59,000-square-foot grocery store as the anchor tenant. As part of his plan, he requested that his two parcels be rezoned as a

planned unit development, or PUD.

"It's going to be my job to prove to you ... that I think it's in the best interest of Carbondale to adjust the zoning that's in place now and support the PUD that I'm requesting," Schierburg told the P&Z.

He said his plan meets the town's vision for that area with freestanding retail and commercial buildings, including a grocer, bank and restaurant, among other businesses, as well as providing some second- and third-story residential not originally identified by the town for that site.

P&Z members unanimously approved the PUD rezoning for The Village, saying it

allows more flexibility for both the town and the developer.

P&Z Chair Ben Bohmfalk said the current zoning gives way for a proposal that "much better reflects the community's desire" for the area.

"I think that the underlying zoning actually troubles me when I read it because it is completely auto-oriented," Bohmfalk said. "We're trying to move away from that."

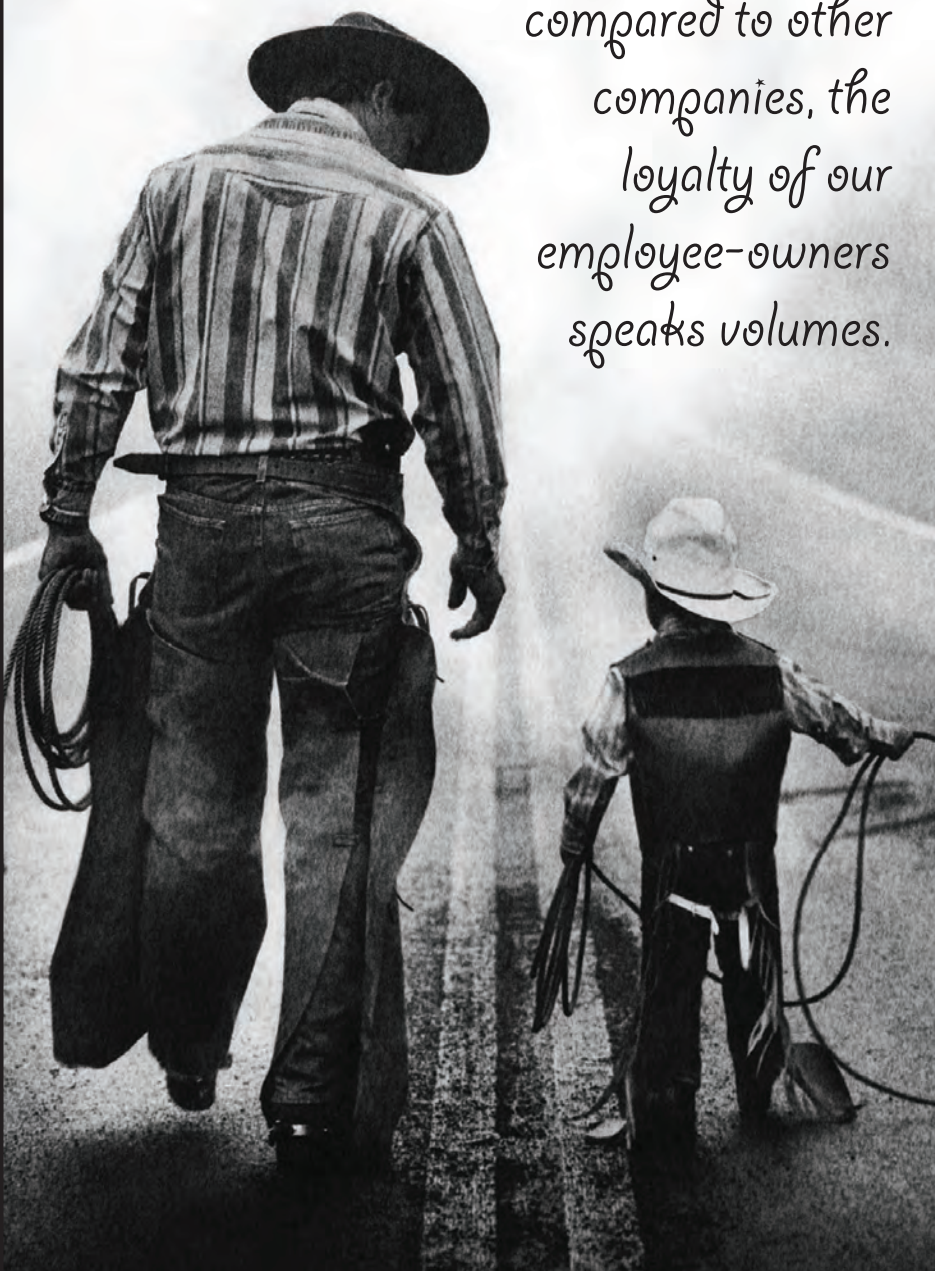
But Thursday's meeting was not the final approval for The Village. P&Z now will begin to deliberate the actual project plan and design at its June 25 meeting.

Solar rebate programs hard hit

Holy Cross Energy's "We Care" program is temporarily out of funds for rebates to assist with installation of solar electric systems. However, for those who have already completed the preapplication process, rebate funding is secure.

The rebate program at the Community Office for Resource Efficiency, funded from fees on residential building, has been hard-hit by the economic downturn, according to a CORE memo. However, supplemental funding is still available from CORE for PV installations. Contact CORE or your solar installer for more information.

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Above: The solar panels stolen from the rec. center were found in the back of this truck, which was seized. Right: Carbondale Police Chief Gene Schilling with the panels his department recovered after a weeklong investigation. Photos by Allyn Harvey



Solar panels

continued from page 1

Truck owner questioned

The owner of the truck is one of several people who have been questioned, but now one has been arrested. Schilling said it appears that more than one person was involved in the crime.

Jim Leuthauser, chief deputy district attorney, told the Sun he could not comment on the reason no arrest warrant has been issued because the case is still under investigation.

"There is very little we can tell you right now," Leuthauser said. "We don't want to prejudice the case."

The Carbondale Police Department is working on getting additional information for the DA's office, Schilling said. He said he couldn't predict when an arrest would be made.

"It could be a day; it could be several months," he said.

Bill Linn, Aspen's assistant police chief, said even though there was a link to this person, police don't yet have prosecutable evidence.

"Before we violate anyone's civil rights," Linn said, "we want to be sure."

Carbondale police officers Maria Spaziani and Matt Gardner have both been credited with helping to break the case.

Schilling said the public deserves credit, too, for the tips they gave his department.

Solar panel thefts on the rise

A New York Times article dated last September tells of several thefts around the country similar to the one that occurred in Carbondale, especially in California where solar installations have been much more common.

In one case, suspects were apprehended after trying to sell the modules on eBay. In another case, a solar criminal was caught after responding to an ad on Craigslist requesting solar panels, the Times reported.

A California paper, the St. Helena Star, reported that 40 photovoltaic panels were stolen last December from the City of Napa's

water treatment plant at Lake Hennessey.

The Napa Valley Register reported, also in December, that PV panels were stolen from two wineries. Thieves took 39 panels valued at \$50,000 from Honig Vineyard and Winery in late November, and 20 panels worth about \$20,000 from ZD Wines.

Measures to prevent loss of PV panels, such as surveillance cameras, alarms and guards, are commonplace in Europe.

System continues to generate

The cost of reinstalling the rec. center panels, estimated at about \$10,000, will be covered by insurance, Carbondale's Kay Philip said. She said the wire leads connecting the panels to the PV system were cut, but they may be able to be reconnected.

The stolen modules represent about 10 percent of the array on the building. The total number installed was 288, said Ken Olson, who installed the system in 2006.

The photovoltaic system will continue to produce electricity at only a slightly reduced capacity until the stolen modules are reinstalled. The whole system is rated at 51,840 watts, and the missing modules represent a loss of about 5,400 watts.

Reinstallation of the panels might be delayed by the district attorney's office, if they need to be used as evidence.

Olson said it was clear that the theft was pulled off the night of May 24. The electronic system that monitors the output of the solar array indicates that everything was producing normally through Sunday, but on Monday, the data monitoring wasn't working.

Allyn Harvey contributed to this story.



Counterclockwise from top right: Brook and Rose Le Van dancing the night away; Maia Cullwick, Riley Wheelless and Amelie Ogilby strike a pose; Pat Johnson yucks it up; Mustang Molly places something sweet on Carlos Herrera's cheek; Bob Johnson demands the whole bowl; Bob Naegele and Ron Speaker toast the sweet life. Photos by Jane Bachrach



Here's to livin' LA DOLCE VITA The Sweet Life!

It was Saturday night at the Carbondale Clay Center. Main Street at Second was closed to car traffic, but there was plenty of two-legged traffic, including kids, tweens (twitter teens), young adults and young-at-heart seniors. They all came out to support the Clay Center and enjoy an evening of great food, music, laughs and dancing.



Honor your father

The Sopris Sun wants to shine on your dad. Tell us in up to 100 words a favorite memory or simply why your world wouldn't be the same without dear ol' dad. Include both of your names and town of residence, along with a high-quality photo of your dad ... or both of you.

Submissions may be sent, by June 6, to news@sopris-sun.com or P.O. Box 399, Carbondale, CO 81623. Please include a contact number. Memories and photos will be published in the June 11 issue of The Sopris Sun.

One and the same

The Aspen Post Independent and the Glenwood Springs Times merged operations in all but name late last month.

While the papers will keep local news coverage "separate" and "independent," the sharing of that local news combined with the merger of advertising and all other coverage further erodes the brand that each paper once held.

The [Aspen] Times, once known for its funky lettering on the top of page one and decidedly liberal bent toward all matters concerning government and law enforcement, was decidedly different than the more conservative Glenwood Springs [Post] Independent. Of course, Aspen was decidedly more liberal than Glenwood Springs back in the day, so it made sense that the papers were top-to-bottom organizations that had little or nothing to do with one another.

Scuttlebutt wishes the pared down editorial departments the best of luck as they try to cover the ever-contentious politics of Aspen and the sprawling development (residential and industrial) of Garfield County. With only three full-time reporters on each staff, and having to figure out whether you want to talk to John, John or John at the Glenwood Springs Times, they have their work cut out for them.

The Sopris Sun plans to keep its eye [and coverage] focused on Carbondale, with an occasional foray out of the 81623 ZIP code.



Three square meals

Or, maybe they'll be round. We don't care what shape they are, we're just excited that as of June 2, The Village Smithy is open for dinner. Yes, it's true. The popular breakfast and lunch menu will be offered for supper, too, along with some select dinner specials. The restaurant will offer extended service Wednesday through Sunday, except for this Saturday, June 6, due to a previously scheduled private party. Bon Appétit!

Sounds easy

But it probably wasn't for Staci Dickerson, who closed the doors of her video store for the last time on Sunday.

Thanks to Staci, we have been able to enjoy hours of big screen entertainment in our homes for 26 years.

We'll miss you, Staci, but we know this is only the end of Act I. Good luck and thanks for giving us all the opportunity to laugh and cry, be scared and thoughtful, depressed and amazed.

On June 10, the community is invited to a thank you party for Staci for all that she has contributed to Carbondale. The party will be held at The Pour House and festivities start at 5:30.

Yvette Lamoureaux MacEachen will entertain and Skip Bell will provide complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Please come by and say thanks to one great lady.

Where's Soozie

Readers were remiss when they didn't see Soozie Lindbloom on a third consecutive cover of The Sopris Sun.

Not to worry. Soozie has made the paper once again, but this time her photogenic image won't be so easy to find. Your job, as the reader, is to find Soozie's lovely face. The first person who finds Soozie in this issue will get a free "unclassified." Include your phone number and email us at news@sopris-sun.com and the person who contacts us first is the winner.

Flashback

It's true and we're happy about it. Flash is back in Carbondale after spending six months in India and Thailand. Welcome home, Flash!

Walk in and scoot out

Can you guess what this year's Mountain Fair raffle ticket prize is? Bet you can't, but if you head on over to CCAH this Friday during First Fridays, not only will you find out but the prize will be there for you to try. And, after you try, we predict you'll wanna buy.

Why? Because this year's prize is an electric scooter from Mountain Utility Electric Vehicle (MUEV). The scooter will be out in front of CCAH on Friday for folks to try and Mountain Fair raffle tickets will also be on sale for \$5 each.

Wedding bells?

We heard from an unreliable source, that Alyssa Ohnmacht, publisher of the Crystal Valley Echo, is getting married next month. If it's true, we wish her the best, and if it's not, our unreliable source lives up to his/her title.



CARBONDALE: Early settlers in 1881 started cattle and sheep ranches and began growing potatoes, which for over 50 years was the mainstay crop of the Carbondale economy.

SPUDS: Potato: an edible tuber native to South America; a staple food of Ireland

SUBS: Bomber: a large sandwich made of a long crusty roll split lengthwise and filled with meats and cheese, tomato, onion and lettuce

\$5 BUCK SUBS: Frickin' Cheap!

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RFHS teacher Hentschel gets gold star from students, teachers, community



Lindsay Hentschel accepts the award, giant check and all, at the May 23 commencement exercises at RFHS. Photo by Jim Ryan

The first Carbondale Teacher Appreciation Fund was awarded May 23 to Roaring Fork High School teacher Lindsay Hentschel, the English Department chair. Hentschel was granted \$3,500 from a group of anonymous donors who plan to expand it to Carbondale's other schools in the future.

Hentschel is in her second year at RFHS and also taught language arts at Carbondale Middle. In addition to literature and English classes, she teaches journalism (look for the Rampage monthly in The Sopris Sun), and

creative writing (the students print a creative page in the Crystal Valley Echo, too). On the extracurricular side, she is the student council sponsor and sponsors The World Activist Club with husband Hadley. She also served as an assistant track coach this year.

To learn about how special Hentschel is, read on.

The Sopris Sun: How does it feel to be the recipient of the first-ever Carbondale Teacher Appreciation Fund Award?

Lindsay Hentschel: It's an honor to be recognized especially knowing that this is based on the feelings of students, parents, and the community. I believe that education is a partnership, and I am so grateful for the willingness of my students to engage, the support of parents, and the involvement of the community. Carbondale is a very special place to teach. I couldn't do a lot of what I do if it wasn't for such a supportive staff and administration.

Sun: This is a nice statement of support from the community. Do you know how you'll spend the money?

Hentschel: Even though there has been some negativity about Carbondale schools around, I have to say that I've never personally heard it or felt it. I have always felt valued and supported in this community, and this is just one more example of that support.

The major dilemma facing my husband and I has been how to afford and attend graduate school while working and living in this valley. We both started teaching straight out of college, and not only do we both wish

to pursue higher education, but we also know it is a necessity to stay in this profession and area financially. Hadley is actually starting a graduate program at Montana State University this summer, and I believe that is the most beneficial area to put the money towards. After he completes his degree, I hope to begin working on a Master's of Fine Arts in either Creative Nonfiction or Poetry, but I am still deciding on a program. Spending the money towards further education seems like the best investment for our future.

Sun: How will this fund continue to inspire your colleagues?

Hentschel: I think the fund is inspiring to everyone in that it's a concrete show of support. For younger teachers trying to get established in this area, I think the money could make a noticeable difference.

Sun: Why did you go into teaching?

Hentschel: I've wanted to be a teacher since I was a little girl. I wrote in my kindergarten "All About Me" book: "When I grow up, I want to be a teacher." When I was in elementary school, they used to throw away old books on the last day of school — I would pull them out of the trash cans and teach "summer school" to the younger kids in my neighborhood. In high school, I ran a Writing Club for my sister and some of her friends and a Historical Society for some other neighborhood girls — teaching has always been something I've naturally fallen into and enjoyed. Sometimes the job gets overwhelming and I try to imagine myself doing something else, but I really can't.

Sun: What keeps you motivated in your job?

Hentschel: There are so many things that are motivating about teaching: when a student writes a paper or passes a difficult test and is proud of himself or herself, when a student comes to me to recommend a book for them or tells me about a book they loved, or when students feel comfortable sharing their stories with me. I guess it all comes back to the students.

Staying involved with the students in and out of the classroom helps me stay motivated. Of course, I want them to love literature and writing, but realistically I know they all won't, but if they know that I care about them as individuals, that's what really matters to me. Sometimes that's really hard to accomplish since I teach 136 students, but that's my goal. I guess I have a lot of faith that what I do matters even if in the moment it seems like we're not getting anywhere!

Sun: Any other thoughts?

Hentschel: I am really able to do what I do and be involved at the level I am because of my husband. He really pulls me through some tight spots when too many things are happening at once. He keeps me sane and balanced and well fed! I think it's really hard for teachers sometimes when their spouses are not involved in education because it's difficult for the spouses to understand the commitment and energy this job requires and how it stays with you all the time even when you're not at work, so I feel very fortunate that my husband and I share a passion for education and student success.

EVERY WEDNESDAY



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Community Calendar

To list your event, email information to news@soprisun.com.
Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. Events take place in Carbondale unless noted.

THURSDAY, June 4

TIE-DYE DAY • As part of its summer reading program, Gordon Cooper Library will host a tie dye workshop for kids to create their own T-shirt at 10 a.m. June 9 at Sopris Park. The deadline to sign up is June 4 at the library. Call 963-2889 for details.

HEALTH CARE TALK • Western Colorado Area Health Education Center presents "How to Make Healthcare Affordable," a regional discussion on health care availability and affordability for Coloradans, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. June 4 at 108 Eighth St. in Glenwood Springs. For more information, call (970) 434-5474, ext. 104.

TWEEN SINGING • Registration is open for Lisa Dancing-Light's "Sing Like a Star Write Like a Pro" summer performance events for tweens from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 22-26, July 6-10, Aug. 10-14. Tweens will develop their stage voices using a microphone, learn how to cope with performance anxiety, and how to write and record a song. No previous musical training necessary. For prices and to enroll, email lisadancinglight.com or call 963-3330.

FILM EXHIBITION • The Aspen Art Museum presents the group exhibition "No Sound," a mix of silent avant-garde film, rarely exhibited early video works, and recent film and video moving-image work by three generations of artists working in both

Europe and the United States. "No Sound" is on view through July 19.

THEATRE ASPEN • Tickets and subscriptions for Theatre Aspen's 2009 Summer Season are on sale. Special offers for those purchasing before June 5. View the complete calendar at www.theatraspen.org. For tickets, call 920-5770 or visit www.aspenshowtickets.com.

FRIDAY, June 5

MOVIES • The Crystal Theatre shows "Star Trek" (PG-13) at 8 p.m. June 5-11. Also showing at 6 p.m. June 6-7, "Earth" (R).

STUDIO TOUR • The Carbondale Community School presents the sixth annual Roaring Fork Valley Studio Tour kicking off on June 5 for a First Fridays artists' reception and silent auction from 6-10:30 p.m. at the Carbondale Recreation and Community Center. Studio tours held 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 6-7. For more info and to purchase maps, call 963-9647.

FIRST FRIDAYS • The monthly Carbondale art celebration, First Fridays, features gallery openings and extended business hours near and along Main Street. Most events are from 5-9 p.m.

POLITICS & MUSIC • Saxophonist/clarinetist and political writer and speaker Gilad Atzmon will appear on KDNK between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. June 5 and will play, speak

and answer questions at Steve's Guitars at 8:30 p.m. that night. Gilad is a "larger than life" musical figure who will share his incredible music and some of his personal, political philosophy. He'll be joined by Larry Luchowski on keyboards and drummer Chris Goplerud for the Steve's show. \$15 at the door. For more about Gilad, visit www.gilad.co.uk/politiks.htm and www.myspace.com/giladatzmon.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, June 5-6

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP • Redstone Art Foundation presents "Creative Photography in a Digital World" taught by Roberta McGowan from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 5-6 in Redstone. The two-day course will help you develop your skills and learn to see a scene as the camera will record it. You will also learn about capturing a moment in time. Cost of workshop for RAF members is \$150, non-members is \$165. Contact Betty at 704-9963 to register or for more information go to www.redstoneartfoundation.org.

HORSE SHOW • Strang Ranch will host a horse show, including classes for children



and adults riding flats and over jumps. Spectators welcome, and show time is 8 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Lunch is available from Big Mamma's Catering. Call the ranch for more information at 963-2319.

VINTAGE CAR SHOW • The Valley Cruisers Car Show coincides with First Fridays June 5-6. This antique car show and parade is held on Main Street in downtown Carbondale. For more information, visit www.valleycruisers.org/events.html.

CHILI & BREWS • Snowmass Chili Pepper & Brew Fest features world-qualifying International Chili Society cook-offs and tastings, microbrew competition and samplings from 100 microbrew varieties along and live music. For info go to www.snowmasschiliandbrew.com or call (800) SNOWMASS.

'WIRELESS DILEMMA' • Recent links made between electromagnetic radiation emitting from cell phones and other wireless technology to headaches, sleeping problems, tumors and cancer will be discussed in semi-

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ars on June 5 and 6 at the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs. Sessions are open to the public. Friday's seminar begins at 7 p.m. with the talk "The Wireless Dilemma - an Inconvenient Truth about Convenient Technologies." The event continues, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday with more information presented on protection against electromagnetic health risks. For more information and to register for this event, visit www.bioprocolorado.com or call Laine Weinstein at 948-0724 or Renelle Lott at 948-8707.

SATURDAY, June 6

CAR WASH • Carbondale Boy Scout Troop 235 will be holding a fundraising car wash from 7:30 a.m. to noon behind the Dollar Store on Highway 133. Troop 235 is trying to raise funds for the boys to attend the National Boy Scout Jamboree next year in Washington, D.C. It will be the 100th anniversary of scouting in America.

THUNDER RIVER RUN • The stage is set for the Thunder River Theater's 5 K run/walk in Carbondale. A dramatic 5 K run/walk follows a scenic course through Carbondale and along the Rio Grande Trail. The race curtain rises at 8 a.m. in the center of downtown. Proceeds benefit the Thunder River Theater Company's youth programs. There will be a raffle and prizes in age groups and for the Best Costume.

CRMS GRADUATION • The Colorado Rocky Mountain School Class of 2009 graduation ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. on the lawn outside the Barn on the CRMS campus, 1493 County Road 106. The school graduates 41 boarding and day seniors, 100 percent of whom have been ac-

cepted to college.

MODERN DANCE CLASS • A modern dance class for adults and teens will be held from 1:30-3 p.m. Saturdays and 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays through August (holidays excluded). For more information, contact Fran Page at 927-0641 or aspendance@sopris.net.

TRAIL WORK PROJECTS • Celebrate National Trails Day with a half-day project on the new Wulfsohn Trail in Glenwood Springs beginning at 8:30 a.m., or on the new Music Tent Trail in Aspen for a full day beginning at 8:30 a.m. Projects organized through Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers. Register online at rfo.org or by calling 927-8241.

HAWG RIDE • The eighth annual Harley-Davidson Ride for a Cure begins in Grand Junction and comes through the valley on June 6. The Glenwood Springs registration takes place from 9:30-10:15 a.m. at Aspen Valley Harley-Davidson, and the ride begins at 10:30 a.m. Riders must collect a minimum of \$35 in donations. For more information, call (970) 241-2181.

CELEBRATE ART • Minds Over Mountainz, a celebration of live art, music, poetry, graffiti and self-expression, takes place from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. June 6 at Two Rivers Park. All ages. The goal of the event is to provide a platform for the people and communities of the Roaring Fork Valley where they openly, freely and publicly express themselves using a positive art form.

SUNDAY, June 7

BLUEGRASS NIGHT • Dos Gringos Burritos holds Family Bluegrass Night every

Sunday. Kids are welcome to this Sunday night jam, beginning at 5 p.m. with kids' meal special deals and sidewalk chalk for additional entertainment.

GARDEN CLUB MEETS • The Garden Ho's Social Club invites area gardeners — the short, tall, obsessed, crazy, avante garde, ornery, stubborn, open-minded or enthusiastic — to join our full moon wining & dining social club from 7-9 p.m. on the full moon of each month. Email Genevieve@evolvinglandscape.com or Gretchen, ghofmann@sopris.net, for June 7 details.

MONDAY, June 8

PUBLIC COMMENT DUE • The Bureau of Land Management Glenwood Springs Energy Office is seeking public comment on an oil and gas exploration and development proposal on federal minerals five miles south of Rulison. Written comments due to Glenwood Springs Energy Office at 2425 S. Grand Ave., Suite 101, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601. Electronic comments to gsfo@mail.co.blm.gov. Copies of the plan available for review at the BLM Glenwood Springs Energy Office. Digital copies available at http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gsf/GSFO_MasterPlansOfDevelopment.html

OPEN STUDIO • The Third Street Artists invite you to join in an open studio (all media) from 4-7 p.m. Mondays at Carbondale's new Third Street Center at the old elementary school. Walk-in \$10/four consecutive sessions \$20. Bring all your materials. Work in the company of other artists. Call 963-2122 or 963-8275 for more info.

TUESDAY, June 9

SUMMER CAMP • Adventure Camp of Alpine Christian Academy begins June 9. Spaces for daily, weekly and summer-long enrollment are still available. For more info or to register, call Jodi Barr at 309-7757.

TRUSTEES MEETING • The Carbondale Board of Trustees meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, June 10

ENGLISH VOLUNTEERS • English In Action is looking for volunteers to work one on one with adult immigrants to learn English. The next training is from 5:30-8:30 p.m. June 10 at the EIA center in El Jebel. Volunteers need no previous teaching or foreign language experience. For more information, contact Liz at 963-9200 or visit www.englishinaction.org.

LIVE MUSIC • The Porchlights play "Rock-n-Roll from the Mountaintops" from 7-10 p.m. at White House Pizza.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, June 12-13

MUSIC & LOBSTER • The Annual Music & Lobster Fest takes place June 12-13 at Sopris Park. Feast on fresh lobster flown in from Maine and enjoy more than 100 local musicians play seven venues. Tickets for a full Maine Lobster dinner on Saturday are \$35 and can be purchased at the Carbondale Recreation Center, Glenwood Music, Carbondale Chamber and Steve's Guitars. For more information, call 963-3304.

THE CARBONDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL PRESENTS THE 6TH ANNUAL

Roaring Fork Valley Studio Tour

June 5, 6 & 7, 2009



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Charmaine Locke



Shannon Muse

"First Friday", June 5th (6pm - 10:30pm)

Artist Reception & Silent Auction, at the Carbondale Recreation Center. Purchase tickets (\$25) at the Carbondale Rec Center or call the Carbondale Community School at 970.963.9647.

June 6 & 7 (11am - 5pm)

Studios are open to the public. Observe demonstrations, see private collections and purchase pieces. Look for the 2009 Studio Tour Artist Directory & Map on sale throughout the valley.

For more information call the Carbondale Community School at 970.963.9647 or visit us at www.roaringforkstudiotour.org.

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Car enthusiasts breathe life into rusty, old vehicles

By Ron Madsen
Valley Cruisers Car Club

You don't have to be a "crazy car person" to enjoy the 11th annual Valley Cruisers Car Show, "Cruisin' the Rockies," taking place Friday and Saturday, June 5-6, in downtown Carbondale. The event features cars of all types, from perfectly restored original cars to outlandish hot rods, customs, and everything in between.

The Valley Cruisers Car Club has been a part of the valley for the last 12 to 13 years. It started back in the mid-90s and now has about 35 members. The club is for people who have a love of cars, whether new or old.

Car people are mostly normal and come from all walks of life, but they have a passion about their cars and, in some cases, get a little crazy when they get around certain cars. The term "Car Crazy" has been used to identify these types of people, and it's fitting.

Many of the old restorations and hot rod customs, have started from no more than a rusty hulk found rotting in a field or with a tree growing up through the floor board. One of these car-crazy types has carefully gone out and rescued this car from certain death and step by step — maybe over several years — has brought it back to life. It may even be made better than the day it was first "born."

Some enthusiasts do their own work, such as rebuilding engines, painting or detailing the car. Often, the owner does part of the work and has some of the more detail-oriented work done by professionals. But in every case, hundreds if not thousands of



The Valley Cruisers car show give "crazy car people" a chance to show off their hard work. Cars will be parked along Main Street Friday and Saturday morning. Submitted image

'Cruisin' the Rockies' car show, June 5-6

Friday

3:30 p.m. — Poker run begins at Sopris Park
6 p.m. — Friday night cruise night; cars parked on Main Street
7 p.m. — Live music by the Strollin Scones

Saturday

7 a.m. — Registration; cars parked downtown for the day
11 a.m. — Strollin Scones
2 p.m. — Awards and raffle drawing for 350 V-8 engine

Other info: To register your car for the show, call Ron at 945-1008 or go to www.valleycruisers.org. You may also register at Sopris Park starting at 2 p.m. on Friday or on Saturday morning. The Lions Club will have a food both Friday night and Saturday. The Lions Club also will sell raffle tickets (open to all) for a chance to win a new 350 V-8 engine.

Contact: 945-1008 or www.valleycruisers.org

hours have gone into bringing the car to the one-of-a-kind vehicle that will be sitting at the show or cruising down the highway.

In many cases the restoration or building of the car has become a family affair with sons, daughters and more getting involved in the building of the car in the garage (or a garage borrowed from a friend).

Bringing a car to life, or back to life, can be a very challenging proposition and owners may wonder if the dream of owning a special car will ever be realized. Sometimes, cars are left undone and sold to the highest bidder because the owner ran out of money or steam or both. However, in the cases where the car finally does come together, you will find no one more proud than the owner of that car. And there is nothing better for him or her than to get the car out and drive it, and hear someone comment that they like the car or to get the thumbs up from a passing motorist or pedestrian. That makes it all worth while.

The goal of the Valley Cruisers is to keep the car hobby alive and well in the area, to provide a place where car people can get together to enjoy their cars, and to help each other with their projects. New members are always welcome to join in the fun.

We urge you to come to this weekend's show and talk with the owners of the cars, find out just what it took to bring the car to the place it is today, understand the frustration, time and money it took, and most of all understand that owner's passion for that vehicle and what it means to him or her.

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Home sweet home is defined by the objects a person collects

By Jessi Rochel
Community Correspondent

Kelly McKibben's artwork is about object collection — how she collects, how other people collect, and how objects tell a story about all of us.

"How you collect objects tells about your personality. I tell a personal narrative through decorative objects," said McKibben, the studio tech and resident artist at the Carbondale Clay Center, and June's featured artist. Her solo show opens at 6 p.m. June 5 for First Fridays.

McKibben's themes are largely Victorian with images of old-fashioned objects, women and domesticity. During the Victorian Era, there was an emphasis on how objects not only spoke of who you were but represented your values and morals, too.

A Colorado native hailing from Longmont, McKibben's family moved often so she's lived all over the U.S. She cites this influence as a driving factor behind her work.

"A new house is just an empty building until you unpack. Then it's home," McKibben explained. To her, "home is object-based, rather than location-based."

One image that appears often throughout McKibben's work is an old washing machine on wheels. It is a domestic object, but the wheels represent its journey. It is

mobile, but it will always be a washing machine. Another image is of a Kitchen Aid. McKibben grew up hearing that she could only have one when she got married, thus associating "real" appliances with marriage. These images are how McKibben evaluates domesticity and female identity. "When do you really become a woman?" she poses.

One of McKibben's defining characteristics is print-making on clay. She uses fabric and wallpaper patterns — another motif representing the feminine realm.

McKibben utilizes the wheel as a tool but wants her creations to retain a warm, approachable feel, so she combines throwing and hand-building.

"I want the hand visible in the work," she said, adding that rather than appearing tight and controlled, she wants her work to speak to the everyday object, to every person.

As unlikely as it sounds, a high school course in government was McKibben's one-way ticket into the art world. She ditched the class to take ceramics instead. And at Western Kentucky University, a painting major was McKibben's gateway to clay. There, too, she kept skipping painting assignments in favor of getting her hands in clay.

McKibben connected with the Clay Center after completing a graduate program in fine arts at Southern Illinois University. Not only does the CCC have a

This plate by Kelly McKibben shows her print-making techniques. Photo by Trina Ortega



national reputation, it was the program McKibben was looking for.

"The clay center is a real passion for me. I like how the town gets behind the center, and all the art in the area," she said.

She is about halfway through her two-year term at the CCC, which also involves teaching youth and adult classes. Additionally, McKibben is involved in the Youth Recovery Center, a program that partners the Clay Center with Valley View Hospital. As the studio tech, she runs the kilns.

McKibben's show includes two collec-


tions — both consisting of plates and other objects — as well as some other pieces. Everything is for sale. "I keep some work, and sell some work. I keep the important transitional pieces, but I don't make my work to keep," she said. "This is my first show out of grad school. So it's more me, more what I do. And that's both daunting and exciting."

An artist's reception will be from 6-8 p.m. Friday at the Clay Center, 135 Main St. For more information about McKibben, visit www.kellymckibben.com.



JUNE 2009

FINE DINING IN A COWBOY CASUAL ATMOSPHERE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Softball Team Specials!	2 Softball Team Specials!	3 Ladies Hump Day Special	4	5 First Friday	6
7	8 Softball Team Specials!	9 Donald's 75th Birthday 	10 Ladies Hump Day Special	11	12	13
14	15 Softball Team Specials!	16 Softball Team Specials!	17 HAPPY HOUR Well Drinks \$3.00	18	19	20 LIVE MUSIC
21 Father's Day \$1.50 Drafts for Dads ALL DAY!!	22 Softball Team Specials!	23 Softball Team Specials!	24 \$1 JELLO SHOTS	25	26 Last Friday Specials	27
28	29 Softball Team Specials!	30 Softball Team Specials!		<p>LIVE MUSIC Carbondale All Stars!!!!!! Saturday, June 20th 9pm-11pm</p>		

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351 MAIN STREET- HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CARBONDALE- 963-3553

Loeschen captures the Old West



Linda Loeschen's watercolor "Horses in Water" is among the pieces on exhibit at Main Street Gallery & The Framer. An artist's reception will be from 6-8 p.m. Friday.

Linda Loeschen was leading a comfortable life back in New Jersey with her husband and young daughter. Having just graduated from Parsons School of Design, in New York City, she was just starting her career as an interior designer and renderer.

"All of the sudden my life was turned upside down. My husband hit a tree while skiing and was killed," Loeschen writes in her artist's bio.

Two years later, after the shock lessened and she took stock of her life, she decided the best option was to move somewhere where she could pursue all of her interests (indoor and out) in one location. That place was Aspen.

"Now that was the right decision, but it wasn't until 10 years later when I entered a local art show that I became known as an artist and not a dance teacher," she said.

Loeschen has a small ranch in Emma with her current husband, Lee, who loves horses. She started painting his cowboy hats, boots and more, starting the cowboy theme prevalent in her work.

"I love the Old West fence lines, horses kicking up dust and just about anything weathered and worn. Even moreso as this lifestyle is quickly disappearing," said Loeschen, who primarily works in watercolor but is starting to experiment with other mediums.

Says gallery owner Frank Norwood: "She's an interesting person with a varied background. Her work, watercolors and acrylics, are in a style that is all her own but with wide appeal to the public."

Loeschen's work is on display at Main Street Gallery and the Framer. A First Fridays reception will be from 6-8 p.m. June 5.

First Fridays Happenings

Artists' Studio Tour

Approximately 66 artists from 41 studios working in a variety of media from Glenwood Springs to Aspen are participating in the sixth annual Roaring Fork Valley Artists' Studio Tour June 5-7. The Studio Tour is the major fundraising event for the Carbondale Community School, a public charter school in the Roaring Fork School District.

Usually held in the fall, the tour begins at 6 p.m. June 5 with a First Fridays artist reception, gallery exhibit and sale at the Carbondale Recreation and Community Center, 567 Colorado Ave.

The reception includes cuisine from local restaurants, a spirits and martini bar, a silent auction, and live entertainment from Funky Monkey and The Thunder Luv and The Redtones. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the rec. center or by calling the CCS at 963-9647.

On June 6-7, participating artists open their studios to the public. During the weekend, patrons and art aficionados visit the artists' studios, watch the artists in action, and can purchase art to benefit CCS art programs.

The artist directory/map is for sale for \$15. See www.roaringforkstudiotour.org for more information.

CCAH

For the Carbondale Council on Arts and Humanities' June exhibit, "Wild

Wheels," local artists will display their creations that focus on wheels — art cars, lawnmowers, barbecue grills, wheelbarrows, wagons, scooters, skateboards, hubcaps, pinewood derby cars and more.

The show opens with a First Fridays reception from 6-8 p.m. June 5 and runs through the month.

Visit www.carbondalearts.com or call 963-1680 for more info.

Kahhak Fine Arts & School

Majid Kahhak will paint live from 6-8 p.m. June 5 at Kahhak Fine Arts & School, 411 Main St. The painting will be inspired by summer. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served. For more info, call 704-0622.

SAW (Studio for Arts + Works)

June will feature a group show at S.A.W. (Studio for Arts + Works). Artists in the show include Nancy Barbour, Stanley Bell, Steven Colby, Kate Davenport, Anne Goldberg, Angus Graham, Colby June, Gretchen Koenig, Andrea Korber and Alex Watson. A variety of ceramics, jewelry, paintings and prints are featured.

An opening reception will be from 6-9 p.m. Friday at the studio, 978 Euclid Avenue

In addition, S.A.W. will be open for the Roaring Fork Valley Artists Studio Tour on June 6-7.

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'Big Time Fun' at Carbondale's Wild West Rodeo begins

By Kathy Small
Carbondale Wild West Rodeo

The Carbondale Wild West Rodeo is returning to Carbondale for its seventh season for a 12-week series running until August 20. The first rodeo was held June 4.

The very popular rodeo series is produced by a not-for-profit, volunteer association committed to keeping the Roaring Fork Valley's western heritage alive by offering a fun family-oriented event for residents and visitors alike.

"We are a small town rodeo with big time fun for everyone," says Association President Dave Weimer. "We have improved the parking policies around the fence this year to ensure more folks have a chance to back up their truck to see all the action."

Also new this year, Carbondale Wild West Rodeo T-shirts and caps will be offered for sale. Continues Weimer: "We are excited to donate all proceeds from the sale of the merchandise to be split equally between three local charities — Tom's Door, Black Sheep 4H and Wind Walkers. It's a win-win all around. Rodeo fans have asked us for souvenirs, it expands our contribution to the community and at the same time, we get volunteers to help us park cars," Weimer adds with a laugh.

The rodeo continues to expand its lineup for youth. New this year, an exciting event, Break Away Roping, was added for girls ages 8-16 years old or boys from 8-14 years old.

"This is a fast-action event where the kids need speed and precision to win," says Rodeo Association Vice President Mike Kennedy.

Admission prices and contestant entry fees are the same as the last several years, to ensure an affordable family event. "With the price of gas, our car load price of \$25 for up to six people offers a real bargain. Com-



A participant in the Barrel Racing Event rounds a turn during a Carbondale Wild West Rodeo. Photo by Shorty Williams, Sopris Photography

ing out together to the rodeo with friends, family or neighbors is what it's all about," says Weimer. Children under 10 are free.

The 2009 Rodeo Royalty will be featured in the Grand Entry again this year, which is at 7:30 p.m. Chantri Knotts is this year's queen. Emily Schwaller is 2009 queen attendant and the princesses are Ashlyn Gerbaz and Madilyn Kuhl. The royalty serves as role models for young women and as in past years, the

CWWR will provide scholarship funds to the royalty.

For the third year in a row, a celebration for breast cancer survivors, called "The Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo," will be held on July 16. It is a joint effort with the Aspen Affiliate of Susan G. Komen For The Cure, and the Carbondale Wild West Rodeo will donate a portion of the gate proceeds of the "Pink" rodeo to the Aspen Affiliate. Free admission to all breast cancer survivors is also offered on that night.

Voices of VALLEY VIEW HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



Why I Give

"We give to the foundation because we think the hospital is one of the community's major assets and we are very impressed with what's happened in such a short period of time to make it even better than it was before. We find it easy to make Valley View a top priority for planned giving."

John and Arleen Ginn
CARBONDALE

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A successful Career Day

Dear Editor:
Due to a communications snafu we are tardy in getting this published, but what a time we had at Roaring Fork High School Career Day on March 27! Owners and representatives from 41 valley businesses spent the morning opening our students' eyes and minds to some of the diverse opportunities that await them in the "real world" beyond high school and college.

Through questions, answers and interaction, they helped our young people to make the connection between learning and everyday applications of academics. They were insightful, engaging, entertaining, passionate and eloquent. They gave our students plenty of food for thought.

All of us at Roaring Fork High School thank you, presenters, for making a difference; for your time, energy and enthusiasm! Thank you for caring about our kids, for kindling a spark, for sharing your experiences.

It is a big world out there, filled with innovation, creativity and opportunity — what fun to be able to bring together, under one roof, a sampling of what lies ahead. We hope that Career Day at Roaring Fork will be an annual event!

Thank you all!
Jenny Tempest, Leslie Keery and the RFHS School community

Bonedale loves bikes

Dear Editor:
The second annual Bonedale Bike Week

took place in May with huge success, thanks to the support of numerous people and businesses in the community. We had over 200 people show up for the various events — all riding their bikes!

A big thanks to Grana Bread for providing free coffee to cyclists each morning; Blue Tent Marketing, Eshelman Construction and Saturn Printing for providing the free T-shirts; Ovid Nine Graphics Lab for T-shirt, web and poster design; Gear Exchange for donating the Phat Snap that we gave away Friday night (Cailen Hollenback was the lucky winner); the Carbondale Rec. Department, especially Eric Brendlinger, for hosting the Bike Rodeo and Monday night party; New Belgium Brewing for donating the beer; City Market for food at the kick-off party and Peppinos for feeding us at bike polo; Green Line Architects for all the various things you guys did; Ajax Bike & Sport, Ute City Cycles, Smart-Wool and Wheel Riders for providing prizes and time.

We were overwhelmed by community support! Also, through donations collected during the week, we are able to donate to Project Rwanda, a nonprofit that provides "coffee bikes" for coffee growers in Rwanda, allowing growers to transport coffee beans quickly and safely. (For more information, check out ProjectRwanda.org.)

And of course, thanks to our team of dedicated bike-lovers who put this on (especially Dave, Rhonda, Adam, Darryl, Steve and Tracy) and everyone who came out to celebrate bikes. We'll see you next year during

National Bike to Work Week — but don't forget you can bike to work/school every day!

Jessica Downing
Bonedale Bike Week

Activities Fair appreciation

Dear Editor:
The Roaring Fork Family Resource Centers would like to celebrate the success of our Summer Activities Fairs in El Jebel on May 9 and in Carbondale on May 15. Thank you to both Eagle County and Roaring Fork High School for the use of their facilities for these events.

Local organizations from Aspen to Glenwood Springs offered children of all ages an opportunity to sign up for fun and educational summer programs. During the fair all of the participating organizations offered scholarships or promoted free programs to the attendees. Over 40 children walked away with very generous scholarships with values up to \$375 each.

Thank you to the following organizations: Alpine Christian Academy Adventure Camp, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen Basketball Academy, Aspen Youth Center, Aspen Youth Experience, Basalt Library, Basalt Boy Scouts, Basalt Recreation, Basalt Pool, Camp Chip-A-Tooth, Basalt Soccer Club, Camp Aspen/Snowmass, Camp Blue Lake, Camp Oginali, Carbondale Recreation, Carbondale Soccer Club, Christ Community Church Vacation Bible School, Church at Carbondale Sports Camp, Crown Moun-

tain Recreation District, Dancing Colours, Eagle County Volunteer Program, Eagle/Pitkin County Public Assistance, Jimmy Byrne Piano Lessons, Kidzplex, Mountain Kids Academy, Roaring Fork Transit Authority, River Valley Ranch, Rock Bottom Ranch, Rocky Mountain Martial Arts, Sopris Therapy Services, Thunder River Gymnastics/ RMI Trampoline Camp, True Media Foundation, Water Babies, Windwalkers, WIN Health Institute, Wyly Arts, and YouthEntity.

We would also like to thank the volunteers who helped to make these events possible and to enable us to continue to meet our mission of connecting families, schools and communities to improve student health, well-being, and academic achievement.

The volunteers were: Barbara Mason, Penny Ridley, Ligia Bonilla and Ladibel Bonilla. Thank you to our staff members who put in extra time: Astrid Baroffio, Maggie Cruz-Herrera, Jenny Lindsay, Kerry Ach, Cheryl Jadwin, Lisa Ralston, Janet Earley, Pam Rosenthal, and Ruth Muse.

If you were unable to attend the fairs, please contact the organizations directly to learn more about their programs throughout the valley.

Have a great summer.
Katie Marshall,
events coord.
Roaring Fork Family
Resource Centers



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Close call a stark reminder of basic backcountry safety

Last week I trekked the slot canyons of the San Rafael Swell in the Utah desert with an experienced group of folks who collectively possessed decades of outdoor experience.



Deerfly Diaries

by Sue Melus

Halfway through the narrow backcountry — the same canyon in which hikers recently found the body of 54 year-old Rose Backhaus — we got into trouble.

On a short, but tricky rappel, I flipped over backwards, slammed my head and body into a rock wall and was left hanging upside down by the rope, feet straight up in the air with a nasty cut on my head.

I soon realized I could free my legs from under the rope that pinned them to the rock. With my legs free, I was able to right myself and complete the rappel. Banged up, bruised and bleeding, we completed the long hike out of the canyon and back to the safety of our camp. In the end, I was OK. We were very lucky.

In preparation for our trip, we forgot basic tenants of outdoor safety. We were miles into the backcountry with no first-aid kit and our climbing helmets were back in the truck. We had not properly matched the skill sets of the participants to the skills required for the trip. I didn't have climbing experience, and it put me and everyone else in

the group in danger.

Whether it's a day trip, a river float or a long pack trip, make sure that you have thought through all the details in case you find yourself in the way of danger. When things get serious, it's not the time to be saying, "We should have known better."

Some basic rules to remember:

Pack a well-stocked first-aid kit. It's not that heavy. Don't leave it in the car.

Make sure that everyone's abilities are suited for the trip. When you plan your trip, make sure to either choose an itinerary that is well-suited for everyone's abilities or choose the trip and then pick people who are right for the trip. It's when you mix the two that you run into trouble.

Bring proper safety gear and make sure everyone knows how to use it.

Discuss in advance who in the group has medical training.

Identify a trip leader and make sure everyone else is briefed on the trip itinerary. It's important for everyone to know where the group is headed, what to expect, and how to follow the map.

Tell someone on the outside where you are going and when you'll return.

Stick together and stick with the plan.

Despite our best intentions, our past successes, love of the outdoors and familiarity with the backcountry made us complacent. We were quick to assume that we were ready for everything that lay ahead.

Even with the most thorough planning, accidents happen. The best you can do is be prepared for the worst and have a plan of action in case things do go awry.

Read more from Sue Melus at her blog, www.deerflydiaries.com.



STAR PLAYERS. Congratulations to the Roaring Fork High School Rams baseballers for an exciting season and to the players who made All Conference: sophomore Jake Strack Loertscher (Catcher); sophomore Alex Rascon (Outfielder); and freshman Clay Gross (Honorable Mention Utility Player). Pictured, front row from left to right: Dana Holley, Thomas Cerise, Tamer Giannetti, Daniel Javalara, Shea Nieslanik, Oscar Beltran, Clay Gross and Jordan Hirro. Back row, l-r: Matt Alberico, Alex Rascon, Michael Black, Nino Santiago, Tim Nieslanik, Frank Markoya, Jake Strack Loertscher, Jack Stokan and Trent Reeds.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Carbondale Board of Adjustment and Appeals for the purpose of considering an application seeking relief from the minimum rear yard setback in the Residential Low Density zone district to accommodate a deck roof at a single family residence. A variance would allow the deck roof to encroach to within 4 feet of the rear property line, at the closest point.

The applicant/owner is Donald and Carolyn Gillow. The property is located at 771 Latigo Loop. The legal description is Lot 5, Roaring Fork Village Filing No. III, Town of Carbondale, County of Garfield, State of Colorado.

Said Public Hearing will be held at the Carbondale Town Hall, 511 Colorado Avenue, Carbondale, Colorado at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2009.

Copies of the proposed application are on file in The Planning Department office, Town Hall, 511 Colorado Avenue, Carbondale, Colorado and may be examined by interested persons during regular working hours, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Kay Philip
Assistant Town Planner

Publish: 1x on June 4, 2009

Bill: Town of Carbondale
511 Colorado Avenue
Carbondale, Co. 81623

Send POP to: Kay Philip, Planning Dept.
511 Colorado Avenue
Carbondale, Co. 81623

Ref: 771 Latigo Loop BOA

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