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EPIC TREK

Tears in the eyes of Arab migrants upon welcome in Germany. Page A15





Pampering for cause

Abraham Connection fundraiser features spa services

By Katie Langford

DAILY PRESS STAFF WRITER

Manicures, eyebrow waxing and massages are the vehicle for philanthropy at Girl Talk: A Day of Beauty and Bliss, a fundraiser for The Abraham Connection homeless shelter in Delta.

The event is a chance for women to pamper themselves with scaleddown professional salon services, wine tasting and more while also giving back to the Delta County community.

"The services are just long enough to let you try something new," said event organizer Cheryl Oeltjenbruns. "If you've never had a spray tan, or you've been wanting to try a new hairstyle, or you want to try a shocking color on your toes, this event is perfect for allowing you to experiment just a little bit."

This is the third year Girl Talk has raised money for the Abraham Connection, with the event presented by Alpine Bank and the stylists and cosmetic professionals donating their time and supplies.

"Everything we do just turns money back into the shelter," said Abraham Connection board member Kami Collins. "Every penny that we raise goes back into our shelter operations to feed and house those in need."

Abraham Connection offers housing and/or food to families as well as single men and women.

"We open our doors to anyone who needs our help, so we have a lot of people who we feed," Collins said. "It's a really important piece of the community, because this is the organization taking care of people who just need that hand up."

The event also features wine sampling, food, live music, door prizes, glamor shots and shopping at vendor booths.

"More importantly than getting pampered,

See PAMPERING, page A3



Hair styling is one of the many salon min-services being offered at Girl Talk on Sept. 13. Attendees can sign up for five services over the course of the afternoon. Below, women chat over a pedicure at last year's Girl Talk event. The "day of pampering" on Sept. 13 is a fundraiser for Abraham Connection homeless shelter in Delta. (Courtesy Photos)



Space to create

Area artists move toward establishing Montrose art center

By Katie Langford

Daily Press Staff Writer

When news of Around the Corner art gallery's imminent closing started to spread throughout the Montrose art community, there was sadness and disappointment-- but there were also whispers of something new. Could a group of artists keep a gallery going? Could they keep it open, or even make it something more?

A group of local

A group of local artists and art-lovers have answered yes — hopefully, yes.

"There were three of us talking about Around the Corner closing, and our original idea was to form an artist co-op," said Montrose artist Jodine Broscovak. "Then Gail (Dusa) came into the picture with a big vision and said, 'Well why don't you go beyond an artist co-op and have all kinds of visual and performing arts,' which turned into an art center.

"We're
going to try
to spread
ourselves
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Jodine Broscovak, Montrose artist

an art center."

The three grew to 40 within a month, and soon a leadership team began meeting outside of the large group meetings. They applied to the Montrose Community Foundation, recruited local business leaders to help with the money side of things, and are slowly gaining momentum.

The vision for a Montrose art center is a combination of what artists love and what a community needs to have a thriving art source.

ing art scene.

"Our vision is that it will be a gallery with a working studio, so that artists can be creating," Broscovak said. "The public can visit and watch and also have classrooms where we can teach. We can do outreach programs where the artists will go out to the schools, visit senior centers. We're going to try to spread ourselves out in the community and not just confine ourselves to the building.

Dusa, an art enthusiast and occasional art-dabbler, said a key part of establishing an art center in Montrose is engaging all age groups.

"When you look at arts programs around the country, they're generally run by a certain age group and that's

See CENTER, page A3

Heroic vet set to enjoy local hunt

By Katharhynn Heidelberg

DAILY PRESS SENIOR WRITER

Jake Whipkey risked his life for his country, and paid the price. In 2007, while deployed in Samarra, Iraq, the U.S. Army private took machine gun fire and had to be evacuated back to the States.

Thanks to several surgeries on his arm, the avid bowhunter was able to resume his favored sport. Thanks to many generous hands, including area dentist and hunting outfitter Dan Reardon and a nonprofit foundation, Whipkey is soon to enjoy the hunt of a lifetime on the Rocking R Ranch, beneath the

Norwood ranch to host Purple Heart recipient

solemn peak of Lone Cone, outside of Norwood.

The hunt will be filmed by Bowsite.com's sales manager Charlie Rehor. Bowsite's members and others helped raise the money to pay for the Pennsylvania veteran's trip to Rocking R, while Reardon is donating the guided hunt, hosted by Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation.

"A lot of the (site) members are bowhunters and are veterans," Rehor said Friday.

"There's a lot of kinship to that

1 percent who do all our fighting these days. There's an awful big need. A lot of them, through today's modern armor, have survived, but they have physical and mental challenges they need to deal with."

That's where the Wounded
Warriors in Action Foundation

comes into play.

The foundation was formed to provide Purple Heart recipients with hunting and fishing trips,

See HUNT, page A3



A still photo from a game camera at Rocking R Ranch outside of Norwood shows a richness of opportunity for Purple Heart recipient Jake Whipkey's upcoming guided hunt there. (Courtesy of Rockin R Ranch)

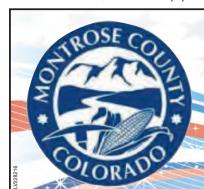
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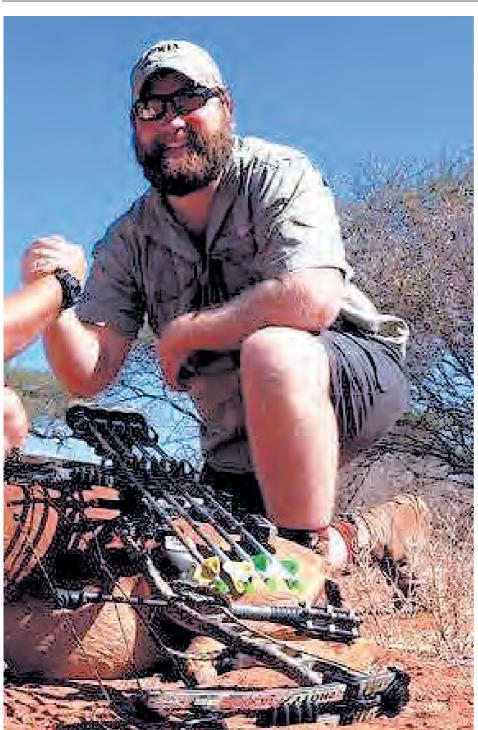




Montrose County offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7th in observance of Labor Day.

Normal Hours will resume Tuesday.

We wish everyone a happy & safe Labor Day holiday!



HUNT

FROM PAGE A

both as a way of honoring their heroism, and to encourage independence, "while promoting healing and wellness through camaraderie and a shared passion for the outdoors," per the non-profit's website.

"WWIA encourages American heroes to get back 'In Action' — all while forging and strengthening heartfelt, strong relationships with WWIA associates and local, American sportsmen — showing a truly grateful and supportive nation."

Reardon said he was only too glad to be a part of that effort.

"It's obviously going to be a huge honor to have him out here and hunt with us," he said Thursday.

"I thought we could do something special and try to give back to such a good cause. This guy is a real hero. He was wounded in action. We thought it would be a really special thing."

Jake Whipkey, U.S.
Army veteran and
Purple Heart recipient,
is coming to the area
Sept. 12 for a special
hunt guided by Dan
Reardon of Rocking R
Ranch near Norwood.
(Courtesy Wounded
Warriors in Action
Foundation)

He's picking Whipkey up at Montrose Regional Airport on Sept. 12, and taking him to the hunt, slated to last through Sept. 16.

Reardon will personally guide the veteran on a combo-hunt of spotting, stalking and stands, and his hoping to see

Whipkey bag a bull elk. "I know it's something he enjoys doing. A lot of people enjoy getting out in the woods," Reardon said. "Especially for somebody like that, it's very therapeutic. It's one of the small things we can do to give back to somebody who's given so much of his life."

Whipkey started archery at about age 5, learning from his father, an accomplished archer, according to his biography on Bowsite.com.

He enlisted in the Army after graduating high school and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion 327 Infantry. Whipkey was first deployed to Kirkuk, Iraq, in 2005, where he spent a year. It was during his second deployment, on Nov. 18, 2007, that he took fire. He was medically discharged in 2009, by which time he had begun volunteering for Wounded Warriors in Action.

"The bonds I've made through this foundation have changed my life in unimaginable ways," Whipkey wrote. "Wounded Warriors in Action is a firstrate group," Rehor, of Bowsite, said. "Each of these warriors has different recovery elements that they have to

deal with."
The Wounded
Warriors in Action
Foundation matches its
eligible members to of-

fered hunts.

Bowsite members are helping fund Whipkey's trip, contributing to the costs of transportation, meat processing and his elk tag.

"Then the hunt was offered up for no charge on his (Reardon's) part," Rehor said.

"This is a win for everyone — the people who donated for the hunt and the people going on it. It's a good thing for all of us."

More information about Rocking R Ranch can be found at www. rockingrhunting.com.

Visit www.bowsite. com for more information about Rehor's organization.

More information about the Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation can be found at www.wwiaf.org. The foundation welcomes donations to help veterans like Whipkey enjoy world-class hunting opportunities.

Reach Katharhynn Heidelberg at 252-7032 or katharhynnh@montrosepress.com.

CENTER

FROM PAGE A1

where they fail, I think," Dusa said. "My observation is that they don't have young people coming in. So my goal is to not only reach out to the seniors who have the time to create art, but to the young people so we develop the art skills within our communities."

For now, the Montrose art center is an idea without walls or a foundation. There's no dotted lines to sign or ground to break in the near future, but that is also a part of the vision.

"The goal is not just to build an art center, but to create a community where art flourishes and grows from the youngest to the oldest," Dusa said. "In doing that, we will create some magic here."

There will be an art sale at the end of the Savor the San Juans tour to benefit the art center, Dusa said. Taxdeductible donations can be made through the Montrose Community Foundation. The next informational meeting will be at 7 p.m., Sept. 22 at Hillcrest United Congregational Church, 611 S Hillcrest Drive in Montrose.

For more information, call Gail Dusa at 641-0915 or write to *gail@getdusa.com*.

Katie Langford can be reached at 252-7038 or at katiel@montrosepress.com.

PAMPERING

FROM PAGE A1

it's giving back to the Delta County community and to those in need," Collins said. Both tickets and vendor spots are still available.

"It's really great for people who have home-based businesses, like Arbonne or Mary-Kay, to showcase products and grow clientele," she said.

The event starts at 1 p.m., Sept 13 at the Delta-Montrose Technical College, with beauty services sign-up starting at 12:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 and are only sold in advance. They are available at Mortgage Solutions Financial, 811 Main St. in Delta. For more information or to become a vendor, call the Abraham Connection at 773-8290.

Katie Langford can be reached at 252-7038 or at *katiel@montrosepress.com*.



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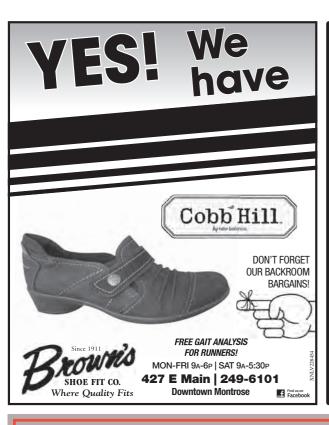
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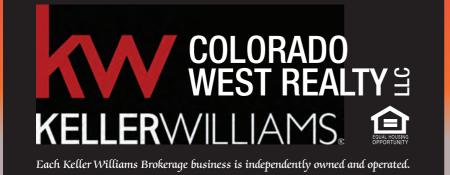
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