



San Miguel Resource Center Welcomes Their New Executive Director On Board

The San Miguel Resource Center is pleased to welcome Mandy Miller, MA, LPC as its new Executive Director. Mandy brings a wealth of non-profit management and social services experience. Most recently, she served on the leadership team at a large community mental health center in the Denver area. She is a 5th generation Colorado native, and has climbed 52 of Colorado's 58 fourteeners.



"I am excited to live and work in a community that is so supportive of its local efforts," Mandy said recently. "I look forward to getting to know the individuals that make this area such a spectacular place. I am also honored to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of staff providing essential and meaningful services to the community, while inspiring a culture of empowerment."

The San Miguel Resource Center is the only victim service agency in the region. While the center provides a wide variety of services to the community, it holds true to its mission to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault in our community.

In 1993 they were founded as the "Tomboy House" by a group of citizens who were concerned that the needs of domestic violence victims were not being met by local service providers. Victims, survivors, their See **SMPA DIRECTOR** Pg. 6



Photo of the Big Snow in the early days of Nucla, courtesy of the Rimrockers. (Bruce Lee was not in the original picture, but added in for special effects)

Bruce Lee Expected To Let Loose

Bruce Lee is fixing to let loose on the West End if forecasters are right. They say a mighty El Niño, dubbed Bruce Lee, is warming eastern Pacific Ocean waters and has the potential to bring nasty snowstorms to Colorado this winter, especially in the southwest part of the state.

"It's possible right now," Bernie Meier, a Weather Service meteorologist, said of El Niño potential. "The waters are fairly warm for this time of year; that's

why we're expecting it to be a strong one. We definitely can't rule out it being a record one."

The Weather Service says it could be the biggest they've seen in 50 years.

Joel Gratz, founding meteorologist of OpenSnow.com, says while El Niño offers no forecast guarantees, "it tips the odds" toward there being more snow.

In previous years of strong El Niño, Gratz said he has seen trends of big

storms.

"Each of those seasons started out pretty strong and each of those (ski and snowboard) seasons ended pretty strong," he said. "The in between, the meat of the season, was below average."

Economic studies have shown El Niño years can have a positive boost. Colorado's ski areas, plagued by weak and inconsistent snowfalls in the past several years, certainly hope that is the case.

ORDER UP
Rimrock Café expands service with top notch chefs



The new Rimrock Café, at the Rimrock Hotel in Naturita, is serving up some great "home style" meals featuring several top notch chefs including Reed Mitchell, Kyle Webb and Damion (Mac) McCartney, pictured above (courtesy photo). The latter has proven himself a world class chef winning a Food Channels "Chopped" challenge competition.

"Stop by and taste the difference...you'll like the food and love the prices," said Rimrock owner Reed Mitchell. "Check out reader board sign or our Rimrock website (www.theRimrockHotel.com) for daily specials."

The Rimrock is open seven days a week with home cooked daily specials and the old standbys available every day 6 AM to 2 PM and dinner from 5 PM to 9 PM each evening.

"So come on by and give us a try," said Mitchell. "We're just having fun here!"

Their brand new Espresso coffee machine is also putting out some fabulous Lattes, Cappuccino's and Carmel Macheainoes...yum, yum! See their ad on Pg. 2

SMPA & CoBank inject \$20,000 into communities for economic development



Pictured above left to right: Paul Major - Telluride Foundation; Debbie Cokes & Dave Alexander - SMPA Board; Mike Geryak - Blair Street Historic District Association; Jack Sibold, Terry Rhoades, Bob Justis, Rube Felicelli, Doyleene Garvey - SMPA Board; Dianna Reams - West End Economic Development Corporation; & Sara Plumhoff - Montrose Community Foundation. Courtesy photo.

Representatives of three organizations, the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC), the Telluride Foundation and the Town of Silverton, were all smiles at last week's San Miguel Power Association board meeting. Each organization appeared in order to receive their respective donation checks from the Montrose Community Foundation which distributed funds donated by San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) and See **DONATIONS** Pg. 6

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matched by COBANK through its "Sharing Success" program. "We are excited to be able to provide this funding for these worthy causes throughout our service area," said SMPA Board President, Rube Felicelli. "...and we are grateful to our partner, COBANK, for matching our investment in these unique and vibrant communities." The recipients were

Through their “Sharing Success” program, CoBank committed \$3 million in 2015 to match customer donations to non-profit organizations in their communities. “It’s nice to see some of that funding come to our communities,” said SMPA General Manager Kevin Ritter. “Cooperation is what built these communities, and I like to see that it is cooperation that is sustaining them.”

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