Gail Marvel’s Weekly Cruisin’ in Style...

BLACK CANYON CLASSICS: FLOYD HEER

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Built entirely in England the 1958 (re-registered as a 1959) two door Nash Metropolitan is considered an import. The Austin engine is four cylinder, 1500 cc with 52 HP and the car has a three speed “on the tree” — definition: a three speed on the column.

Floyd Heer purchased the vehicle 14 years ago, “It wasn’t my favorite car, but the price was right and it was a way for me to get into classic cars without a big investment.”

The two-seater Nash Metropolitan was manufactured as a second family car, however the backseat can accommodate small children and a dog. Floyd said, “The backseat is just a metal shelf with three-inch padding.” Most Metros have low mileage because they weren’t made for taking long trips.

Floyd said “This one has about 43,000 miles, but when I bought it the speedometer was broken so I’m not exactly sure. I’ve put about 3,000 miles on it.”

Floyd, a member of the Black Canyon Classics, continues with restoration, “I just did a $3,000 mechanical overhaul — clutch, exhaust system and springs. I have a new headliner to put in and I want to repaint the wheel rims to their original yellow color.”
VENUE SPOTLIGHT...THE MONTROSE PAVILION!

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Since 1990, Montrose has had a venue for trade shows, assemblies, concerts, weddings and meetings at the Montrose Pavilion and today it continues to better its service to the local community and people from out of town. The Pavilion includes an auditorium, ballroom, conference rooms, a courtyard, lobby and terrace room.

Pavilion Manager Kara McKenna has been working for the City of Montrose for eight years, four of those years being at the Pavilion. Having had grandparents that owned land here and having grown up in Montrose, she returned to town after leaving for college. “People think I just moved here for my job,” she said. “It’s funny once they get to know me and the roots I have here.”

Her energy shows her desire to make her customer’s experience at the Pavilion the best it can be and to make the Pavilion be the best venue for the local community. “The Pavilion is a community asset,” she said. “We assist fundraisers and non-profits in a big way. Monday-Friday we are also a senior center. It is a show piece for the community...and helps bring in people [from out of town].”

Due to an increase in demand, the Pavilion has actually been turning down events. “We have limited space and we are booked a year out, with a waiting list already for next year,” McKenna explained. “We have been working on rebuilding our reputation, especially with our customer service, and things have skyrocketed, but space is limited.” There are potential feasibility studies in the works (that grants are being applied for to fund) to see if any type of expansion would be possible for the Pavilion to meet the current demands.

One area that the Pavilion really looks to try to work with more in the future is the Montrose Botanic Gardens, right across the ‘green’ from the Pavilion. “We want to brainstorm ideas on how to join events and showcase the Gardens,” McKenna said. “It is a big selling point for out of town conferences. There is a lot more room for growth.”

A literal step in the right direction in connecting the Pavilion and the Gardens was the installation of a concrete pathway across the lawn that separates the two places. It has proven useful for elderly visitors and provides visitors the opportunity to directly leave an event and go visit the Gardens.

Walking through the Pavilion, McKenna was excited to point out all the new features that they have been able to add and the various ways that they have been using those features to benefit customer’s events even more. “We have interactive kiosks and people are able to look up attractions, where to eat, etc., especially people who are here attending conferences,” she said.

Another big feature are iPads installed at each door, where schedules for break out events are listed and even congratulatory notes for couples at their wedding are posted.

Additional changes have included new colors throughout the building, the redesign of the green room behind the main stage. “We are excited about it,” McKenna said. “It was embarrassing before, with an old couch that had seen better days. For a lot of people that room is their only view of Montrose, so we upgraded it to give a good perspective.”

Looking ahead to this year, some of the projects in the works at the Pavilion include some landscaping, new paint and new sound panels. This will also be the year of planning for the Pavilion. “We have never had a master plan, so we are working on that,” McKenna said. “We will be working in a collaborative effort with the Gardens and include them in the master plan.”

Coming off of an Altrusa event last month, one which filled the Pavilion with 300 women, McKenna also attends different meetings. “Every day is different here,” she said simply.

With the wide variety of events that fill up her day, there is no one specific thing that is her favorite part of her job. “I work with really good people and it is a great place to work,” she said. “What I do varies each day. Our customers are amazing, loyal and [have the same] vision of Montrose.” What have those customers been telling her? “They are really happy with our customer service and the vibe and feeling that they get here. We have an excellent staff that make events be seamless and our customers happy.”

One thing that McKenna has been working on is to change the perception of the Pavilion as being an expensive venue. “It is actually the most affordable and we have chosen to remain that way, which is why we are subsided with tax dollars,” she explained.

McKenna feels good about the future and where the Pavilion is going. “We are in a really good place right now, with the community supporting us so much and with collaboration, [it’s] really positive,” she said. “I have seen the bad and so I can say that we are in a really, really good place now. Everything we do is based around making our customers happy and Montrose citizens proud of the Pavilion. With tax dollars involved, we want people to feel the huge value of the Pavilion and have them feel that it is an asset to the community.”

The Montrose Pavilion is located at 1800 Pavilion Drive. For more information, call 249-7015.
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THE LARK & SPARROW
HISTORIC VENUE

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/THELARKANDSPARROW
Local Winery Joins Statewide Tasting Event!

Special to the Weekend Blast!
COLORADO- With so many exciting wineries to visit on the Western Slope and across Colorado, even those who live here year-round are challenged to keep up with what's new. This spring, two weekends will be dedicated to celebrating more than 30 Colorado wineries statewide through the first-ever Statewide Barrel Tasting Event. Here on the Western Slope, at least eight local wineries—scattered from Olathe to Surface Creek and the North Fork Valley, to Grand Junction and Palisade—are taking part in the Colorado Wine Experience event. Tickets to join in are just $25, so designate a driver and plan ahead! The Barrel Tasting takes place over the weekends of April 9-10 and May 7-8.

To register, visit the web site and sign up for the weekend of your choice (or both!) and your wristband and event map with the individual winery’s tasting room hours and location will be mailed to you prior to the rain-or-shine event. Participating Wineries will be offering discounts on their products, small bites and more. Among those joining in locally are Garrett Estate Cellars of Olathe, which will be open on Saturday April 9 from 11am to 7pm; Sunday April 10 from 11am to 4pm; Saturday, May 7 from 11am to 7pm and on Sun May 8 from 11 am to 4 pm.

Mitch Garrett of Garrett Estates said that he will have snacks, including samples of fresh Rockin’ W Cheese from Olathe. “I will be tasting wine from the barrels and tanks, and will have all our wines available for tasting,” he said, “and I will be open to any person who wants to come to my winery during those days.” For more information call Mitch at 970-901-5919.

Photo courtesy of valleyfoodpartnership.org

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR EVENT LISTED, PLEASE CONTACT US AT LEAST A WEEK PRIOR TO YOUR EVENT! j9publishing@gmail.com
Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING -
LARK AND SPARROW VENUE: Friday from 4:30 to 7 pm - Sparrow's Social Hour, Live @ 4:30 pm ... Music by Local Artists in Sparrow’s Library. 7:30 pm - Lark’s Skylight Jazz Club, Live Jazz Weekly - The House Blend Combo & Guest Artists. Every Third Friday: Cabaret “Open” Stage.
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE @ THE GALLERY • MUSIC BY YOUTH, Second Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery in Samppler Square.
MONTROSE WINTER FARMERS MARKET 10 am - 1 pm Location: Behind Straw Hat Farm Kitchen Store 514 S. 1st Street (Every other week through April 23) Feb. 27; March 12, 26; April 9, 23.

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

FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC: LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, Montrose County Courthouse (Leslie German self-help center) at 1200 North Grand, Noon to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

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

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

MONTROSE STAMP (PHILATELIC) CLUB meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 420 Alta Lakes Dr. from 7-8pm. For Beginners to Pros! Please contact Brenda Maureaux at 970-765-6948 for more information.

SNOWSHADOW GYM—Zumba classes with Maria Gonzalez week nights 5:30 to 7:30; Swing dance with Kevin Mears Mondays 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. 535 S. First St. Snowshadowgymnastics@yahoo.com.

MONTHLY -
April 8-10—San Juan Independent Film Festival, Montrose Pavilion. The full film schedule can be found at www.buildinglives.org/sjff.
April 9—Montrose County Democratic Party Annual Jefferson Jackson Dinner, Sat. April 9 Social hour with cash bar /Silent Auction, Program @ 6 p.m. Keynote speaker ~Colorado State Senator Gail Schwartz. Tickets: $45 Call 240-0399 or available at Coffee Trader.
April 11-15—Peak Virtual Academy Registration Week is April 11-15th from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Please come in and pick up an enrollment packet and schedule an interview. For more information, Parent Information Night is scheduled Monday, April 11 at 6 p.m. at 526 North 6th Street. We look forward to seeing you!
April 12—The City of Montrose will host an informational session on Tuesday, April 12, to present the results of intersection studies for Hillcrest Drive at Miami, Sunnyside, and Niagara Roads. The informational session, to be held in the City Council Chambers, will begin with a presentation at 5:30 p.m., followed by a one-on-one discussion period lasting until 6:30 p.m. Construction of improvements at the Hillcrest and Sunnyside intersection is scheduled to take place in 2016. Any questions regarding the project or the meeting may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at 970-901-1792.
April 13—Elijah BossenBroek to perform at the Lark & Sparrow Venue, 511 East Main Street in Montrose. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. concert at 7:30 p.m. Call 970-615-7277 for info and reservations.
April 14—Friendship Force International, non-profit organization, was founded and introduced to the world at a ceremony held at the White House on March 1, 1977. FFI provides opportunities to explore new cultures from the inside by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado’s next meeting is planned for: Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 pm Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison. The meeting will feature a special presentation from Annie Gingerich, Associate Director, and Sam, an international student from Saudi Arabia, through CMU - International Programs and Services. "Like Us on Facebook" — Friendship Force Western Colorado.
If you’re interested in joining us please call Sue Palmer on 970-260-4653.
April 15-16—Delta Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo, Bill Heddles Recreation Center in Delta. 80+ vendors! Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
April 16—Alpine Bank Shred Day at 2770 Alpine Drive and 1400 east Main Street in Montrose from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
April 18-29—The 8th annual Montrose County School District Art Show opens Monday, April 18, 2016, and runs through Friday, April 29. Everyone is invited to view paintings, drawings, ceramics and photography representing students in kindergarten through 12th grades. The show may be seen between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Region 10 Enterprise Building, 300 N. Cascade Avenue in Montrose. Contact person: Ann-Marie Fleming 249-6015.
April 21—Delta-Montrose Electric Association Morning Buzz. Join us for good conversation, coffee and pastries with the DMEA Morning Buzz at the Busy Corner White Kitchen in Olathe (318 Main Street in Olathe) from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
April 22—Delta-Montrose Electric Association Morning Buzz. Join us for good conversation, coffee and pastries with the DMEA Morning Buzz at the Munson Gallery in Cedaredge (260 West Main Street in Cedaredge) from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
April 23—Alpine Bank Shred Day at 119 Liddell Drive in Ridgway from 9 a.m. to Noon.
April 23—Annual Stupid Band Earth Dance! Turn of the Century Saloon in Montrose. Bring $10 and 2 non-perishable food items.
April 28—Leader Training - Healthier Living Colorado-This four-day class is for the person wanting to make a difference in the lives of those with chronic conditions! Participants will: illustrate following the Leader Manual content and process; recognize how to handle problem people appropriately; use positive reinforcement techniques with group members; apply strategies to encourage group participation and use effective modeling strategies. PDA requirements. A CEU from COAW is equal to 10 contact hours (PDAs).
Cost: $650.Scholarship funds are available. Montrose County Health and Human Services (1845 S. Townsend Ave.), Apr 25, 2016—Apr 28, 2016, 8:30 AM—5 PM
Registration: Contact Pam Allen at 303-984-1845 or pam@coaw.org.
April 28-29—Leader Cross Training - Healthier Living Colorado Diabetologist. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the 4-day Healthier Living. Colorado Leader Training and being a certified Leader of the program. Cost: $325 Scholarship funds are available. Montrose County Health and Human Services (1845 S. Townsend Ave.) Apr 28, 2016—Apr 29, 2016, 8:30 AM—5 PM. Contact Pam Allen at 303-984-1845 or pam@coaw.org.
April 29-30—Film Buffs Unite and head to The Paradise Theatre April 29th & 30th for the 4TH PAONIA FILM FESTIVAL! Friday April 29th will feature nominated film screenings, an audience choice “rock the vote” party and panel discussions with filmmakers. Saturday April 30th features a special curated “Rest of Colorado” program and other curated short films, a red carpet gala, “best dressed” award, winning short films and more! Films are made by both amateur and professional Colorado filmmakers. For tickets and information visit paradiseofpaonia.com.
April 29—Sixth Annual Cobble Creek Compassion Bash — Interactive fashion show for guys and gals, complimentary hors d'oeuvres with cash bar, dancing, raffles and grand prizes. All to benefit Dr. Mary Veder's Helping Hand Fund, a component of the Montrose Community Foundation. Cobble Creek Clubhouse, 6 p.m. Tickets: $25, available at She She Boutique and D’Medici Footwear and Nina Suzanne’s Main St., Montrose, Cobble Creek Pro Shop. For more info call 970-964-4947 or emailinfo@cobblecreek.com.
April 30-May 1—Weehawken Dance presents Wizard of Oz at the Montrose Pavilion, 6 p.m. on April 30 2 p.m. on May 1. Call 218-0150 for tickets and reservations, the event and profits from the rental of spaces will be used for preservation of historic Montrose County stories and documents. Spaces are 12 feet wide by 10 feet deep for $25 or 12 feet wide by 20 feet deep for $40. Reservations may be made by calling the Montrose Genealogy Center at 240-1755.
THIS WEEK...SAN JUAN INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL!

Special to the Weekend Blast!
MONTROSE-The San Juan Independent Film Festival, presented by Colorado West Investments, is back for its second year and is bringing an incredible program. The event is April 8-10, and benefits Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans. SJIFF is wonderful three-day “staycation” opportunity for locals, and a fun destination for those coming from out of town where all films and events take place in the Pavilion or on its grounds.

Big news for the event is that SJIFF will be hosting the premier of “Tin Soldiers,” by filmmakers Ben Duffy and Mike Sassano. Both filmmakers will be in attendance. Abel Rose, who is one of the film’s featured athletes, and his parents, will also be in attendance. Abel was born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus along with many other medical conditions. Abel, a.k.a. “That Fearless Kid”, is a jack of all trades – whether he’s flying down ramps or surfing California waters. The list of sports he chooses to play gets longer every year: WCMX (adaptive skateboarding), T-ball, golf, surfing, track, soccer, bocce ball and many more. His love and drive for sports is amazing to watch as it grows. At only 4 years old, he already has accomplished so much by becoming the youngest sponsored athlete at only 18 months old.

Featured athlete from the film, “A Grand Pursuit,” by filmmaker Will Strathmann, will also be attending SJIFF. In the film, Sojitra is the first leg amputee to attempt climbing the Grand Teton, with an elevation of 13,775 feet, without the use of a prosthetic leg. Both films will be shown on Saturday, and the crowd will get to meet the filmmakers and featured athletes via the Q&A with them after the films are shown in the Pavilion theater.

Another film worth highlighting is “Martin’s Boat,” by Colorado-native Pete McBride, the filmmaker who also created the award winning film, “Delta Dawn” shown at last year’s festival. The film is about the Martin Litton, who believed the best way to keep the Bureau of Reclamation from building two dams in the Grand Canyon was to show people how important the place was by experiencing it from the river for themselves in white-water dories. He pioneered these boats on the Colorado River in the 1960’s. Now, some 50 years later, the Grand Canyon faces continued threats from development and mining. This film honors the legacy of Martin Litton and follows the newest boat in the Grand Canyon Dories fleet, the Marble Canyon, on its maiden voyage down the legendary Colorado River. “Martin’s Boat” will be shown Friday evening.

The film lineup includes award-winning films from around the world, as well as a few “hidden nuggets” currently not on mainstream film tours. In addition to films, there is a block party with Telluride-based DJ Sunday, live music each day and night from five local bands, a family program showcasing New York Int’l Children’s Film Fest’s “Best of the Fest,” a Bloody Mary bar, food trucks, bike rodeo, climbing wall and a field trip to the Black Canyon to celebrate the National Park Services’ 100th anniversary.

The full film schedule can be found at www.buildinglives.org/sjiff.

REGIONAL RECREATION...

Crested Butte: The Ultimate Snowmobiler -
Friday through Sunday, April 8-10. This third annual contest will crown the Ultimate Snowmobiler by competing in Hillclimb and Winter Terracross. The Ultimate Snowmobiler takes place after the ski area closes allowing the whole resort to be a playground for snowmobile access. Competitors and spectators come from all over to participate and watch all the snowmobile events in sunny Colorado during the spring time. From climbing legendary Crested Butte steeps in the hillclimb, to racing TerraCross in circles at the base area. New for 2016, there will be foot traffic lift rides, live music on Friday and Saturday nights at Butte 66, and outdoor grill going mid-mountain at Uley’s for spectators to enjoy food mid-mountain. For more information, visit www.skibc.com/snowmobile. - See more at: http://blog.coloradoski.com/2016/03/23/colorados-ski-season-rolls-into-april/#sthash.8QM09vhO.dpuf.

Coming Next Weekend...

Delta Spring Expo - The 2016 show will be Friday & Saturday, April 15th & 16th. The annual Spring Expo, formerly the Home, Garden & Rec Show is the only expo in Delta County. This free event is being held at Bill Heddes Rec Center.

Black Canyon Hunt & Outdoor Expo - This is the 4th year Cabela’s has put on this outdoor expo. The event runs Friday & Saturday, April 15th & 16th at the Montrose County Fairgrounds. There is no cost to attend.
I'm not really new....

I am a firm believer in this thread of life that from the second we are born, to where we are this very moment, everything is connected. Some call this our destiny; others – like me – call it God’s plan. I first moved to Montrose from Green, Ohio October 2007. I became a well-known news director with Cherry Creek Radio, under my maiden name, Janine Mayfield (or Buckeye, if you listened to Jim Kerschner on KUBC ). I would like to publicly thank that radio station and Scott Staley for giving me that opportunity, one that would forever change my path of life more than I could've imagined.

I left Colorado for Wisconsin in 2011, and then after a mere four months in Wisconsin, decided to be with my family in Ohio. I got married in 2012 and moved back to Montrose to raise our son, Ben. Another child (Evan), a few jobs, and a divorce later, I am here, writing this editorial for the Western Weekend Blast, a brand new publication under the umbrella of the widely successful Montrose Mirror.

I am also dating the love of my life, Erik, and I’m a new mommy to puppy, Zuma (if you have kids that watch Paw Patrol, you know how we came up with that name). When I took the job at the radio station I had a vision of creating a one-stop-shop of a calendar of events for the entire Western Slope. I have now been blessed with this opportunity and can’t wait to become a major media source for local/regional events.

I want to take this time to say thank you to those who believe in me and this product, especially Caitlin Switzer and the Mirror Publishing Group. I hope for this publication to be nothing but positive and informative. I welcome press releases, content ideas, and of course, advertisers.

Happy reading! Enjoy life! Smile!

Janine

This week’s photo is from Claire Bennett. She took this from her backyard in December. Stunning!

This photo was taken in February at the Thin Blue Line event at Signature Events in Montrose. Ben is 4 and Evan is 2. Evan has a deep attachment to his “binky”. If you have any ideas I haven’t tried yet, to get him off of it, please...let me know!

This week’s photo is from Claire Bennett. She took this from her backyard in December. Stunning!