

# TELLURIDE DAILY PLANET

**Inside Today:** The View, p3; News, p4; Voices, p9; Business, p10; Life, p12; Orbit, the back page

## SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 12, 2017  
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### Don't quote me but...

"Chess is cool! Join the Telluride Chess Club on Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at Wilkinson Public Library. All abilities are welcome."

—Jessica Kutz, of Telluride

## Calendar

### Sunday

- "The Addams Family": Palm Theatre, 2 p.m.
- "Cannibal! The Musical": Sherbino Theater, Ridgway, 4 p.m.
- "Goodbye Christopher Robin": Nugget Theatre, 5:30 p.m.

### Monday

- Free Qi Gong Class: Ah Haa School, 8:45 a.m.
- Intergovernmental Work Session: Telluride Fire Station, 1:30 p.m.
- Maker Monday: STEM Lab, THS, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- The Art of Etiquette: Ah Haa School, 3:30 p.m.
- Book Discussion — "1984": Wilkinson Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
- "Goodbye Christopher Robin": Nugget Theatre, 5:30 p.m.
- "1984": Wilkinson Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

### Tuesday

- Art Tuesday: Ah Haa School, 2-5 p.m.
- Mad Lab — Deconstruction: Pinhead HQ, 2-5 p.m.
- Cyber Clubhouse: Wilkinson Public Library, 2:15-3:15 p.m.
- "Goodbye Christopher Robin": Nugget Theatre, 5:30 p.m.

## Weather

**Muse:** "Don't forget to breathe, very important." —Mr. Miyagi

**Forecast:** Sunday is predicted to be mostly cloudy with a high of 53 and no chance of snow. Monday will be sunny with a high of 57 and no chance of snow, while Tuesday will be mostly sunny with a high of 54 and no chance of snow.

## IN ORBIT:

**Sunday Focus:**  
Sports

**Five karate students**  
to test for black belts

**Wednesday:**  
Arts, Lifestyles  
& Nonprofits

## LEGISLATION

# Forest management bill passes House

By **JESSICA KUTZ**  
Staff Reporter

## Local conservation groups wary of consequences

**T**he Resilient Federal Forests Act, a bill introduced by Congressman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas, passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Nov. 1 and is on its way to the Senate.

The bill, which would reform federal forest management laws, passed with 232 votes (222 Republicans and 10 Democrats). U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton, who represents Colorado's 3rd District, signed on

as a co-sponsor in June.

According to a House of Representatives news release, the bill would expedite forest management projects by loosening "regulatory roadblocks." Also, it would create a new "arbitration pilot pro-

gram" for court cases against forest management projects and create incentives for agencies to work with state and local governments.

The bill aims to establish a "wildfire sub-account with FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund," and prevent

agencies from "fire borrowing," or the practice of taking funds earmarked for forest health programs in order to fight wildfires.

Tipton said the act will help federal land management agencies focus more on managing forests and reducing the chance of catastrophic fires, rather than fighting forest fires.

The act will streamline "the permitting process for management

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### Goofing around

Telluride ninth-graders (clockwise, from top left) Jimmy Fallon, Christian Betz, Pablo Flores and Jaime Zunzun Egui share Mike and Ike candy and a few laughs during their lunch break outside of Clark's Market on Friday afternoon.

(Photo by Andre Salvail/Telluride Daily Planet)

## HEALTH CARE

# State marketplace not affected by marketing budget cuts

**Open enrollment started Nov. 1**

By **JESSICA KUTZ**  
Staff Reporter

**D**espite an attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, the program will continue to provide insurance for Americans for at least another year.

Many in Congress say that Trump is still doing his best to derail the program through other means, including slashing funds

for marketing.

In August, the Trump administration announced that ACA advertising dollars would drop from \$100 million to \$10 million for the 2018 enrollment period, resulting in a 90 percent decrease in monies.

As reported in the Associated Press on Aug. 31, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi said she viewed the decision as a "cynical effort to lower enrollment."

While this proves a giant hurdle for any state that uses Healthcare.gov — the federal marketplace — to offer health insurance, there are 16 states that operate on their own state exchanges. These places, including Colorado, are not affected by the cut in funding.

Operating its own exchange has given the state other benefits,

See **MARKETPLACE**, Page 7

## DIVERSITY

# COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

*Workshop, dinner to focus on gaps among youths*

By **VIVIAN RUSSELL**  
Planet Contributor

**W**hat is the culture of our community? What are the ethnic backgrounds of the people who live here? We can make broad generalizations and review demographic statistics, but when one digs beneath the surface, it turns out the story is much more layered and complicated.

How do we celebrate our differences and find common ground? How do we actually break the ice to discuss topics such as economic disparity and implicit bias? What is the culture of our community with regard to race, class, gender and identity?

Community members will have opportunities to openly discuss these issues with a diverse array of friends and neighbors at Wilkinson Public Library.

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, a Teen Leadership Workshop addressing these same topics takes place from 1:30-4:30 p.m. in the library's teen room. The workshop will be followed by a community meal and conversation for adults from 5-8 p.m. in the program room.

Tri-County Health Network has been facilitating a Health Equity Learning Series (HELS) program of workshops designed to highlight how social and economic disparities im-

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Tri-County Health Network and True North Youth Program are working to build a culture of inclusion. The two organizations worked together last summer to engage students from diverse backgrounds in building a wheelchair ramp for a disabled family in the West End of Montrose County. (Photo by Betsy Walker)

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## Youth gaps

DIVERSITY, from page 1

pact health outcomes in different subsets of the local population. The community meal is an extension of the conversations that were conducted at the HELS workshops, and is being offered in partnership with other community nonprofits, including the San Miguel Resource Center, Wilkinson Public Library and True North Youth Program.

“We’re looking forward to this event as a continuation of the spirit of Tri-County Health Network’s Health Equity Learning Series. It promises to be a great night of sharing food as well as gaining perspective on culture, equity and the value of diversity in our community,” said Lynn Borup, executive director of TCH Network.

The network, through the Colorado Trust — a health foundation dedicated to ending inequalities that affect racial, ethnic, low-income and other vulnerable populations — is sponsoring the events by bringing in experts in community building from the consulting firm Elemental Partners. The firm has worked across the nation and abroad with large and small organizations, businesses, governments and municipalities.

Elemental Partners’ extensive client list includes the City of New Orleans Mayor’s Office, the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Hispanics in Philanthropy, ACLU of Mississippi, and the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Families. Racial healing seminars have been held in the aforementioned locales and others.

But why would such work be necessary in progressive, idyllic Telluride? One recent observer to the Telluride High School lunchroom, who wished

to remain anonymous, noted: “It’s like the 1960s, the way that the brown kids and the white kids sit apart from each other.”

Ashley Williamson, True North Youth Program Board member and Telluride Intermediate School teacher, responded, “The reality of it is they self segregate. We (the school) do so much to make an inclusive environment, but at the end of the day kids choose who they want to sit with, play with, be friends with.

“It’s so important to expose our students to numerous extracurricular activities at a young age because as they get older they are able to make choices based on interests. Our community does a great job of helping finance programs to make it possible for all kids to participate in activities,” Williamson added.

“It’s really important to talk about these kind of topics,” says Esmeralda Alejandre of the San Miguel Resource Center. “We as individuals must be aware of the different cultures within our community, and learn to respect and accept them. Like Martin Luther King Jr. once said, ‘We may have all come on different ships. But we’re in the same boat now.’

“We are all here for the same purpose,” Alejandre continued, “to obtain a better life for ourselves and our families. We must learn how to live together regardless of our color and language. I want to see a change in what now is my community, therefore, I have to be the change.”

Teens are eager to talk about issues facing their community. Chris Messinger of Elemental Partners will be facilitating the workshop. The former executive director of Boston Mobilization — a group that works to prepare future leaders of social jus-

justice — Messinger has trained tens of thousands of teens and adults on a wide variety of social justice topics.

In preparation for the upcoming workshop, Messinger asked that teens list what they see as the biggest issues they face. True North Youth Program queried a group of 23 Telluride High School students during their weekly academic tutoring sessions.

“What is the biggest issue facing your local high school teen community?” The answers included “drugs, alcohol, drama, gossip, slander, racism, fitting in, judgments and bias, peer pressure, bullying, cutting, depression, food anxiety and poverty.”

Manolo Perez, a Telluride High School senior, answered that the biggest issues he observed were, “Unequal distribution of wealth and resources, and Latino youth not knowing college is a reality until it’s too late.”

The Teen Leadership workshop will provide advanced tools so that students will be able to discuss these issues and more. As of press time, 11 teens were registered for the Teen Leadership Workshop.

Youths are asked to register ahead of time at this link: [goo.gl/2KNmGb](http://goo.gl/2KNmGb). Registrants will be entered into a raffle to win \$25 gift cards to various establishments around town.

The adult program, (community meal and conversation) will follow that same evening and no registration is required. “This is a really exciting opportunity,” said Kody Gerkin, lead intercultural navigator at TCH Network, “This is going to be a really fun event and it’s sure to be a crowd that is representative of the diversity in our community. Translation services and child care will be provided at this event. Please plan on coming, and bring a friend!”