LEGISLATION

Forest management bill passes House

By JESSICA KUTZ
Staff Reporter

The Resilient Federal Forests Act, a bill introduced by Con- gressman 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 Republi- cans 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 Rep- resentatives news release, the bill would expedite forest manage- ment projects by loosening “regu- latory 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 ear- marked 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 cata- strophic fires, rather than fighting forest fires.

Local conservation groups wary of consequences

Don’t quote me but...

“Chains is cool! Join the Telluride Chess Club on Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at Wilkinson Public Library. All abilities are welcome.” —Jesse Kutz, of Telluride

Calendar

Sunday

“The Addams Family”: Palm Theatre, 2 p.m.
“Carnival! The Musical”: Shenino Theater, Ridgway, 4 p.m.
“Goodbye Christopher Robin”: Nugget Theatre, 5:30 p.m.

Monday

Free O’Gong Class: Ah Haa School, 8:45 a.m.
Interdepartmental 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, 3:00 p.m.
Book Discussion — “1984”: Wilkinson Public Library, 3:30 p.m.
“Goodbye Christopher Robin”: Nugget Theatre, 5:30 p.m.
“Tri-County”: Wilkinson Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

At Ah Haa School, 2-5 p.m.
Mud Lab — Deconstruction: Petroleum 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 52 and no chance of snow, while Tuesday will be mostly sunny with a high of 54 and no chance of snow.

State marketplace not affected by marketing budget cuts

By JESSICA KUTZ
Staff Reporter

Despite 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 adminis- tration announced that ACA adver- tising 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 Minor- ity 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, in- cluding Colorado, are not affected by the cut in funding.

Operating its own exchange has given the state other benefits.

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Diversity

Workshop, dinner to focus on gaps among youths

By VIVIAN RUSSELL
Pleasant Creek

What is the culture of our community? What are the ethnic back- grounds of the people who live here? We can make broad generalizations and review de- mographic 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 top- ics 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 address- ing 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 conversa- tion 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 de- signed to highlight how social and economic disparities im-
Youth gaps

DIVERSITY, from page 1

Health outcomes differ
ent subsets of the local popu-
ation. The community meal is an extension of the conver-
sations that were conducted at
the IHELS workshops, and
is being offered in partnership
with other community nonprof-
fits, 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 Learn-
ing 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 di-
rector of TCN Network.

The network, through the
Colorado Trust — a health
foundation dedicated to end-
ing inequalities that affect
racial, ethnic, low-income and
other vulnerable populations
— is sponsoring the events by
bringing in experts in commu-

tiny building from the consult-
ing firm Elemental Partners.

Elemental Partners’ exten-
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City of New Orleans Mayor’s
Office, the White House Initia-
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Pacific Islanders, Hispanics in
Philanthropy, ACLU of Missis-
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Department of Children, Youth
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workshops have been held in the
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