



COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

BIG-GAME LICENSE OPEN HOUSE IN GUNNISON.

An open house to explain and discuss big-game license recommendations for the 2018 seasons in the Gunnison Basin will be held 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., March 27 at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife office in Gunnison, 300 W. New York Ave.

CPW's local big-game biologist and wildlife officers will be available to discuss population estimates, proposed license numbers and other information about deer and elk hunting in the Gunnison area.

In addition, CPW staff will be available to answer questions about the new online license purchasing system, and to assist those who need help updating their information in the new system.

Paper applications for buying limited licenses have been discontinued. CPW urges hunters to log onto the agency web site and register their information well before the limited-license application deadline on April 3.

GET READY FOR THE GUNNISON MARCH FOR OUR LIVES.

All ages are welcome to join the Gunnison March for Our Lives on Saturday, March 24, at noon in Legion Park, on the corner of Virginia and Loveland Street.

Students, families, any gender, every age (even well-behaved pets on leashes) are encouraged to bring a friend; bring a sign in support of victims of school shootings.

This is one of the nation-wide peaceful demonstrations for safe schools begun by the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida where 17 died in a school shooting on February 14.

Marchers will use the sidewalks on a route that will travel west on Tomichi to Main Street along N. Main to Virginia for the return to the park.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN MEETING

Would you like to hear about Japan from a personal point of view? Joslyn Hays spent two months in Japan learning the language and spending time with two different families. Join the Gunnison Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) as this Gunnison High School student shares her experiences. The meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 17 at 423 N. Iowa. AAUW has believed that the answers to the world's greatest problems lie in empowering women and girls nationally since 1881, locally for 90 years. Contact Sharon at 970-641-2883 or Ronda at 970- 641-2618 for more information.

LETTER TO THE PUBLISHER

For a long time something has been bothering me about the church in Pitkin. I was married there many years ago and there was something at the church that always made me smile. Folks that have been in Pitkin for a long time will recognize that there was the old historical sign that said "undenominated". Well, there is no such word, but somebody in their infinite wisdom decided to destroy a valuable piece of history that gave the Pitkin church an interesting and favorable character, They must have decided that the sign was "politically incorrect". I don't think changing a piece of history that gave the church some interesting character is a good thing. What if we went around changing valuable and interesting historical relics to satisfy our own interest. Well, maybe we should be changing the Washington Monument to the Obama Monument. Wouldn't that be cool? The point being, what gives somebody the right to destroy valuable history in order to satisfy their own beliefs?

Pitkin, you have an obligation to history to put back the old sign that gave the church some interesting character and belonged there long before we got there. Steve Eberhardt 970-206-0944.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

PUC GRANTS REQUEST ALLOWING XCEL TO BRING FORTH COLORADO ENERGY PLAN PORTFOLIO FOR CONSIDERATION

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) today granted a request to allow Xcel Energy to model and present its Clean Energy Plan (CEP) portfolio for consideration as part of its current electric resource plan.

The portfolio, which proposes early retirement of two coal units at Xcel's Comanche generation facility in Pueblo to be replaced by new renewable and natural gas resources, will be presented along with other alternatives in the company's Phase II 120-day report, which is due April 27. The decision allows Xcel to present the CEP portfolio with additional evaluation data sufficient to determine if it is in the public interest to proceed down the coal plant retirement path.

Colorado's regulated electric utilities are required to file a plan every four years forecasting future electric demand and how the utility will meet that demand. This process carries out the policy of the state that new electric resources have the lowest impact on rates, factoring in all relevant costs to be encountered during the planning period.

Once the 120-day report is received, all parties to the case will have the opportunity to comment and respond to the report. The PUC will issue a final decision approving a preferred portfolio for Xcel by the end of July.

CENTER STAGE

LIVE MUSIC & SHOWS

MARK RAPP GROUP

Thursday, March 29. 7:00 p.m. Early Bird through March 23 \$20. Regular: \$25.

Distinguished jazz trumpeter Mark Rapp approaches his craft with a sense of adventure and risk. A superb interpreter of the standard principles of jazz, he styles his compositions with a variety of flavors and formats, pioneering compelling grooves and sultry nuances with unordinary approaches and a seemingly endless array of ideas. A composer, arranger, didgeridoo player, recording and touring artist, Mark laid his foundation through a Master's degree in Jazz Studies at the University of New Orleans. Since then he has earned a spot as "Top Emerging Trumpeter" from Downbeat Magazine; been awarded "Artist of the Year" by Jasper Magazine; and spotlighted on NPR. He's played famous jazz clubs from Snug Harbor in New Orleans to the Blue Note in New York City, in addition to riveting audiences from the Newport Jazz Festival to the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. Mark's talents have gained the attentions of other distinct jazz musicians, performing with the likes of Delfeayo and Branford Marsalis. His most recent album he created with Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson (Wynton Marsalis' celebrated longtime alto-saxophonist), proceeding to sell out multiple shows at the prestigious Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center. Says JazzPolice "More than anyone else among today's trumpeters, Rapp is breaking down the age old paradigms as to how the trumpet ought to be played in a jazz environment."

ART STUDIO

111 Elk Avenue in Crested Butte; 970-349-7044. melissa@crestedbuttearts.org. Reserve the Art Studio for private Paint Your Own Pottery, art lessons; art events and parties; or for a shared artist space.

MUD WRESTLING

Friday, March 23. 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. \$55 / pair.

Grab a partner or friend and get your hands dirty with clay at the Art Studio's monthly "Mud Wrestling" evenings. We'll hand you and your "date" a hunk of mud (er, clay that is) and literally see what you can make of it. Mix in a cocktail and you have a surefire way of getting hands on experience with this wonderful medium. Sculpt his 'n hers shot glasses, sake cups, sushi bowls and more. Your pieces will be fired in our kiln, and from there you can take your handmade pottery pieces home, or come back to the Art Studio to glaze them another time (like at the Paint Your Own Pottery session the next day, Saturday, March 25. Cocktails included, and we will mix up something yummy every month! No experience necessary. Instructor: Laura Elm.

EASTER PAINT YOUR OWN POTTERY

Saturday, March 24. 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Prices vary.

Open painting days are strategically placed before major holidays like Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day so you have plenty of time to paint gifts and ship them off, have decorations ready, or paint purely for the fun of it! Pieces are ready two days after painting.

Just drop in! No need to sign up or call in advance. Prices range from \$5 - \$55. Pay only for what you paint.

COCKTAILS & CANVASES

Wednesday, March 27. 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. \$40.

Be guided through a step-by-step acrylic painting from start to finish, giving instruction on setting up to paint, mixing color, composition and more. Drinks are served to participants 21 and older, so you can relax and create. All painting supplies and your first drink are included. Absolutely no painting or drawing experience is necessary! March 27 features “Contemporary Rabbit” from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Lobby & Bar. Instructor: Mary Tuck.

OPEN WHEEL THROWING

Wednesday, March 28. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. \$75.

Try your hand at throwing on the wheel or brush up your skills in altering, hand-building and sculpting. With weekly three-hour sessions, take one class or several! Space is limited to three students per session, so reserve in advance. With a small class size, multiple levels can be taught simultaneously, so those with more experience can additionally opt to work on a variety of glazing techniques. Held on Wednesdays through March 28. If Wednesdays do not work for you, call The Art Studio to arrange a lesson on another day of the week. Ages 12 and up. Instructor: Laura Elm.

CULINARY & VINTNER ARTS

INTRODUCTION TO MOLECULAR GASTRONOMY

Thursday, March 22. 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. \$85.

Get acquainted with the science behind molecular gastronomy, the art of manipulating the chemical composition of food. Also referred to as modernist cuisine or culinary physics, this genre of techie cooking uses such approaches as immersion blenders, soy lecithin and iSi canisters to make foams and infused liquors. Or, use tapioca maltodextrin to make powders, and agar agar to turn liquids into pearls. Perfect for professional bartenders and chefs as well as home epicureans. Industry discount available for professionals by contacting Culinary Arts Director Elise Popp at elise@crestedbuttearts.org. Instructor: Culinary Consultant / Chef Chris Park.

GALLERY SHOWS

PARADISE PLACE PRESCHOOL

ART SHOW RECEPTION

Monday, March 26. 5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Free.

Paradise Place Preschool presents their annual spring art show, featuring the work of the school’s children ages one to five. The show showcases each child’s creative work and accomplishments over the year. Community members are encouraged to come check out what the children have created! Show runs through April 2. At the Piper Gallery.

STEPPING STONES ART SHOW

& PERFORMANCE

Wednesday, April 4. Art Show 5:30 p.m. Performance: 6:00 p.m. Free.

See the entire Center transformed by the children of Stepping Stones in their Spring Art Show. Stretching beyond the perimeters of the Piper Gallery, young artists from four months to six years display a compilation of their artwork created during the school year. Children artists will be available to answer questions about and elaborate on their artwork on display. Then, revel in performances by budding actors from three to five years. Songs and dances light the Center Stage. All parents and community members are invited. Show runs April 2 – 4. At the Piper Gallery.

LAURA ELM & MARY TUCK

Laura Elm and Mary Tuck, two talented local artists and art instructors, show beautiful unique pieces with style and soul – gift-able, stupendous and small cards, prints, pottery, jewelry, and ornaments to inspire and adorn your household, yourself or to delight dear friends! Stop by for a variety of colorful, whimsical, original and one of a kind pieces of art. Show runs through June 15 at the Art Studio Gallery.

TICKET INFO

All tickets now on sale. For comprehensive event information and tickets visit www.crestedbuttearts.org; 970-349-7487. The Center at 606 Sixth Street in Crested Butte from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; or find us on Facebook.

GUNNISON ARTS CENTER OSCAR SHORT FILM NIGHTS

Documentary: Thursday, March 22.

Live Action: Friday, March 23.

Animation: Saturday, March 24.

Are you itching to see the best of the best films from this year's Oscars? In coordination with the Crested Butte Film Festival, the GAC will screen the Oscar Short Films. Watch one theme a night; documentary, live action, and animation short films. Full bar and popcorn available. General Admission: \$10/person or \$25/three night movie pass. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and films begin at 7:00 p.m.

THE GAZE

March 29 – 31. Doors 7:00 p.m. Curtain 7:30 p.m.

The Gaze combines dance, theatre, and spoken word to express the issues that arise when women are gazed upon as objects. The gaze is the act of seeing and of being seen. This is the world we live in everyday, though we do not always see it. Without recognition, there is no hope for change. As an audience member, the power to create change lies within your gaze. "I always feel like somebody's watching me" – Rockwell. Appropriate for ages 16+. Choreographed and Directed by Donielle Carr. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Project Hope. Tickets: \$12/adults, \$7/members, snrs, students with ID.

SPRING DANCE CLASSES

March 26 – May 12.

Youth and adult dance classes will begin the week of March 26 at the Gunnison Arts Center and will culminate in a dance showcase! Choose from ballet, tap, hip hop, Mickies and Minnies, aerial and more. Register at gunnisonartscenter.org, call 970-641-4029 or stop in at 102 S. Main St. Scholarships are available and due one week prior to classes starting. Come dance with us!

SPRING CLAY CLASSES

From beginners to advanced clay students, everyone is welcome to try their hand in a clay class at your local Clay Studio! Classes are available to kids as young as 5 years old and up. Hand-building, wheel throwing, sculpture, glazing, firing techniques, and more are offered. Classes begin the week of April 2. Registration is now open at gunnisonartscenter.org. Scholarships are available and due one week prior to classes starting.

BLING JEWELRY FAIR

Shop your favorite local jewelers work this entire month in the Upper Gallery of the GAC! Featuring a bold Iris Apfel inspired gallery with jewelry booths from Natasha Logan, Enid Holden, Lisa Starkebaum, Dianne Ericson, and Lisa Stoorza. Rings, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, beaded, feathers, wall hangings, and more. Jewelry Fair will be running through March 30.

DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE

CONSUMER ALERT

Be aware of timeshare resale scams. Contact the Colorado Division of Real Estate if you are getting calls about re-selling your timeshare - it could be a sham.

The Division of Real Estate alerts consumers to be aware of a scam targeting Colorado consumers, real estate brokers and out-of-state timeshare owners regarding reselling of timeshares.

The Division has recently received multiple calls reporting that Colorado consumers are cold-called, mailed or emailed solicitations from an unlicensed business entity purporting to be a full service property management company, real estate brokerage or title and escrow company that lists and sells timeshares.

Recognizing this week as National Consumer Protection Week, the Division of Real Estate, part of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), are telling consumers to be careful with these type of solicitations.

Representatives of the company falsely identify themselves to consumers using the names and license numbers of actual Colorado real estate brokers unbeknownst to those brokers. The company claims to be a Colorado company but cites a false address in the Denver area. When consumers respond to the solicitation, they are directed to forward various up-front transaction fees (sometimes in excess of \$5,000.00) to an out-of-state or out-of-country escrow company.

In 2013, the Colorado Legislature passed a Deceptive Trade Practices Act related to Timeshare Sales (SB13-182). This act provides that a timeshare re-seller must provide certain disclosures, not falsely advertise its services, and not collect any fees or costs from the seller until the timeshare has been transferred.

Colorado Consumers who are contacted by a timeshare resale company should contact the Division of Real Estate at 303-894-2355 to verify the authenticity of the company and its business license.

If you believe that you are a victim of a timeshare scam, you should contact your local law enforcement, the Attorney General's office (www.coag.gov), and/or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (www.fbi.gov).

Tips to avoid being a victim of a timeshare scam: Always check out the timeshare reseller first. Contact the State regulatory agency (Division of Real Estate), State Attorney General's Office, and Better Business Bureau, in the State where the reseller is located.

Verify that the real estate broker and title company are licensed. Contact the home timeshare resort where you own your timeshare to see if they have any information on the reseller. Oftentimes, the developer has a legitimate buy-back or resale program. Be wary if the timeshare reseller has a website that is brand new, and does not have much information substance.

Do not send any money up-front to the reseller, even if it is for transfer fees, taxes, title work, appraisal and commission fees, or if they require wire transfers. Remember, with legitimate timeshare sales, those fees come out of the closing costs.

Be suspicious of any requests that payment is only accepted in cash, by wire transfer, or by money order or a certified bank or cashier's check. These payment forms provide little if any recourse for you in the event you have paid a scammer. If you pay by credit card, you may be able to challenge the charge (if fraudulent) through your credit card company. Talk with your credit card company about their policies in this regard.

Be suspicious of the reseller if they just contact you out of the blue. Be wary if the reseller cannot meet with you in person. Watch out for statements that you must act quickly to get the sale done.

Do not provide personal information, bank account information, or credit card information over the phone to a reseller.

Remember, these scammers are also out to steal your identity information. Oftentimes the reseller tells you not to talk with your attorney, accountant or anyone else. Be skeptical if the reseller claims that they already have a buyer or an interested Realtor.

Never deal with anyone that does not have an actual office, as many set up fake addresses. Be suspicious if they ask you to send information and money to a PO Box. The scammer resellers also never have anyone to talk to you when you call; they will always get back to you, or have you leave a voice message.

Scammers usually offer you more money than the timeshare is actually worth. Be especially skeptical if the reseller gives you guarantees or promises that the timeshare reseller can get your timeshare sold (and often within a certain period of time), or "money-back" guarantees with respect to those monies you are asked to pay upfront.

Always "google" the reseller, as you may find a lot of information about them online; people that have been scammed by them tend to post their experience. Always remember – if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

If you have any questions on timeshare resales, or if you feel that you are the victim of a timeshare scam, please contact the Colorado Division of Real Estate, the Colorado State Attorney General's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Better Business Bureau of Colorado, and the American Resort Development Association (ARDA).

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

CONSUMER ALERT - BEWARE OF CALLERS USING FALSE CALLER ID INFORMATION

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) urges consumers to beware of callers who deliberately transmit fake phone numbers to your wireline and wireless phone caller ID display to disguise their identity. This scam is called "spoofing" and is often used as part of an attempt to trick someone into providing personal information that can be used in fraudulent activity.

Caller ID information can be manipulated by spoofers who illegally pose as representatives of banks, creditors, utility and technology companies, or even government agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service. These scams have defrauded consumers of

hundreds of millions of dollars.

If you cannot tell that an incoming call is spoofed, use common sense and do NOT respond to any request for personally identifying information.

Never give out personal information such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, mother's maiden names, passwords or other identifying information in response to unexpected calls.

If you get an inquiry from someone who says they represent a company or a government agency seeking personal information, hang up and call the phone number on your account statement, in the phone book, or on the company's or agency's website to verify the authenticity of the request.

Transmitting misleading or inaccurate caller ID information with the intent to defraud, cause harm or wrongfully obtain anything of value is illegal. If you receive a call and you suspect the caller ID information has been falsified, what can you do?

File a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission at <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov>, or by calling 1-888-225-5322. Contact the Colorado Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Section at 1-800-222-4444.

Visit the following websites for more information regarding spoofing and other fraudulent activity. Stop Fraud Colorado FCC Consumer Page – Caller ID Spoofing.

The PUC, part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), recognizes this week as National Consumer Protection Week. Find consumer tips and resources by following #NCPW18 and #GetWiseCO.

GUNNISON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

PRELIMINARY AGENDA: MARCH 16, 2018

8:45 a.m. Call to order; determine quorum, Approval of Minutes, Designation of Official Notice Posting Location, Welcome to new Members, Election of Officers, Unscheduled citizens: A brief period in which the public is invited to make general comments or ask questions of the Commission or Planning Staff about items which are not scheduled on the day's agenda.

9:00 a.m. Whetstone Industrial Park – L&D Ranches, work session, Preliminary/Final Plan, request to subdivide a 35-acre parcel into 17 one-acre lots for a commercial/light industrial/industrial park, with an allowance for an accessory residential unit, in association with a primary light industrial or commercial use. Located south of Riverland Industrial Park, west of Highway 135. The parcel is legally described as Part of Lot 1, All Lots 2, 3, 4, Part of the SENW, Part of NESW, SESW 33.93-acres in SWSE, 0.41-acres in SESE Section 18, Lot 1 E1/2NW 3.51-acre in W1/2NWNE Section 19, Township 14 South, Range 85 West, 6th P.M. LUC-16-00013

10:00 a.m. Whetstone Industrial Park – L&D Ranches, joint public hearing, Preliminary/Final Plan

10:30 a.m. Centennial Storage Partners, LLC/Discount Storage, site visit/work session, request for expansion of the existing commercial storage facility to include two new storage buildings, located one mile north of the City of Gunnison, west of Highway 135, legally described as Lot 3, Flying E Ranch Subdivision. LUC – 18-00003

Lunch.

1:00 p.m. Coster, site visit/work session, request for single family residence, in compliance with Section 11-108: Development on Ridgelines, located 15 miles north of the City of Gunnison, east of Ohio Creek Road, legally described as Lot 27, Star Mountain Ranch

LUC-18-00002.

Adjourn.

The applications can be viewed on gunnisoncounty.org,

link to <http://204.132.78.100/citizenaccess/> Public access, Projects, Application # 16-00013, 18-00003, Attachments.

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

CONSUMER ALERT: AVOIDING THE HARD SELL OF “FREE MEAL” SEMINARS

BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT THESE FINANCIAL, RETIREMENT AND ESTATE-PLANNING EVENTS.

Have you received an invitation or seen an ad offering you a free lunch or dinner if you attend a seminar about financial, retirement, or estate planning? Has an insurance or financial professional or someone called a “senior specialist” contacted you recently to set up a time to meet?

Know this - when federal regulators examined firms that offered free meal seminars, they found that every seminar was a sales presentation.

Recognizing this week as National Consumer Protection Week, the Division of Insurance and the Division of Securities, both part of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), are telling consumers to be careful with these masked sales pitches, especially when it comes to products related to life insurance, annuities, Medicare, long-term care insurance, financial products and retirement investments.

Some insurance and financial professionals reach out to middle-aged and older adults or host free meal seminars with the goal of selling you something you may or may not need. According to a 2013 survey by the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, 64 percent of respondents age 40 and older had been invited to a meeting that offered a free meal and “educational” information for some sort of investment. These “free” meal seminars aren’t free. The invitations may state that nothing will be sold, and only advice will be offered, but as part of the event, you’ll be asked for your contact information (so they can keep bothering you after the event), and you’ll be strongly pushed to buy something or at least to set up a future appointment. You need to protect yourself, so here are suggestions to help. Before you go. (But really, should you go? Probably not.)

Be skeptical about these invitations. There is always a purpose to a “free” seminar, even those advertised as unbiased and educational. The lure of free meals, door prizes, and raffles is to get you to attend something you otherwise might avoid. Often additional pressure will be applied with invitations that stress the urgency to register due to “limited space.” A nice restaurant, an expensive meal, and a well-dressed presenter may be impressive, but it doesn’t mean that what they’re selling is right for you

Do your homework. Before you attend a seminar or meet with an insurance, financial or retirement expert, verify that the person is licensed to sell those products. However, from the invitation, it may not always be clear what product is actually being promoted. Contact either the Division of Insurance or the Division of Securities to help you determine what’s being pitched. Then you can work with that division to verify licenses and review information about any disciplinary actions taken.

Review credentials closely. Individuals offering these “free” seminars may advertise their credentials to gain the trust of clients. But some credentials may be more hype than a sign of expertise in financial matters. Be careful of people claiming to be experts in retirement planning or senior issues or someone who claims to be a “senior specialist.” You can search and learn about credentials and designations and their requirements by visiting the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Foundation’s SaveandInvest.org website. You can also contact the Division of Securities or the Division of Insurance. If you go (and you probably shouldn’t).

Keep this thought at the top of your mind - “Does this product or service make sense for me?” Always be sure you understand what’s being sold. Insurance and financial products are complicated. Ask questions, especially if you don’t understand something. A good test: Can you explain the product in your own words to someone, other than the salesperson, in a way that makes sense?

Be cautious about promises that one product can meet all of your financial needs. It’s rare that one product or service will meet the needs of everyone attending a seminar. The product must be right for you, your lifestyle, your financial goals, and your tolerance for risk. If the presenter doesn’t know your personal financial situation, how can they know if a product is right for you? And if it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

Never, ever make a final decision at a seminar. If you attend a seminar, you most likely will be exposed to high pressure tactics with frightening stories about people who don’t have enough money to live in retirement, and promises of unrealistic financial returns.

Decide before you go that you won’t give out any personal information, sign any documents, or make any decisions while you’re there. Leave your checkbook at home (and maybe your credit and debit cards too). If you think the product is for you, get a second opinion.

And know that if you put personal details on a registration form, raffle ticket, survey form or evaluation form, that information likely will be used to market products or services to you. Do you really want more sales calls, spam email and junk mail?

Report suspected scams to the Division of Securities or the Division of Insurance. Anyone can find themselves the victim of a financial scam so don’t let fear, embarrassment, or uncertainty keep you from asking for help. Your report will help prevent others from also becoming victims.

The mission of the Department of Regulatory Agencies is consumer protection, and the Division of Insurance and Division of Securities work to live up to that mission. They will work to help if you believe you were misled by someone selling insurance or financial products, or were sold a product that is not right for you.

Contact us to ask questions or file a formal complaint. Division of Insurance - 303-894-7490 / 800-930-3745 (outside of the

Denver metro area) / DORA_Insurance@state.co.us. Division of Securities - 303-894-2320 / Dora_SecuritiesWebsite@state.co.us

Other Important Contacts / Links. Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Alert: “Free Lunch” Investment Seminars—Avoiding the Heartburn of a Hard Sell. Colorado Attorney General’s Office - Stop Fraud Colorado. Find more consumer tips and resources from DORA related to National Consumer Protection Week by following #NCPW18 and #GetWiseCO.

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES SECURITIES

CARRIER FINANCIAL SERVICES, LAURENT CARRIER SANCTIONED FOR ROLES IN SALE OF WOODBRIDGE SECURITIES

Colorado Securities Commissioner Gerald Rome has signed an order confirming that investment adviser Laurent Carrier and his firm, Carrier Financial Services, LLC, both of Colorado Springs, will withdraw their Colorado securities licensure. As part of his agreement with the Commissioner, Carrier has agreed never to reapply for such licensure in the state.

The Order comes as a result of the Respondents’ involvement in selling unregistered securities for the Woodbridge Group of Companies, which has been charged by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with operating a \$1.2 billion Ponzi scheme.

According to an investigation by the Colorado Division of Securities, part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), Carrier offered to sell and sold First Position Commercial Mortgages from Woodbridge to at least 50 investors in Colorado, but these securities were never registered with the Division, nor were they exempt from registration. The Division estimates that approximately \$5.1 million in Woodbridge securities were sold to investors by the Respondents.

“The Woodbridge case highlights the important role financial advisers play as gatekeepers to the securities markets,” stated Rome. “Customers rely on their adviser’s superior knowledge, training, and experience, and expect sound investment advice. When recommending a financial product, the adviser says to the customer that he has done the necessary background work to ensure that the product is appropriate. Failure to live up to these important responsibilities can cause significant harm to their customers, and have serious consequences for the financial professional.”

As part of the signed Stipulation and Consent Order, the Respondents have agreed to terminate licensure with the state of Colorado within ten days, and Laurent Carrier has agreed that he shall not reapply for a securities license of any kind in Colorado.

TALKING GOURDS

JENNIFER RANE HANCOCK TO READ IN TELLURIDE

The Telluride Institute’s Talking Gourds Poetry Club is proud to host Jennifer Rane Hancock, a regional poet who teaches creative writing at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, on Tuesday night, March 27, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Telluride Arts offices.

Hancock facilitates the Poetry Night gathering at Mesa County Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month. Her poems have recently appeared in *Fruita Pulp* and *Crab Orchard Review*. This fall semester, her Craft of Poetry Class will be working with students from the design and printmaking classes to produce poetry broadsides.

Jennifer Rane Hancock received her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College, and her Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. She is currently Assistant Professor of English at Colorado Mesa University, and her first collection, *Between Hurricanes*, was recently published by Lithic Press.

Mark Cox, a poet who teaches in the Department of Creative Writing at University of North Carolina, Wilmington, and Vermont College, had this to say about Hancock’s book: “I loved this book. When I finished it, I felt awakened and as if I had travelled great distances, because of the distances these poems cover within themselves, their rich relationships between concept and corresponding detail. Top it all off with a keen ear for subtle music and a big heart - you get memorable, mature work by an extraordinary poet.”

Her work has also appeared in *Ecotone*, *Crab Orchard Poetry Review*, and *Puerto del Sol*, among other journals. She occasionally forays on the Grand Mesa, where sadly someone else has found her chanterelle field.

The reading begins at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, at the Telluride Arts Gallery Office, 135 West Pacific, across the street from the Wilkinson Library entrance.

Poetry Club announcements are followed by the featured performance. Then, following a short break, the gourd is passed and everyone has a chance to read a poem or two (their own, or one from a favorite poet) that speaks to the theme for March – “Play.”

After taking our usual summer break, we will continue our regular Poetry Club readings in Telluride starting in September, hopefully with Trish Hopkinson of Utah.

Simultaneously, we will be exploring special guest readings throughout the year, with planning underway for a Western Slope visit from California's Claire Blotter April 23-24 for a performance and a workshop on performing.

May 18-19 we will have an open mike Friday night and host the winners of the Fischer Prize poetry competition at the Telluride Literary Arts Festival on Saturday, including a new \$500 Cantor Award for the best submission in the Fischer Prize by a Colorado Poet. Submissions for the 2018 Fischer Prize are now being accepted at talkinggourds.weebly.com/fischer-prize.html

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

DORA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPOINTS PATTY SALAZAR AS STATE BANK AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSIONER

Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) Executive Director Marguerite Salazar announced today that she has appointed Patty Salazar as State Bank and Financial Services Commissioner, effective March 8, 2018.

In this role, Commissioner Patty Salazar will oversee two separate financial divisions at DORA — the Division of Banking and the Division of Financial Services. The Division of Banking regulates the business of state chartered and/or licensed financial institutions, including state commercial banks, money transmitters and trust companies. The Division of Financial Services regulates state-chartered credit unions and savings and loan associations, the administration and enforcement of the Savings and Loan Public Deposit Protection Act, and certain financial activities of state life care institutions.

“Patty comes from a strong financial regulatory background working for California’s Department of Business Oversight. Her experience and perspective on the important roles that the banking and financial services industries serve in our state’s economy will be an asset for both industries,” noted DORA Executive Director Salazar.

Commissioner Patty Salazar was appointed as Colorado Financial Services Commissioner in 2015. In 2016, she was appointed as DORA Deputy Executive Director, and in 2017 was re-appointed as Interim Financial Service Commissioner. At the California Department of Business Oversight, she served as a deputy commissioner responsible for public affairs, policy development, performance planning and managing the department’s consumer services office. Previously she served as the state legislative and regulatory lobbyist for the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues. Prior to joining the trade association, she served as a consultant to the organization on public affairs and strategies related to federal and state legislation affecting the financial services industry.

“As the DORA Deputy Executive Director and the former Commissioner of Financial Services, I have taken seriously the need to engage industry and consumers alike to provide for a competitive yet balanced regulatory landscape,” said Commissioner Patty Salazar. “I am honored to continue to serve the public as the Commissioner of Banking and Financial Services and to work with the Financial Services Board, the State Banking Board, and the staff of both divisions to help ensure that all consumers have access to safe and reliable financial services throughout the state.”

DORA Executive Director Marguerite Salazar thanks Ken Boldt who has served as Acting State Bank Commissioner and will resume his previous position as Deputy Commissioner in the Division of Banking.

Commissioner Patty Salazar replaces Chris Myklebust who left the position on November 30, 2017.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

BLUE MESA'S LAKE FORK INSPECTION STATION TO OPEN

On Wednesday, March 21, call-in inspections will end and the Lake Fork ramp and inspection station will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. This is the earliest opening for Blue Mesa inspections in many years and we invite all anglers to come out and enjoy the early season fishing. The Elk Creek ramp and inspection station will open when ice conditions and staffing allow. The target date is mid-April.

Boaters are reminded that Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspections are required before launch and after boating whenever ramps are open. Boaters are advised that some boats may be denied launch if they require hot water decontamination according to Colorado Aquatic Nuisance Species regulations. Decontaminations will not be available until night time temperatures no longer reach lows that may seriously damage the decontamination equipment.

Superintendent Bruce Noble stated, “We very much appreciate the support we’ve received from the public in making our AIS program so successful. We also value our partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Their cooperation in helping us staff inspection stations has been invaluable.” As always, visit the Curecanti Watercraft inspection webpage for the latest inspection news and status: http://www.nps/cure/planyourvisit/mussel_free_certification.htm

NEWS

