

Partners Link

www.partners-west.org

April 2010



May 2010

Amazing things are happening with Partners every month. **April is alcohol awareness and child abuse prevention month. Know someone who would like to support a child in your community? Tell them about how they can get involved in Partners Mentoring!**

Montrose/Ouray County 249-1116

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Montrose/Ouray Case Manager

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Partners and Art Partners

TAB Coordinator & Design

Delta County 874-4661

Betsy Shepherd

Program Director for Partners

and Delta Case Manager

Julianne Johnson

Art Partners Case Manager

NEW MATCHES

One to One

2-1 Rod Ragsdale & Nick I

2-17 George Valencia &

Cameron Q

2-28 Wayne Stanfill &

Greyson M

3-2 Christy Biella & Sarena P

3-12 Jesse Long & Mikah B

NEW MATCHES

Art Partners

1-22 Emily Bowman &

Hannah B

1-26 Rose Walsh & Willa J

2-9 Joyce Corley & Kiana R

3-17 Shawn McKearnan &

Halli B

With the support of our Senior Partners, Volunteers, and Donors like **YOU**, we continue to grow and reach more children each year. **You make change happen!** There are still children waiting for a strong adult presence. **Recommend a friend** to be a Senior Partner and change the life of a child. Thank You for all you do! **Keep spreading the word!**

The Art of Partnership

By Julianne Johnson, Art Partners Case Manager, Delta

Last week I had the pleasure of spending a couple of hours with a partnership that's as good as they get.

Grace is a bright and eager eighth grader with dreams of being a marine biologist. Wanda, her artist mentor, is an entrepreneur with an interest in antiques and collectables. She owns a framing and matting business called Mattes and More, LLC. Energetic and organized, Wanda has no trouble making the time to meet with her young art intern. The volume of art work these two produce together is phenomenal. Aside from the work aspect, Wanda and Grace make time to visit, watch a movie, cook together and do homework.

After the bustle of a full day at school, Grace descends on Wanda's home with schoolbooks in tow and ideas in mind. She enjoys her artwork and has done work in pastel, watercolor and gouache and other drawing media. Grace is completely at home at Wanda's and is welcome to help herself to the proverbial milk and cookies or an ice cream bar and soda. After a bit of time decompressing, they move from the kitchen to the studio where Grace knows where to find everything she needs. Grace will often combine writing or lettering with her art and is interested in pursuing calligraphy. Some of the work you will see on display at the Art Partners Exhibition opening April 9th at the Creamery Art Center in Hotchkiss combines her pastel painting with a title and her signature more prominently displayed than is usual, making it part of the composition. Delightful!

What is truly delightful is the warmth and respect these two have for each other. The quiet time and easy companionship in Wanda's relaxed home allow for the expression of art, the writing of poetry or the completion of algebra problems, all equally doable and important.

This April, Wanda and Grace will exhibit together at the Creamery for the second time. Beautifully presented, their work shows the benefit of the experience Wanda has gained and is now passing on to Grace. Regularly showing her work and participating in local art organizations, Wanda claims she is still finding her style. As she experiments with themes and different art processes, Grace collaborates and provides support and Wanda does the same for her.

If you have the time and are able to make it to the Art Show at the Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss, you will see work completed by our Senior Art Partners and their Interns. The Show and Silent Auction, with proceeds going to support the Art Partners Program, runs from April 9th through May 9th. Opening night is April 9th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. It's worth the visit and will open your eyes to the amount of talent in this area, talent that we are free to enjoy!



Wanda Brunemeier and Grace C

Partners Auction Twenty-One Years and Counting

Once again, Partners has had an amazing show of support from Board Sponsors and Item Donors alike. We cannot do it without them and you! If you know someone who would like to donate an item or become a board sponsor have them call 970-249-1116. They will be mentioned on the air throughout the day on all three radio stations: KUBC - 580AM KKXK - 94.1FM, KBNG - 103.7FM, April 20th. Be sure to check out the website for early bidding and see the array of items that the communities of Delta, Montrose and Ouray have donated to help Partners raise much needed funds. Bid, buy and make it yours while supporting the Partners and Art Partners programs! Keep watching the website and listen to the radio on April 20th as we are getting more items everyday and one might be perfect for you.

The Scoop with Mystery the Cat



Question:

Dear Mystery,
I don't know who else I can ask for help, Mystery. I know for a **fact** that my best friend is drinking alcohol that he got from home after school. I am so worried that he is going to hurt himself now or in the future by drinking. I don't know what to do. Recently his mom and dad have separated and I know my friend is really hurt that he can't see his dad every day. I also know he'd kill me if he knew I was asking for help. What should I do?

Worried in Montrose

Answer:

Dear Worried in Montrose,

I am so glad you wrote me for help. I am very worried about your best friend also. Alcohol is very dangerous to growing brains in underage children. It can have a lifelong affect on him and the people he loves. He also has a greater risk of abusing alcohol the rest of his life, if we don't do something to help. If you wish to remain anonymous but get help for your friend I recommend you speak with your school counselor as soon as possible. Remember that it will be out of your hands when you do that, but your friend will get the help he needs and you'll get your best friend back.

Be strong, and let me know how he's doing.

Mystery the Partners Cat,

on the job 2/4/7

Calendar of Events

Partnership & Nexus Activities

Friday, April 9th 6pm to 8pm

9th Annual Art Partners Exhibition

The Creamery Art Center through May 2nd
165 Bridge Street Hotchkiss, CO

Tuesday, April 20th All Day

Partners Annual Radio Auction

Donate today, make your business look good!
Don't Miss the Fun! Call today!

Saturday, April 24th time to be announced
City of Montrose Tree Planting

Meet at Rotary Park in Montrose

Join us in celebrating Arbor Day and Earth Day by planting a tree and learning about nature and growing plants.

Friday, May 7th 6pm to 8pm

Volunteer Appreciation

At Turn of the Century. Invitation to follow.

Saturday, May 15th 1pm to 3pm

Museum of the Mountain West in Montrose

Enjoy a fun filled afternoon of exploration and history.

Saturday, May 22nd All Day

Partnership Rafting

Happy Birthday

April

4-2 Kristen St Jean

4-3 Bodie F

4-3 Carl Wood

4-3 Lauro M

4-3 Timmy W

4-5 Irene Mattivi

4-7 Terra Joy W

4-11 Cullen K

4-11 Taylor H

4-12 Elijah K

4-14 Dennis Doerer

4-14 Natalie H

4-15 Carol May

4-21 Jerry Holmes

4-22 Diana Kenney

4-22 Kathy Conlon

4-23 Ron Mabry

4-24 Hayley G

4-26 Lucas S

4-27 Michael P

4-27 Susan N

4-27 Heather

Patterson

May

5-2 Donald Foster

5-3 David Wasson

5-3 Tyler W

5-4 Cameron Q

5-5 Kurt Shepherd

5-6 Sam I

5-7 River M

5-10 Matt S

5-10 Mike Baer

5-13 Claudia Wolff

5-14 Kayla H

5-15 Elysa Barron

5-15 Lauren F

5-18 Cody B

5-18 Randy White

5-18 Willa J

5-18 Richard Harvey

5-19 Trisha H

5-21 Daniel W

5-21 Xavier Q

5-21 Kathy Gordon

5-22 Jacob W

5-25 Julianne

Johnson

5-26 George

Valencia

5-26 Ryan J

5-27 Kaitlyn B

5-27 Rhiannon P

5-29 Joseph Colwell

5-30 Mack M

5-31 David W

Art Partners 9th

Annual

Art Exhibition

Come experience what Delta, Montrose and Ouray County Art Partners artists and their apprentices have to offer in this amazing annual exhibition at the Creamery Art Center in Hotchkiss.

A plethora of arts abound. Look for a landscape painting or a beautiful glass plate. Buy a unique sculpture for your yard or jewelry for just the right person. All will be available for sale. Each Art Partnership has donated one piece to support the Partners program and all other sales will go straight to the artists. The Exhibit runs through May 2nd. Get some great work for your office, home or as a gift and spread the love of the arts.

You can help generate funds for Partners each time you shop at City Market

If you use a [City Market Value card](#), you can designate that a percentage of all of your purchases be donated to Partners.

You don't pay any more for your groceries -- City Market simply credits us with a donation amount every time you shop and scan your card. However, you must register your card with Partners. To do that, simply give your name and your City Market card number to any Partners Staff and they will take care of the rest. Your friends can also register to have donations made to Partners, so spread the word! It is an easy way to give and help our kids. Call 249-1116 if you have any questions.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

The phrase, alcohol abusers, conjures an image of old men in seedy bars drunk and slurring. What is alarming about this image is that much of that behavior starts young and translates to how people socialize the rest of their lives. People who abuse alcohol can be as young as 12 years old in 6th grade to as old as senior citizens. Statistics from Colorado Healthy Kids Survey show a frightening trend in young drinkers and lifetime habits. 2008 statistics show that almost 20% of 6th graders to 60% of 12th graders in Delta, Montrose and Ouray Counties have used alcohol in the last 30 days and 80% have used alcohol at some point in their lifetime.

In 2007, more than one fifth (23.3 percent) of persons aged 12 or older participated in binge drinking at least once in the 30 days prior to taking SAMHSA's National Sur-

vey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). This translates to about 57.8 million people. The rate in 2007 is similar to the rate in 2006 (23.0 percent).

To recognize the serious problem of alcohol abuse, April is designated "Alcohol Awareness Month."

If you suspect that you might have a drinking problem, or you know someone who abuses alcohol, please contact your local Partners case manager or go to www.cadi.samhsa.gov to learn more about prevention.

Kids at risk when poor health behaviors spread among friends, study finds

SATURDAY, March 20 (HealthDay News) - In a study of so-called "contagious" behavior, U.S. researchers have found a link between sleep deprivation and drug use in teen social networks.

Previous studies have shown that behaviors such as happiness, obesity and smoking can spread within adult social networks. This means your behavior can influence your friends, then their friends, and so on.

In this new study, researchers at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and Harvard University mapped the social networks of 8,349 students in grades 7 through 12 and found that the spread of sleep deprivation in teen social networks was associated with the spread of marijuana use. This effect extended up to four degrees of separation (to one's friends' friends' friends' friends).

The researchers also discovered that teens at the center of a social network are at greater risk of poor sleep and therefore more likely to use marijuana, according to the report published online March 19 in the journal *PLoS One*.

"Our behaviors are connected to each other and we need to start thinking about how one behavior affects our lives on many levels," research team leader Sara C. Mednick, an assistant professor of psychiatry, said in a UCSD news release.

"Therefore, when parents, schools and law enforcement want to look for ways to influence one outcome, such as drug use, our research suggests that targeting another behavior, like sleep, may have a positive influence. They should be promoting healthy sleep habits that eliminate behaviors which interfere with sleep: take the TV out of the child's bedroom, limit computer and phone usage to daytime and early evening hours, and promote napping."

Check it out-World Health Day (Apr 7)
www.who.int/world-health-day/en/

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Partners of Delta, Montrose and Ouray is a non-profit organization working toward a future where every child receives positive guidance and encouragement. Within our communities, Partners provides many opportunities for you to share your talents and energy with our precious youth. Our program is a wonderful opportunity for you to make a difference in the life of a child. Get involved today by [contacting us](#) - you may be surprised what a difference it will make in your life too!

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