

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

OURAY COUNTY

Elks to host first of a kind fundraiser

PLAINDEALER STAFF REPORT
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The Ouray Elks lodge has a unique fundraiser planned for later this month – a traditional Scottish Burns Night dinner.

"This is a first for southwestern Colorado," said event chairman John Lorimer. "It will be an interesting and fun evening, both for people with Scottish roots and for the general public."

Lorimer said the birthday of Scotland's most famous son, the poet Robert Burns, is celebrated throughout the world with food, music and toasts.

"We'll have a great roast beef dinner, live bagpiping, recitations of some of Burns' most famous poetry and a great Celtic band from New Mexico for music and dancing," Lorimer added. "We're flying in real haggis for you to taste, we'll have single-malt Scotch available, and more."

The Elks report that early interest in the evening appears to be strong, with early reservations from as far away as Buena Vista.

The event is Saturday, Jan. 23 and is open to the public. The bar opens at 6 p.m., and dinner is at 7. Tickets, \$40 per person, may be purchased from Lorimer at 970-325-7961 or by emailing jlorimer@lorimer.net.

Attendees with Scottish heritage are encouraged to wear their clan tartan, and anyone with kilts should wear them.

"This is going to be a grand evening," Lorimer said. "All profits go to our charity fund, which provides scholarships, Santa Delivers, our annual Easter Egg Hunt and other community benefits."

OURAY COUNTY

Winter tour offers chance to glide back into history

BY TORI SHEETS
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Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership and Ouray County Historical Society are partnering up to offer adventurous snowshoers and cross country skiers an opportunity to explore a few historical mines in the Red Mountain mining district on Jan. 30. Don Paulson, curator of the Ouray County Historical Museum, is leading a limited group of 20 people on the four mile round trip trek to visit the Yankee Girl mine, the town of Guston and the Robinson mine.

Paulson will tell tour-goers the rich history of mining during the 19th and 20th centuries in Ouray County. He said that remembering the area's heritage is the first step in preserving its legacy.

"I think the mines are very important because of the heritage for the area," Paulson said. "The historic tours industry is becoming very important to Colorado's economy and I think it's important for people that live around here to know all about the history of the area so they can appreciate why it's important for us to have these sites protected and preserved so that people can enjoy them for another 100 years."

Paulson stressed that enjoying and preserving these structures isn't about preventing future mining but rather remembering the historically significant role that mines like the Yankee Girl played in shaping the economy of the area.

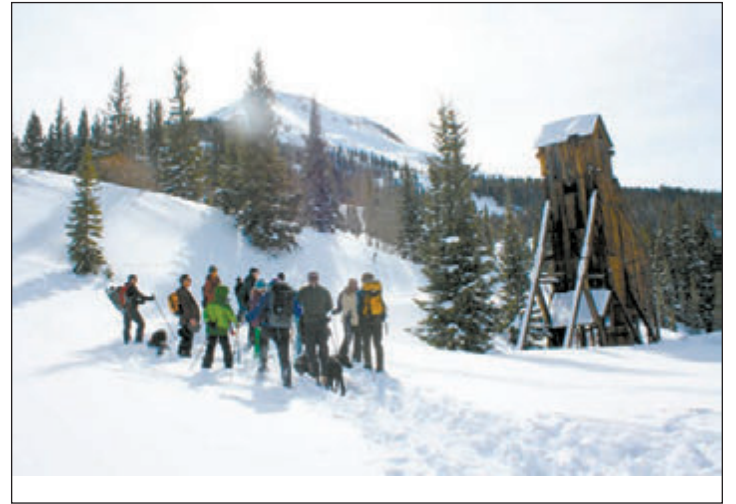
"I'm primarily concerned with side

standing structures on the mines and preserving those structures without interfering with anyone's right to mine," Paulson said. "We have no interest in preventing people from accessing

their right to mine their property, but we would like them to do that in such a way that preserves these structures that are over 100 years old."

Yankee Girl mine produced over \$12 million in silver between 1882 and 1898, and the Guston and Robinson mines each produced about \$6-8 million worth of silver each. Yankee Girl mine is one of the most iconic and photographed mines in Colorado, and the winter setting gives tour guests a stunning photograph opportunity.

"The head frame of the Yankee Girl mine, the original one, was burned in about 1900," Paulson said. "Then this one was built somewhere between 1900 and 1905, so it's 110 years old at least and it's the iconic structure you



Tour-goers on skis and snowshoes view the iconic Yankee Girl mine during the 2014 Winter Mining District tour.

Courtesy photo

see as you drive up Red Mountain Pass."

Along with the mines, Paulson will give guests history on the names of the mountains and the history of the towns and of the Silverton Railroad. The tour is open to anyone with skis or snow shoes, and you can sign up on www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/event/2016wintertour.

"It's a nice way to safely explore the mining district in wintertime," Agnieszka Przeszlowska, UWP project coordinator, said. "It's also a great way to meet people that enjoy getting outside in the winter."

UWP will provide hot chocolate and cookies but asks that tour guests bring their own lunches on the tour.

Film is moving story of a mother's love

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Second Sunday Cinema's January film is "ROOM," the extraordinary story of Jack, a spirited 5-year-old who is looked after by his loving and devoted mother. Like any good mother, Ma dedicates herself to keeping Jack happy and safe, nurturing him with warmth and love and doing typical things like playing games and telling stories.

Their life, however, is anything but typical. They are trapped, confined to a window-

less, 10-by-10-foot space that Ma has euphemistically named Room.

Ma has created a whole universe for Jack within Room, and she will stop at nothing to ensure that, even in this treacherous environment, Jack is able to live a complete and fulfilling life. But as Jack's curiosity about their situation grows, and Ma's resilience reaches its breaking point, they enact a risky plan to escape, ultimately bringing them face-to-face with what may turn out to be the scariest thing yet: the real world.

"ROOM" will be shown at the Fox Theater in Montrose, 27 S. Cascade Ave., at noon on Sunday, Jan. 10. Tickets are \$7.

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WINTERFEST

Ouray Winter Recreation
All winter activities are open including:
The Ouray Hot Springs Pool, The Ouray Ice Park, Lee's Ski Hill, Vinegar Hill Sled Run, Ouray Rotary Park Ice Rink

Open Bard Poetry Readings, Jan. 7, 6-8:30pm, Sherbino Theater

Living Room Lounge with Kellie Day and Deb Barr, Jan. 10, 6-9pm, Sherbino Theater Kick off the New Year with featured musician Deb Barr and featured artist Kellie Day.

Sherb Nerds: Trivia Night, Jan. 13, 6:30-9pm, Sherbino Theater
Monthly trivia nights, featuring several rounds of trivia questions with varying topics such as history, film/TV, science, music, and geography.

Movies at the Wright: Labyrinth of Lies, Jan. 13, 7-9pm, Wright Opera House The economic miracle is changing the life of Germans in post-war Germany but a young attorney's investigation of a former Auschwitz guard brings up memories that many do not want to recall.

Ouray Ice Festival, Jan. 14-17, Ouray Ice Park, Ouray Community Center, Wright Opera House Crushing Divas...In 2016, the Ice Park will highlight women in ice climbing. For three days and three nights Ouray is an absolute ice climbing mecca; ice climbers, both novice and pro travel from around the world to celebrate the growing sport of ice climbing. During daily vendor exhibitions Festival attendees have the opportunity to demo the latest ice tools, apparel, and gear from the Outdoor Industries leading retailers. Hundreds of spectators line the top of the Gorge on Saturday and Sunday to watch the world's best ice and mixed climbing talent battle for the prize! And, with over 100 interactive and educational climbing clinics to accommodate every skill level, Festival participants are sure to have an experience to remember.

Nightly events include multimedia presentations by leading climbers, music, food, dance parties and a live and silent auction overflowing with screaming deals of the latest outdoor gear! Visit: OurayIcePark.com for more information.

WinterFest is supported by Angel Sponsor

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and the following community sponsors:

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