

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

FLY FISHING FILMS RAISE FUNDS FOR FISHING HABITAT 2ND ANNUAL FLY FISHING FILM TOUR & RIVER BENEFIT COMING TO MONTROSE

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Whether enjoyed as a solitary endeavor or with a fun-loving group of friends, the always essential ingredient for a satisfying fly fishing experience is a prime fishing spot. When ROSS Reels and RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service bring the Fly Fishing Film Tour to the Montrose Pavilion on April 14, the evening will be all about preserving and improving fishing habitat on the Uncompahgre River.

The 2018 local screening of the national film tour has been combined with the second annual Uncompahgre River Benefit, raising funds for a project by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP). A nonprofit with a mission to protect the economic, natural and scenic values of the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed, UWP put \$3,000 in proceeds from the first annual benefit in Ridgway to use in a project 14 miles south of Montrose.

The 2017 benefit funds are being put toward improving the fishery and riparian habitat, as well as restoring and stabilizing stream banks on Billy Creek, a few miles north of Ridgway Reservoir and the better-known fly fishing destination at Pa-Co-Chu-Puk. Project partners include Trout Unlimited, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, with funding

assistance from Bostwick Park Conservancy District.

"It's critical our local angling community have a heightened sense of awareness and willingness to participate when it comes to the enhancement and preservation of our limited public access along the Uncompahgre River. As our region continues to grow, it's imperative we identify and engage in opportunities that protect and grow these assets in meaningful ways so future generations may continue to enjoy the resource," said Tim Patterson, co-owner of RIGS, a Ridgway business and river guiding company since 2001.

On April 14, the films will be preceded by a fly fishing gear expo starting at 3 p.m. and featuring casting and tying demos, talks by local fly fishing expert guides, Kirk Deeter and Matt McCannel, and giveaways every half hour. Gear manufacturers with displays will include ROSS, Able, Winston, Hatch and Scott. UWP will also have a table with information about its various projects from riparian restoration to water quality improvement at abandoned mine sites.

A cocktail hour with locally brewed beers starts at 6 p.m. and the films begin at 7 p.m. This year's medley of short documentaries once again introduces audiences to

fly fishing adventures from around the world with a diverse set of characters. Featured fishing spots are revealed on the Chandalar River and other rivers across Alaska, the Caribbean Sea at Honduras, streams in California's Sierra Mountains, and all kinds of water bodies in Greenland, Dubai, Central America, and several African countries.

"The Fly Fishing Film Tour is a great collection of films, and a fantastic way for fly fishers to escape cabin fever and get excited about the start of fishing season, while also helping a great organization protect our home river," said Bart Larmouth, sales manager at Montrose-based ROSS Reels.

Tickets for the Fly Fishing Film Tour & Uncompahgre River Benefit at the Montrose Pavilion, 1800 E Pavilion Pl., Montrose, CO 81401, are \$14 in advance online at <https://shop.fishrigs.com/search/film> or at RIGS, 565 Sherman St. Unit #2, Ridgway, CO 81432, or \$17 on Saturday, April 14. Admission to the fly fishing expo is free.

For event information, go to <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events>.

For more information about the event organizers, go to <http://www.rossreels.com>, <http://fishrigs.com>, <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org>.

DAVID STARR TO PLAY RADIO ROOM MAY 12

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The KAFM Radio Room proudly presents David Starr May 12.

Starr is an Americana singer/songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and producer with influences ranging from Southern California country rock to Delta blues and folk. He is a solo artist, duo artist and member of the David Starr Band. His most recent work includes a six-song EP entitled *The*

Head And Heart produced and arranged by John Oates in April of 2017, and his 2016 CD, *Love And Sabotage*, a 15-song collection that features original compositions, co-written collaborations and two covers. Starr has shared the stage with such artists as John Oates (Hall & Oates), Richie Furay (Buffalo Springfield, Poco), Kenny Edwards (Linda Ronstadt, Karla Bonoff), John McEuen (Nitty Gritty Dirt

Band) and numerous others. He has opened for Survivor, Clint Black, Travis Tritt, Restless Heart, The Marshall Tucker Band and The Guess Who. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext 211, or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30pm.