

# TELLURIDE DAILY PLANET

SINCE 1898, INCORPORATING THE TELLURIDE TIMES AND TELLURIDE JOURNAL

**Inside Today:** The View, p3; News, p4; Voices, p12; Sport, p13; Business, p17; Orbit, the back page

## FRIDAY

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### Don't quote me but...

"What a long strange trip it's been...  
Happy 40th Birthday Maureen  
Pelisson!"

—Your friends everywhere

## Calendar

### FRIDAY

• Open Knitting Circle: 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Needle Rock, spend lunch with fellow knitters at the kitchen table  
• "Stranger Danger" How to talk to your Children About Strangers: noon-1 p.m., library program room, a free parent networking opportunity  
• Telluride vs. Mancos Girls Volleyball: 4 p.m., Mancos High School, JV girls volleyball at 4 p.m., varsity at 5 p.m.  
• Movie: "Eat, Pray, Love" (PG-13) 6 p.m., "The Expendables" (R) 8:30 p.m., Nugget

### SATURDAY

• Ballard Mountain Bluegrass Trio: 9 p.m., Steaming Bean, with Mike Pale, Jeremy Baron and Jason Flournoy  
• Town: 10 p.m., Moon, local/regional music showcase benefitting the San Miguel Resource Center and One Telluride with Adam Pace, Roxy Cox, Megan Rood and friends  
• Movie: "The Expendables" (R) 6 p.m., "Eat, Pray, Love" (PG-13) 8:30 p.m., Nugget

## Weather

**Misc:** These days look like time lapses; how the color of a tree fades underneath a cloud, the amount of time it takes a leaf to flutter its way to the ground. As if we were in a sun-splashed movie.

**Forecast:** Highs in the 60s, lows in the 40s. These are the days, people. These are the days.

## Birthdays

**Sept. 10:** Betsy Adler, John Bellis, Maureen Pelisson, Corie Chandler, Charles Conner, Suzanne Echante, Giana Eckhardt, Charles Flowers, Molly Gray, Anita Hawver, Susan Kelley, William Kingsford, Mary Kirwan, Andrew Miltzavitch, Brian Rogers, Pamela Sapiro, Jeffrey Schultz, Sean Tannehill, Shay Van Stratt. **Sept. 11:** Patricia Aburdene, Patrick Barber, Pamela Baskett, Keith Bellows, Jeb Bernier, Tom Bonfietti, Jack Carey (*gone, but not forgotten*), Katherine Defanscesco, Gina Ferrigno, Angela Fleming, Pamela Frenz, Joyce Kimball, Andrea Lawlar, Linda Lyon, Barbara McGill, Joseph Netroso, Jeffrey Randall, James Saint, David Simons, John Sopsic, Patricia Togni, Lisa Wierenga.

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An interested buyer tours one of the units at Gold Run, the town's newest affordable housing project. The application process for the Gold Run units opens on Friday. The lottery will take place on Sept. 30. [Photo by Katie Klingsporn]

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## Welcome to Gold Run

By KATIE KLINGSPORN  
Associate Editor

**O**n Wednesday under a cold drizzle of rain, a batch of prospective local homebuyers milled in and out of a cluster of empty structures just east of town. Up and down stairs and through halls they went, pondering window sizes, scrutinizing storage spaces, admiring views from decks and picturing their lives poured into these homes.

Welcome to Gold Run, a new affordable housing project that represents a combined effort between the Town of Telluride and San Miguel County. The 18 units — some single-family

### A tour of the town's new housing project

homes, some duplexes — are almost finished, and the housing lottery application process opens today, with the lottery scheduled for Sept. 30.

With the lottery drawing near, the town has been opening Gold Run up for public tours the last two weeks.

A walk through the units revealed an appealing neighborhood of homes. These are homey homes, with skylights and decks and airy kitchens and gleaming countertops. None are expan-

sive, and the bedrooms are all modest in size, but the spaces are generally cozy and affixed with nice features. Views are pretty killer — some look up into Bear Creek, others look down upon the San Miguel River, and others gaze toward the end of the box canyon. And the houses are surrounded by a bubble of quiet — canyon walls, running water, sleepy residences and sky.

"They're great. They're very nice," said Heidi McDaniel, an appraiser with Bear Creek Appraisal, who was touring the units. McDaniel said she has been keeping tabs on all the town's recent affordable housing

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### OUTDOORS

## 'IF SUFFER WE MUST, LET'S SUFFER ON THE HEIGHTS'

### Imogene Pass Run on Saturday

By MATTHEW BEAUDIN  
Editor

**T**he Imogene Pass Run is popular. So popular it attains its 1,500 person limit in less than a day. So popular it had to add a category this year. It now offers a 75 and up classification. That's right. 75. And up.

Apparently, the 75-year-olds were complaining it was tough to compete with the 70-year-old whippersnappers.

"They were looking for their own age division," said Race Director John Jett. "Those folks will be claiming podiums, for sure." Three or four men signed up over the age of 75 this year — amazing, when one contemplates the new-sandpaper harshness of a course that is 17.1 miles in length and ascends the mighty Imogene Pass (13,114 feet in elevation) while connecting the route between Ouray (start) and Telluride (finish).

The event will shove off from Ouray on Saturday morning and end in Telluride in the late morning and early afternoon.

See IMOGENE, Page 11

### SMPA

## Solar farm to be built in Ridgway

Expected to generate  
2 percent of SMPA's energy needs

By KATHRINE WARREN  
Staff Reporter

**A**fter months of discussion and site surveys, a Maryland solar company, SunEdison, has decided to build the country's largest solar farm to feed a rural cooperative just outside of Ridgway.

The proposed 2-megawatt photovoltaic solar array system will serve San Miguel Power Association and is expected to generate 2 percent of the coop-

erative's energy needs.

SunEdison leased a 20-acre site from Angel Ridge Ranch, LLC, located northeast of Ridgway at the intersection of Ouray County Road 10 and U.S. Highway 550, and now the project just needs approval from Ouray County.

Sites throughout SMPA's serv-

ice area were considered for the solar farm, including Norwood and Paradox, but the Ridgway location came out on top because it was closer to SMPA's infrastructure.

In August, when the Ridgway location was looking favorable, SMPA General Manager Kevin Ritter explained it was because

the electric grid in Ridgway is stronger and can better absorb the project's energy versus the grids in Norwood or Paradox.

SunEdison Project Development Manager Bryan Hammond said the location is nice and flat and receives a lot of sun.

"We didn't have a lot of choices, but that was one of the few that looked like it had the possibilities," Hammond said.

See SOLAR, Page 11

## IN ORBIT

Friday Focus: Music & Entertainment

The local bluegrass boys

Coming Sunday: Business & Real Estate

# Welcome to Gold Run

**Housing**, from page 1 projects, and the town seems to be churning out better ones each time.

As of Wednesday afternoon, 112 people had shown up to peer in the Gold Run Units, said Shirley Diaz, executive director of the San Miguel Regional Housing Authority — which is conducting the lottery that will determine who gets a shot at owning a unit. She's also been fielding a lot of phone calls, and SMRHA information sessions have been well-attended.

Diaz said people have been eyeing this project since it was first announced.

"The interest, I think, is really high," she said. "I don't think we'll have problems finding buyers."

The project features 18 deed restricted, price-capped residences — 12 of which are single family, the others are duplexes — as well as a space for a daycare. Three different contractors, Mountain Builders, High Mark and Kipfer Construction, are building the project, and the result is a neighborhood feel with a variety of architectural styles, sizes, shapes and colors. All told, it consists of 11 three-bedroom units, five two-bedroom units and two one-bedroom units. Four have enclosed garages, and all are designed to be owner occupied.

The project is the result of a combined effort between the Town and San Miguel County, which pooled land and resources

to build it.

The units range from \$194,700 for a one-bedroom unit to \$359,000 for a three-bedroom. The average cost for a two-bedroom unit is \$274,440 and the average cost of a 2.5 bedroom unit is \$335,550. Pricing, which was set by the Telluride Town Council, is based on targeting a certain range of area median income (between 80 and 120 percent).

Each unit is unique. There is a small, quaint wooden two-bedroom with funky angles and a deck in the back. A one-bedroom duplex where light spills in through big windows. A three bedroom house with plush carpet and an enviable kitchen.

Some have built-in benches, others have bamboo flooring, others come with garages, and many have half-bathroom "powder rooms." The units were built with environmentally friendly features like EnergyStar-rated appliances, recycleable-content carpets, low-VOC paints and formaldehyde-free insulation.

"It's just a good variety of spaces and finishes," said Lance McDonald, special projects manager for the town.

In the easternmost unit, a three-bedroom home with a front porch, the top floor is occupied by a living room space with high ceilings and great views. On one wall, a door opens up to a deck with an unobstructed view of the end of the canyon; it must be one of the primest

views around.

On this rainy day, Ajax snags a ragged cloud and the mountains are shrouded with mist.

McDonald takes it in. "Pretty cool," he says.

SMRHA will begin accepting applications for its housing lottery on Friday. The deadline to turn them in is 5 p.m. on Sept. 24. The lottery will take place on Sept. 30 at noon in Rebekah Hall.

The lottery is open to locals who meet income and work history requirements. Lottery winners can walk away from the project if they determine they cannot buy the home. For more information, visit [smrha.org](http://smrha.org) or call 728-3034, ext. 5.

## **Gold Run Affordable Housing Lottery Open To The Public**

*The Lottery Noticing Period is August 27-September 10, 2010  
Applications and the FAQ for the project are available today  
Information Sessions and Site Walks begin August 30, 2010  
Application Collection is from  
September 10-September 24, 2010*

Applications are to be turned in at the SMRHA Office  
820 Black Bear Rd., G-17

All materials are available at:

[www.smrha.org](http://www.smrha.org) or in person at the office and during information sessions

Information Sessions:

All Sessions will be held at 335 W. Colorado Ave. (The West Wing conference room)

Date	Time
Mon. 8/30, Wed. 9/1,	5:30-7:30pm
Tues. 9/7, Thurs. 9/9	
Tues. 8/31, Thurs. 9/2,	11am-1pm
Wed. 9/8,	
Thurs. 9/9	2-4pm
Miramonte conference room 2 <sup>nd</sup> fl 333 W. Colorado Ave.	

Site Walk Schedule:

All of the site walks will begin at the 1<sup>st</sup> unit, western most unit - 950 E. Colorado Ave.

Unit Size	Date	Time
1 & 2 bedroom	Thurs. Sept. 2, 2010	5pm
3 bedroom	Fri. Sept. 3, 2010	5pm
1 & 2 bedroom	Wed. Sept. 8, 2010	12 noon
3 bedroom	Fri. Sept. 10, 2010	12 noon

Please contact SMRHA with questions: 970-728-3034, ext. 5 or [Shirley@smrha.org](mailto:Shirley@smrha.org)