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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 207, Feb. 6 2017

LOCAL COMPANY BRIGHTENS FUTURE WITH SOLAR



Josh Fabian of Dynamic Integration, with a solar panel. Solar energy is a great investment today, he said.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-There has never been a better time to go solar! One Montrose company wants you to know that any investment made in a new system today will be returned in the form of energy and cost savings tomorrow.

"Solar power has never been more affordable," Josh Fabian of Dynamic Integration Systems said.

"Prices have dropped over the last couple of years, and there are still federal tax credits available—so it is surprisingly affordable compared to ten years ago."

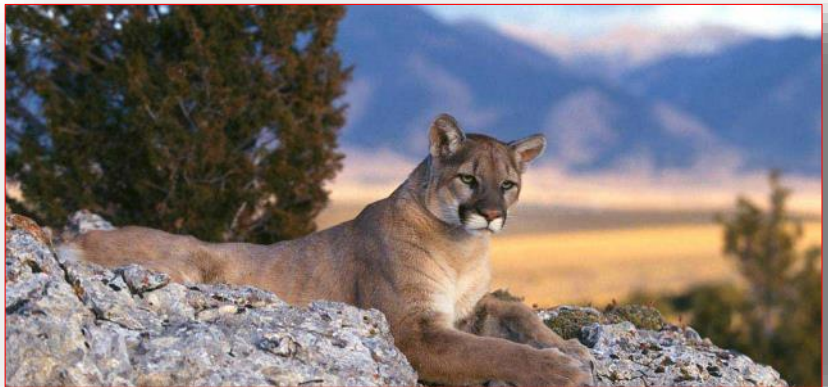
After six years in Montrose, [Dynamic Integration](#) continues to serve the local market with a team of four electricians certified through [NABSEP](#), the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners, he said. "We don't skimp on service or quality."

[Continued pg 3](#)

OUTDOOR GUIDE FROM THE SHERIFF'S POSSE ...WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MT LIONS!

By Mark Rackay

REGIONAL-In June of 2016, a five-year-old boy was attacked by a mountain lion while playing outside of his home near Aspen, Colorado. The boy's mother physically removed him from the grasp of the lion. The boy and his mother both suffered serious injuries but were expected to recover.



Mountain lions are very common in western Colorado but few people actually ever see one. Attacks against humans are even more rare. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), there have been less than 12 human fatalities from a lion attack in North America over the last 100 years.

Young lions, which may have been forced to hunt on their own, commit most attacks. The young lion will usually target easy prey such as small pets. Young children, left unsupervised, could be at risk if a lion is in the area.

A mountain lion is a very quiet, stealthy and elusive animal. They live in primitive and rugged country with lots of cover, rarely exposing themselves. Lions are loners and

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[Liesl visits a Montrose saddle maker!](#)

[Gail Marvel's Houses of Worship!](#)

[Art Goodtimes' Up Bear Creek!](#)

[Inside Outreach Series Kicks off... With Venue Owner Yvonne Meek!](#)

...WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MT LIONS From page 1

generally prey on deer, elk calves and other small game animals.

Lion encounters have been on the increase in recent years. This is partly because people are encroaching on their territory. As our urban sprawl moves us into lion habitat, their territory overlaps with ours. We have many hiking, biking, ATV and running trails along the fringes of metropolitan areas that pass directly through lion country.

Mountain lion populations seem to be on the increase in recent years. Personally, I have seen more lions in the last four years than in the last 35 combined. The CPW has opened limited hunting seasons on them in recent years because of the increase in numbers.

Prospective hunters must first take a class from CPW before a license can be purchased. The class teaches hunters how to judge a lion's size from his tracks. CPW prefers that only adult males be taken, and teaches hunters how to identify the males from the females.

There are a few things you can do to stay safe in the event of a lion encounter:

*Stay in groups when you walk or hike in lion country. Keep your children close and your pets on a leash. Make noise, like talking, so as not to surprise a lion.

*If you encounter a lion, stay calm. Do not run as it may trigger his attack instincts. Never approach the lion and make sure you leave him an escape route. Back away slowly from the scene.

*Try to appear larger by raising your arms or opening your jacket. Pick up small chil-

dren to keep them from running away in fear. Hold your pets close to you.

*If the lion becomes aggressive, fight back. Throw stones; swing a walking stick or jacket. Avoid crouching down or turning your back to him, staying upright at all times. Prey that fights back usually drives off lions.

*After a lion encounter, notify the Colorado Parks and Wildlife office immediately. An aggressive lion needs to be dealt with and it is best to let the professionals handle the situation.

Mountain lions are very beautiful crea-

tures, and witnessing one in the wild is a rare occurrence. If you happen to see one, enjoy the beauty and stealth of the animal, just keep a safe distance.

For more information on Colorado Mountain Lions, check out the CPW website at www.cpw.state.co.us and until next time, enjoy the outdoors.

Mark Rackay is a freelance writer who serves as a Director and Public Information Officer for the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse. For information about the Posse call 970-252-4033 (leave a message) or email info@mcspi.org.

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