



The Minturn Saloon is the first solar-powered restaurant in Eagle County. Restaurant owners expect the new solar panels on the roof will cut about 25 percent per month from the electric bill.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

BUSINESS BRIEFS

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GYPSUM

New Art Center now open in Gypsum

The Art Center, located near Costco in Gypsum, is now open and offering a variety of art classes.

Classes at The Art Center include visual arts, pottery, "mommy and me" programs, home-school programs and more.

"We want to be the community's center, so if there is a class someone wants to learn about, let us know, and we can create it," manager Amy Pates said. "The community has so many artists to draw from. This is a way for the artists to share their gifts and come together with students and fellow artists."

Teachers include Emma Cuniff, who will lead the drama program, and oil landscape painting instructor Mio Cerkovic. Patrick Espy will lead acrylic and drawing classes, and Michael Bonds is the ceramics instructor.

For more information, call 970-328-6644 or go to www.theartctr.com.

MINTURN

Historic Minturn Saloon building now solar powered

The Minturn Saloon restaurant building dates back to 1901 and has been a restaurant and bar all of that time. Now the Minturn Saloon is the first restaurant in Eagle County to be solar powered.

"Thanks to incentives from both the private and public sector, there has never been a more attractive time to make the technology switch," co-owner Steve Campbell said. "We expect that the hardware and installation will pay for itself in two to three years while our electrical bill diminishes by 25 percent."

The solar-power system was designed and installed by Active Energies, of Minturn, and was partially funded with grants from Xcel Energy and Eagle County.

"I really didn't think it was a project we would be able to tackle anytime soon," co-owner Andy Kaufman said. "Even the Active Energies folks were surprised that the project would pay for itself in such a short time."