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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 115 April 27 2015

BUILDING BETTER BROADBAND!



Broadband proponent and City Innovation and Citizen Engagement Manager Virgil Turner asked DMEA board candidates about broadband at the 2014 DMEA Election Forum. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL-In a remote, rural region where the distances are long and the roads often winding, it comes as no surprise that the journey to better broadband has also been filled with twists and turns. One who has had a hand in guiding that journey is Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)'s Chief Operating Manager Steve Metheny.

Metheny, who presented information to the public in a series of meetings concerning broadband earlier this month in the member communities of Montrose, Cedaredge and Paonia, noted that there is a significant history behind the current collaborative effort between DMEA, Region 10 and local municipalities to implement better broadband throughout West Central Colorado.

In 1999, he noted, when most local Internet service was still analog, DMEA along with several other coops and other entities (San Miguel Power Association of Ridgway, LaPlata Electric Association of Durango, Empire Electric Association of Cortez, Pathnet, Inc. and Tri-State Generation

Continued pg. 12

NEIGHBOR AGAINST NEIGHBOR AT UNCOMPAHGRE PIT PERMIT HEARING

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The minute you walked through the door of Friendship Hall to the Montrose County Planning Commission's public meeting on the proposed Uncompahgre Pit April 23, you felt the atmosphere of —*us* against —*them*." The —*us* folk were decked out in red — shirts, jackets, vests and sweatshirts. Some accessorized their attire with —*Respect Zoning*" placards worn on their chest, while Craig Schaft taped one large poster to the front of his straw cowboy hat and another to his back. The battle-ready vibe of those dressed in red was in sharp contrast to —*them*," who mostly wore plaid shirts, jeans and work boots. The crowd of about 150 people signed up as they entered the Pioneer Room and those wishing to speak put a check mark next to their name. When the list of those wanting to speak numbered more than 60, Planning Commission Chairman Dennis Murphy asked the audience to consider —*knowing down*" their numbers by appointing a spokesperson for their group. Although some people did consolidate their thoughts with others, the five-hour meeting accommodated only 30 speakers.

Continued on Page 14



Community members mingle at the Montrose County Planning Commission's Public Meeting on the proposed Uncompahgre Pit April 23. Photo by Gail Marvel.

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Black Canyon Jet Center Honored for Excellence!

Local Artist Mike Balas! (32)

Detective Abby Boston! (26)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AVIATION INTERNATIONAL NEWS READERS NAME BLACK CANYON JET CENTER NO. 1!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE -- Black Canyon Jet Center (BCJC), located in Montrose on the Western Slope of Colorado, is the #1 fixed-based operator (FBO) in the mountain area of the Rockies, and among the top 10 percent in the Western Hemisphere (USA, Canada, Mexico, South American, The Caribbean), according to the *Aviation International News* annual survey which received more than 11,500 evaluations from pilots, aviation professionals, crew, customers and other industry insiders. *Aviation International News* is the leading FBO industry publication that serves and covers the worldwide turbine aircraft user market.

Overall BCJC received a reader's score of 9.3 out of 10, and scored very well in specific categories: Line Service: 9.3; Customer Service: 9.5; Passenger Amenities: 9.2; Pilot Amenities: 9.3; Facility: 9.3; Top 20 "Above and Beyond" customer service recognition to BCJC Operations Manager Katy Brink.

"Considering we are a relatively small and very seasonally driven operation with 70 percent of our business happening during ski season, we are more than thrilled to be recognized among the top of a very crowded FBO market," said Ken Watson General Manager of Black Canyon Jet Center. "We are proud of our employees who help make sure our clients and customers have what they need and feel right at home here. Despite local and other conditions that jeopardize our business, we look forward to providing a great service to our aviation community for years to come."

There are more than 3,000 FBOs in the U.S., and according to a related *Aviation International News* article, a lot of these FBOs are expected to go away through consolidation and attrition, "I don't think



Black Canyon Jet Center is the #1 fixed-based operator (FBO) in the mountain area of the Rockies, and among the top 10 percent in the Western Hemisphere, according to the *Aviation International News* annual survey. Courtesy photo.

there is enough market activity to support all the FBOs we have out there," said Stephen Dennis, President of FBO industry consultancy Aviation Resource Group International (ARGI). "We're at the point where in the next three to five years we'll see another 10- to 20-percent consolidation of the industry." Independently owned and operated by Jet Center Partners, Black Canyon Jet Center (airport code KMTJ) has been doing business in Montrose County since 2006. Black Canyon Jet Center has been instrumental in many improvements that benefit commercial business at the Montrose County Regional Airport, including an upgraded fuel farm, a

newly-built state of the art hangar, and a devoted team to provide de-icing services 24/7 at the airport, to name a few of the enhancements as a result of BCJC doing business here. BCJC and its employees are very involved in the local community. Over the years, BCJC has donated more than a quarter of a million dollars in charity to Welcome Home Montrose (veterans), Bosom Buddies (breast cancer awareness) and Montrose Community Foundation (various charitable organizations). BCJC has also hosted many on-site special events for students, veterans and the community to attend, including commemorative Air Force viewings of historical planes.


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OPINION/EDITORIAL

DO PET PROJECTS TRUMP PRIORITIES FOR CURRENT CITY COUNCIL?

Mirror Staff Editorial

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose has been awarded a matching grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to redesign and repair the roof of the Montrose Police Department (MPD). The DOLA funds are a welcomed help to defray the cost of the project; however, we can't help but wonder why this important project had to wait until grant funds were available before the City pursued a permanent fix.

Since 2010 the roof of the MPD has leaked and has been identified as needing redesigned. To their credit the City maintenance department has done their best to patch the roof and remove snow before it melts; however, the roof in ques-

tion is flat and their efforts could never be seen as more than a temporary fix.

While the MPD roof continued to deteriorate over the heads of police officers and they were forced to use trash cans to collect run-off water, the City Council and City Staff were able to find funding to purchase river property on speculation, remodel office space—including a second remodel in several years for the Elks Civic Building--and dabble in economic development. We must ask, where are the priorities? We understand the City Staff and the City Council wanting to work on pet projects, but to neglect the working environment of employees, in this case law enforcement officers, seems unjustifiable—and indefensible.



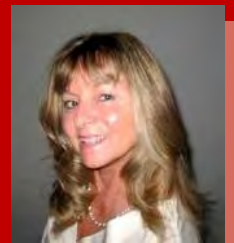
The City recently purchased the above building at 534 S. First St. to be used for offices and interns, the Montrose Daily Press reported last week.

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HUNGRY LION GARDEN SUPPLY ROARS INTO AUSTIN



Hungry Lion Garden Supply is located in the historic corner space beside Faye's Café at 22010 Main Street in Austin. Owners Jessica Hartney and Brandon Yadon are hungry to help your garden grow.

By Caitlin Switzer

AUSTIN-With the opening of her new garden store in Austin, Jessica Hartney joins a local tradition of hard working entrepreneurs that extends back to the town's

early days as a fruit packing and shipping center at the turn of the 20th Century. In a few short months, [Hungry Lion Garden Supply](http://www.hungryliongarden.com/) has already transformed Austin's historic core with a bright and growing presence.

—We just really thought this was a good location for a garden store,” said Hartney, who owns the business with Partner Brandon Yadon. —We liked the building and the space, and we get to meet the most interesting folks.”

Being located in the heart of a farming and ranching community has helped Hartney, who is completing her biology degree at CMU, to learn from her customers while helping customers obtain the high-quality, lasting products they seek.

—This whole area is really good for agri-

culture,” Hartney said. —We are here to support anybody who wants to grow anything. We have herbs and vegetables, and we carry Corona tools. We also carry the [Dramm Water Series](http://www.drammwater.com/). These are good products, with lifetime guarantees. We try to buy as much made-in-the-USA merchandise as we can, and we take our customers' recommendations.”

The business began with a greenhouse in Peach Valley, and may eventually grow to include fresh flowers. Hungry Lion will be open year-round, Hartney said.

In addition to feeding the growing, hungry appetite of those who want to grow their own food and feed themselves, the name Hungry Lion Garden Supply is perfect for two ambitious, young business owners. —We were just throwing around names, and this one stuck,” Hartney said. —We are like hungry lions, here to serve you and help you find what you are looking for!” Reach Hungry Lion Garden Supply at 970.835.GROW (4769) or visit the web site at <http://www.hungryliongarden.com/>. The store is located at 22010 Main Street in Austin.

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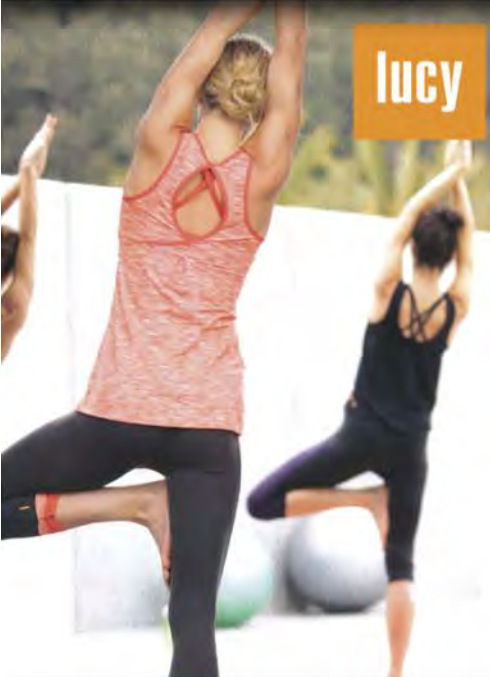
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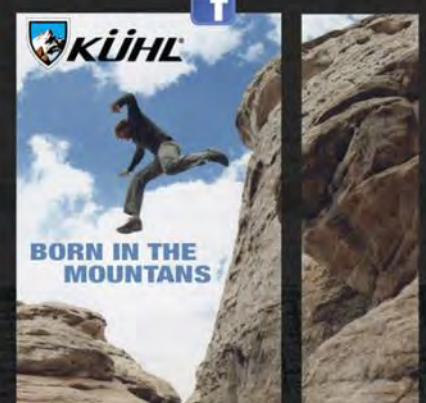



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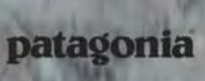
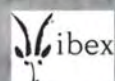



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300 EAST MAIN STREET 970-249-1622 IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN MONTROSE



RIDGWAY PUTS LOT TAX CHANGE ON BALLOT



In the past, Ridgway has used LOT funds to help add trees and sidewalks. Above, the town's Danny Powers checks on playing fields. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

RIDGWAY-In many communities, lodging occupancy tax (LOT) revenues are directed to a local chamber of commerce to be used to market and promote the community. In Ridgway, however—which has had a local chamber of commerce for many years—the funds have historically been divided between the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) and the Town of Ridgway. This fall, local voters will have the chance to make a change to that arrangement, however.

—We have agreed to put a measure restructuring the lodging tax on the November ballot,” Ridgway Mayor John Clark said. Clark noted that for many years the funds have been divided in a 50-50 split between the Chamber, so that the town could do ~~tourism~~ “mitigation” with its share of the revenues. In the past lodging in Ridgway was limited mainly to the Ridgway Inn and Suites and the Chipeta Solar Springs Lodge and Spa, but today the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce lists an array of options under accommodations and lodging—which has helped the Lodging tax revenues grow.

If voters approve a restructuring of the LOT proceeds, Ridgway will be better able to market itself, and further boost tax revenues, Ridgway Chamber of Commerce Director Gale Ingram said. Ingram, who was among the first business members to join the chamber when it was incorporated in the early 1990’s, believes that changing the wording of the arrangement is key to supporting local business.

—We have many elderly visitors who do not have Ipads,” Ingram said, ~~so~~ if we could spend an additional \$20,000 on print marketing, and run ads in the Colorado Tourism Guide and other statewide and

national publications, we would certainly generate more business for lodging establishments and more sales tax dollars for the town.” The Ridgway Visitor Center welcomes on average more than 7,000 guests from 47 states and 24 nations to the facility it shares with the Ridgway Railroad Museum at the intersection of Highways 550 and 62. On March 11, the Railroad Museum’s Karl Schaefer joined the Chamber in seeking a change to the Visitor Center lease structure, which has traditionally been leased to the Chamber as primary lessor.

The minutes of the meeting note that, —The Chamber and museum would like to change the lease and place the museum as the primary lessor, with a sub-lease to the Chamber. He explained the museum is a non-profit, all volunteer organization, and charges no admission fees. He requested a 20-year lease, with no rent, and waiver of the water and sewer fees for the public restroom.” Following approval of that request, Ingram approached Council to ask for additional funding to support the Chamber’s efforts to market the events it hosts and supports throughout the year. Ingram asked for \$1,600 to optimize the Chamber’s existing website and search engine and \$1,223 to place advertising in the spring/summer Colorado.com publication. The town agreed to fund half of the request, and directed Ingram to seek the remainder from Chamber membership. The next item on the evening’s agenda was RACC’s Request for the Town Council to advance a ballot question to the voters in November 2015 to reconsider the Lodging Occupation Tax amount and distribution. Only Councilor Rick Weaver voted no as the Ridgway Town Council approved the Chamber’s request for a ballot question asking voters to approve a lodging tax increase of 3.5 percent, with a 30 (Town) - 70 (RACC) distribution. Both Ingram and Clark later commented that changing the phrase ~~tourism~~ “mitigation” to ~~tourism~~ “improvements” is important. —We have been working with RACC more and more,” Clark said, ~~and~~ we want to do everything we can to further their economic development efforts in town, and be supportive. While tourism does affect any community, that word ~~mitigation~~ “improvements” is a challenge. We have leveraged the town’s share of the LOT funding into millions of dollars in sidewalks and trees—which is incredibly positive for Ridgway.

—The new wording definitely shows that Town Council is open to re-evaluation as times goes on,” Clark said. —We want to continue to support the Chamber’s efforts, and we want to continue to do great stuff with our share of the money.”

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2015 HOME TOUR TO BENEFIT RIDGWAY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Above from left, Dennis Weaver's Sunridge, a penthouse residence on Sherman Street, and a home on Canyon Drive are among six homes to be featured on the 2015 Ridgway Home Tour on May 3. Courtesy photos.

By Caitlin Switzer

RIDGWAY-In a community that has some of the most interesting homes in the nation, the Ridgway Home Tour on May 3 offers locals a chance to get an inside glimpse at some of the region's most innovative and beautiful dwellings. The tour also benefits the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce, an organization that accomplishes big things with a small budget.

—A Chamber, we are tied in with housing and with the community," Tour Organizer Eve Becker Doyle said. —This event will showcase homes in our community. We are very excited to host this year's

tour—we have not had a home tour in Ridgway since 2012."

The homes slated for the [Ridgway 2015 Home Tour](#) include two modern homes, two —green" homes, one rustic, traditional dwelling and one urban penthouse, said Becker, who has had —sneak peeks" of each of the homes.

—They are wonderful," she said. —Ad with the exception of Sunridge, the Weaver home, which has celebrated its 25th anniversary, all of them have been built or remodeled within the past five years. The other 'green' house is a net zero home, meaning that in one year's time,

produces more energy than it consumes."

In addition to being fun, the Ridgway Home Tour is for a great cause, said Doyle, a member of the RACC board. —They need this benefit," she said.

Tickets may be purchased [online](#) through the RACC web site, www.ridgwaycolorado.com, or at True Grit Café, Alpine Bank, Heart & Sleeve Boutique, and Ridgway Office Supply. Tickets can be purchased at the True Grit on the day of the tour. Tickets are \$25 each, or purchase five or more at \$20 apiece. For more information call 970-626-5181.



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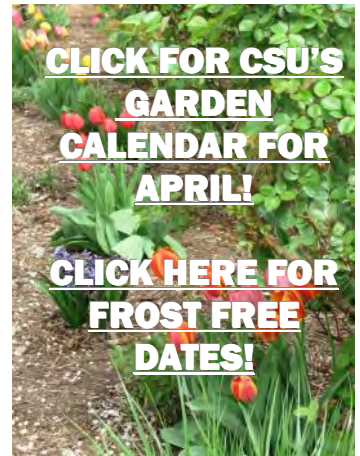
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMEA HIRES ELECTIONS FIRM TO RUN 2015 BOARD ELECTION



Survey & Ballot Systems Vice President Peter Westerhaus and President/Founder Jon Westerhaus. Courtesy photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—This year marks the first time that Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)'s annual election will be run by Survey & Ballot Systems, an elections company headquartered in Minnesota. In years past, DMEA's annual board election process has been run by a nine-member credentials committee. Created in the coop's bylaws, the Committee was composed of people residing throughout DMEA's service area.

The Committee Members, who were compensated, worked to open and validate

ballots prepared and mailed by DMEA and compile detailed reports on the election itself.

The decision to go with a third-party election company this year will remove DMEA staff involvement from the process entirely, DMEA Member Relations Manager Virginia Harman said.

—This keeps our employees at arm's length," she said. —We have never had any problems with our elections in the past; this has nothing to do with the job the committee was doing. We hate not to keep it local. But we have to look out for the best interests of all of our membership; this is a more modern way of doing an election, and it protects our employees and everyone from being accused of any wrongdoing. They will manage everything to do with the election, from start to finish."

Survey & Ballot Systems will even prepare all printed materials as needed, she said. —We will send them our member list (who will receive ballots) 45 days prior to the annual meeting (as stipulated by our bylaws)," Harman said.

—They will only print the number of envelopes needed for the member list. No ex-

tra."

A nationwide company, Survey & Ballot Systems also ensures security and comes with a strong track record in the industry. —They handle elections for five other coops in the State of Colorado," Harman said. —And they have the capability to implement online voting, if the State of Colorado were to allow that. Seventy-percent of respondents to our recent member survey came in online, so that is a step we do hope to take in the future—online voting could seriously increase the percentage of our members who vote in the Annual Election."

According to the 2014 DMEA Election Report compiled by the Credentials Committee, the process of alphabetizing, counting ballots, marking membership books, opening two envelopes (signature and special) and tabulation took the committee three full work days, plus additional hours on the day of the annual meeting.

Of the 5,157 ballots received, 118 were found to be invalid, and there were 1,631 fewer ballots received in 2014 than in 2013.

Five of the 51 ballots turned in at the Annual Meeting were deemed invalid.

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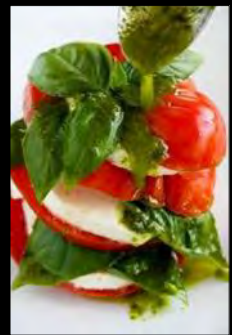
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GABRIELLE LOUISE AND BAND AT THE BARN IN MONTROSE MAY 15



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Appearing at the "Meet Me at The Barn" concert series hosted by Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans on Friday, May 15 at 7 pm, is vocalist and songwriter Gabrielle Louise.

Join her for a lively evening concert with a full band! The show will take place at the Habitat Barn located at 1601 N Townsend Ave behind the Habitat ReStore. Advance tickets are available online starting April 24th for \$12, or \$15 at the gate. Find tickets and event details at

www.buildinglives.org/gabriellelouise

David McGee, New York City music critic and previous editor for Rolling Stone, has said of her original music and performance, "She executes a captivating balance of heartache and resolve." Since graduating from Berklee College of Music

in 2007, Gabrielle has toured extensively throughout the United States and has released several records. Her most recent is called "The Bird in my Chest" and is accompanied by a book of original short stories and poems.

Gabrielle will be accompanied by a trio of musicians: Multi-instrumentalist David Kaye of Redding, CT will join playing the banjo, dobro, and electric guitar; Justin Thompson of Albuquerque, NM performs with Gabrielle on bass, mandolin, and harmony vocals; and percussionist Jonathan Sadler (Gabrielle's brother) will offer a unique percussion sound-scape with the cajon, marimba and tabla.

Gabrielle's latest record can be streamed in full at <http://gabriellelouise.bandcamp.com/album/the-bird-in-my-chest>.

At left, vocalist and songwriter Gabrielle Louise. Courtesy photo.

Michael McCullough & John Billings, together with The Ridgway Creative District, Weehawken Creative Arts, and The Sherbino Theatre Present

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RIDGWAY CO. AMATEUR SCULPTING CONTEST III

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2nd \$300 2nd Prize Adult	2nd \$100 2nd Prize Youth
3rd \$200 3rd Prize Adult	3rd \$50 3rd Prize Youth
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complete EVENT SCHEDULE

1:00 — 3:00PM Sculpting Contest for amateur sculptors - public is invited to silently float in & out to observe (Ridgway Community Center). Concessions Available.

1:30 — 4:30PM MoonWalk: Participating restaurants offer sculpture-themed specials for the public to purchase. (Restaurant list available at the sculpting contest/Town Hall)

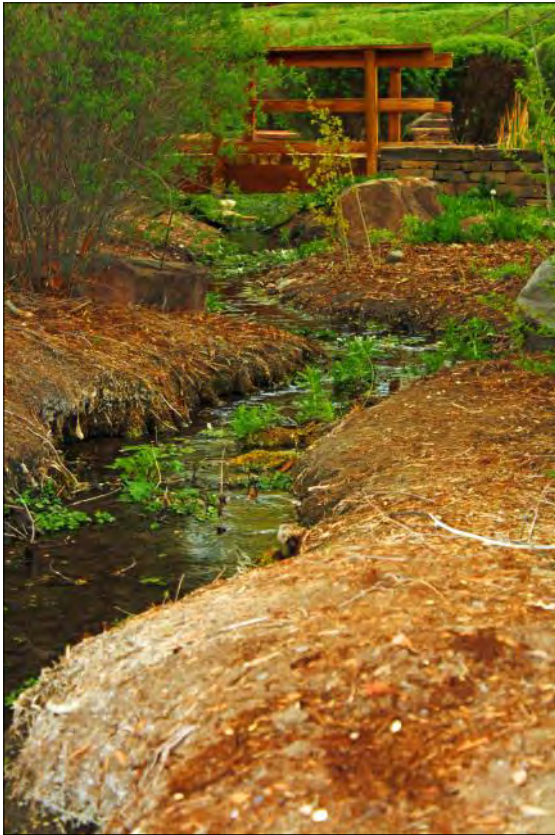
4:30 - 7:00 PM — Sculpting Contest Awards Ceremony (5:00), spring-themed Photography Exhibition and People's Choice Award. Artist demonstrations from Weehawken's SoulShine Artist Co-op in the SoulShine Studio, behind the Sherbino. Plus, clay creation and pottery painting stations (at the Sherbino Theater). Cash Bar.

MAY 2ND * RIDGWAY TOWN HALL
ADULT CATEGORY & YOUTH CATEGORY * CASH PRIZES!

Call for Entries: RIDGWAY SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
A Contest open to all artists in the medium of photography in Ridgway, CO. Sponsored by the Ridgway Creative District. Entry Deadline: Friday, May 1st, 2015. EVENT DATE: Saturday, May 2nd Open to both youth and adults, professional and non-professional artists may enter. THEME: "Inspiration from Spring." Symbols and signs of Spring have symbolized new life, beauty, peace and love. The abundance of life in the spring has always inspired and challenged the creative mind. The work can be from representational to non-representational. AWARDS: \$100 Viewer's Choice Award and Honorable Mentions. More details at weehawkenarts.org/special-events/the-3rd-annual-ridgway-amateur-sculpting-contest-and-moonwalk/

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MIRROR IMAGES...SIGHTS OF SPRING



*Photos by
Sarah Berndt.*



Spring scenes from the cemetery on Sunset Mesa.



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BUILDING BETTER BROADBAND! From pg 1

and Transmission) went in together to place fiber optic cable between Grand Junction and Albuquerque. Shortly thereafter DMEA briefly owned and operated its own last-mile Internet service, Metheny said, before transferring that division's assets in exchange for stock in a more active entity spearheaded by LaPlata and Empire electric companies. The former REA Net and Pathnet, Inc. entities were also involved, both of which went bankrupt during the dot.com crash more than a decade ago. At that time, providing Internet service to members was not central to the mission of DMEA, which as a cooperative can only generate 15 percent of revenues from non-light activities.

—The four coops owned 25 percent of the fiber line project," Metheny continued, —and Tri-State owned 25 percent, but bought the bankrupt assets of PATHNET. So today, Tri-State owns 75 percent of what used to be PATHNET, and 25 percent is owned by SMPA, Empire, LaPlata Electric and DMEA. The bottom line is, we do have cable through Montrose and Delta counties, and it is all owned by co-ops." REA Net has emerged from bankruptcy as [FastTrack Communications](#), and has also become a regional service player once again. —They placed a loop of fiber in the alleys around town in Montrose," Metheny said. —The idea was to wrap Main Street."

Fast forward to today, with the convergence of two timely occurrences—the first being a proposal approved by the DMEA board allowing staff to perform a case study assessing options for leveraging DMEA's broadband assets.

—We are looking at business-to-business options, in which DMEA would essentially be the middle mile," Metheny said, —and

we are also developing options for business-to-member, last-mile service right now—to see if that would make financial sense. We will know by summer."

Metheny stressed that member input is crucial at this point. Attendance at recent meetings was highest in Paonia, and lowest in Montrose. However, the input of all DMEA member communities is of equal importance. —We have heard from the squeaky wheels," Metheny said. —Now, what do our members want? The goal of our plan is to be thorough enough that if the board tells us to make it happen, we will have done our due diligence. We will be able to show where the pitfalls are."

It will be up to the DMEA board to manage the size of any subsidiary entity in keeping with the —85-15" rule regarding revenues from non-light activities, he noted.

The other timely occurrence with regard to regional broadband is Region 10's decision to apply for Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) funding to pursue a regional strategy for broadband improvement. The Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning acts as a council of governments, serving member municipalities in Montrose, Delta, San Miguel, Gunnison, Ouray and Hinsdale counties. —When that happened, it was, —stop, drop and roll," for us," Metheny said. —The DMEA board approved partnering on the DOLA grant, and agreed to provide six fibers as our contribution. The grant would help extend and rewire carrier-neutral locations, for example placing fiber from the Orchard City substation to Orchard City Town Hall."

Region 10's Michelle Haynes has also been presenting information on broadband to impacted communities as part of the implementation plan for regional broad-

band improvement. Region 10's initial grant application for broadband improvement funding cited a 2011 study noting that —...bandwidth to community anchor institutions in the Denver metropolitan area is significantly higher than in rural southwestern Colorado. In sum, bandwidth is less available and more costly in southwest Colorado than in Denver and more costly and less available in the US than in other advanced countries."

Twisting as the journey has been, the broadband improvement process is once again on track and moving forward, thanks to the collaboration achieved by DMEA and Region 10. —Region 10 is in the final phases of the completion of the regional implementation plan," Haynes told the *Montrose Mirror*. —Last year, DOLA announced \$20 million in funding to support development of middle-mile network in rural Colorado. With the generous partnership provided by DMEA and Region 10, Region 10 submitted a grant request for Phase 1 of the project, which will include Delta County and the City of Montrose and Town of Olathe in Montrose County. All of the participating governments are also providing cash match for the project.

—The Montrose County commissioners declined to participate in this phase, which will prohibit the project from reaching further towards the West End at this time," Haynes said. One way the public can participate is to perform a broadband speed test (available on the [Region10.net](#) website) to inform the state of the level of service in their community, she said. —It is our goal to submit the second phase of the project for funding in the fall round of DOLA requests," Haynes said. —In the meantime, we will be working on the final implementation details."

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO HELP STUDENTS COMPLETE THEIR EDUCATION GOODHART SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION – The Western Colorado Community Foundation (WCCF) is currently accepting applications for The Lew Goodhart Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to students who have completed a minimum of 15 college credit hours and are legal residents of the State of Colorado. Preference will be given to non-traditional students, defined as

adult students age 22 or older or a re-entry student. Other requirements include a GPA of between 2.0 and 3.5 and demonstrated financial need. Enrollment in a Colorado educational facility is required. Preference will be given to residents of Colorado's Western Slope who are attending a Western Slope institution of higher education. **The application deadline is June 1, 2015.** Two non-renewable scholarships of

\$1,000 will be awarded and are available through an easy, online application process at www.wc-cf.org. For more information call Cecile Aday at 970-243-3767. The Western Colorado Community Foundation serves seven counties in western Colorado, managing charitable funds for community good. The Community Foundation and its regional affiliates manage \$44 million in total endowed fund assets.

SMPA REQUESTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROPOSALS

Special to the Mirror

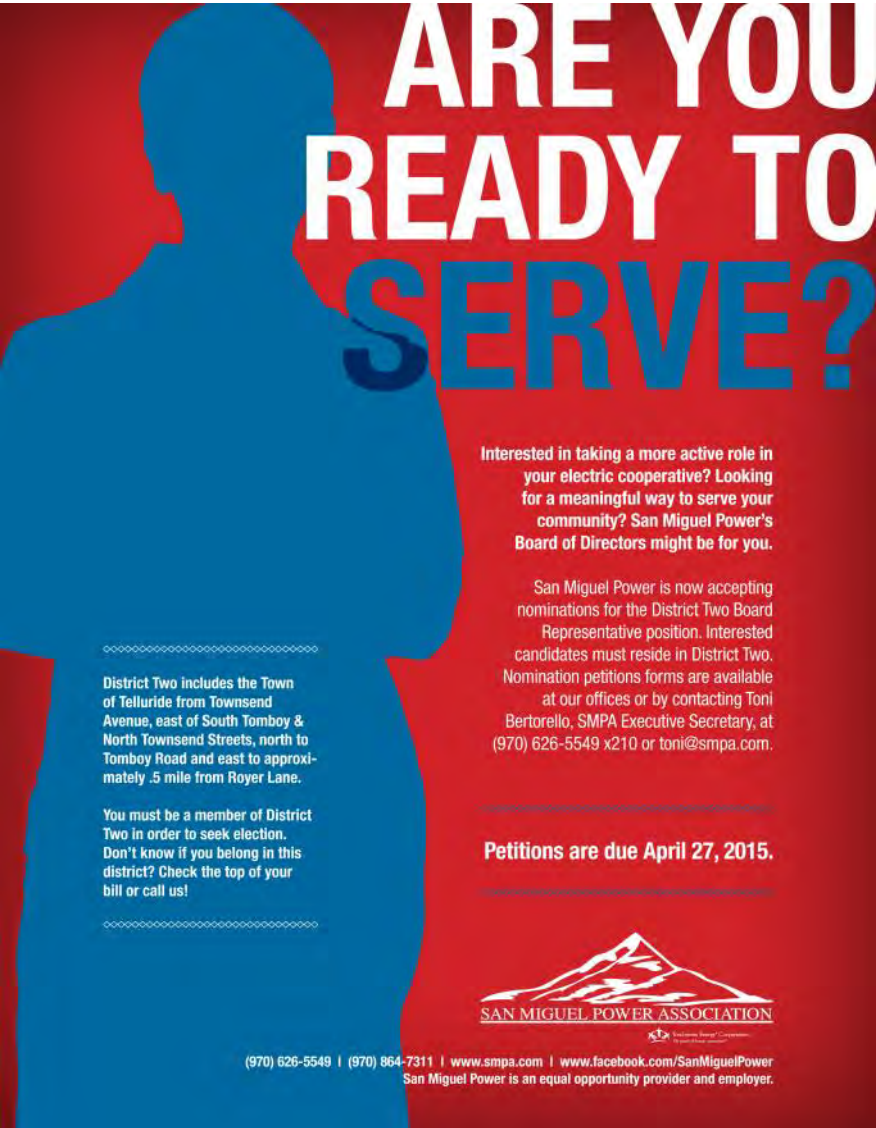
RIDGWAY- and development activities in our service territory. As a not-for-profit rural electric utility our programs and services are designed to benefit you, our members. This economic development grant is yet another way that we hope to provide value to our membership. San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is again seeking proposals for funding opportunities that stimulate and enhance our local economies. We are interested in financially supporting projects, programs and organizations that are actively working to improve the financial stability of local businesses, expand entrepreneurial opportunities and bring revenue to our towns and counties. The following definition of Economic Development will be used by SMPA board of directors for analysis of all proposals.

Economic development is the development of economic wealth of regions or communities for the well-being of their inhabitants. From a policy perspective, economic development can be defined as efforts that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and/or retaining jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base.

Applicant's action plan should: stimulate job creation in our area; promote economic growth create/improve local commerce; maintain/strengthen existing businesses; enhance regional prosperity; offer sustainable progress; set the stage for economic development in the long run; build collaboration; show off our community's attributes; demonstrate ability to leverage funds.

The proposals shall include the following: Proposal or Project Title; A description of the project and location; How the proposal supports local economic development and Businesses; Other sources of funding; Other partners for the project; A schedule of completion for the project; Who will be the responsible parties for project completion?

Deadline for Applications will be June 15, 2015. Please mail or drop off your applications to San Miguel Power offices in either Nucla or Ridgway or mail to San Miguel Power C/O Toni Bertorello PO Box 1150 Ridgway, CO 81432



ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?

Interested in taking a more active role in your electric cooperative? Looking for a meaningful way to serve your community? San Miguel Power's Board of Directors might be for you.

San Miguel Power is now accepting nominations for the District Two Board Representative position. Interested candidates must reside in District Two. Nomination petitions forms are available at our offices or by contacting Toni Bertorello, SMPA Executive Secretary, at (970) 626-5549 x210 or toni@smpa.com.

Petitions are due April 27, 2015.

District Two includes the Town of Telluride from Townsend Avenue, east of South Tomboy & North Townsend Streets, north to Tomboy Road and east to approximately .5 mile from Royer Lane.

You must be a member of District Two in order to seek election. Don't know if you belong in this district? Check the top of your bill or call us!

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NEIGHBOR AGAINST NEIGHBOR From pg 1

At 11 pm the hearing adjourned and will reconvene on May 28, 2015 at 6 pm, at which time the remaining 15 speakers will be allowed to make their statements.

Prior to taking up Uncompahgre Pit 2 Special Use [permit] (SU-15-0001), Planning Commissioner Member Roger Rash recused himself from the discussion. County staff reports were given by Jon Waschbusch (Government Affairs) and Planning and Development Director Steve White.

At the hearing those in opposition to the gravel pit outnumbered the Lazy K Bar Land and Cattle Co. LLLP and their supporters. However, Chairman Murphy noted that the Planning Commission has received numerous letters, both pro and con, which will also be taken into account and included in the record.

Andrew Mueller, Attorney for the Lazy K Bar, gave a lengthy and detailed description of the application. In his presentation Mr. Mueller reviewed changes from the previous application, addressed objections, proposed compromises and remedies, and replaced rumors with fact. Using a photo-shopped flyer distributed by those who oppose the gravel pit, Mueller pointed out that the composite was a, —misrepresentation of the operation.” Mueller’s presentation, which ended at 8:30 pm, was peppered with disapproving

murmurings, sighs, and sarcastic laughs from the audience. Two residents, those closest in proximity to the proposed pit, worked with the applicant to resolve issues. One resident sold their property to the Lazy K Bar. The other found avenues of cooperation and compromise and no longer objects to the Special Use Permit. Unfortunately the Alexanders, who worked out their differences with the applicant, were targets of snarky comments from their neighbors during the meeting.

Before opening the hearing up for public comment, the Planning Commission requested comments be focused on issues which come under the purview of the commission. For instance, the Planning Commission has no influence over the decisions of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the issue of the Gunnison sage grouse.

Those who took to the podium were appreciative that the Planning Commission placed no time restrictions or limitations on their comments. Two people spoke in favor of approving the Special Use Permit, all others spoke against it. Speakers, both pro and con, were supported by their respective sides with applause and vocal sounds of agreement, as well as disagreement. Issues discussed by those in opposition to the gravel pit included: The Gunnison sage grouse, traffic safety and con-

gestion, health concerns, airborne particulates, and the loss of tourism. Also mentioned were noise, wildlife, non-conformity, delay in travel times, road damage, and road rage.

Speaking on traffic issues Vi Conklin said, —CDOT’s standards for safety are not the same as ours.” Ms. Conklin also spoke as proxy for Sue Rovito, owner of Telluride Express, —Sue doesn’t want her business impacted with increased traffic. It could add 15 minutes of travel time [for the shuttle service].” Marv Ballantyne chose to build a case on zoning and gave the Planning Commission four reasons they could deny the Special Use Permit. —You have criteria that allows you to say —a.””

Trucker Dean Alexander took the question of who pays for road damage done by trucks head on by detailing the amount of money he personally pays in road taxes each year. —Aa trucker I’m the one who is taxed to pay for road damage and repairs.”

At the eleven o’clock hour the Planning Commission discussed whether to go on with the hearing, or continue it to the May meeting. Commission member David Seymour felt Lazy K Bar deserved a ruling now, rather than waiting until May; however, twice his suggestion was drowned out by the vocal audience who was adamant in prolonging the hearing to May.

MONTROSE DEMOCRATIC PARTY SELECTS 2015-2016 OFFICERS

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Montrose County Democratic Party Officers for 2015-2017
 (pictured left to right) are: Connie Pittenger, secretary; Tammy Theis, 2nd vice chair; Kathryn Carson, 1st vice chair; Jayne Bilberry, chair; Not pictured —Sarah Combs, Treasurer. The Sat. April 25th Jane Jefferson Luncheon Event honoring four local non-profit organizations was well attended. We heard about Sharing Ministries Food Bank from Oneda Doyal, CASA from Carlton Mason, Welcome Home Montrose Wounded Warrior Center from Melanie Kline, and Haven House in Olathe from Larry Frederickson. Courtesy photo.



ARTS AND CULTURE

MORE ART! STUDENT ARTWORK FEATURED AT THE CREAMERY IN MAY



Sky Portrait. Courtesy image.

Special to the Mirror

HOTCHKISS--Join your neighbors at the Creamery Arts Center for the May 8th opening reception for **“MORE ART!”** – the annual student show featuring the artwork of Hotchkiss High School and North Fork Montessori at Crawford elementary students. This student exhibit will be on display through June 8th.

Hotchkiss High School art teacher Jamie Roeber has been preparing all year for the presentation of her student’s art show in the upstairs Churro Gallery at the Creamery. “New fun and freedom are a few words to describe this year’s artwork. Stu-

dents have taken new adventures into the world of fused glass, hypertufa, and so much more. Hotchkiss art has truly broken the boundaries of the typical art room into an explosion of creativity and opportunity,” says Roeber. Hypertufa is a lightweight, porous material used in craft projects to produce artificial stone containers. It is made from a mixture of peat moss, Portland cement, and either sand or vermiculite.

After mixing the materials together, they are molded into shape and allowed to dry. This will be Hotchkiss High School’s 7th year of presenting a gallery show at the Creamery. The students design their displays, prepare the food, and line up music, so they can experience what it takes to create a gallery opening.

Every student in the program gets a piece in the show. The students will also be participating in a raku firing during the opening night festivities, outside in the courtyard.

The Creamery’s Peach Gallery will be featuring student artwork from the North Fork Montessori at Crawford School (NFM@C). This annual student show will

feature prints, portraits, and 3-dimensional work from over 100 student artists in grades K through 6th.

NFM@C is a Delta County public school located in Crawford. The mission of the school is to nurture each child’s natural desire to learn and passion for discovery. The curriculum stresses innovative problem solving and encourages life-long learning. The school’s Montessori academic program is enriched by classes in Spanish, music, physical education, and visual art. NFM@C students attend weekly art class with art educator, Shannon Castle. “Students are encouraged to use and understand visual arts as a way to communicate. They utilize the elements and principles of art and explore a variety of art materials and techniques throughout the school year,” states Castle.

Please support the young artists in our community by attending the opening reception on Friday, May 8th from 6-8pm. The Creamery Arts Center is located at 165 W. Bridge Street in Hotchkiss.

They can also be reached at www.creameryartscenter.org 970-872-4848, or follow them on Facebook.

POMONA ELEMENTARY CAMP READMORE AND TRASHLESS PICNIC LUNCH



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Pomona Elementary set aside a day, Wednesday, April 22nd to celebrate reading and Earth Day! The school wide event included an opening ceremony in the courtyard with a presentation of the flag by MHS NJROTC. Students, staff, parents and dedicated community members gathered to share their passion for literature, and took time to read in a “camp-like” setting. A “Trading Post” (aka book swap) was held at the chuck wagon for the students and gardening/planting was another fun activity. Students were also encouraged to participate in a trashless picnic where no trash was left after their lunch. Thank you for making this a great day of reading, celebrating Earth Day, and fun!!!

MIRROR IMAGES...COMMUNITY REC CENTER GROUNDBREAKING!



The Montrose Community Recreation Center Groundbreaking on April 23 was well attended despite inclement weather! Photo of bucket truck by Sarah Berndt, other photos by Sandra Tyler.



GOVERNMENT BEAT

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING 04/20/2015

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-1) INTRODUCTION OF NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

Brayden Reeder, Facilities Maintenance Technician introduced by Facilities Manager Mark Armstrong.

Emily Boyko, Municipal Court Assistant/Service Coordinator introduced by Court Administrator Melissa Hall. If her last name sounds familiar, it is because her spouse is Andrew Boyko, Assistant City Council Attorney.

Kevin Johnson, (on left in photo), Part-Time Pro Shop Attendant introduced by Public Works Director John Harris. Mr. Kevin Johnson is from Washington and apparently a good golfer with a handicap of 8.3.

2)DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. An Update on the Montrose Regional Library District (see pages 2-9, <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2171>) by Linda Gann and Amy McBride, MRLD Development Officer.

During a 22 slide presentation, facts about the Montrose Regional Library were identified that have made it very effective in

reducing expenses: formed in 1967, provides access to computers that were used over 34,000 times in 2014, inventory 50 percent higher than 10 years ago, summer reading program attended by 650 children, 800 children's programs in 2014 that were attended by 19,000, 258 adult programs attended by nearly 4,000, display exhibits, used reserve fund to build the first straw bale building, the Naturita Library in 2009 (named best small library in US in 2011, used reserves in 2010 to buy the bookmobile, brought staff from behind the circulation desk to assist patrons, and used reserves to install self-check stations. All of this innovation stopped in 2011. The Library District's revenue fell by 21 percent from 2010 to 2015 or by \$422,357, which led to reduction of staff by six full-time persons, reduction of the materials budget by almost half, reduction of the bookmobile's hours by 55 percent, all staff taking a 7.5 percent cut in salary, and the freezing of salaries and benefits in 2009. Patrons still kept coming with 229,000 visits in 2014, 31 percent increase in adult program attendance, and 8.2 percent increase in computer use. They are asking for ideas from City Council, the County Commis-

sioners, and all of our patrons. The 0.3 percent tax provides an average of \$45.52/ household and \$372.83 from each business. Retrofitting the library to be broadband accessible will take over \$50,000. They hope to hear from our patrons, with ideas, suggestions, and support.

B, Zoning Code Update. The Zoning Code is being reviewed page by page for input from Council members about the suggested changes from Stephen Alcorn as requested by the City Council. To review, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2171>, pages 10-112. The Council got to page 38. To be continued.

3)GENERAL CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A complaint was received about the noise from the San Juan Film Festival block party. There has been a recent rash of window break-outs by a B-B gun drive-by shooting gang. There is a Jane Jefferson luncheon event Sat. at Cobble Creek to benefit four nonprofit organizations. City Council members decided to hold an Executive Session Tuesday at 4:45 to discuss some important issues.

Meeting Adjourned.

MONTROSE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 4/20/15

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-Nothing on the meeting agenda hinted at controversy, but at the 4/20/15 DDA Board Meeting, local business owners from the 300 and 400 blocks on Main attended to weigh in on the issue of "parklets," the portable mini parks that have begun to appear around town at locations like Great Harvest Bread Company and A+Y Gallery in recent years. The DDA board had heard from businesses within the 500 Block on Main at the 4/6/15 meeting, which was rescheduled to 2 pm (*I did not know it was changed, thus arrived late and during their "retreat" time*). At that 4/6/15 meeting there were two negative comments about the locations of parklets and the resulting reduction in

available parking spaces.

At the 4/20/15 DDA Board meeting, the comments from eight to nine business owners including Pollux, Fabula, De Medici, Simpson Gallery, Heirlooms for Hospice, Tiffany's, She-She Boutique, and Dahlia Floral, were mostly negative regarding the issue: the parklets take up valuable parking spaces; ~~not~~ in front of my business; "unsafe to be sitting out there in the ~~street~~" with vehicles whizzing by to get home; the vehicle traffic/noise/noxious fumes are not conducive to eating and talking; put the parklets on the bulb outs or ends of the blocks. One owner gave a short history of parklets, and how they started first in San Francisco but in *low* density parking areas. That City is now removing them. According to the business

owner, Grand Rapids, Michigan is also removing its parklets due to noise pollution.

Comments from the 4/6/15 meeting were reiterated, such as that the re-design parklet program was a pilot test in anticipation of single lanes, wider sidewalks, more outdoor dining opportunities, diagonal parking and way-finding signage downtown. A Board member mentioned that way-finding signage is starting up, with one at Cascade and S. 1st that is expected to assist in directions as to where parking is. It was suggested that owners could restrict their workers from parking in front of the store they work at.

Parking is available at the Uncompaghre Plaza *alcove* and on the north side of South first at Uncompaghre Plaza across

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT

MONTROSE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 4/20/15 Continued

from the Market Place, behind some stores, and on the side streets. So far two applications for having a parklet in front of their store have been received. *Personal Note: I have observed that several of those spaces in Uncompaghe Plaza „alcove“ are often used by staff and even business owners.*

DDA Board members encouraged those owners present to attend the DDA meetings on the first and third Mondays of each Month and to consider serving on one of the four committees of the DDA, one of which has only one member. The DDA wants to hear from businesses both when they are happy and when they are not happy, and frequently their meetings are not attended by very many business owners. If any, one to three come occasionally. Though the DDA board consists mainly of

business owners (with the exception of All Points Transit Director Sharon Fipps and City Liaison Judy Ann Files), meetings are often attended by municipal representatives such as City Manager Bill Bell and Region 10 Small Business Resource Center Director Vince Fandel, whose comments and suggestions are reflected in the meeting minutes.

When asked about the frequent presence of Fandel, who is not a DDA Board Member but who chairs the DDA's economic restructuring committee (he is charged with overseeing Region 10's Business Loan Fund, Small Business Resource Center, and Small Business Development Center programs in the six-county West Central served by Region 10), Region 10 Executive Director Michelle Haynes noted, —Under regional economic development

services, Region 10 assists with any main street/downtown improvement projects as requested, and particularly those that are funded under the DOLA main street program.

—For example, we also have been involved with Delta's Main Street planning, assisted with funding for Olathe and Norwood main street programs under the Small Change Grant, and are in conversation with other local main street programs regarding economic development strategy,” Haynes said.

Following the parklet discussion a number of business owners left. Those who remained heard information about the Hanging Flower Baskets program.

Editor's Note: Mirror Editor and Publisher Caitlin Switzer contributed to this report.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ROCK THE ROCC PARKING LOT SALE FOR GREAT DEALS, GOOD TIMES!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The ROCC Parking Lot Sale in Ridgway has become a rite of spring for bargain hunters and sellers alike. The huge annual yard sale, sponsored by the Ridgway-Ouray Community Council, will be held in the parking lot behind the Ridgway Library on Charles Street on Saturday, May 16, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Ridgway is the place to be that day. Another annual event, the Love Your Valley Festival, begins at 1 p.m. in the Ridgway Town Park. That celebration of regional microbrews and live music will be just a few steps away from the sale.

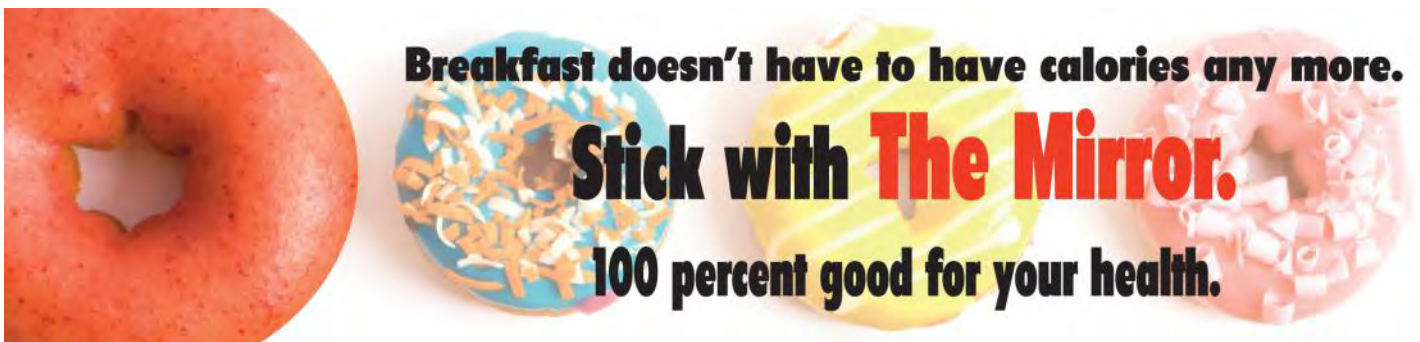
For 22 years, the ROCC Parking Lot Sale

has offered a treasure trove of toys, books, clothes, jewelry, furniture, sports equipment, and miscellaneous findings. Large items such as cars and boats occasionally turn up. A typical year's sale includes more than 100 vendors. The sale is both a community service and social event organized by volunteers of the nonprofit ROCC. Admission for buyers is always free. The parking lot sale is now affiliated with the celebrated, nationwide Great U.S. 50 Yard Sale. Since 2000, community yard sales have sprung up along or near U.S. 50 on the weekend that precedes Memorial Day weekend. The coast-to-coast chain of sales was founded to promote tourism, unite communities and encourage

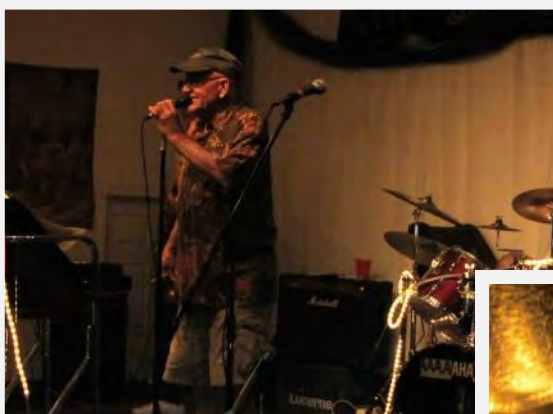
recycling of household items.

The ROCC sale offers a 10' x 10' marked space to vendors for \$15 and additional spaces for \$10 each. Spaces are allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis and money is collected the day of the sale. Qualifying nonprofits that participate to raise funds may occupy up to two spaces for no charge. Volunteers from Second Chance Human Society will be on site to receive unsold items for donation. Second Chance longer accepts electronic equipment. To donate items for the ROCC table, call Joanne Williams, (970) 318-6727. For more information about vendor rules and parking, e-mail

ROCCnet.org@gmail.com.



MIRROR IMAGES...EARTH DANCE 2015!



Thank you to everyone who showed up for the 23rd Annual Stupid Band Earth Dance April 25 at Turn of the Century Saloon! Clockwise from top left, the band-Michael Erie, Byron Hill, Bradley Switzer, Chris Tarman; Deborah Thompson; Byron Hill, Chris and Tony Kovacic, Michael Erie, Brad Switzer; dancers; Byron Hill (or is that Brian)?





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ARTS AND CULTURE

TALKING GOURDS TO FEATURE AARON ANSTETT AND JAMES B. NICOLA IN MAY

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL – The Talking Gourds Poetry Club presents two very accomplished poets May 5 at 6 p.m. at Arroyo's Telluride: Aaron Anstett of Colorado Springs and James B. Nicola of New York City.

Currently a teacher of Creative Writing at the University of Colorado-Pueblo, Anstett has won several prizes, including the Nebraska Book Award and the Balcones Poetry Prize. The first Pike's Peak Poet Laureate, he organizes readings, runs open mic sessions, and is widely published regionally and nationally. His latest book is *Insofar As Heretofore* (Backwaters Press, 2014).

Playwright, stage-director as well as New Formalist poet, Nicola also is widely published -- including internationally and a winner of poetry awards. His latest book is *Manhattan Plaza* (Word Tech Communications, Cincinnati, 2014), with a new one coming out in 2016: *Stage to Page: Poems from the Theater*.

On Wednesday, May 6th, Nicola is scheduled to appear as featured guest of Montrose Regional Library's Open Mic reading

series, beginning at 6 p.m. Following Club announcements and the joint performance in Telluride, there will be a short break, after which the gourd will be passed around the room to give Club members and attendees a chance to read poems from the monthly theme. The theme this month is —Home—. Bring your own work or a favored poet.

For June, July and August, Talking Gourds will take a break and resume the First Tuesday of September with Albuquerque poet Bill Nevins. Talking Gourds is a program of the Telluride Institute in partnership with the Wilkinson Library, the Montrose Regional Library, Between the Covers Bookstore, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Telluride Arts District, and Arroyo Telluride. Members meet monthly, on first-Tuesday evenings, at Arroyo Fine Art Gallery & Wine Bar at 220 E. Colorado Ave. beginning at 6 p.m. (next door to Ace Hardware). The same guest will appear at the Montrose Regional Library's Open



This month, The Talking Gourds Poetry Club presents Aaron Anstett (left) of Colorado Springs and James B. Nicola of New York City. Courtesy photos.

Mic the next evening (a Wednesday).

For more info, contact Meg Nagel at <www.montroselibrary.org/event/open-mic-10> or 970-964-2548.

Talking Gourds is indebted to generous donations from Audrey Marnoy, Peter Waldor and the Montrose Friends of the Library.

Call 970-729-0220 or visit the Gourds website <talkinggourds.weebly.com> for more info.

Home Health of Western Colorado
Montrose, CO

The Homestead at Montrose
Montrose, CO

Senior CommUnity Care (PACE)
Montrose, CO • Eckert, CO

Valley Manor Care Center
Montrose, CO

Senior CommUnity Meals
Eckert, CO

Horizons Health Care and Retirement Community
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www.voahealthservices.org
www.facebook.com/VOAWesternSlope

MIRROR IMAGES...EARTH DAY!



Montrose High School FBLA students brought farm animals to Riverbottom on Saturday, April 25 for the 2015 Earth Day Festival. Above, Aubrey Casey and Shawnda Berterello with a lamb and a goat.



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who know how it feels to fall down."**

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Environmental Health
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Montrose, Colorado 81401
970 252 5000



Food Safety Classes

Offered by Montrose County Health and Human Services

Our 2 ½ hour class provides basic food safety knowledge in order to prevent food borne illness. You and your staff will learn how to keep your food and customers safe.

2015 Schedule

Tuesday, January 13th
Tuesday, February 10th
Tuesday, March 10th
Tuesday, April 14th
Tuesday, May 12th
Tuesday, June 9th

NO July class

Tuesday, August 11th
Tuesday, September 8th
Tuesday, October 13th
Tuesday, November 10th

NO December class

Steps to Follow

1. Preregister by calling 252-5043 or 252-5067.
2. Bring \$10 payment per person to the class, either check or cash.

Class Location and Time

In Friendship Hall kitchen - Montrose County Fairgrounds
2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Those completing the class will receive a wallet size class participation certificate.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY ISSUES CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR PHOTO CONTEST

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Call for Entries: RIDGWAY SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
A Contest open to all artists in the medium of photography in Ridgway, CO.

Sponsored by Ridgway Creative District

Entry Deadline: Friday, May 1st, 2015

EVENT DATE: Saturday, May 2nd

All Images will be exhibited at the May 2nd MoonWalk Event at the Sherbino Theater from 4:30 until 8:30 pm. They will be exhibited both digitally (on-screen) and will also be displayed in the space.

Who can enter: Anyone engaged in the creative process and inspired by this theme/challenge. All ages. All levels.

Please remember this is a family friendly event and inappropriate subject matter will be disqualified.

Entry limit: You may enter up to 2 prints/

images per artist.

Entry fee: \$FREE

REQUIREMENTS: Photo must follow or be inspired by the theme, "Inspiration from Spring." Artist is responsible for providing a high-resolution digital image via email to ashley@weehawkenarts.org as well as providing a printed version of the photo, ready for hanging (may be framed, or simply mounted on a stiff/hard surface.

Whether framed or simply mounted on a hard surface – ALL entries must have a way for the piece to be hung from a single point. Entries will be hung at the Sherbino on an Arakawa hanging system in the front room, which means that they will be hung from a single point at the back of the piece. All entries **MUST HAVE** the maker's name, address and phone number on the back and included in the email. No name

or title may appear on the front of the image.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to both youth and adults who meet the exhibition criteria, professional and non-professional artists may enter. Theme: "Inspiration from Spring." The seasonal shift into spring historically has inspired artists to create some of their most beautiful works of art. Symbols and signs of Spring have symbolized new life, beauty, peace and love. The abundance of life in the spring has always inspired and challenged the creative mind. The artist's photography can be traditional film photography or digital photography, but a digital copy must be provided to the RCD as we plan on exhibiting the pieces AND projecting the images. The work can be from representational to non-representational.

Email a high-resolution photo of your entry to: ashley@weehawkenarts.org by or before May 1st.

Deliver entries to: The Sherbino Theater at 604 Clinton Street, Ridgway, CO 81432 on MAY 1ST FROM 10 AM – 3 PM. If you would like to arrange to deliver prior to May 1st, please arrange with Ashley at the email address above. **WORK DROP-OFF DATE** Friday, May 1st at the Sherbino Theater

EVENT DETAILS: Amateur Sculpting Contest from 1 pm – 3 pm at Ridgway Community Center (Town Hall). The public is welcome to silently observe during the 2 hour creation period. Sculpting Contest Ends at 3 pm. 3 pm - 4:45 pm: Break for Judging and Transporting of sculptures to Sherbino Theater for Awards Ceremony 3 pm - 4:45 pm: **MOONWALK BEGINS WITH Sculpting Themed Restaurant Specials** (note: specials are not free, please bring your wallet!) at Participating Restaurants 4:30 pm: Event Continues at the Sherbino Theater (demonstrations, awards ceremony, drink specials and more). Spring Themed Photography Exhibition with Public "People's Choice" voting at the Sherbino from 4-7 pm. 5:00 pm: Award Ceremony - Sculptor Contest Participants 6:30 pm: Photography "People's Choice Awards": \$100 cash first place

AWARDS: \$100 Viewer's Choice Award and Honorable Mentions.

Free Summer Concert Series

Bring your chairs or blankets to sit on the lawn!

2377 ROBINS WAY, MONTROSE



Live Entertainment Lineup:

May 29 : Beth Williams June 26 : Blue Gator

July 31 : Thin Air Aug 28 : Donny Morales

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Concession Food Available for Purchase

Proceeds Benefit the Living Legacy Program

SPONSORED BY:



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MONTROSE PRESS



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY



INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO ATTEND

"An Update on the Montrose Regional Library District"



Thursday, May 7 at noon

Montrose Regional Library Community Room

Guest presenters: Linda Gann and Jeff Riddle, Trustees

The Library District has lost more than \$400,000 in annual property tax revenue, resulting in deep cuts in hours of operation, staff, materials budgets, book-mobile stops, and other library services. Should our Library District continue to cut, or ask for a revenue increase?

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, go to www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org and click on *Calendar of Events*.

WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...

DETECTIVE ABBY BOSTON



MPD Detective Abby Boston.
Courtesy photo.

Interview by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-A 1999 graduate of Montrose High School, Abby Boston spent one year at Western State College (now Western State Colorado University) before finishing her bachelor's degree at Colorado State University in Pueblo. Ms. Boston has served with the Montrose Police Department (MPD) for a total of seven years; six

years as a patrolman and one year as a detective.

Detective Boston believes many people are born with leadership qualities and she credits sports with helping define her leadership skills. "I played all types of sports in junior high, but in high school it was volleyball and basketball." High school also helped her develop a sense of responsibility, and after high school she realized how much of an impact you have on the people you lead. "If I had a bad day, or a good day, I could change the team's attitude. The more you mature the more you understand the direct impact you have on others."

Generally speaking the MPD is made up of people who want to be here. "There is a lot of loyalty in the department. Our people aren't normally of the mindset that they'll get experience here and then move on; they want to be in this community." Detective Boston's career path is set to become a sergeant; however, climbing the career ladder depends on open positions. "We don't have a great influx; we're a smaller community and there's not a lot of movement within the organization. Unless people retire, or move away, positions don't open up." Speaking of the comradery within the MPD Abby said, "Our officers get good training and there is a direct correlation with the quality of young officers we are producing with those doing the training."


Detective Boston is never really off-duty; people come to her even when she is off the clock. "Once you start reaching out

into the community, you're the person they go to. They don't see you as off duty; they just need to talk to you about an issue.


You're always in a position of leadership." Abby understands the importance of getting out of the office and being accessible in the community. "I think we're more respected when we're team building and reaching out."

As for her style of leadership Abby is a firm believer in a hands-on approach and leading by example. "When I lead I have to prove to people that I can do the exact same thing that I'm asking them to do. I can be authoritative when I need to be, but team building is a big piece of leadership. If you don't have team connections you're going to lack in some areas."

In comparing the role of a patrolman to that of a detective Abby said, "On patrol you're always meeting different people. Detectives have more in-depth contact with families. I can be a good role model for the women I deal with and have an effect on them with my personal values. They see me as someone they can count on." Abby noted that the public perceives the goal of the police as "putting the bad guy in jail." However, there is the positive side to law enforcement, "We want to impact people's lives in a positive way. I see how I can change lives." Detective Boston's leadership advice, "Don't be afraid to be yourself and to stand up for what you believe to be right. Don't sit back. My ability to express my opinion has gotten me further in my personal life, as well as in my professional life."



Sticking Together



MONTROSE

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

www.MontroseHospital.com

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Sticking Together
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970-249-2211

ARTS AND CULTURE

CANYON CREEK COMEDY NIGHT AT BRIDGES MAY 2



Alvin Williams, above left, and Heather Trueman will perform at Bridges May 2.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Canyon Creek Laff Inn Comedy Night will be May 2 at 8 p.m. at The Bridges Golf Club. Alvin Williams and Heather Trueman are the featured performers. Next month, Laff Inn moves back to the Garden at Canyon Creek Bed & Breakfast! Buy tickets at canyoncreek.eventbrite.com or 970-249-2886.

CREAMERY ARTS CENTER YARD SALE MAY 8-9



Special to the Mirror
HOTCHKISS-The Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss will hold a yard sale to benefit their Summer Art

Camp Program on May 8-9. There's still time to donate useful household items for this good cause. The proceeds will be used to provide a scholarship fund for students who would otherwise be unable to attend Summer Art Camp. Be sure to come by that weekend and browse through the treasures.

There will be a great selection of bargain priced artwork that you won't want to miss! If you are a Cat Deuter collector, several of her original, signed photographs will be for sale as well as quality art supplies and other household items. If you would like to donate items, please drop them off at the Creamery - 165 W. Bridge Street, Hotchkiss, during business hours (Mon.-Sat. 11 to 6) They are unable to accept electronics, TVs or broken items. Thank you! [970-872-4848](tel:970-872-4848).



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Rebate for your purchase of a qual-
ifying energy-efficient appliance.
(Even LED light bulbs count.)

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- Geothermal Heat Pumps
- LED Light bulbs and LED light fixtures
- Domestic Water Heaters
- Heat Pump Water Heaters
- Energy Star Refrigerators and Freezers
- Energy Star Clothes Washers
- Energy Star Dishwashers
- Energy Star Air Conditioners

The winner will be announced at the 2015 Annual Meeting on June 17th. See www.dmea.com for more.

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If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CASA LAUNCHES RE-BOOT RECYCLE-TECH TRAINING FOR TEENS



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-ReBoot, a social enterprise, is the latest venture by CASA of the 7th Judicial District to address the needs of youth struggling with the aftermath of abuse and/or neglect and preparing for independent living. The goal of ReBoot is to provide at-risk youth in our community an opportunity for business and technology training through the recycling and refurbishing of discarded computers. With technical assistance provided through a partnership agreement with local communications firm, Deeply Digital, youth will be guided through the recycling and refurbishing process. To complement the technology training, youth will have an opportunity to engage in business development, marketing, sales, and financial tracking. Refurbished computers will be marketed to youth and individuals seeking a low cost alternative for internet browsing, social media access, and document prepara-

tion. —Many of the youth we serve and hope to reach don't walk a traditional life path." said Carlton Mason / Executive Director; —College, even a customary entry level job, may not be a good fit given the life experiences that have left these children reeling from the effects of abuse or neglect." Seen as a pro-active step in breaking the patterns of abuse and neglect, ReBoot will use business strategies to drive social change, an emergent practice for many non-profits seeking to address organizational stability and resolve pressing social concerns. ReBoot has garnered the support of local businesses and the regional Colorado Workforce Center. ReBoot has scheduled a computer drop off day at Budget Blinds, 901 S. Townsend Ave., in Montrose, May 6, from Noon to 5:00pm. For more information about the services provided by ReBoot, please contact CASA of the 7th Judicial District at (970) 249-0337.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PARC PLACES BRONZE COWBOY AT RIDGWAY VISITOR CENTER



Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Artist Lee Lester's 6-foot bronze, at left, "Gun Smoke and Dusty Trails," now stands proudly, gazing east - rifle and saddle in hand, at the Ridgway Visitor Center. The Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce worked with PARC (Public Art Ridgway Colorado) and the Ouray County Cattlemen's Association to bring this reminder of Ridgway's ranching history to the community. Thank you to Susan Baker who made the first request, thank you to Ned Bosworth who made this happen and thank you to Kuno Vollenweider for building the base and installing, and thank you to the sculptor, Lee Lester of Buena Vista. The bronze is valued at \$35,000. Check out Lester's web site: leelesterstudio.com.

DCMH NURSES SCHEDULE A 5K FUN RUN/WALK

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Delta County Memorial Hospital Nurses are inviting the community and area families to join in the fun for a 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, May 16th at Lion's Pavilion in Confluence Park with an 8:30 a.m. start time. Check-in and registration for walk-ons begins at 7:30 a.m. on May 16th.

This 5K on a Saturday morning is a wonderful way to celebrate spring with the family, by taking a walk or run in the sunshine.

Cost is \$20 until April 23rd and \$25 for late registration beginning on April 24th. Children are free. Registration forms may be picked up at the Visitor's Desk in the DCMH lobby or by downloading a form at deltahospital.org, the hospital's website.

This event is being held in conjunction with DCMH National Nurses's Week from May 6-12. Come out and participate to show your appreciation for nurses everywhere.

Funds from the 5K will be used for continuing education for Delta County Memorial Hospital nurses.

Questions? Contact Rachael Rhode, Executive Secretary in Administration at DCMH at 874-2285.

CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Montrose Police Department are seeking the help of citizens to locate and apprehend perpetrator(s) involved in recent multiple property damage crimes.

Since April 16, Montrose Police have received 31 reports of broken windshields and windows shattered by BBs fired from a vehicle, all within the city of Montrose. These crimes have caused thousands of dollars in damage to vehicles and property. Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers is seeking your information, not your name. For information leading to an arrest for these crimes, the Montrose Police Department is offering an X Box One gaming console or its cash value. This is in addition to any reward that may be awarded by Crime Stoppers. These crimes, because of their number and the amount of damages, may result in felony convictions, civil as well as criminal penalties, and may include such penalties for anyone who has assisted the perpetrators. Anyone with information about the suspect(s) can call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 249-8500.

SIXTH ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO WESTERN MOVIES DAY!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Museum of the Mountain West announced the Sixth Annual Tribute to Western Movies Day event for Saturday, June 13, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The theme of "Women of the Old West & in Western Film" will feature New York Times best selling author, scriptwriter and comedienne Chris Enss. Her passion for telling the stories of the men and women who shaped the history and mythology of the American West is sure to entertain and delight attendees of all ages. Gunfights, souvenirs, strollers in period dress, food, a working blacksmith, numerous musical entertainers, and many more attractions too numerous to list, will be on hand to entertain, excite and educate. These are all in addition to the Museum's regular displays of 25 original buildings, over 500,000 original relics, artifacts, and items of historical significance. Housed in the 10,000 square foot main building is an historic post office, doctor's and dentist's offices, drug store, saloon, dry goods store and many more fascinating displays from the past. From the 1913 German Lutheran Church to the 1890 school to the 1882 Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Section House, you will be captivated at life as it was over a century ago.

Come and spend a fun-filled leisurely day learning more about this wonderful area in beautiful southwestern Colorado. Admission is only \$10 for the entire day for adults, \$5 for school age children and \$25 for an immediate family. Better than a television documentary, it is real live history in our own backyard.

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 4/20/15-4/21/15 MEETINGS

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-PUBLIC COMMENT--Ms. Nancy Medlock reminded the Commissioners that May 10 will be National Police Day and there will be a recognition event at Uncompahgre Plaza.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Commissioner Ron Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Glen Davis, and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

Request for approval of General Fund and Special Fund Expenditures: 04/03/2015.

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT--approval of Landing Fee and Airport Use Agreement for Republic Airline, Inc., effective 04/06/2015 for the term 06/01/2015 through 05/31/2016.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES--approval of an Agreement to Purchase Services with Midway Youth Services for child placement, effective 04/01/2015 through 06/30/2016.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES--approval on the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation unsolicited grant #7308 in the amount of \$5,000.00 additional funds for operating support for the Kids Thrive Program, effective 01/01/2015 through 12/31/2015.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

MEDIA RELATIONS--adoption of a Proclamation recognizing Dr. Robert Brethouwer, a community member, as a Distinguished Citizen of Montrose County. Dr. Robert Brethouwer is a third generation doctor, was the Montrose County Coroner for 29 years, provided 40 years of service to the community, was named Doctor of the Year in the past, and has worked with the Magic Circle Players. Commissioner Henderson commented that, "The award was well-deserved and that he could have been a cartoonist." Commissioner Davis commented that he has enjoyed riding with Dr. Robert Brethouwer (motorcycle) in the past, that the award was much deserved, and that Dr. Robert Brethouwer was a dedicated Rotarian." It was moved by Henderson, seconded by Davis, and passed unanimously.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AS THE MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

CLERK & RECORDER--approval of the annual renewal of the Nelson & Nelson, Inc dba Thunder Mountain Raceway 3.2% Beer on Premises License #4270853-0000 having submitted the appropriate application, fees and received a positive report from the Sheriff's Office, as reviewed by Counsel; this represents revenue for the County in the amount of \$57.50.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT: approval of the Ground Lease with MTJ FBO Partners, LLC to lease 125,077.11 square feet of additional unimproved airport property at \$0.05 per square foot, in support of its fixed base operations, effective 04/20/2015, as reviewed by Counsel. This agreement represents annual revenue in the amount of \$6,253.86.

Public Comment: Citizen Mr. Roger Brown commented that the price of \$0.05 per square foot was not a commercial price and not a fair price. He questioned that the County is leasing ground for \$35,000 or \$0.07 per linear foot when \$0.1832 is usual. Mr. Lloyd Arnold stated that this is for improved and unimproved property. Mr. Brown stated that improvement is irrelevant. Mr. Arnold stated that improvement is not irrelevant and that the land is improved.

It was moved by Henderson, seconded by Davis, and passed unanimously.

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT--approval of the Off-Airport Ground Transportation Agreement with Black Bear Luxury Transportation, LLC, effective 04/20/2015, for the term May 7, 2015 through 05/06/2016, as reviewed by Counsel; this represents annual revenue in the amount of \$525.00, plus 10% of permit holder's gross receipts. Mr. Arnold stated that the company will start with just one vehicle. There is no estimate of the 10% of permit holder's gross receipts.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Henderson, seconded by Davis, and passed unanimously.

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT--approval of the Federal Aviation Administration Agreement to Transfer of Entitlements, effective 04/20/2015; this agreement will transfer \$400,000.00 of fiscal (FY) 2015 Federal entitlement funds from Montrose County to the City of Durango, Colorado. Mr. Arnold commented that this is a return of borrowed money from Durango for an apron project, a soil stabilization project, and a cement project.

No Public Comment. Commissioner Henderson thanked Durango and made the motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT--approval of the Federal Aviation Administration Agreement to Transfer of Entitlements, effective 04/20/2015; this agreement will transfer \$150,000.00 of fiscal (FY) 2015 Federal entitlement funds from Montrose County to the Yuma Municipal Airport (Hopkins Field), Yuma, Colorado. Arnold commented that this is a return of borrowed money from Yuma Municipal Airport for an airport runway safety project.

No Public Comment. Commissioner Henderson thanked Yuma Airport and made the motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT--approval of a contract with Horsefly Brewing Company, LLC, effective 04/20/2015 for the term 06/01/2015 through 05/31/2018. A Request for Proposals was advertised according to Colorado Revised Statutes and the Montrose County Procurement Policy; this represents annual revenue in the amount of \$27,600.00 plus 3 percent of gross sales for the public and post-screening restaurant concessions. Mr. Arnold commented that about 1.5 years ago, a pilot program was started re providing beverage and food services in the holding area for customers. The anticipated annual revenue is based on their business plan and the 3 percent is expected to be \$250,000. Fifty restaur-

rants were contacted, seventeen responded requesting more information, and only one RFP was received.

Public Comment: Citizen Mr. Doug Glaspell asked, "Will there be an accounting of tips and if that is included in the 3 percent." Mr. Arnold said, "tips are not recorded and not in the 3 percent." Mr. Glaspell asked about information from credit card usage. Mr. Phil Freismuth, owner of Horsefly, stated that information will be broken out on the report.

It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY--approval of RESOLUTION 15-2015 amending the Montrose County Information Technology User Security Policy to allow for encrypted email for specific County employees to distribute confidential medical/health information.

Public Comment: Mr. Roger Brown had questions regarding who has the ability to unscramble the encrypted e-mails [ans. 80 of the more than 100 staff including attorney staff who have to first receive the encrypted mail, go to a site, sign on, wait to receive verification, then the encrypted e-mail is sent], is the information transported outside Montrose County [ans. yes], who has the encryption contract for the encryption [ans. Share-file by Citrix which is not Google based] at the cost of what \$\$ [ans. not answered], what other information will be sent [ans. only medical/health], is it really safe [ans. safer than current method of faxing which can sit out openly on a receiver machine], is the information accessible via CORA [ans. no], what if other information is sent that is not medical/health [ans. Ms. Teresa Williams feels she is qualified to determine what is or is not medical/health].

It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY--approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the Board of Trustees for Montrose Memorial Hospital regarding the use of County facilities for business involving the County-owned hospital. Williams stated that this has been approved by the MMH Board and has been in the works for approx. one year via paying rent for the use of equipment.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

FLEET--approval of RESOLUTION 16-2015 concerning the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal of Heavy Fleet vehicles through advertisement, trade, auction or scrap, effective 04/20/2015. This piece of equipment is a four-year old Fairgrounds held water tank.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

FLEET--approval of a RESOLUTION 17-2015 concerning the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal of Light Fleet vehicles through advertisement, trade, auction or scrap, effective 04/20/2015, as reviewed by Counsel. This is two pieces of equipment: a 2007 Trail Blazer, and a 2003

Continued next page

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 4/20/15-4/21/15 MEETINGS *Continued*

Kia Sedona from MPD.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Mr. Ron Henderson, seconded by Mr. Glen Davis, and passed unanimously.

FACILITIES--approval of RESOLUTION 18-2015 concerning the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal of various unused and unneeded office furniture assets, which include but are not limited to desks, chairs and file cabinets, along with various office supplies through advertisement, public sale, auction or scrap, effective 04/20/2015; this represents no budgetary impact. Mr. Larsen commented that there are quite a few pieces all over the county. Therefore all of these pieces will be offered first to county offices for trade at Friendship Hall. There will be two days devoted to setup the event. Each item will be tagged and priced. The internet and Craig's List have been searched to determine pricing. Then county staff will come in Wed. The Finance Department will be there to allow the trade from one county office to another. There will be a public sale on Thurs. and Fri. There will be no negotiation. Prices will drop on Thursday by 25 percent of tag price and another 25 percent for a total of 50 percent of tag price on Friday. After that, the metal items will be recycled. This is scheduled to happen the week of July 6-10.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Mr. Ron Henderson, seconded by Mr. Glen Davis, and passed unanimously.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT--approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid allowing the Montrose Fire Protection District to provide immediate requests for service when requested by 911 telephone call or by radio request to better assist the citizens and communities that are outside the fire district boundary and to invoice a property owner for the costs incurred to the district, effective 04/20/2015, as reviewed by Counsel; this IGA represents no budgetary impact. Mr. Don Angell commented that there is a large service area outside the taxpayer area where there are home owners who may have a need for 911 to respond for assistance. Those owners will probably have insurance coverage to assist with help in paying the invoice. During one such incident, there was \$15,000 worth of damage to a water truck at a recent fire and a cost of \$250 for a 100 foot section of a fire hose damaged.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES--approval of RESOLUTION 19-2015 concerning the 2015 Family Planning Sliding Scale Fee Schedule for Montrose County Family Planning/ Women's Health, effective 04/20/2015. Fee schedule to stay the same as 2014. Public Health Director Kristin Pulatie stated that Federal Title 10 funds are used and therefore there is an annual requirement to assess the uses provided and to keep costs in line with poverty guidelines.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS--approval of a bid award and contract with AM-PM Sweepers and Stripes for paint striping services throughout the County in 2015, effective 04/20/2015; this represents a budgeted expense in the amount of \$110,800.00. Public Works solicited a publicly advertised invitation to bid and two bids were received with AM-PM Sweepers and Stripes submitting the lowest bid. On this basis and per the Montrose County Procurement Policy, Public Work's Staff recommends the Board consider the award of this bid to AM-PM Sweepers and Stripes. Ms. Deb Vigil stated that the higher bid of \$114,900 was over the second bid of \$109,500 plus \$1300 for stop bars of 500 sf. Stop bars are those lines at stop signs and are a thermoplastic product that last longer than the other striping. A performance bond will come after the bid is awarded and insurance is in place.

No Public Comment. It was moved by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:To discuss personnel matters regarding the Human Services Director position. Two interviews were held. This is where I need to make a correction to what was printed in Issue 114 when I stated, "There will be an Executive Session after the BOCC public meeting Monday, 4/20/15, to interview two well qualified applicants for the open Public Health Executive Director position." The interview was for the Human Services Director, NOT FOR the Public Health Executive Director position, which is currently occupied very effectively, by Ms. Kristin Pulatie. My regrets to Ms. Pulatie for this error.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

4/21/15 MEETING

DISCUSSION-MOUNTAINCONNECT CONFERENCE--To be held May 7-9, 2015 in Vail.

MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY Presentation by Ms. Amy McBride, Development Officer and Ms. Bobbie Sneed, President of Library Board of Trustees

Second presentation of the Library connection with those in the County to provide background information of the needs of the Library for monies for the future. See the Report in the City Council 4/20/15 Work Session column in this Montrose Mirror Issue. In response to questions: the local endowment fund specific to buying books generates \$10,000 in interest revenue. The summer badge program for youth is being replicated around the state. Mr. Glen Davis commented that he expects 10-15 percent increase in residential property taxes but the library staff is predicting 3-5 percent. Commissioner Henderson stated that it is troubling to **HAVE** to ask for monies any way the library can. Mr. Glen Davis suggested talking to Mesa State. Despite the \$85,000 in rent revenue, this is used for many expenses to the library generated by Mesa State needs. Mr. Glen Davis suggested a small library branch at the new Rec Center and have the Rec Center fund the needs and staff for that site similar to the Fruita Rec Center library branch location. Mr. Ken Norris asked if the Library has a five-ten year business plan, which the Library has, and it shows their needs and wishes. The

GOAL in mind is to return to 2011 amounts but the HOW is what the Library needs help from anyone with ideas, suggestions. *Personal note: Let's get behind the needs of the Library. We did for the Rec Center and that tax has raised \$1,884,477 for the Rec District since June of 2014, just nine months ago.*

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BEDROCK BRIDGE UPDATE

A very informative slide presentation from Mr. Ed Archuleta, Region 5 Program Engineer, about the historic bridge called the Dolores River Bridge on Hwy 90 in Bedrock took place. The presentation was also given to Paradox.

The bridge was built in 1952, is one of 10 remaining intact steel through truss bridges statewide that are tracked by CDOT Staff Bridge, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002 for its architectural significance.

On Sept. 15, 2014, a crack was discovered. Because of the location and extent of the crack, there was an immediate closure of the bridge due to the effects on its structural integrity. A detour was located to the north for the safety of traveling vehicles. However, shortfalls of the bridge are the traffic of tall trucks, the low vertical clearance that leads the bridge to being hit by those tall trucks, the narrow travel width, and a very long detour option of 170 miles.

Four construction options have been reviewed by the design team: 1-repair the bridge; 2-replace the bridge using its current alignment which is the easiest and least expensive and meets historic issues; 3-build a new bridge to the South which is not the best options due to the lack of space and terrain issues not being conducive, the congestion, and that the south is the upstream direction; 4-build a new bridge to the north that will have an one hundred year warranty, using recast girders & deck, cast in place but does open problems re: historical issues. Mr. Glen Sparks stated that safety concerns overshadow the historical significance.

Repairing the bridge will mean loss of most of its original unique architecture because structurally deficient truss members would have to be replaced, and existing abutments would be replaced. The positive is that the vertical clearance would increase from 15'4" to 16'6" and the travel width would increase from 24' to 40' 12-12' lanes with 2-8' shoulders.

Replacing the bridge would eliminate the option to preserve in place, the possibility of destruction of the through truss members by disassembling of the bridge, the possibility of increasing the fact that the old bridge would be set aside and not reused. There is an "Adopt a Bridge" program and there is an interested individual for moving the existing bridge.

Information from Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) [<http://www.achp.gov/nhpa.html>] was provided. The three types of effects under Section 106 were provided as were Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966. The goal is that the use of the property will have an impact *de minimis*.

ARTS AND CULTURE

LOCAL ARTIST BRINGS NATURE TO LIFE WITH RAKU



One of Mike Balas's raku trout. Courtesy image.

By Liesl Greathouse

REGIONAL—For people who enjoy unusual art, local artist Mike Balas has explored the realms of wood and clay, producing interesting pieces in both.

Formerly the owner of The Whittler's Den, 1984-1996, Mike did wildlife woodcarving, architectural woodcarving and banjo face carving.

Since 2008 he has been the owner of Something Fishy Studio, where he creates raku sculptures of fish and ocean life.

While working as an airline mechanic, Mike spent time in between flights learning how to carve. "The constant layoffs and airline transfers convinced me to try my hand as a full-time artist," he explained.

"Eventually chemical allergies caused by paint and thinners got the best of me, so I turned my attention to experimenting with clay, settling on raku techniques as my passion."

For those that are unfamiliar with Raku, Mike said: "Raku generally refers to a type of low-firing process that was inspired by traditional Japanese techniques. Western-style raku usually involves removing pottery from the kiln while at bright red heat and placing it into containers with combustible materials. Once the materials ignite, the containers are closed. This produces an intense reduction atmosphere which affects the colors in glazes and clay bodies. The original Japanese style of raku is an out-



Balas hopes to find the right local location for this amazing carved eagle. Courtesy photo.

growth from Buddhist influences in life and especially in the Japanese Tea Ceremony." For more information on raku, visit wikihow.com/Fire-Raku-Pottery

As an avid fisherman, Mike selected fresh and salt water fish as his primary subjects, with one particular type being his favorite. "The brook trout is spectacular in its coloring and is always a personal challenge," he said. "No two turn out exactly alike."

Mike enjoys the unique elements of the raku technique in his art.

"The raku process is challenging and without the certainty in desired outcome," he explained. "This offers a certain freedom and creativity."

How Mike works with raku is what makes him stand out as an artist. "I think my subject matter is what makes my art unique," he said. "People are surprised to learn the technique is raku, probably be-



The artist with one of his creations. Courtesy photo.

cause they are used to bowls, vases and platters in this medium."

As for the future of his work, Mike plans on focusing on growing as an artist.

"I will continue to look for new galleries, and try new techniques and subjects," he said.

He also has a hope for one particular piece that he made.

"It would be my hope to find a permanent public space for my full-sized bald eagle, as a donation to our community."

Mike's work may be found at Around the Corner Gallery in Montrose, Redstone Gallery in Redstone and Public Art in Ridgway Colorado (PARC).

He also does commission work and people can contact him at 249-1350.





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

LOOKING BACK AS SESSION DRAWS TO A CLOSE

It's almost hard to believe that, in 2 weeks, the legislative session will be over and I'll be happily settling back in at home, not having to return to the Capitol at the end of each weekend. I'll miss seeing the friendly TSA crew at the Durango airport, though, who send me off and greet me back each week – thanks, guys!

We've had our share of controversial bills this session, which is a natural consequence of competing visions for state government coming from each party who control one, but not both, of the chambers. Despite those differences, we've also found common ground in areas like the state budget and other key legislation.

The split control of the legislature means a number of bills don't survive both chambers, but instead of being snuffed out in the first committee that the bills are heard in, there's a healthy airing of the bills' merits and demerits on the chambers' floors. That was the vision of representative democracy laid out by our country's founders and it's the kind of participatory government that many countries seek to foster themselves.

This session hasn't been all roses, but as Churchill said, "Democracy is the worst

form of government, except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time."

The Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) made their presentation of policy recommendations to an attentive and appreciative audience of legislators again this year. I'm always impressed by the high school students' depth and keen interest in policies important to Colorado's youth. Some of them now graduate from high school and head on to other educational and career pursuits, so we're recruiting new members for the next school year. If you know of an interested student, they can apply through the youth council's website at www.coyac.org.

While the dust hasn't yet settled on this year's session and which bills may make it into law, COYAC's recommendations on the areas of K-12 standardized testing, teen mental health issues, school safety, human trafficking and planning for Colorado's water future were particularly timely. Bills related to each of these topics were introduced this session and I know many of the legislators considered the youth input as the bills went through the process. I am convinced that the leadership skills of

COYAC's young council members, including Logan Graham and Raven Fallon-Cyr from my senate district, will give our state a better future. I truly appreciate the time and energy of all of the students, their parents, and the COYAC staff and volunteers put into the council this session.

When the legislative session wraps up on May 6, my work continues on the interim legislative committees.

I'll be chairing both the water resources review committee and the health insurance exchange oversight committee, which will keep me on the road quite a bit, but I'll also be attending meetings around the district to touch base with folks. It's my plan to hold town hall meetings over the summer in each of the 8 counties in my district.

Trying to summarize what's been happening during the session and with the more than 660 introduced bills is hard to do in a biweekly column, but I appreciate all of the publications, hard copy and electronic, who give me the space to keep in touch with you!

2015 Legislative Session Contact:
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80203
Capitol phone: (303) 866-4884

CORRECTION: TO SANDRA TYLER GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT REGARDING REGIONAL DISPATCH:

In a recent article I stated that the percentage of usage of the 911 Dispatch Center calls for the City of Montrose was 79.72 percent, but this included the Montrose County calls of 30.9%. The actual percentage for the City of Montrose is 59.82%. The city is being asked to pay "their fair share," or \$797,857.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA CLOSURES MAIN STREET MAY 16, HOSTS STREET FAIR

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Delta Chamber of Commerce has announced that on May 16, Main Street will be closed due to some improvements that will be taking place. Don't miss this chance to play! There will be games, food, sidewalk sales, vendors and more. All ages welcome. Hardhats are optional, fun is required! 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

NOW WEEKLY ON MONDAYS!

BLASTING TO 7,350, REACHING MORE THAN 1,800 THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA...

Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH OF GOD



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—My visit to Abundant Life Church of God took place on Feb. 22, 2015. The greeters offered a warm welcome, asked me to fill out a visitor card and invited me to help myself to the coffee and donuts in the foyer.

As I entered the auditorium, Pastor Gerald Garcia on the keyboard and the praise team were practicing for the service. The praise team consisted of four singers with accompaniment on the keyboard, drums and bongos.

The bulletin contained Pastor Garcia's name; however, the remainder of the content was more for announcements than order of service.

Members went out of their way to introduce themselves, —*Are you a visitor? Do I know you? I don't think we've met. I hope you will be blessed by the service.*

As time approached for the service to begin a man, stooping over a commercial dolly, slowly pushed a large brass pot to the front of the auditorium. The pot was obviously heavy and at first blush I thought it might contain water. Not so, this was the church —*change pot*,” and members were invited to come forward and empty their pockets of change into the pot. The pocket change collected is ear-

marked for replacing the church carpeting.

There were about 60 people in attendance and it became obvious that when you enter the building you'd better be ready to worship. Pastor Garcia took the platform, —*How many of you are ready to praise God this morning? How many of you have a touch of Latin blood in you?*”

Even my Caucasian toes tapped to the festive, Latin-flavored praise songs. This is a charismatic congregation and the audience was encouraged to contribute their own affirmations saying, —*Aren, Praise the Lord, Hallelujah*” and raising hands to the Lord. Praise songs, by nature, are repetitious. However, Pastor Garcia sang the chorus through one time and joked, —*You don't have to sing a song 50 times if you mean it the first time you sing it [through]!*”

Pastor Garcia's style of preaching is to read a passage of scripture and then use personal experiences and examples, as well as current media snippets, for application. Using four different versions of the Bible, the pastor prefaced his remarks with, —*This is God's Word; it's not the pastor's word.*” Scripture used this day was Luke 6:38; Deut. 31:6; Eph. 6:13-18; Isaiah 40:1; Ex 14:13-14; and Matt 14:25:30. The pastor reminded the audience that they were to be

strong in the Lord, —*God is not looking for wimpy Christians. Many of us say we are trying to be good; why don't you just be good? In weight training you have to get to the point of muscle failure before you get strong. Nobody gets strong because someone bought a gym membership. You don't get [spiritually] strong by buying a Bible. We become strong by resistance; when your faith is tested.*”

Pastor Garcia noted that many of us fear failure. —*How many of you have failed? You can't fail if you are following God. God cannot fail. Your fear of failure is because you got yourself there [relied on your own abilities]. If you've messed up, repent and then just go on.*”

Open to the Spirit's leading, the pastor left his prepared sermon to speak words of encouragement to someone in the audience who he sensed was burdened.

There was no closing song, farewell, closing remarks, or prayer. I had to laugh at the abrupt ending to the worship service; Pastor Garcia simply said, —*You're dismissed.*”

Contact Info:

Abundant Life Church of God
2430 E. Niagara
Montrose, CO 81401
970-249-7843

Speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, Jesus said, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see ...” (Matt 11:4 NIV).

To our readers: Though Montrose writer Gail Marvel does belong to a local church, she is interested in the other houses of worship here in town as well. With this column, Gail will share her experiences as she visits local churches and congregations to learn more about them. Gail wrote a church newsletter for years, and has published her work in a number of Christian publications including The Lookout, Christian Standard, Discipleship Journal and The Christian Communicator.

ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION SERIES

Living with Alzheimer's for Middle Stage Caregivers: April 9, 4:00-5:00pm

In the middle stage of Alzheimer's disease, those who were care partners now become hands-on caregivers. Join us for this class and hear caregivers and professionals discuss helpful strategies to provide safe, effective and comfortable care in the middle stage of Alzheimer's.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose

RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Living with Alzheimer's for Late Stage Caregivers: April 23, 4:00-5:00pm

In the late stage of Alzheimer's disease, caregiving typically involves new ways of connecting and interacting with the person with the disease. Join us for this class to hear from caregivers and professionals about resources, monitoring care and providing meaningful connection for individuals with late-stage Alzheimer's and their families.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose

RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Disease: May 14 & 21, 4:00-5:00pm

In this class, you will have a chance to learn about important legal and financial issues to consider, how to put plans in place, and how to access legal and financial resources near you. Topics include: Making legal plans that fit your need - Legal documents you'll need and what they mean for you - How to find legal and financial assistance - Practical strategies for making a long-term plan of care - Tax deductions and credits - Government programs that can help pay for care

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose

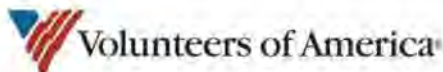
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Understanding & Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors: June 11 & 18, 4:00-5:00pm

Behavior is a powerful form of communication and is one of the primary ways for people with dementia to communicate their needs and feelings as the ability to use language is lost. However, some behaviors can present real challenges for caregivers to manage. Join us to learn to decode behavioral messages, identify common behavior triggers, and learn strategies to help intervene with some of the most common behavioral challenges of Alzheimer's disease.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose

RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AMBER BRAY RECEIVES RURAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE NBCC FOUNDATION



*Amber Bray.
Courtesy Photo.*

Special to the Mirror
ALAMOSA-The NBCC Foundation, an affiliate of the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC), recently awarded a \$5,000 2015 NBCC Founda-

tion rural scholarship to Amber Bray, of Montrose, Colorado. The rural scholarship is awarded to counseling students who commit to practicing in rural areas upon graduation.

The mission of the NBCC Foundation is to leverage the power of counseling by strategically focusing resources for positive change. The Foundation created the

rural scholarship in 2009 to improve access to counseling services in rural communities, which suffer disproportionately from a lack of mental health care. Nearly 40 students from across the country applied for the five 2015 rural scholarships.

As a rural scholarship recipient, Bray will receive \$5,000 to support her counseling education and recognize her commitment to the underserved. A graduate of William Smith College in Geneva, New York, Bray is currently a master's student in the school counseling program at Adams State University in Alamosa, Colorado. Following graduation, she plans to work as a school counselor in rural Montrose, Colorado, assisting middle and high school students. With this scholarship, she will be able to continue working toward her master's degree. Fo-

cusing on her academics while also working in schools will allow her to gain the education and experience necessary to fully support young people. She is particularly excited to learn to help youth with significant mental health challenges, as well as to gain skills to help all youth find the best path for them following high school. The NBCC Foundation has also awarded five \$5,000 military scholarships to increase the number of counselors serving fellow military personnel, veterans and their families.

The Foundation plans to continue offering scholarships to increase the number of counselors in the areas where they are needed most and will open the next application period in September 2015. For more information or to make a gift in support of the Foundation's mission, please visit <http://www.nbccf.org>.

HONORABLE MENTION

To Black Canyon Jet Center for being chosen No. 1 FBO in the Rocky Mountain West and among the Top Ten Fixed Base Operators nationwide!

To Second Annual Welcome Home Montrose Mission No Barriers Week May 12-17!

To Pedersen Electric for quick response to a downed power line...

To the Montrose County League of Women Voters, for non-partisan efforts to engage and inform local voters. Don't miss the League's presentation on the Montrose Library, at the Montrose Library at Noon on May 7!

To the Stupid Band, for more than 23 years of great, original, made-in-Montrose Earth Dances!

To Richard and Debra Harding and family...prayers and love.

*,,,And from longtime Montrose Attorney Bradley Switzer, in remembrance of colleague and friend Attorney Ramon Escure of Telluride.
Rest in Peace, Ramon.*

MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS

PEPPERTREE HOMEOWNERS ANNUAL YARD SALE MAY 8-9!

Peppertree Homeowners' will host its Annual Yard Sale, East Sunnyside Road across from the Colorado West Christian School on May 8 & 9 from 8 am—3 pm. We have quality merchandise for sale...this year is better than ever: we have antique and contemporary furniture, antique cameras, collectible Hallmark ornaments, Christmas decorations, clothing, housewares, woodworking tools, garden tools and other hand tools to highlight our sale! We await your visit to shop and to acquire good merchandise at reasonable prices!

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ACCEPTING YARD SALE DONATIONS

Montrose Historical Museum is accepting donations for our annual yard sale. If you are cleaning out your garage, basement or closets and need a great place to donate the items, we are the place. We do not accept appliances, electronics or clothes, but everything else is welcomed. Please call Sally at 249-2085 for drop off times and information. This great yard sale will be May 1st to 2th, starting at 8 am to 3 pm.

MHS FBLA COLLECTING USED CELL PHONES, DEVICES FOR RECYCLING

Donate used cell phones – working or not working – to the Montrose High School Future Business Leaders of America Chapter. The phones will be recycled, thus keeping dangerous metals out of our waste stream, and any proceeds will be donated to the Dolphin House in our local community. Items accepted include: cell phones, MP3s, tablets, readers, laptops, GPSs, portable DVD players, and digital cameras -- please NO desktop computers or peripheral devices such as printers or scanners. Items can be dropped at the Montrose High School office through May 8, 2015.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS 11TH ANNUAL MONTROSE ALL SCHOOL TRACK MEET

The Special Olympics 11th Annual Montrose All School Track Meet will be 8:30 – 11a.m. April 29, 2015 at the Montrose High School Track. Please come to cheer students from Olathe, Johnson, Oak Grove, Northside, Centennial, Montrose High, STEP, Pace and Home School. Parade line up is at 8:30, with the meet beginning at 9 a.m.

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Weeds 101 Workshop

Wednesday, April 29th, 2015 - Montrose, Colorado

Speaker Dr. George Beck, CSU

The Colorado Weed Management Association, Colorado State University Extension, and Montrose County Weed Department present a 1-day workshop on noxious and invasive weeds for those with limited experience.

- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- CEC's pending
- \$50.00 registration cost, lunch provided
- Register online at www.cwma.org
- Pay with a credit card or send a check

Topics Will Include

- Characteristics and ecology of invasive weeds
- Colorado's noxious weed law
- ID of A-list species
- ID of local B-list species
- Herbicides used for control
- Sprayer calibration
- Ecologically-based weed management using local examples

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>LUNCH</u>	<u>INFORMATION</u>
April 29, 2015 (Wednesday)	Montrose County Fairgrounds	1001 North 2 nd Montrose, Colorado	Lunch will be provided	970-361-8262 970-249-5216

For more information or to register on-line visit the CWMA website at www.cwma.org

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA HOSPITAL SEEKS MEMORIES FOR 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-As Delta County Memorial Hospital turns 100 years old in 2015, plans are in motion mid-year 100 year celebration event. Memories, stories or photos over the past 100 years from families who were patients or have recollections about the old hospital are being requested from Delta County residents.

Please submit all stories or photos by May 15th to Patti A. Kalahar, Manager of Education and Marketing, DCMH, P.O. Box 10100, Delta, CO, or via email to pkalahar@deltahospital.org. Questions? Patti Kalahar may be reached at 874-2291.



Photo of house, above, first Delta County Memorial Hospital location. Courtesy photo.

PLANNING FOR MATURE AMERICANS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Build a MAP to a happy retirement... the direct answers you get from this one-hour program will help you steer clear of obstacles, and the route that works best for you and your loved ones. Call Colorado Retirement Services at 970-252-1040.



Colorado Retirement Services

Experience & Service Since 1987

Marilynn Huseby

- Long Term Care Counseling
- Colorado Partnership Plans
- Medicare Supplements
- Home Care & Claims Support
- Personalized Prescription Coverage

April 30
11:30 - 12:30
@ Montrose Library

KNOW THE PROGRAMS THAT CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY THROUGH LONG RECOVERIES, ILLNESSES OR LTC

- The State Spousal Protection Act
- New Colorado partnership programs
- LTC programs that cover home care, assisted living & NH to ensure your independence

970-252-1040

www.ColoradoRetirementServices.com

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC-LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, Montrose County Courthouse (Leslie German self-help center) at 1200 North Grand, Noon to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE NIGHT-SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Region 10 Enterprise Center, 300 North Cascade. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE-Phantom opens May 8, 7:30 p.m. 420 S. 12th St. Information and Reservations 249-7838, Find us on the web at www.magiccircleplayers.com.

MONTROSE INDOOR FARMERS MARKET— Every other Saturday through April 25. 10 am -1pm, Centennial Hall and Behind Straw Hat Farms Store, S. 1st and Uncompahgre.

FIRST FRIDAY STROLLS MONTROSE DOWNTOWN —Monthly from 5:30 p.m.-8p.m. Artist Demonstrations, Free Wine Tastings, and in-store promotional events!

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM-"Montrose County Historical Society Presents" is held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd St. The public is invited to free programs based on topics of regional history. For more information please call 249-2085.

MONTROSE STAMP (PHILATELIC) CLUB meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 420 Alta Lakes Dr. from 7-8pm. For Beginners to Pros! Please contact Brenda Moureaux at 970-765-6948 for more information.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT & NETWORKING GROUP — Sponsored by Region 10; This unique Caregiver Support and Networking Groups is designed for Montrose and the surrounding areas. The meetings are structured to be an all-inclusive support/networking groups for those who care for someone with Dementia or any disability/illness in any living environment. Groups meet the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:30 - 2:30 at Region 10 300 N. Cascade. Call Amy Rowan 249-2436 ext. 203 for more information.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE-Save on insurance, keep up on newer traffic laws, and learn defensive driving techniques. For details and schedule for Montrose and Delta, contact John 970-856-6924 or 970-424-1778.

TAIZE-STYLE SERVICES OF MUSIC, PRAYER AND MEDITATION on Scripture are offered on the first Thursday of the month, except June, July and August, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome. Montrose United Methodist Church.

MONTHLY-

April 28-"Great Strategic Planning" in Delta with Kelleen Zubick, Executive Director of Share Our Strength Colorado, at Westminster Hall, 145 E. 4th Street, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. The fee is \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. The link for online registration is <http://craamerica.org/rural-philanthropy-days/regional-websites/western-slope/capacity-building-in-the-western-slope/>, or attendees can register by calling the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley, 970-641-8837.

April 29-Weed Workshop, presented by Montrose County and featuring George Beck of CSU. Montrose County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 29-Montrose Special Olympics Track Meet, 8:30 to 11 a.m. Montrose High School Track. Parade lineup 8:30, meet begins at 9 a.m.

April 29-Megan Hess to speak on organ donation at Heidi's Deli, 8 to 9 a.m.

April 30-Colorado Retirement Services presentation, Know the Programs That Can Help Protect Your Family Through Long Recoveries, Illnesses, or Long Term Care. 11:30 to 1:30 p.m., Montrose Library Community Room.

April 30-Join Brendan Allison at Ridgway's Sherbino Theater from 7 to 9 p.m. as he describes how brain-computer interfaces (BCIs) allow communication without movement. People have been able to spell, browse the internet, play games, and perform many other tasks just by thinking, and BCIs (brain-computer interfaces) are the only form of communication possible for many severely disabled persons. Doors and cash bar open at 7 pm. \$10 suggested donation at the door.

April 30-Take in an evening of piano music at an intimate concert with lyrical, interpretive pianist, composer and music therapist Robin Spielberg at the Ouray County 4-H Event Center. 7 p.m. The upcoming concert in Ridgway is presented by the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild, and will include songs from Spielberg's newest CD, *Another Time, Another Place*, as well as stories from her life with music. Showtime is 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 and are available online at www.ocpag.org, at the door, or by calling 970/626-2970.

May 1-2-Black Canyon Hunt and Outdoor Expo, Montrose County Fairgrounds. Call 970-417-5868 or visit www.blackcanyonexpo.com.

May 1-2-Montrose Historical Museum Annual Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Museum. Call Sally for info at 970-249-2085.

May 1 - Fifth Annual Cobble Creek Compassion Bash — Interactive fashion show for guys and gals, complimentary hors d'oeuvres with cash bar, dancing, raffles and grand prizes. All to benefit Dr. Mary Vader's Helping Hand Fund, a component of the Montrose Community Foundation. Cobble Creek Clubhouse, 6 pm. Tickets: \$20, available at She She Boutique and D'Medici Footwear and Nina Suzanne's Main St., Montrose, Cobble Creek Pro Shop. For more info call 970-964-4947 or email info@cobblecreek.com.

May 2-Bright Beginnings and Maslow Academy Host Annual Spring Fling, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about the Spring Fling event or Bright Beginnings Preschool and Childcare Center & Maslow Academy of Applied Learning, please visit www.brightbeginningsmontrose.com, www.maslowacademy.com or call 970-252-3399.

May 2-A class on making rag rugs on a frame is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Delta-Montrose Electric Assoc. meeting room in Montrose. Make a hot pad in class to learn how to make full-sized rugs. \$45 fee includes a small frame to keep. Learn to make beautiful and durable twined rag rugs using inexpensive equipment and common household supplies, while you help revive a disappearing folk craft. Contact Bobbie Irwin, (970) 249-2981; irwin@rmi.net. No experience needed; preregistration required.

May 2-Drought Workshop, No Thoroughfare Wash, Grand Junction, 9:30 to 1:30 p.m., lunch included. Bring unknown plant samples for identification. Cost is \$10 students, \$15 individuals, \$25 couples. Call 256-7400 for information and visit <http://tamariskcoalition.wildapricot.org/event-1908653> to register.

May 2-Ridgway Creative District MoonWalk Event!

May 5-Talking Gourds Poetry Club presents two very accomplished poets at 6 p.m. at Arroyo's Telluride: Aaron Anstett of Colorado Springs and James B. Nicola of New York City.

May 6-ReBoot has scheduled a computer drop-off day at Budget Blinds, 901 S. Townsend Ave., in Montrose from Noon to 5 pm.

May 6-At 7 pm, in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds, 1001 N. 2nd. *Montrose County Historical Society Presents: "Tracing the Harry Hayden Civil War Diary,"* related by Phil Ellsworth, Cedaredge Pioneer Museum volunteer. The public is invited and admission is free. For information call 323-6466.

May 6-Poet James Nicola is the featured guest of Montrose Regional Library's Open Mic reading series, beginning at 6 p.m.

May 8-June 8-More Art! Student Artwork on display at the Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss. Please support the young artists in our community by attending the opening reception on Friday, May 8th from 6-8pm. The Creamery Arts Center is located at 165 W. Bridge Street in Hotchkiss. They can also be reached at www.creameryartscenter.org 970-872-4848, or follow them on Facebook.

May 8-9-Weehawken Fork Fest! The 2015 Ouray Fork Fest will feature local producers, delicious and fine-dining cuisine from local restaurants, wine pairings and tastings, cooking classes and workshops, and a champagne brunch on the morning of May 9. Restaurant Crawl May 8 from 5-9 pm / \$25 per person (downtown); Champagne Brunch May 9th 9-11 am / \$20 per person (Ouray Community Center); Chef Demonstrations May 9th 10 am -5 pm / free (Ouray Community Center); Wine and Cheese Pairing Seminar, followed by an open wine tasting 5-7 pm / \$30 per person (Ouray Community Center); Weekend Pass: \$65 per person- available online, [click here](http://www.weehawkenarts.org) or by phone at 970-318-0150 until Thursday 4pm, or at the door on Friday at Cavallo's. For more information and to buy tickets please visit Weehawken's website at www.weehawkenarts.org or call 970.318.0150.

May 8-10-Civil War Sesquicentennial Event-Confluence Park and other locations. Call 970-433-1650.

May 8-Opening night for Phantom, 7:30 p.m. at Magic Circle Theatre. 420 S. 12th St., Information and Reservations 249-7838, Find us on the web at www.magiccircleplayers.com.

May 9-Phantom, performance at 7:30 p.m. at Magic Circle Theatre. 420 S. 12th St., Information and Reservations 249-7838, Find us on the web at www.magiccircleplayers.com.

May 9 — "Garden Affair" — Plants for sale (perennials, annual flowers and vegetables); Garden decorations and ornaments for sale; Plein-air artists in the gardens with paintings for sale; and a Silent Auction. Location: Montrose Botanic Gardens, 1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose, 9 AM - 1 PM. Additional information at www.montrosegardens.org or 249-1115. "See you in the Gardens."

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING 4/21/15

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTEROSE-To read the PROCLAMATION National Police Week — May 10 - 16 National Police Day — May 14, 2015, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169>, and scroll to page 4.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wayne Quade spoke in support of a number of recent City improvements, and reminded Council of all of the hard preparatory work that had been done for years by organizations like Friends of the River Uncompahgre (FORU) to help establish the Montrose Water Sports Park.

Quade, a longtime member of the Montrose Parks Advisory Council and City Tree Board before that organization was dissolved by City Manager Bill Bell and Council earlier this year, reminded Council that there is no replacement for true citizen involvement in our public parks. Ms. Carol Parker from Valley Food Partnership spoke to acknowledge Mr. John Harris, Public Works Director, for his support and his involvement above the call of duty with the Niagara Community Gardens. Numerous examples were given of what he assisted with.

Harris was given a certificate and a basket of local items for his actions. It was a surprise to Mr. Harris and brought a round of applause from those present.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Mayor David Romero read Resolution 2015-10, joining LiveWell Colorado's Healthy Eating, Active Living Cities and Towns campaign and setting forth the City's commitment to obesity prevention. Abbie Brewer from Live Well Montrose Olathe was present. To read Resolution 2015-10, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to pages 5-7.

B. City Council consideration of a Lease Agreement between the City of Montrose and the Department of Higher Education, the State Historical Society of Colorado, History Colorado and Ute Indian Museum for use of a portion of the Elks Civic Building at 107 S. Cascade Avenue. To read this lease agreement, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to pages 8-22.

www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169 and scroll to pages 8-22.

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept both consent agreements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the April 7, 2015, regular City Council meeting and the April 14, 2015, special City Council meeting. To read these minutes, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to pages 23-31. It was moved, seconded and passed 4-1 (Mr. Bob Nicholson abstained as not present) to approve the minutes.

RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER of a Retail Liquor Store liquor license at 10 Bristlecone Drive from Pour House LLC, d.b.a. Pour House Wine & Spirits, to N&C Enterprises, Inc., d.b.a. Pour House Wine & Spirits, for consumption off premises. To review the background information, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to pages 32-35.

No public comment. It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2355 — SECOND READING of an ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, adding a new Section 2, to Title IX, Chapter 10 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, establishing a permit for commercial rafting at the Montrose Water Sports Park. To review the background information, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to pages 36-37.

No public comment. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2355 on second reading. GRANT CONTRACT between the State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs and the City of Montrose for the Montrose Facilities Improvements Project.

The amount of the grant is \$178,797.00 and will be matched by the City of Montrose. This project is the replacement of the roof at the Police Department building and other renovations at 534 S. 1st St. To review the background information, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2169> and scroll to

pages 38-71

No public comment. It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Grant Agreement.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Sales, Use, and Excise Tax Report for February 2015 by Finance Director Shani Wittenberg. Again, the report was very positive. To see the great results, go to <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/DocumentCenter/View/30801>. Total Y-T-D for Jan/Feb. is \$2,170,242 total sales and use taxes collected and total \$1,884,477 for the Rec District since June, 2014

B. Public Information Officer Report by City Manager Bill Bell.

1. The Water Sports Park Dedication at River Bottom Park will be May 16. The event is a collaborative effort. There will be an upcoming one-day event on Aug. 1, 2015 celebrating the River Bottom Water Sports Park.
 2. Earth Week Festival Sat. 4/25/2015 to benefit the purchase of science equipment at Montrose High School.
 3. Spring Clean-Up is April 24 and 25. Assistance for those who cannot lift items or transport their items is available by calling the city. No hazardous products but hopefully to be accepted later this year.
 4. Volunteers are needed to clean-up and resurface trails at Cerise Park. Call the city to volunteer.
 5. John Malloy, Parks Director, talked about the Parks Ambassador Program. To be involved, call the city and ask for Mr. John Malloy.
 6. Montrose is the recipient of an Assessment Grant. It will be used to assess the Lower Montrose Brownfield for a phase 1 & 2 assessment which sets the city up for applying for grant money to improve that property in the future. You can also go to www.cityofmontrose.org/lomo.
 7. Registration for tryouts for forming the softball league program is under way. Call the City.
- C. Councilor Rex Swanson gave kudos to the Montrose Daily Press for three recent articles, and waved clippings, one of which was about a local off-duty police officer helping at an accident in Grand Junction.

ADJOURNMENT.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 4/20/15-4/21/15 MEETINGS Continued

Angell and Archuleta were asked to calculate the feasibility of a building a new bridge to the north as there is more room to construct, the terrain is more forgiving, the old bridge could be preserved in place, and a detour having already been constructed to the North will allow for preliminary data needed for the new design. Once the new alignment and bridge are constructed to the North, the old bridge will need some maintenance so as to preserve it in place.

In closing, Mr. Ed Archuleta stated that future extensive projects on Red Mountain will occur July to Sept. 2015 resulting in closure.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE-. Public Health Director Kristin Pulat: There is an RFP from the state for marijuana tax money availability to do more marijuana

prevention education in middle schools and she needed ideas of where that new grant application for the money could be directed. No money from the county is needed. There are qualifying factors for those agencies applying which is the catch-22. Contact kpulat@montrosecounty.net or 970-252-5000.

COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATE-County Attorney Teresa Williams The letter to METSA for information is ready for review and/or changes and then six persons are ready to sign. METSA meets the third Thursday at 10 AM, usually in the Police station, but is changing to the Centennial Room to allow space for more concerned citizens to attend to become informed, provide public comment, ask questions, etc. *Personal note: I attended for the first time on 4/23 as did several others. METSA is the Mont-*

rose Emergency Telephone Service Authority, commonly known as 911. Currently \$0.70/mo. is being collected on every land line and cell phone line in Montrose County. San Miguel collects \$1.25/line/month. San Juan had no 911 service for a time, and now collects \$3.50/line/month. METSA was established in 1988. Income vs outgo for 2008 was \$394,000 vs \$250,000, for 2009 was \$400,000 vs \$220,000, for 2010 was \$380,000 vs \$334,000, for 2011 was \$350,000 vs \$310,000 and similar in 2012 and 2013 as 2011. Then in 2014, \$350,000 in vs \$749,000 out!!! Ouch! All the entities sending in the collected \$0.70/line/mo. such as Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, Century Link plus many more make equipment requests and ask for a tariff each month for the collection process some as much as \$2500/mo.

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At left, "Solitude," and above, "Orange" by Mirror Photographer Sarah Berndt.

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