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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 118 May 18 2015

HAVEN HOUSE FATE IN THE BALANCE

By Caitlin Switzer

OLATHE-Community support has been solidly behind them, and the non-profit team at Haven House is increasingly confident that they may be able exercise their preferred of two options that will allow them to continue operating the shelter and its programs. However, "We are not there yet," said Haven House board member Larry Fredericksen, noting that the deadline for donations remains May 22.

Located on two rural acres between Montrose and Delta on the River Road, Haven House offers a safe, drug and alcohol-free setting for families and some single parents whose lives have been affected by homelessness. Haven House is the only overnight shelter in Montrose County; the only other overnight shelter option between Durango and Grand Junction is Delta's Abraham Connection. Though it is a transitional program intended to help families transform their lives and achieve self-sufficiency, Haven House also fulfills a very immediate need. The Shelter anticipates serving 125 people this year, including 65 children.



The Haven House Shelter on the River Road anticipates serving 125 people this year, including 65 children.

Continued pg 29

SHARE THE ROAD!

PERSONAL MOBILITY UNITS INCREASE ACCESS FOR MANY



William Hewitt rides his mobility scooter through Downtown Montrose. More and more of the units, which require no license, can be seen around town.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-He may be off his feet for a while, but he's not homebound. For William Hewitt, pictured, as for many others who struggle with health or mobility issues, this is the age of the personal mobility scooter—an electric unit that does not require a license or fuel. Hewitt, who was seen riding his new scooter around town last Wednesday and who said it was acquired with the help of a caring friend, is far from alone. Similar units can be seen throughout Downtown Montrose on any given day, carrying riders of all ages and with all types of physical challenges.

Though personal mobility units are not new, they are growing in popularity now that the Baby Boomer generation is aging, said Stephanie Tolvo of Hartman Brothers, which does a brisk mobility unit business.

"We do sell a lot of them," Tolvo said, "mostly to elderly people and handicapped people who can't

Continued on page 16

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Speaks out on Bell!*

*Congrats to the West
Slope Class of 2015!*

*Local stories,
local photos!*

*State of the Arts
in schools!*

*Western Skyways turbo
normalizing engine system!*

GO GREEN AT SAN JUAN GARDEN CENTER!



San Juan Gardens owners and siblings Glen Goodhue and Gayle Goodhue-Brooks, with shop cat "Bandit."

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-For people looking for the finest cut trees and perennial flowers, the knowledgeable staff at the San Juan Garden Center provides those and more this Spring and all year long.

The garden center was started more than 20 years ago as a tree farm growing all kinds of trees. Eventually they 'branched' out into shrubs, perennials and are now a full-service nursery. What makes the garden center so appealing is their locally-grown aspect. "We grow almost all our own trees and we grow all our perennial flowers in greenhouses on site," explained co-owner Gayle Goodhue Brooks. "We bring some things in, but we try to stay local."

A recent trend in the last three to four years that Brooks has seen is a real interest in backyard gardening. "With growing their own food, people get a better variety and have better control over their food," she said.

In recent years plants that come back every year have made quite the 'comeback.' Perennial flowers are a lot more popular because they are a good in-

vestment long-term.

"Ornamental grasses are also quite popular," Brooks added. "They are nice because they add interest to a landscape year round."

Another popular trend in the past few years is one that has been boosting Brooks' spirit. "For the past few years the real estate market has been slow and our business was affected," she said. "But over the past couple years there has been a renewed interest in improving property which has been encour-

aging. People are realizing that if their place looks nice, that adds property value."

With all the questions that Brooks gets every day at the garden center, there are some things she gets asked about all the time. "The first thing I want people to know is that it is never too late to plant things," she said.

"With a few exceptions for plants that can't grow in certain temperatures, the only time when you can't plant is when the ground is frozen solid. People think you can't grow in July or August because it is too hot, but plants can grow then, they just need a little more care. We have a long growing season, which is nice for this area."

The second important thing to remember is the im-

portance of soil amendments. "Soil amendments are important so people can be successful in landscaping," she explained. "We do not have very good 'soil' here. In fact, since our trees are grown up here and are already acclimated to the poor humidity and soil we have here, I tell people that they are ready to go 'from our clay to your clay.' We have some really great soil amendments that are effective at breaking up the clay here, because good roots mean good plants."

The final thing that Brooks hopes people will understand is what some of the main issues are with plants. "Nine times out of 10 the problems with plants are that people are killing them with kindness," she said. "Plants are tough, they do not need all the water we can give them. The number one killer of plants is too much water--especially in the Spring they do not need that much." So what does she recommend people do? "Watch your plants and listen to them. They'll tell you what they need." The San Juan Garden Center is located at 12225 6530 Road in Montrose. For more information, call 970-249-2052.



San Juan Gardens Staffer Cindy with yellow globeflowers.


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ARTS AND CULTURE

TRACE BUNDY TO PLAY AT WRIGHT OPERA HOUSE MAY 30



Trace Bundy. *Courtesy photo.*

Special to the Mirror

OURAY – Back by popular demand, re-

nowned acoustical guitarist Trace Bundy performs on Saturday, May 30, 7:30 p.m., at the Wright Opera House in Ouray.

Bundy's concerts present an unforgettable visual as well as audio stage experience, using harmonics, looping and multiple capos.

Fans have dubbed him the "Acoustic Ninja" as he performs his music with just two hands and ten fingers.

"Bundy's playing technique, replete with slapping percussives, flying capos, shimmering harmonics and dazzling, multi-voiced picking, could pass for a sort of dreadnaught martial art form," said Dave Kirby of Boulder Weekly.

—His sound is part cerebral discipline, part crazed instrumental assault, unleashed feral instinct joined to restless harmonic exploration."

Bundy, who lives in Boulder, Colo., was named "Most Promising New Talent" in 2008 by *Acoustic Guitar Magazine*, and won third place in the magazine's "Best Fingerstyle Guitarist" category last year.

The upcoming concert is sponsored by the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild and Elderado Financial in Montrose.

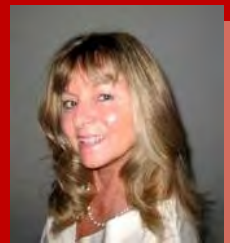
Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and may be purchased online at www.thewrightoperahouse.org. The Wright Opera House is located at 472 Main Street in Ouray.

Advance purchase is highly recommended, as Bundy has an enthusiastic fan base on the Western Slope and has played to sold-out audiences the past three times he has performed at the Wright.

For more information about Trace Bundy visit www.tracebundy.com.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

CITY MANAGER BILL BELL RUINING LIVES, MONTROSE

Dear Editor:

To paraphrase a line from Shakespeare's HAMLET, 'Something is rotten in the City of Montrose!' and the spoilage emanates from a spineless City Council and the current autocratic City Manager. Most citizens don't get involved with municipal politics because they believe that dishonesty within, and no interest in the well-being of the residents by the local administration are the norm. Their cynicism is often justified. Backroom agreements, back-slapping, lack of accountability and acquiring power to behave as it suits the administration seems to be the acceptable mode of governance. The too frequent lack of ethical behavior and self-serving exploits of the current City Administration need to be examined and submitted to the public for their evaluation. Following are some of the issues.....

1] By the current city manager's own words, since he's been here, he 'eliminated 49 jobs by the end of 2014!'. Actually, more employees[seven that I know of] have been eliminated since that quote because they could not stand the verbal abuse and intimidation so they've quit. The most recent two are Jerry Sieverson[36 years tenure] and Johnny Gorrone[20+ years]; several others will quit as soon as new employment can be found. The city manager claims to have fired no one, which technically may be true, but to eliminate folks who question him, disagree with him or criticize his actions have their salaries cut, their hours cut or excuses are created to corroborate poor workmanship and negative evaluations. That, of course, means that that employee can't support his family so he quits.

2] Employees have now been 'encouraged' to sign a gag order stating that they are to bring all complaints/questions/criticisms to supervisors in writing. There is also not to be any critical discussion among employees about the administration, about the functioning of various departments, or with any external entities such as journalists. It seems to me that that may infringe on the Freedom of Speech.

3] The city manager has succeeded in penetrating, intimidating and/or weakening several of the local groups who work for the City's progress, i.e. Chamber of Commerce, the TRAC Committee, the Downtown Development Authority; he

dissolved Little League [and created Montrose Youth Sports, and became its 'leader']. The City of Montrose has probably permeated Region 10 and imposes an unprecedented level of control within that governmental group. Montrose Parks Advisory Board was eliminated. Since that Board consisted of volunteers, city manager couldn't cut salaries, so he dissolved it! A long, intense discussion developed at the December, 2014, Parks Board meeting over the resignation/retirement of Thordy Jacobson, about which the Board only became cognizant when his 'retirement' appeared on the December meeting's agenda. The city manager attended that Board meeting for the first and only time to cool the disbelief of Thordy Jacobson's absence. Since the city manager had difficulty convincing the Parks Board of the reasons surrounding Thordy Jacobson's retirement/departure, the discussion became heated. All evidence of that discussion was deleted from the minutes on order of Bill Bell because he deemed all commentary from the Parks Board as false. By the next month Bill Bell had the Parks Board dissolved 'because it was no longer necessary.' His notification letter to the Parks Board members contends that it was the council's decision, but they could not have been privy to the Parks Board meeting discussion without Bell's input.

By dissolving the Parks Advisory Board, the city no longer has a legitimate working Tree City, USA Board. According to the then mayor, Bob Nicholson, the new Parks Administrator would create a new Board.

4]The salaries and perks of three of the top administrators in Montrose City government and the city's contribution to those salaries.....

A]City Manager

\$130,300 yearly

Chevy Tahoe, yearly lease expense \$11,787.

Automobile allowance: \$375/month

Cell phone: \$100/month

Medical insurance:\$6,916/year, [Amount known only for individual]

Health savings account:\$200.

Life insurance:\$380.

Long term disability insurance: \$374.

City contributes 6-8% of salary to retirement

All dues/professional subscriptions, plus all costs for conferences.

City council 'increases his salary at their pleasure,' and can never reduce it.

A complicated formula for vacation time. City paid for his move from Wisconsin to Montrose: maximum, \$5,000!

Total: \$155,777.00/year. Does not include moving expenses. Conferences and subscriptions: unknown.

Not a bad gig for the city manager whose base pay is \$15,000 more yearly than the Colorado governor, and who reigns over a town of 20,000 residents in which many folks struggle to keep families fed and clothed.

B]Assistant City Manager

\$102,614 yearly

Cell phone: \$100/month

Medical insurance: \$6916.[Amount known only for individual]

Health savings account: \$200.

Life insurance: \$360.

Long term disability: \$291.

City contributes percentage to retirement

Complicated formula for vacation time

Total: \$111,221.

Two City Managers Total: \$266,998.

Why does a town the size of Montrose need an Assistant City Manager?

C]Montrose Parks Superintendent

\$88,807 yearly [This probably has increased: accurate as of July/2014]

Cell phone: \$100/month

Medical insurance: \$6916

Dental insurance: \$360.

Health savings account:\$200.

Life insurance and Long term disability: unknown

A complicated formula for vacation time.

Total: \$97,483.[The gross may be greater]

Some interesting information:

John Harris currently holds this position and lives in Delta. The city provides him a vehicle to commute to Montrose and may have an automobile allowance. We can probably safely assume that the yearly maintenance approaches a yearly lease similar to the city manager's: \$11,000. He is also seen occasionally on weekends using this vehicle for personal errands here in Montrose. The city decals have recently been removed. Being provided with a vehicle to commute from out-of-county seems beyond reason.

5] Each Council member receives a stipend to serve on the Council; as provided by City Hall, the mayor's salary is \$9,000/year and each Council member, receives \$7800. Why? If a member attends

Continued next page

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GOVERNOR TOURS MONTROSE FOREST PRODUCTS, SIGNS HB 1006



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—In the company of local and state officials, Governor Hickenlooper signed HB 1006, sponsored by Rep. Don Coram, at Montrose Forest Products May 12. Hickenlooper then toured the mill, said Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Director Sandy Head. The Governor then toured the mill. He had been at the mill during the time it was in receivership and was impressed with the activity and production now taking place, she said. Pictured in the photo behind Governor Hickenlooper left to right are: Don Coram, Marc Catlin, Diana Coram, Montrose Forest Products owner Jim Neiman of Neiman Enterprises, and Mike Kusar, Montrose Forest Products new general manager. *Courtesy photo.*

CITY MANAGER BILL BELL RUINING LIVES, MONTROSE from pg 4

a conference he can submit his costs to the city for reimbursement....otherwise, his service should be just that: a service to the community.

6] It seems appropriate that city administration would encourage input/collaboration from the public instead of alienating and eliminating those whose ideas differ from city council and the city manager whether they are initiated by city employees or other citizens. Despite the city manager's pronouncement that morale among employees is affirmative, no one, either an employee or a former employee that I know agrees with that positive assessment. I know many people in this community and I have not heard anyone who considers this city administration a positive entity within the community except for current council members.

7] The statistical information in this letter originated from City Hall. Public access to moneys and information that taxpayers contribute to government employees is mandated by law. When I began asking for information it was provided by a congenial lady, Lisa DelPiccolo...after several requests, some of which were slow in coming, I was notified that subsequent informational requests would be provided at \$30/hour, and .25/printed sheet.

8] In April, 2016, the terms for three current council members, Bob Nicholson, Judy Files and Kathy Ellis are ending. It is critical that new Montrose citizens run to fill those seats. It is incumbent on all of us by voting to establish a municipal government that serves the people of our municipality in an open, welcoming manner. The city council is elected to serve the commu-

nity; the current city council serves Bill Bell. It is critical that folks with progressive ideas, collaborative skills, business/marketing skills run for city council seats. If new, reasonable folks are elected to fill those seats, it's possible to remove Bill Bell and the cohorts he has hired and return Montrose governance to the people....as Shakespeare reminds us, 'an unweeded garden reseeds itself and kills the garden!' If you have questions, would like to discuss any issues that I am able to clarify, please email me at snooks@bresnan.net with a phone number and I will call you. Thank you for reading!

Consider running for city council and enjoy our beautiful Valley!

Marge Morgenstern

Montrose Citizen and Retired Teacher

MIRROR IMAGES...WHITEWATER WEEKEND!



Mirror Photographer Sarah Berndt captured the image of celebration at the Montrose Kayak & Surf Grand Opening May 14. The City's new Whitewater Park opened Saturday; Welcome Home Montrose Founder and accessibility advocate Melanie Kline speaks at the ribbon cutting. Water Park photo by Sandra Tyler.



The **Friends of Ridgway Schools (FORS)** and **Ridgway Elementary School** truly appreciate the many businesses and individuals who supported the 2015 FORS Fun Run fundraiser! Your generous donations helped us raise \$13,000 for our playground construction.

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For information on how to donate or volunteer for future FORS projects, contact info@friendsofridegwayschools.org.
Also, visit www.friendsofridegwayschools.org.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HOSPITAL DONOR GIVES 12TH GALLON

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- When it comes to “bad blood,” it would appear Ron Eden doesn’t have any. On April 27th Ron donated his 12th gallon of blood to Montrose Memorial Hospital.

Ron began donating blood 46 years ago, starting February 1969. That same month, the Boeing 747 made its first flight. —“Crimson and Clover” by Tommy James and the Shondells was atop the charts. Richard Nixon was president. Celebrity actress Jennifer Aniston was just born.

—“Lab and Radiology were one department then,” laughs Ron, “and there were four people working there.”

As Ron was donating his 12th gallon of blood—enough for 96 units—he was greeted by Bryan Evensen, Montrose Memorial Hospital’s Lab Director who came to thank Ron for his years of support. Bryan now oversees a staff of about 42 people in the Lab.

Blood donations are important to the hospital. Donated units are used for patients in need, such as those undergoing surgery or being transported by air ambulance. For the amount of blood the hospital is currently receiving through generous donations like Ron’s, the likelihood of it being used for a patient is high.

Ron’s long-term goal is to donate 20 gallons of blood.



Montrose Memorial Hospital Lab Director Bryan Evensen (left), Ron Eden (center) and Phlebotomy Supervisor Kizzy Rothe (right). Courtesy photo.

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PEGASUS - WESTERN SKYWAYS TURBO NORMALIZING ENGINE SYSTEM

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—During the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new MTJ FBO May 11, neighboring business Western Skyways had some aviation news of their own. Although Western Skyways President Al Head was not ready to issue a formal press release, his excitement and enthusiasm could not be contained over the company's receipt two weeks ago of FAA Approval for its Turbo Normalizing engine system, which allows an engine conversion for Cessna Airframes 206, 207 and 210.

—This revolutionary modification breathes new life into an extremely venerable airframe line," said Eric Barker of Western Skyways in an industry news brief last week. —Reaching True Airspeeds of up to 205 KTAS... Fuel burn up to 20 percent less than a stock TC 210. Climb performance of up to 1,400 fpm."

The FFA approval represents years of hard work.

—I've been working on this since 2006, in and out of the recession," Head said. —The potential is immense. We're looking at converting two planes a month and adding 10 employees. We have customers as far away as Australia." Currently 13 conversions have been sold, and there are 85 on a waiting list, he said.

The conversion for the Cessnas will help the planes' climb performance and cruising speed, while at the same time reducing fuel consumption by 20 percent over all as noted by Barker.



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A government owned Cessna 206 is the next plane in line scheduled for conversion at Western Skyways. Photo by Gail Marvel.

The average cost of a conversion is approximately \$40,000 - \$60,000; however, over the life of the engine the customer will see \$44,000 in fuel savings alone, not to mention time savings because of the faster speed in going from point A to point B.

Pegasus is the product name for the conversion and Al Head said, —This will take Western Skyways to a new level." Al revealed that his only competition is in Ohio. With a glint in his eye and a knowing grin he said, —At his prices are around \$100,000."

For more information or to get a free quote from Western Skyways, contact Eric Barker at 1-800-575-9929.

For more info on the Turbo Normalizing engine system go to: www.westernskyways.com/videos.asp

www.westernskyways.com

www.facebook.com/WesternSkyways

OURAY MUSEUM NOW OPEN



Special to the Mirror
OURAY—The Ouray County Historical Museum is now open to the public seven days a week through September 30. Hours are

Ouray County Museum.

Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sundays, noon-4:30 p.m.

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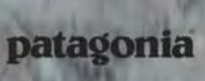
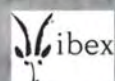



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COME DANCING...GHOST RIVER BAND TO PLAY MAY 23!



The popular Ghost River Band plays a little bit of everything, from rock to swing and even a waltz or two. The band returns to the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center May 23. Courtesy photo Deb Barr.

By Deb Barr

Senior Center Reporter

MONTROSE—Don't ever let anyone tell you "I'm too old to dance." The truth is, *nobody is too old to dance*. Being "too old to dance" is a matter of limited perspective, and the best way to broaden that perspective is to...well, dance.

On Saturday, May 23rd, the Golden Circle Seniors will host the Ghost River Band at the Pavilion Senior Center from 7:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. for the community's dancing pleasure. Admission is \$5, not much to pay for an open dance floor, good company and excellent live music. Ghost River, a longtime local favorite, plays a diverse set — a bit of everything from rock to swing, even a waltz or two — to keep the dancers happy and moving.

There aren't many places in Montrose to comfortably dance and mingle, but twice a month, the Pavilion Senior Center is the place. The Golden Circle Seniors sponsor dances on the second and fourth Saturday of every month, featuring a variety of music to suit different musical tastes. Importantly, the dances are open to dancers of all ages, with or without partners, and it's not uncommon to find younger couples mixed in with the seniors, having a great time.

Dancers and their guests are encouraged to bring a refreshment to share. The band takes a break at 9 p.m. to give everyone an opportunity to visit before heading back out onto the dance floor. No alcohol is allowed, however.

The Pavilion Senior Center is located at 1800 Pavilion Drive. The entrance to the Senior Center is on the east side of the building. For more information about the dances or other activities, a Senior Resource Counselor is available at (970) 252-4889.

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MIRROR IMAGES...OUTDOORS!



Mirror Photographer Sarah Berndt caught these images of deer and the Lewis Post Office.



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MONTROSE-Say hello to the new owner of House of Spirits at 1518 East Main Street...Dominick LaJoy! We'll miss Travis Tower offering us a free bag of ice every time we are in there, but the future looks bright for this local business. Cindy LaJoy even promises that the popular free ice promotion will continue! Congratulations to the LaJoy and Tower families on the transition!

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OPINION/EDITORIAL

BILL BELL WEIGHS IN, DISMISSES COMMENTS

Editor's Note: In the interest of fairness, we are printing City Manager Bill Bell's response of May 16, 2015 to concerns expressed by retired educator and former Parks Advisory Council Chair Marge Morgenstern and numerous local citizens and community members on the Montrose Mirror's Facebook news site. It is also worth noting that as of Press time Marge's letter generated more than 5,200 views, 66 shares, and an overwhelming show of community support. As of press time, not one reader "liked" Mr. Bell's response, shared below:

Hello everyone.

My name is Bill and I am the City Manager for Montrose. I usually do not respond to unjustified negative comments in social media, but after reading this thread I must at least say something. I have only met a couple of you who have commented and the rest of you have neither met me or worked with me in the almost four years I have been in Montrose.

Unfortunately, the only accurate information in this letter was related to the total compensation packages of a few city employees, however that even left out that the city of Montrose salaries run approximately fifteen to twenty five percent below the average in Colorado for similar jobs.

The rest has sadly been tainted by personal vendettas that a few people have toward the city because they were either part of the city's \$2 million in budget cuts three years ago or they recently lost their ability to direct parks and planning staff members when their committee chair position was dissolved or they are angry because the city has hired an Iranian born US citizen to serve in a leadership role in our local government.

We are very proud of our accomplishments that have come about in partnership with many great people throughout this community. Please visit our website or attend our meetings to see the collaboration that is taking place here in Montrose. I would welcome a visit with anyone interested in learning the truth about what your community is doing to move us all forward. I will be holding public coffee with the city manager events every two weeks starting in June and I would love to see you all there at the first gathering. Please pay attention to the Daily Press for more info and details related to these topics.

Respectfully,

Bill Bell, Montrose City Manager



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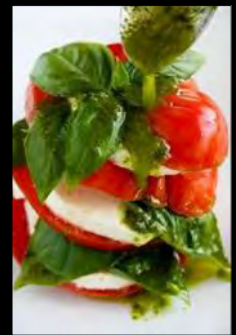
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GOVERNMENT BEAT

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL PREVIEW MAY 18-19 2015

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-When Montrose City Council convenes for its regularly scheduled work session at 11 a.m. at Council Chambers on Monday, May 18, they will hear from staffer and Youth Council Coordinator Tina Woodrum on revisions to the City Youth Council manual; an update from David Harold of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable; a presentation by Paul Gottlieb on the Montrose Emergency Telephone Service Authority (METSA), and a presentation by Planning Services Manager Kerwin Jensen on the extension of South Rio Grande Avenue.

[The work session packet](#) contains all red-lined, proposed revisions to the Youth Council Manual, and an update from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable that outlines some of the issues statewide: More than 85 percent of Colorado water users live in urban areas; the economic value of the urban landscape is \$551 million annually, while the 2012 value of agricultural prod-

ucts from the Colorado River Basin counties was shown to be \$514 million; there are difficulties in using recycled water; and other issues presented by General Counsel Patty Wells of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), City and County of Denver and Denver Water.

METSA, formed by intergovernmental agreement (IGA) in 1988, is a cooperative effort of the City and the County of Montrose, the towns of Olathe, Nucla and Naturita, and fire districts in Nucla-Naturita, Norwood, Montrose and Olathe. The IGA was amended to include Paradox Fire, Colorado State Patrol, and Emergency Telephone Service Authorities in San Miguel and Ouray counties. Colorado Revised Statutes authorize governing bodies to join METSA by IGA to provide emergency telephone service (9-1-1), and state that METSA, which is governed by a board of 12, is responsible for the administration and operation of emergency telephone service; provides emergency telephone ser-

vice throughout Montrose County; and facilitates for Ouray and San Miguel Counties for 9-1-1 call delivery to Montrose Regional Dispatch.

Because the 911 surcharge through which METSA is funded has been set at .70 cents per user per month since 2003, the METSA is seeking to raise the surcharge to \$1.25 in 2015 through a request to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Costs for 9-1-1 call handling equipment in Dispatch, as well as Emergency Notification System costs have tripled since 2003, the presentation notes, and METSA is anticipating a doubling or tripling of monthly CenturyLink Emergency Telephone Service fees in order to update the 9-1-1 system to digital service and work more efficiently with modern communications. While surcharges across the state range from 43 cents to \$1.50 per phone per month, half are higher than 70 cents. [Visit the packet](#) for more information on METSA revenues and expenses.

Continued on page 24



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CENTURY LINK AWARDS TECH GRANTS TO TWO LOCAL SCHOOLS



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – [CenturyLink, Inc.](#) (NYSE: CTL) recently announced the schools selected to receive grants from the CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation's Teachers and Technology grant program. The program, which has been offered since 2008, awards grants to schools in CenturyLink's local service areas on behalf of teachers who have developed specific plans to innovatively implement technology in their classrooms.

CenturyLink received 253 applications across 55 school districts and 89 schools in Colorado. Centennial Middle School and Olathe High School are 2 of 14 grant re-

cipients outside of the Denver-Metro area. Centennial Middle School teacher Gregory Whitsell and Olathe High School teachers Terri Clark and Ashley Rethemeyer were pleased to be selected in the grant process. The CenturyLink representatives went on to talk about how excited and clearly passionate Mr. Whitsell, Ms. Clark and Ms. Rethemeyer are with teaching, their school, and their students. The projects funded by this grant include:

Teacher: Gregory Whitsell – Centennial Middle School – Grant \$5,000: Writing 2.0: Digital Writing Matters

This project is about leveraging technology for writing instruction in a 21st Century

learning environment to equip learners with 21st Century skills and digital literacy readiness. It is about helping students learn to use digital writing tools such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, and e-portfolios to increase engagement and enhance collaboration in new ways, meet new standards, and ultimately increase student achievement in writing. **Teacher: Terri Clark & Ashley Rethemeyer- Olathe High School – Grant \$4,980: Power 11 Class/ICAP** A mobile computer lab will enable teachers to continue to prep students for college and meet new graduation requirements using technology that does not interfere with required computer testing.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS EXPANDS TO SERVE MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION - Express Employment Professionals is excited to announce they have opened a new office and expanded their services to beautiful Montrose Colorado! The new Express Employment Professionals of Montrose office is located at 300 N. Cascade, Unit C-3 in the Montrose Enterprise Center.

Express Employment Professionals of Montrose is owned by Nina Anderson, who has more than 30 years' experience in staffing and HR management and currently owns and operates Express Employment Professionals of Grand Junction, serving Western Colorado since April 2007. The Montrose Express office will be directed by Shawn Buterbaugh, Business Development Manager. Shawn has a strong background in professional staffing, recruitment, marketing and business development. He is now living in Montrose and excited to work with the local business community to make great things happen through Express Employment Professionals of Montrose.

Anderson and Buterbaugh, along with the rest of the Express Employment Professionals staff, are excited to join the Montrose business community.

—Express Employment is uniquely positioned to make a positive impact in our local communities. We have the advantage of being backed by a best-rated international franchise organization, yet our focus remains local. Our local commitment makes a difference," stated Anderson.

Anderson believes the staffing industry can partner with local businesses to promote economic development and job growth by helping to provide HR expertise, reduce turnover and increase profitability. Whether it's staffing, HR support, or training, Express is dedicated to serving local businesses and fostering economic growth. Express is looking for opportunities to become better acquainted with the Montrose business community including joining the local Chamber of Commerce. They also want to get to know the local workforce and are therefore hosting a —Drive-Through Hiring Event" on Thursday, May 21 from 10am-2pm in the Renfrow Realty parking lot located in Montrose, CO.

Express Employment Professionals of Montrose invites people to stop by the Drive-Through Hiring Event, meet the staff and learn more about what Express

has to offer both job seekers and businesses. They will share information about jobs already available in the Montrose area via Express and how to apply. There will also be a gift card raffle and other giveaway goodies including peanuts, Cracker Jacks and other baseball themed goodies to celebrate the opening and to encourage people to —Get in the Game" with Express.

Express Employment Professionals looks forward to meeting many new job seekers at the Hiring Event and helping them find employment. Express offers the following benefits for eligible associates:

Medical Plan, Direct Deposit, Safety Incentive, Dental Plan, Holiday Pay (6 Days Observed), 401(k) Retirement, Savings Plan, Vision/Eyewear Plan, Vacation Pay, Life Insurance, Prescription Drug Reimbursement, Scholarship Program, Short-Term Disability, Referral Bonuses.

—We are excited to serve job seekers and businesses in Montrose with our full line of staffing services," says Anderson. —The Montrose community is an innovative marketplace for primary employment. We are thrilled to become a part of this dynamic workforce and we look forward to being a partner in creating further opportunities for economic development."

SHARE THE ROAD! From pg 1

walk."

The units come in all price ranges, from around \$1,000 to around \$4,000, can be used indoors, outdoors or both, and can have three or four wheels, she said.

—There are even some that you can take apart and put together quickly, so you can put them in the car and go," Tolvo said. —Today's seniors are active, and they want to keep their lifestyle going.

—They want to get out and do things. And with these, a young person who is handicapped doesn't have to be cooped up at home."

Unlike other motorized scooters (such as mopeds and segways), personal mobility units require no license to operate, and there is no age limit on who can ride them, she said.

—You can head out for the grocery store, toddle around Downtown, and get on the bike path," Tolvo said. —You have a ten-mile radius on a charge, and you plug them

in at night to recharge. Some of the smaller ones can go right through doorways and around furniture. Others are too big to be indoors, but can be great if, for example, you live at Homestead and want to head over to WalMart."

Whatever size or color they may be, the devices are allowed to use the roadways just as bicycles are.

Montrose Police Chief Tom Chinn, though forbidden to speak directly to the Mirror by City Manager Bill Bell, shared by email the rules on personal mobility devices.

—People may ride their scooters on the streets," Chinn wrote, —They must try to ride on the far right hand side of the driving lane (next to the curb). Motorists just need to be aware that they have the right to be in the roadway with bicyclists and other types of slow-moving vehicles."

The Colorado Revised Statutes acknowledge that there are few limitations

on devices used for personal mobility. CRS 42-1-102(28.7) states... (b) "Low-power scooter" shall not include a toy vehicle, bicycle, electrical assisted bicycle, wheelchair, or any device designed to assist mobility-impaired people who use pedestrian rights-of-way."

Often, a customer's insurance will pay for the device, Stephanie Tolvo notes, though many people just pay cash for the mobility unit they choose. Perhaps the only downside to the units is that they are not winter proof.

—They are a little limited because of the seasons," Tolvo said.

—These devices are not great in bad weather, because they are not enclosed, and they are not great in the snow."

Mobility scooters are among the more popular items at Hartman Brothers, as well as walkers, recliners that help a person stand and adaptive safety equipment for use in the bathroom, she said.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALTRUSA ANNOUNCES 2015 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-2015 Altrusa Scholarship (\$1,000) recipients:from left to right, *Cheyenne Foster from Passage Charter School, Zane White from Olathe High School, Brenna Gaber from Montrose High School and Marisa Jahnke from Montrose High School. Not pictured is Theresa Tafoya from Olathe High School.*

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

STEP UP TO LIFE GRADUATION CEREMONY



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Laura Turner and Zachary Scott graduated from Montrose High School and have now completed the Step up to LIFE transition program. They received their diplomas on May 15, 2015 and will both be active in our community post-graduation. Please join us in congratulating the graduates and their families.



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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

DMEA & COBANK: PARTNERSHIP OF SUPPORT FOR SHARING MINISTRIES



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-In 1996, a retired pastor, along with his wife and three other local couples saw a need for a small food pantry in Montrose to provide food assistance to struggling families. They established Sharing Ministries, Inc.

This non-profit organization is located in Montrose, Colorado and has been serving the needs of that community for 19 years. The organization has been leasing an old 3,000 sq. ft. railroad building on N. Rio Grande Avenue, since 1997, but growing demand has prompted the group to look toward expansion.

Sharing Ministries asked the DMEA Board for assistance, and the board agreed to donate \$5,000. As helpful as that was, DMEA wanted to do more.

CoBank is a national cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. As all cooperatives do, CoBank contributes to the communities it serves. As a member of CoBank, DMEA has access to CoBank's 'Sharing Success' program which invests in charitable causes across rural America.

DMEA applied for a matching grant on behalf of Sharing Ministries. Now the grant is doubled to a total of \$10,000!

"It is truly an honor to support community-strengthening organizations like Sharing Ministries," said DMEA CEO, Jasen Bronec. "And we are grateful to CoBank for sharing our concern and investing in our community."

It is well known that cooperatives care for their communities but when cooperatives work together, the benefit can be even greater.

Pictured above left: DMEA Board President, Olen Lund (left) and DMEA CEO, Jasen Bronec (right) present a \$5,000 check on behalf of CoBank to Sharing Ministries Executive Director, Oneda Doyal (center). The check matches a DMEA donation for a total of \$10,000!

Free Summer Concert Series

Bring your chairs or blankets to sit on the lawn!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REGION 10, ADRC HONOR SNOWBASH VOLUNTEERS



From left, Brad and Trish Hawarny; Richard Barber and Sandy Walker; the Montrose High School National Honors Society. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Although there wasn't much snow to speak of this winter, community volunteers did their best to minimize the potential harm caused by a slick snowy walkway. Region 10 and the Aging and Disability Resources for Colorado (ADRC) created the "Snow Bash Challenge" in an effort to inspire volunteerism in the Montrose community and support those who were in need of help during the winter months.

ADRC is a membership organization consisting of several agencies whose mission is to improve services for those who are not physically able to support themselves. Leveraging its extensive membership, the group created the Snow Bash Challenge as a way to provide a free service to those who physically struggle to remove snow from their properties. "This is a generation that worries about their

responsibility to keep people safe while on their property, but shoveling sidewalks is just not in their best interest," comments Eva Veitch, Director of Community Living Services at Region 10. "These are also the folks who use senior transportation and receive home delivered meals, so their outdoor safety is critical."

After gathering donations and issuing the challenge publicly, the ADRC offered prizes for the volunteer or volunteer groups who shoveled the most snow in Montrose. The ADRC offers thanks to Volunteers of America staff member Ty Blair for organizing prize donations.

Despite the this winter's light snow accumulation, Snow Bash volunteers contributed approximately 44 hours of shoveling service. Region 10 and ADRC estimated that volunteers helped save \$880 in snow removal fees. For many seniors who are on a fixed budget, that is a lot of money. "The

people who benefited from this great community project were so grateful for this important service," Veitch continues.

The group awarded the \$500 first place prize to Montrose High School's National Honor Society for their significant contributions to the project.

The money will be used to fund future NHS activities and programs. In addition to NHS, several other volunteers chipped in their time for the Snow Bash Challenge. Richard Barber representing Christ's Kitchen was awarded the \$150.00 second place prize. Brad and Trish Hawarny were also recognized for their contributions to the project and received a non-cash prize. "We can't thank these volunteers enough for their willingness to help with this great project," Veitch adds. "We are better together."

Region 10 and the ADRC hope to make the Snow Bash Challenge an annual event.

SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UNDERWAY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Montrose County School District RE-1J has begun the search for a new superintendent and has hired the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) to facilitate the process.

The process began May 13, 2015 with focus group meetings of selected staff and community members who will help the district develop a leadership profile for the new superintendent.

The board is expected to name the new

superintendent by July 1st.

"The board of education feels that with CASB's guidance we will be able to make the best possible match for our school districts next leader," said Leann Tobin, board president.

CASB services include: a priority-setting session with the board; focus groups with staff and community; developing and distributing a brochure and advertising for the position that reflects the board's, staff's and community's values;

management of all application files; applicant recruitment; assisting the board with screening and interview processes; conducting background checks; notification of unsuccessful candidates; and assistance with a first-year performance plan.

The cost of the service for Montrose County School District RE-1J is \$12,000.00.

CASB provides leadership, advocacy, training and services for Colorado boards of education.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015!

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OLATHE FFA TAKES TOP HONOR IN MEAT EVALUATION CONTEST



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Olathe High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) won the Meat Evaluation Contest Monday, May 4, 2015. In this contest, students have to identify retail cuts of lamb, beef, and pork, calculate meat formulations, determine yield and quality grades, and complete a written exam about the meat industry.

The team was lead by Justin Mosher who placed first, Dexter Flick who placed fourth, Morgan Felix who placed 11th, and Cassie Franks who placed 15th. There were 26 teams, consisting of 90 kids!!! Olathe FFA also had two more Gold Rated Teams - Livestock Evaluation Team was second overall and a Third Place Floriculture Team. The Horse and Land Evaluation Teams both received a silver rating.



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WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...

JENNY PATTERSON



Jenny Patterson. Courtesy photo.

Interview by Gail Marvel

TELLURIDE—In 1975, 20 year-old Jenny Patterson came to Telluride for the summer with her best buddy from high school and for all practical purposes, she never left. At the time the ratio of men to women in the ski town was 8-1 and Jenny married before the year ended.

Currently Jenny serves on the Telluride Town Council (2013-2017); however, her public service over the years has included the Telluride Hospital Board, Telluride School District, and the Colorado Department of Transportation Transit Advisory Commission.

Jenny was very young when her parents divorced and each remarried, and when she was six years old her mother passed away. Eventually the blended families

numbered 10 and Jenny's position in the family was the top half of the bottom five. "I was way too spunky for my step-mother, so off and on I was raised by my grandparents." Her grandfather, who twice served as Ambassador to Canada, was an incredible source of American history and instilled in Jenny a global perspective. "I was allowed to interact with adults and learned that inquisitiveness was something to be embraced."

A strong-willed child, Jenny also proved to be a handful for boarding schools and a Catholic convent. "I attended nine schools in 12 years. I was rebellious, but all

I really wanted out of life was two parents and a healthy home."

Education is important to Jenny and her philosophy is that without education you breed frustration. "I was driven by sports and reading. Reading takes your mind on adventures well beyond today and into the future. I read all that I can and I question everything I read." Interestingly Jenny completed only two years of college, "I was way too restless." She laughed and said, "Sometimes it's really hard being me." Much of Jenny's education and skill set is self-taught with on-the-job training. "As a child I learned to roll up my sleeves and get the job done. I've been willing to do the things others wouldn't do." Jenny loves to learn and said, "I'm always open to opportunities, unless there is someone

else around who can do a better job."

When asked about leadership Jenny said, "Leadership...no. I'd never use that word [to describe] me. A better word would be 'giving,' and I'm competitive. I've always been around people who are stronger than myself. Hanging out with older folks, I viewed myself as a competitor, rather than a leader."

Although Jenny doesn't necessarily feel like a leader, she understands that a big piece of leadership is balance. "The only way to achieve balance is to understand the different sides. I'm constantly readjusting my thinking. Telluride is a very progressive town, but change is slower than people want it to be, balance is huge. Understanding where people are coming from and their passions allows you to build community."

Gender issues have never slowed Jenny down, "I've encountered the 'old boys club' and when I spoke against it I received cold shoulders, hit brick walls and was excluded from events. I didn't let it hold me back." Jenny admits that she gets in trouble a lot. "I like to foster what makes us different and bringing it to the table is a good thing; inclusiveness is big."

Jenny's advice to leaders, "First we need to thank people for stepping up [to the job]. Listening is important. Don't give up; try again ... just try it differently. We're all in this together. When you give back [to your community] you turn around and all of a sudden someone is calling you a leader."



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**MONTROSE
CITY COUNCIL PREVIEW
MAY 18-19, 2015
Continued from pg 14**

No background information on the extension of South Rio Grande Avenue was included in the packet.

At [City Council's regular meeting](#) at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Elks Civic Building May 19, Council will: consider making a motion to adopt Resolution 2015-12, setting July 7, 2015, as the hearing date for the H&S Addition Annexation; consider making a motion to award the contract for updates to the Utility Master Plans to Farnsworth Group for the total amount of \$219,734.00, which includes \$19,976.00 (10%) for contingencies; and will consider adoption on first reading of Ordinance 2356, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, pertaining to the parking of recreational vehicles and trailers in the public right of way. The Ordinance establishes forbidden acts such as leaving such vehicles in the right-of-way for more than 48 hours, and sets penalties for violations at \$100 for first offense, \$300 for second offense in the same calendar year, with any subsequent violations within that calendar year fined at up to \$2,600 per violation.

Finally, Council will consider adopting on second reading Ordinance 2357, an ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, authorizing the sale of real property pursuant to § 1-9-2 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose. Following the Consent Agenda will be staff reports including a sales, use and excise tax report, public information officer report, and quarterly budget review. The budget review contains information on the City's funds through March 31; of interest is that the current City Council had spent 41.6 percent of its \$116,220 annual budget by the end of the first quarter of 2015. Read the full report here: <http://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2195>.



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STATEWIDE STUDY SHOWS IMPORTANCE OF ARTS EDUCATION; RE-1J MOVES TO SEMESTER BASED MUSIC AND ART

By Caitlin Switzer

COLORADO-The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade and Colorado Creative Industries have released their 2015 study on arts education in Colorado's schools. The study, entitled [Colorado Visual and Performing Arts Education Survey and Statistical Report](#), builds on the baseline of an initial study performed in 2008. The objective of the study was to quantify the level, type and scope of arts education offered and delivered to Colorado public school students, the introduction notes. Of 625 respondent schools, 93 are rural, the study notes; three of 14 schools in Montrose County School District Re-1J took part in the study.

Among the study's findings are that rural elementary schools are 50 percent less likely to have all four arts disciplines than schools that are not rural, but provide more arts education (125 minutes per week) than non-rural elementary schools.

Rural middle schools are 20 percent less likely to have all four artistic disciplines, the study notes, while 4.40 percent of respondent rural middle schools report using field trips as a teaching tool contrasting with the overall survey average of 47 percent. At both the elementary and secondary levels, schools nationally are far more likely to provide music and visual arts than dance and theater.

Here in Montrose, the arts help create opportunities that students might otherwise not have, said Margaret Freeman, who taught in the local schools for 26 years, including 15 as a music teacher. Now that she is retired from teaching, Freeman also sings and plays with the popular local group 'Gotta Be' and works with the phenomenal 21st Century After School Program Shakespeare Project.

"The arts are absolutely important," Freeman said. "It has been demonstrated time and time again through research that participation in the arts facilitates learning."



Re-1J Music Educator Ken Chenevert works with students at Johnson Elementary School during the spring showcase last week.

Ideally, elementary school students would see their music teacher three times a week for optimum learning, she noted.

"We have very strong band programs in our middle schools," Freeman said. "I would love to see strong vocal programs as well."

Montrose County School District Re-1J will be moving toward semester-based music and art offerings, rather than sporadic, part-time instruction, for the 2015-2016 school year, said Special Projects and Communications Coordinator Erica Jiron.

"By moving to semester-based music and arts programming, we will allow learning to be more consistent," Jiron said. "It is exciting that by streamlining the process, we can allow learning opportunities with

greater depth."

Cottonwood Elementary School Principal Sandra Steele believes that the change will improve the educational climate for students.

"Instead of scheduling Specials, or Integrated Arts teachers at many different schools throughout the week, we will now be able to see our art and music teachers for a full semester, Monday through Friday, which provides incredible benefits," Steele said. "The teachers will have the time to build meaningful relationships with all of our staff, parents and students, experience the consistency of one building for half of a year by attending staff meetings and PLCs, as well as social functions, and really embed themselves into our school culture."



Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On Nov. 2, 2014 I visited the First Presbyterian Church. The morning began with Pastor Alan Gibson and Dan Clader sparing with alternating announcements.

The call to worship started with a hymn and the “pouring of water.” No explanation was given for the ritual of pouring water from a pitcher in front of the congregation, which left me to my own thoughts about the significance.

Responsive readings were used in the call to worship, as well as the cleansing of sin; which calls for the collective confession of sin and results in the assurance of pardon on those who confess.

Out of an audience of approximately 200, this congregation had a full complement choir of 20, plus a pianist. Most of us enjoy listening to special music when the choir is singing an *unfamiliar* song; however, when the presentation is the beloved hymn, “It is Well With My Soul,” you feel like leaving your seat and sitting with the choir just so you can sing along.

Children were invited to come to the front of the auditorium for a moment of question and answer.

The first question was, “What is a gift?” Reminiscent of “Kids Say the Darndest

Things,” one child looked up at her teacher and said, “I love you.” Hands waved in the air when the teacher asked if any of them had ever lost a gift. The teacher called on a little girl who proudly responded, “One time I lost my Barbie doll under my bed.”

Prior to the message the pastor gave instructions for people to greet one another and Dan Nyman hesitantly approached me, “Are you a visitor?”

Dan, who appeared to be outside his comfort zone, volunteered that he is usually very introverted; however, he felt moved to reach out to a stranger. I smiled when the pastor then gave the sermon title, “Do Not Neglect the Gift You Have.”

The basis for the message was Psalm 139:1-18 and 1 Timothy 4:6-16. Pastor Gibson began by saying that many folks simply do not feel spiritually gifted if they are not a teacher or a leader. “That’s a problem. You are not anointed to be dead weight for the Kingdom of God; you have a specific purpose!”

The pastor bolstered his argument with multiple illustrations including audience pop-quizzes, an example from Chick-fil-A and baking cookies. Admitting these may not be the best illustrations he said, “But when you take cookies out of the oven too early, they’re not completely done.” He

laughed, “Sometimes we’re ministering half-baked.” The pastor noted that spiritual gifts ripen and mature with practice, and every day is an opportunity. “I’m completely off script now — it seems to me that some of us just don’t try.”

It was pointed out that believers should be concerned if they neglect using their gifts for the work of Christ because it forces others to pick up the slack. The pastor concluded the sermon telling the audience the Lord did not call them to be special, but to be sacred — set apart. Laughter rippled through the audience when he reiterated, “You’re not special!”

Directions for participating in the Celebration of the Lord’s Table and the significance of the emblems (bread and juice) were clearly stated.

Participants were instructed to hold their portion of bread until all were served so that the bread could be eaten in unison; however, drinking the cup of juice was left to individual discretion. I drank the juice right away, but most participants held their juice, many of them partaking in unison.

Contact Information:
First Presbyterian Church
1840 E. Niagara
Montrose, CO 8140
970-249-4732

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

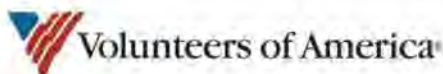
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

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

WELCOME WESTERN COLORADO SHARES FIRST YEAR DATA

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-2013 - 2014 Facts ...

Welcome Western Colorado greeted 411 Newcomer families in Montrose County, representing the following demographics ... Newcomers representing 35 states, from New York to Alaska, and nations like Peru, Nepal, Japan, Denmark and Africa. Newcomers represented 217 Homeowners and 194 Renters; 333 children; and 394 pets including 199 dogs, 102 cats, 8 birds, 7 horses, 4 mules, 4 chickens, 1 hamster ... 1 rabbit and a fish.

The arrival of each Newcomer family reveals a need for products and services in a community with which they are usually unfamiliar. Welcome Western Colorado greets these Newcomers to Montrose, Ouray, Olathe, Ridgway & Telluride and introduces them to the businesses, products and services you offer.

Welcome Western Colorado schedules a personal visit with each Newcomer to deliver a branded gift bag filled with promotional products, local service directories/guides, and coupons provided by the finest businesses in Montrose. When your business is represented in the gift bag, you are sending a warm and generous "Welcome" to the Newcomer.

Become a Welcome Western Colorado Partner ... National studies have shown that marketing to new residents provides businesses with exceptional opportunities. New residents: Spend up to 10 times more on products and services during their first six months in a new home than established residents spend in two years; Are looking for new places to eat, shop, work out, have fun, get their car repaired, etc.; Are unencumbered by shopping habits and are receptive to establishing new business rela-

tionships; Are loyal to new community connections and are five times more likely to become regular customers than customers acquired from other sources; Are optimistic about their new home and community and are ready to spend money to become comfortably established.

Your partnership is an affordable way to reach Newcomers who are typically loyal to whom they first meet. Your investment secures a place for your business to be promoted with the delivery of each gift bag.

Additionally, Welcome Western Colorado will email a report of the visits made so you may follow up with them.

To learn more contact:

terri@welcomewesterncolorado.com,
(970) 901-6761, or
www.Welcomewesterncolorado.com

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT



MONTROSE-Above, community members and officials showed up for the grand opening of the new Montrose Water Sports Park on May 16; top right and below, local foody favorites: Shanty's Guillermo Garcia and Michelle, Graciella and Hannah of Centennial Middle School.

HAVEN HOUSE FATE IN THE BALANCE from Pg 1



Haven House, above, was home to 50 people at the end of March. Center and right, rocks painted by kids in the Haven House garden.

However, the facility which houses the shelter—the former Olathe Dormitory—has been sold by the landlord, Montrose County Housing Authority (MCHA), to a third party. There are presently two options on the table for sustaining the child development and transitional housing programs offered by the non-profit Haven House, which was formed five years ago.

—We are pursuing two options to ensure that there is no disruption of our service to those in need,” Fredericksen said. —Option one is to work with the buyer to try to share the space. We are encouraged by the results of initial discussions with the buyer. Option two is to exercise our ‘Right of First Refusal,’ which runs for 15 days. That would require us to raise approximately \$250,000 in the form of short term loans and donations which, together with the \$100,000 thus far raised by Haven House, would be required to match the current buyers offer.

—We are having discussions with various parties to explore the feasibility of this option,” he said. —This plan anticipates that loans would be repaid with grants and fund raising within 12 months.”

Though both options appear to be feasible, Option Two is by far the preferred choice, Fredericksen said. And while the Haven House board is optimistic that they will achieve their goal for option two, more support will definitely be needed, he said. Currently 30 regular volunteers serve at Haven House, which is a faith-based organization.

—We hope that the community will continue to help us with financial donations

and as volunteers,” said Fredericksen, who founded the organization with his wife Lillian and who also serves as a volunteer. —This program has been successful for many; and even those who have not been able to complete the program often become better parents and go on to make better choices because of what they have learned here.

—Our first priority is families—we always keep a suite or two open for them so they are never turned away,” he said, —but if there is space available we take in single parents too.” Shelter statistics note that at the end of March there 50 people living at Haven House, including 28 kids and a pregnant mom.

Prior to leasing the property to Haven House in 2010, Montrose County Housing Authority operated the 13,521 square-foot commercial building as a homeless shelter for 15 years (1995-2010) on its own, according to former MCHA Director Tim Heavers, who discussed Haven House in a guest editorial in the *Montrose Daily Press* in August of 2014. At the time, the MCHA had raised the non-profit’s rent from \$1,500 a month to \$2,500. The dormitory was built in 1992 at a cost of \$925,000 plus \$78,400 for the land, Heavers said, and many improvements have been made over the years.

—The Housing Authority had operating losses at the dormitory of about \$3,200, \$26,400, and \$16,700 for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 over and above the annual rental income from Haven House,” he said. —We can’t continue to run the dormitory at a loss.”

The MCHA’s eventual goal has always been to sell the building, which Heavers noted had been appraised at \$794,790 in 2006.

The dormitory was leased to Haven House complete with more than \$100,000 worth of equipment: washers, dryers, ice machines, 72 beds, 36 microwaves and 36 refrigerators, commercial stainless steel kitchen cooking equipment, linens, towels, cleaning supplies, furniture, knives, forks, spoons and complete yard maintenance equipment, Heavers said, adding that MCHA had offered to sell the facility to Haven House for \$450,000 before accepting an offer from the current purchaser.

Montrose resident Dennis Olmstead, who spoke on the subject of Haven House and the common good of the community to Montrose City Council on May 5, said the option of sharing the building with another entity doesn’t make sense.

“Farm workers part of the year Haven House other part of the year,” he said. —That does not seem like something which would work very well. Partial year farm-workers who are up early, back late mixing with homeless families? A sale to promote farm work is good. A sale to promote struggling families much better...think common good.”

To donate to Haven House, visit www.havenhousehomeless.org, or mail to P.O. Box 3122, Montrose, CO 81402.

Because it is an Enterprise Zone Project, any donation over \$100 to Haven House entitles donors to a credit equal to 25 percent of the donation against their Colorado State income taxes.

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MIRROR IMAGES...MHS CLASS OF 2015!



Montrose High School's class of 2015 prepares to file out to the graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 16. Photos by Brad Switzer.

OHS SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON RECIPIENTS

Special to the Mirror

OLATHE-Twenty-six 2015 Olathe High School graduates were awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarship awards on May 7 at the OHS Annual Scholarship Luncheon held at the American Legion in Olathe.

Scholarship awards were presented by representatives from 22 various local organizations, families, trusts and universities. Scholarship amounts varied from \$400 to \$10,000.

The following memorial scholarships were awarded: *Chandra Castle Memorial Scholarship*: Trace Axtel, Samantha Faulk, Morgan Felix, Xavier Gallegos, Aaron Lenihan and Maritza Olide; *Keith Killen Memorial Scholarship*: Anthony Vigil; *Patrick J. Noonan Memorial Scholarship*: Taylor Gibson and Zane White; *Curfman Memorial Scholarship*: Josie Roth; *Didrikson-Niles Fund*: Maritza Olide and Anthony Vigil; and the *Frances & Lucy Bockhaus Memorial Scholarship*: Zane White. Recipients from local businesses and organizations included the *Montrose Lions Club*: Sarah Vanderpool and Zane White; *Eldon & Ruth N. Veirs*: Taylor Gibson and Theresa Tafoya; *Cindy Watson Foundation*: Anthony Vigil; *Montrose Altrusa*: Theresa



Twenty-six 2015 Olathe High School graduates were awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarship awards on May 7 at the OHS Annual Scholarship Luncheon held at the American Legion in Olathe. Not pictured: Morgan Felix, Xavier Gallegos, Aaron Lenihan, Kurik Mattics and Maritza Olide. Courtesy photo.

Tafoya and Zane White; *DMEA*: Emily Rowland and Theresa Tafoya; *Olathe Elementary*: Maritza Olide; *Olathe Rebekah Lodge*: Anthony Vigil; *OHS Booster Club*: Mitch Carlson, Aracelli Cortez, Taylor Gibson, Josie Roth and Theresa Tafoya; *Olathe Fire Dept.*: Kurik Mattics and Anthony Vigil; *Montrose Cattlewomen's Scholarship*: Taylor Gibson; *OHS PAC*: Emily Rowland; *Olathe American Legion*: Taylor Gibson and Theresa

Tafoya, and the *Uncompahgre Valley Education Association*: Taylor Gibson. *Colorado Mesa University Principal's Award*: Samantha Faulk, Kimberly Hardman, Rene Ramirez, Josie Roth and Yulisa Uribe; *Colorado Mesa University Merit Scholarships*: Eduardo Alcaraz, Gabe Bollinger, Samantha Faulk, Brant Gabardi, Mario Hightower, Hannah Pace, Josie Roth, Lori Silver, Emilea Swanson, and Theresa Tafoya.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CDOT MOURNS LOSS OF DAVID MORRIS ON MONARCH PASS



David Morris.
Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

CHAFFEE -- Last week, a tragic accident on US 50 at Monarch Pass claimed the life of CDOT employee David Morris. David, age 61, joined CDOT in 2011 and was a member of the maintenance crew that serviced Monarch Pass.

"Dave was a do-er and just a tremendous man," said David Vialpando, CDOT Maintenance Superintendent, Alamosa. "Everyone has a story about David; he was that type of coworker and friend. He touched everyone he knew."

According to Colorado State Patrol, a semi-truck traveling eastbound on US 50 failed to stop at a signal and crossed into westbound lanes, colliding with the CDOT truck driven by Mr. Morris. The semi-truck also struck two other vehicles.

"David was on his way to serve the public when this terrible accident happened," said CDOT Executive Director Shailen Bhatt. "Everyone who puts on the orange realizes they put themselves at risk when they go on the road. If not for David's presence and sacrifice, yesterday's tragedy may have been even worse. We are incredibly grateful for his service to CDOT and the residents of Colorado."

Morris leaves behind a wife, daughter and son. Since 1929, 58 employees have died in the line of duty. The last CDOT fatality occurred in 2009.

Contributions in David's memory may be sent to CDOT's Helping Hands, a program to assist CDOT-families in need. Checks can be mailed to 4201 East Arkansas Avenue, Denver, CO 80222.

CENTENNIAL RANCH TOUR SHOWCASES COLORADO'S RANCHING HERITAGE

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Centennial Ranch, a blend of historic preservation and rustic elegance, opens its entire spread to the public the weekend of June 27-28. A fundraiser for the Ouray County Historical Society, Open Ranch Days includes self-guided tours and a cowboy-style lunch.

Located in northern Ouray County just off Highway 550, the 400-acre, working cattle ranch dates back to 1879. The current owner has meticulously restored each ranch building on the property to reflect historic details and functions. The tour takes guests through those structures as well as the rancher's timber frame home, which has been featured in *Architectural Digest*.

The family-oriented event runs 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$20 for adults and free for everyone 19 and under. The price includes an outdoor lunch of chili, biscuits and hot dogs. Transportation around the ranch will be provided for non-walkers. All proceeds benefit the OCHS.

Each guest will receive a detailed guide book, which describes the historic functions and construction of buildings along the tour route. Members of the Historical Society will be stationed throughout to answer questions.

Centennial Ranch meanders along a rugged half-mile stretch of the Uncompaghe River canyon. Visitors may catch a

glimpse of two golden eagles that nest on the sandstone cliff above the river. The entire property is a donated conservation easement, which preserves the ranch land in perpetuity. Besides protecting wildlife habitats, the easement ensures that Centennial Ranch will never be developed and will always remain a working cattle ranch.

The tour begins at the rancher's residence, the Dashwood House, where guests can relax on benches near the riverbank or wander among early summer perennials. Most of the Dashwood's spacious rooms are included in the tour. Constructed of salvaged timbers and cedar board-and-batten siding, the house is detailed with medieval-style, hand-forged iron work. Sturdy English and Welsh furnishings share the post-and-beam interior with western implements.

Guests will proceed to the line cabin, the traditional shelter for cowboys working fence lines along the far reaches of large ranches. Thick walls, made from standing dead spruce, a stone fireplace and antique stove create a cozy, year-round refuge from the elements.

The tour ends at the massive barn, also a timber frame structure made from recycled wood and intricate yet functional iron work. Besides draft horse stalls, the barn features a tack room, grain room, and displays of ranching memorabilia. Just outside the wagon bay, the cook crew will prepare chili and biscuits in Dutch ovens



Centennial Ranch, established and settled by the Smith family. Courtesy photo.

and roast hot dogs over fire pits.

This scenic expanse of rocky bluffs, pastures and cottonwood trees may look vaguely familiar even to first-time visitors. The ranch has been the backdrop for many major companies' advertisements. Cabela's, Marlboro, Urban Outfitters and Abercrombie and Fitch are among the companies that have shot ads at Centennial. The entrance to Centennial Ranch is on the east side of Highway 550, 14.5 miles south of Montrose and about 12 miles north of Ridgway. For more information, call the Ouray County Historical Society at (970) 325-4576.

ARTS AND CULTURE

CATCH LIVE MUSIC AT THE SHERBINO FRIDAY!

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY--Come out to the Sherbino Theater on Friday, May 22nd ready to dance and jam to the best blues-rock out of Ridgway, Colorado from local band, *David Nunn and The Dirty Habits*. David Nunn has been playing guitar since 1970. Raised in the south and heavily influenced by early *Allman Brothers*, that blend of blues rock played to jazz rhythms has stuck with him. Playing solo acts steadily in the Ridgway area for the past two years, David has teamed up with veteran bass player Tom Yengo, lifetime harp player Bill Wilson, the unmistakable acoustic groove of Dave Carman, and Wesley Dicks holding things together on drums and percussion. This will sure to be a fun evening with a diverse set list of blues, rock, country, and guitar oriented jams. *David Nunn and The Dirty Habits* are giving back to the Sherbino by kicking off the start of a fund to improve the acoustics at the historic theater. The band has decided to donate a percentage from what they make from this show to start this fund. Don't miss this night of live music on Friday, May 22nd. Doors and cash bar at 7:30pm. Music at 8 pm. \$7 entry at the door.



HONORABLE MENTION

To Montrose Author Diane Winger, for the new book! Check out page 37 of this issue!

To Marge Morgenstern, for honesty, integrity and fearlessness. And for that letter (pg 4)...

To the Montrose and Olathe high school classes of 2015, and graduates throughout the region...

To Yvonne Meek and the new Lark & Sparrow venue in the Masonic Building...congratulations!

And to Tammy Theis, our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to you and your family.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RIBBON CUTTING-MONTROSE KAYAK & SURF!



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Chamber of Commerce extended a warm welcome to a new business and new member, Montrose Kayak and Surf. Montrose Kayak and Surf is a specialty retailer servicing rafting, kayaking, and stand up paddle board customers. It is a full retail establishment, full service repair shop, and teaching outlet located at 302 West Main Street and can be reached by calling 970-249-8730.

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GOVERNMENT BEAT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 5/12/15 WORK SESSION

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-OPEN DISCUSSION

Secure Routes to School (SRS) is being reinstated with full funding. There is need to have a 50/50-\$144,000 funding split with the various school districts who contribute a certain amount per pupil count. Commissioner Glen Davis wanted to know if the County funding was in the budget and how much. Finance to provide information.

Commissioner Ron Henderson felt that now is the time to work with CDOT while they are currently improving the road in Olathe to address the control of pupil pedestrian traffic on the corners with perhaps fencing.

AIRPORT-HAGEL SUMMERS PROPERTY

Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold started the discussion. Mr. Summers is open to selling the private property.

The property would be an appropriate acquisition as 95 percent will be on airport property, 5 percent will be on County property, and the "road" that is not a road per Road and Bridge could be improved in the future in about three-four years.

Historically speaking, Commissioner David White stated that in 2005 a project

included the finishing of the road but ran out of funds before it could be done.

Mr. Arnold's questions was, "Will this acquisition put him over 10 percent?" Finance was present and recommended that the monies come from the general budget, not Road and Bridge.

MONTROSE AIRPORT REGIONAL BOARD

Commissioner Ron Henderson opened the discussions as the commissioners wanted to talk about the Airport with Mr. Bill Swartz, chair of the Airport Advisory Board, to be sure there is openness between the board members and Manager Lloyd Arnold and to address community concerns to avoid hearsay, side issues, contentiousness, rumors, and contrary perceptions based on not enough information or incorrect information.

Swartz expressed that he is 100 percent behind the second FBO (Fixed Base Operation) as the company has their eye on future expansion at the airport as was mentioned in the *Montrose Press* article about the Monday groundbreaking ceremony such as a flight school, a helicopter school, hangers for plane storage, helicopter transport to Telluride, and the known provision of fuel at a competitive price. Current price of fuel at Montrose Airport is \$6.80/gal. vs less than \$4/gal. in the Denver

area. (I actually observed the posted prices on Mr. Swartz's handheld device.) He has even investigated for himself the timeline going back to 2013 about having a second FBO. He did feel that there is a need to be proactive in the future rather than reactive, especially considering the controversy and the lawsuits. All agreed that Mr. Swartz is welcome to come to more work sessions when the airport is on the agenda and he was encouraged to request any time as needed with the commissioners to meet the goals of proactiveness and openness.

The commissioners have never been in the mode of whether there was a need for second FBO but more of "Who cares?" as the airport needs to be open to competition as it is an excellent revenue producer for Montrose and surrounding areas. It could well be expanded to create very good paying jobs which will lead to expanded use of the amenities in town such as hotels, restaurants, shops, places to experience and to visit to see and explore.

Commissioner Henderson remarked that he represents the tax payers and the current status is that of a static company. Other comments were that our airport has more services than other airports in communities of a similar size and is actually more similar in amount of services to communities of 100,000, that the fuel price in other areas with one FBO are lower than here, that the current FBO in Montrose does generate \$2 million in sales, and that the new FBO is willing to provide future infrastructure of \$2-3 million in improvements such as jet fuel storage, airport maintenance, and the others mentioned above.

COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATE

Attorney Teresa Williams discussed whether signing on to the Gunnison Sage Grouse with more than the already provided letter of support would be of interest. Jon Waschbusch, Government Affairs Director, felt that all the issues of concern to Montrose appear to have been included in the claim from Gunnison. The consensus is that that we have no unaddressed other unique issues and the County money can be spent better elsewhere.

SINGER & SONGWRITER

DEB BARR

AT THE GRAND PIANO

SATURDAY, MAY 23

ARROYO

220 EAST COLORADO

TELLURIDE

7 PM - 10 PM



OPINION/EDITORIAL

TIME FOR COUNCIL TO CUT LOSSES, FIRE CITY MANAGER

Mirror Staff Editorial

MONTROSE—Retired Montrose educator and former Parks Advisory Council Chair Marge Morgenstern's letter of May 15 (page 4 of this issue) has already generated many community comments since it was posted on the *Mirror* Facebook page. Despite reaching more than 5,200 people, there have been no comments by citizens refuting Marge's allegations—rather, locals felt empowered to speak up and share their stories of bullying by Montrose City Manager Bill Bell, who also added his voice to the thread (see page 13 of this issue). The *Mirror* has certainly experienced an unprecedented level of bullying and intimidation from this administration, not only from Bell but from the current Mayor Pro Tem, who has not only approached our advertisers in attempts to hurt our livelihood, but who has now intimidated in public that he will “make Caitlin pay.” However, we believe we have already paid—in full—for the simple act of doing our job as reporters.

With the exception of submitting questions in writing, the *Montrose Mirror* has been blacklisted from having open communication with the Montrose City Council, the City Manager and the City Staff. Journalistically speaking our hands are tied, not only in investigative reporting, but in reporting on day to day city functions. We included City Manager Bill Bell's post to the *Mirror* Facebook in today's issue because we feel it is indicative of his leadership style.

Bell deflects community comments with, “I have only met a couple of you who have commented and the rest of you have neither met me or worked with me in the almost four years I have been in Montrose.” Whether or not a person has personally met or interacted with the City Manager in the last few years has no bearing on, nor does it negate, a constituent's opinion.

The accusation of racism in Bell's post cannot be overlooked, —. they [some who wrote letters or commented] are angry because the city hired an Iranian born US

citizen to serve in a leadership role in our local government.” However, it is not Joseph's background that has caught our attention, but his lack of any professional or municipal qualifications for his position, which pays more than \$100,000 a year.

Bell concludes by telling readers of the *Mirror* Facebook page, “Please pay attention to the *Daily Press* for more info and details related to these topics.”

Mr. Bell's suggestion is yet another example of not only trying to marginalize the *Mirror*, but to also control editorials and write his own narrative through the *Daily Press*. Realistically, the *Mirror* is not the first business or organization to be undermined by our current city government — and undoubtedly we will not be the last.

Perhaps it is finally time for the present City Council to listen to those they have been elected to serve, and send Mr. Bell on his way before he and his cronies do further damage to our City and to our Community.

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SCHEDULE

7:00 AM
GOLF REGISTRATION OPENS

7:30 AM
FREE GOLF CLINIC WITH PRO JUSTIN FOX AND PAT FOPPE

8:00 AM
REGISTRATION BOOTH FOR 5K EVENT WILL OPEN

8:45 AM
OPENING CEREMONY FEATURING MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND & CHORAL SINGERS ROTC COLOR GUARD

9:00 AM
VETERAN MOTORCYCLE GROUPS WILL LEAD THE START OF THE NO BARRIERS 5K RUN/WALK

9:05 AM
SHOTGUN START FOR GOLFERS

9:45 AM
CATERED SNACKS FOR 5K PARTICIPANTS PROVIDED BY REMINGTON'S

AFTER THE 18TH HOLE IS COMPLETED, GOLFERS WILL ENJOY LUNCH FROM REMINGTON'S

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WELCOME HOME MONTROSE DREAM JOB PROGRAM

WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 13th, 2015
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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

8TH ANNUAL FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES—Ridgway Town Park, Ridgway, CO, Thursdays in July, 6pm 'til Dark—**July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ~ 2015** Free Music, National Acts, Family Friendly, Children's Activities

Local Beer, Food & Wine Vendors, Late Night After-Party at the Sherbino Theater

Live Broadcast on KVNf. www.ridgwayconcertseries.com.

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 JAM SESSION AND SING ALONG, Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

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-

May 18—Seniors' Night Out at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center, \$2 donation covers prizes, paper goods, drinks and ice cream. Enjoy Bingo, potluck, Ice Cream, Billiards, Line Dancing.

May 19—Mental Health First Aid, Center for Mental Health Class, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May 20—Spring into Yoga with CMU Montrose Campus club The MC Voice! Free yoga class at the Quad, 5:15 to 6 p.m.

May 20—Learn to fish for smallmouth bass from the experts at a free evening seminar, 6:30-8:30 p.m., May 20, at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife office in Montrose, 2300 S. Townsend Ave. For more information or to register for the seminar, contact: Dawn Bresett at 970-252-6000, or at dawn.bresett@state.co.us.

May 20—Mt. Village Cleanup Day, All Day.

May 20—Chipeta Archeology Presentation: Eating along the edges of agriculture: A comparison of Fremont and Ancestral Puebloan coprolites from the northern Colorado Plateau. 7 p.m. Montrose Methodist Church. Free to the public.

May 21—Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Disease 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.* 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 - 5 pm Colorado Mesa University Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org <<mailto:eberge@voa.org>>.

May 21—Vista Charter School Spring Graduation Ceremony, 7 pm at Montrose Pavilion (1800 Pavilion Drive).

May 21—COPMOBA "Better Living through Trails" Presentation at 2Rascals (147 North First St.) Presentation at 4 p.m. Mixer at 6 p.m.

May 22—David Nunn and Dirty Habits at the Sherbino in Ridgway, Doors and cash bar at 7:30pm. Music at 8 pm. \$7 entry at the door.

May 22-25—Telluride Mt. Film Festival. Locations Vary, All Day.

May 23—Vocalist Deb Barr to perform at Arroyo in Telluride. 220 East Colorado Ave., 7 to 10 p.m.

May 23—A class on making circular twined rag rugs and baskets (different from braided rugs) is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Delta-Montrose Electric Assoc. meeting room in Montrose. The circular sampler you begin in class can be continued to make a full-sized rug, or you can choose to turn it into a basket. Class fee is \$35. No experience is needed, although there is an advantage to having taken the basic (frame) class first. Contact Bobbie Irwin, (970) 249-2981; irwin@rmi.net. Preregistration is required.

May 23—Cobble Creek Spring Tea will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. *Bring mothers, daughters, granddaughters, friends, and neighbors along with your favorite teacup, and support HopeWest Kids' Grief Programs. \$15 per person, no tickets sold at the door. For information or tickets, please contact: Tami Blair — (970) 252-2521 or Nancy Hoganson — (970) 240-7776. Tickets are also available at the Cobble Creek Pro Shop.*

May 23—COPMOBA Trail Building School, 9 a.m. to Noon, lunch provided. Montrose Public Lands Office (2465 S. Townsend Ave.). Hands-on trail building on Sunset Mesa 1 to 4:30 p.m. Must attend trail building school first.

May 24—COPMOBA Group Ride—location TBD. 9 a.m.

May 24—In collaboration with the Crested Butte Film Festival, this month's Sherb Sunday Cinema features the independent film, *Wild Canaries*. Sherb Sunday Cinema is on Sunday, May 24th. Doors and cash bar open at 7:00pm. \$7 entry at the door.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL AUTHOR INSPIRED BY MONTROSE AND SURROUNDINGS



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Montrose author, Diane Winger, takes the advice to “write what you know” to heart, and in her fourth novel, *Memories and Secrets*, the story takes place in a fictional town on the Western Slope called Seligton. There’s a cozy coffee shop located in a historic house built in the early 1900s where locals hang out. The town celebrates Independence Day with a parade, street fair, and evening fireworks. Hikers marvel at the splendor of Blue Lakes and enjoy views of Mt. Sneffels. Winger is the co-author, along with her husband Charlie, of several guidebooks related to outdoor recreation. Settings of hiking, climbing, and cross-country skiing in Colorado are central to each of her four novels.

Memories & Secrets will be available for e-readers from [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00W2GUPM8/) starting May 15, 2015. A paperback edition is planned for June 2015.

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00W2GUPM8/>.

JEAN GRANBERG IS 2015 PROMISING PRACTICE AWARD WINNER



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The following submission was selected as a 2015 Promising Practice award winner by Character.org. The Applicant was Jean Granberg from Johnson Elementary School for Playground Champions.

Cheryl Gomez, Principal of Johnson Elementary expressed her heartfelt thank you when she acknowledged the award, “Thanks to everyone for supporting this student leadership program...we are one of two schools in Colorado to receive this distinction. What a nice compliment to our Kids of Character focus!”

Sharon Krupa-Sirotek, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical and School Psychologist of MCSD stated “BRAVO Jean!!!! Your year-long efforts are truly paying off, helping our students become positive problem solving leaders and role models!”

The District congratulates Johnson Elementary School on their selection for this award... and for their efforts to develop young people of character each and every day.

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!
CALL 970-275-5791 OR EMAIL EDITOR
@MONTROSEMIRROR.COM FOR AD RATES AND INFORMATION

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*Baby grapes, left, and chickens, above.
Back page photos by Sarah Berndt.*

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