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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 145 Nov. 23 2015

CHANGES COMING TO THE OURAY HOT SPRINGS POOL!

By Liesl Greathouse

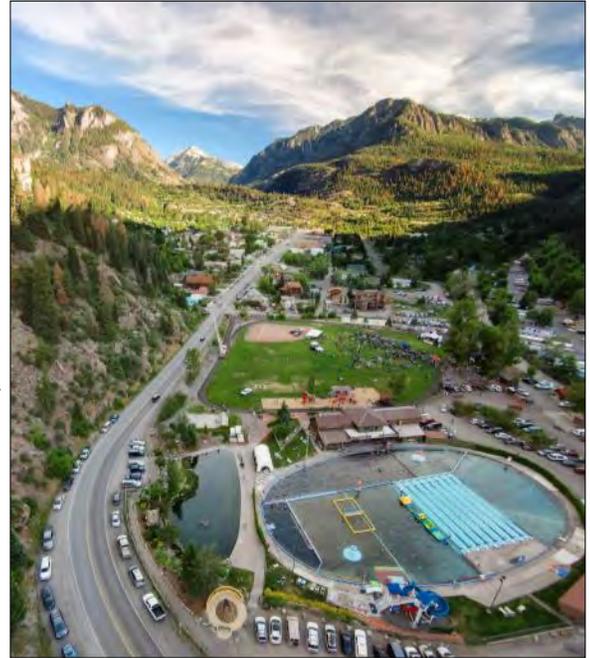
OURAY-As the cold winds of Winter begin to blow in, and snow starts to scatter all over the ground, it is time to start looking at warmer activities to do in the coming months. Such activities include going for a swim at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool, which has some big changes in the works to make it an even better experience for people looking for a hot swim.

The Ouray Hot Springs Pool is one of the largest hot springs pools in Colorado. The Pool is open to the public and features three temperature areas.

Rick Noll, the Ouray City Resource Director, explained that some of the aspects that make the Pool unique in terms of hot springs are the sulfur free water (meaning no rotten egg smell), the magnificent San Juan Mountain views, and the charm of Ouray itself. "This is a large hot springs pool, but it always feels intimate," he said. "Perhaps this is because of the tall mountain peaks that are literally across the street from the pool, or perhaps it is because of the warmth of the Ouray community. Soaking at the Ouray Hot Springs Pool is to experience the contrast of relaxing in steamy hot water while outdoors, surrounded by snow and snow covered peaks."

Recent quotes from

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Improvements are coming to the popular Ouray Hot Springs Pool. Courtesy photo by Rick Noll.

BEAVER HILL HOMEOWNERS SEND LETTER OF CONCERN TO BOCC OVER ROAD RE-OPENING!



Montrose County Commissioners listen at a public hearing on a rural county road's status earlier this month. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—For a homeowners' association in rural Montrose County, the prospect of a neglected county road being opened to public access is causing concern. After seeing a Montrose County news release last week regarding the re-opening of the Old Paradox Road through the Shavano Valley, members of the Beaver Hill Homeowners Association issued a letter to the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) dated Nov. 17.

Originating at an intersection with the Popular Road, Old Paradox Road ascends from the valley floor to the higher elevations of the Uncompahgre Plateau. According to the County news release, Old Paradox Road runs through an area of private land before crossing public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). There are several routes in this area that the BLM designated as open to motorized use through the

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City increases spending for 2016!(35)!

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Council response to Attorney...link (9)!

Letters to the Editor!

ADVOCATING FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T CARE FOR THEMSELVES: MONTROSE COUNTY'S STEPHANIE HOLSINGER



Montrose County Child and Adult Protective Services Manager Stephanie Holsinger.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Ask Stephanie Holsinger why the number of local kids in out of home placement has jumped from 58 over the summer to 71 right now, and she can give you a one word answer: “Meth.”

As Montrose County’s Child and Adult Protective Services Manager, Holsinger spends her days advocating for those who cannot advocate for themselves—the frail elderly, and children who may be at risk for abuse and neglect. Holsinger has been with Montrose County for seven years.

“My work is stressful, busy, difficult,” Holsinger said. “I love it!”

There is no typical work day, she noted. “The adult world is my passion, and child welfare is vital. I am very comfortable in the rolls that I have.”

Of the 675 calls concerning child welfare received so far this year, 245 were accept-

ed for assessment (“We do get lots of custody calls,” Holsinger explains) and triggered an investigation, Holsinger said.

“The buck stops here,” Holsinger said. “I have a really strong team of nine case-workers; three intake workers for child welfare, four long term care Medicaid caseworkers, and two adult protective services case workers. They are the strongest team I have seen in seven years, and they keep us going on a daily basis.”

Keeping track of rules, regulations and statutes is part of the job, as is supporting her staff.

“They are absolutely amazing,” she said. Also providing strong support and resources are community partners such as Region 10’s Area Agency on Aging and Community Living Services Programs, Volunteers of America’s PACE Program, Casa of the Seventh Judicial District, and

Hilltop Community Resources, she said. “We are very fortunate to have the programs we have in this area.”

Montrose County’s human services case-workers are on the front lines of community service every day, Montrose County Government Affairs Director Jon Waschbusch said. “Caring for those who can’t care for themselves is an essential function of government,” he said. “Nobody else is going to do this; it is as essential as anything we do.”

For adult clients, the ultimate goal is to empower them to live independently as safely and as long as possible, and to provide a single entry point for home services when needed. Holsinger chairs the region’s Aging and Disability Resources Council (ADRC), which brings together entities and individuals who have the ability to offer services in the community. “We meet regularly, and work with multiple home care and nursing facilities,” Holsinger said. “We look at the ways we can work together to provide services in our community.

“Everybody deserves some form of independence and satisfaction in their lives.”

With child welfare, the top priority is to keep children and their families together, safely.

“Success is when we can get a family engaged,” Holsinger said. “We go out on every domestic violence call, and every inter-family sexual assault. If there is an unexplained mark or bruise, we will talk to the kids.”

The definition of childhood abuse and neglect is a high level of risk or harm, and imminent harm to the child, she said. Methamphetamine use by parents is of major concern, as tests can show that children have the drug in their systems as well simply because of proximity.

“The philosophy in child welfare has really shifted to an environment where children have more rights,” Holsinger said.

“Our goal is to keep the family intact 100 percent of the time; if the

Continued on page 10



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THE
MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

OPINION/EDITORIAL-COMMENTARY

FOR THE COST OF A LATTE?

By Gail Marvel
Mirror Editorial Team

MONTROSE-When measure 5A, the proposed mill levy for the library went down in defeat, another form of Montrose bullying surfaced. The vote totals, absent those from the West End of Montrose County, were first reported as 5,618 to 5,099 — a difference of 519.

The media, both print and social, have villainized the 519 people for voting against the measure, but in reality there were 5,618 county residents who felt the measure was, for whatever reason, not to their liking. Those who voted against the measure were demonized as selfish and anti-tax people who should be embarrassed by their vote. It is said they are, —.against the community, against children, against access to information and against the basic concept of literacy.” They are described as —indifferent and apathetic.” Letter-to-the-editor writers are —disgusted by this

measure’s failure.” One writer called into question the voter’s wherewithal, —What a shame that some Montrose County voters are unable to recognize the value of a free public library...” They went on to say, —These —no tax at any cost” individuals seem to be unwilling to support anything that will benefit our community.”

To imply that the defeat of the library referendum fell prey to the prevailing no new taxes mindset is inaccurate when we see that the recreation district recently prevailed in their bid for increase tax funding for a new recreation center. The idea that the library is somehow being punished is absurd.

Fifty percent of Montrose County residents are on government assistance, but the elite in Montrose say, —For the cost of a few cups of —designer” coffee or a couple packs of cigarettes (or whatever they spend discretionary money on), you have deprived all other county residents of the

advantages of restoring library services...” And, —Taxes of \$10 a year may be less than two Big Macs or specialty coffee.”

It is unfortunate that those on fixed income and the poor among us are being marginalized by others based on the way they voted. Many in our community have no retirement income beyond their Social Security check of \$299 a month and suffice it to say, designer coffee and Big Macs are probably not in their budget. The cumulative effect of more taxes — the increased sales tax (rec center), a sewer fee (City of Montrose), proposed mill levy increases (library and the school district), and contemplated surcharge increase on landline telephones (METSAs), is a heavy burden to those on a fixed income.

Voters, whether for or against any ballot measure, have a right to vote their conscience without being browbeaten and ridiculed in the media by their neighbors and leaders in the community.



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LIBRARY TALKS CLOSURES, WEAPONS, PEACE POLE, ANIMAL POLICY



Montrose Regional Library.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) board met on Nov. 19, 2015. Guest Mary Jane Masters, disappointed by the defeat of the mill levy ballot issue, volunteered for fund raising activities for the library. The board thanked Masters for her offer to help.

Development Officer Amy McBride, a former trustee and a 10 year employee of MRLD, tendered her resignation and requested an exit interview with the board (see editorial next page).

Four applications have been received for two open board seats. The personnel committee will review and interview applicants. All four applications, whether or not they have a recommendation from the board, will be forwarded to the Montrose County Commissioners. Because of the short time frame the actual appointments may not be made until January 2016.

A report from the library –“Yes!” campaign was given with the focus on the need for better PR and keeping the MRLD name before the public.

The Librarian’s Report was given by Executive Director Paul Paladino:

Because of a computer issue no winter newsletter will be published in January. This will be a cost savings of about \$5,000.

There has been a request to place a “peace pole” at the library, which will be one of 100 proposed to be placed around the city. There will be no cost to the library.

The staff is looking into updating the service animal policy. Some animals are being brought into the library that are not service animals.

Discussions are planned with Montrose PD and CMU on the issue of open carry and concealed weapons within the library and CMU complex. The staff wants to know what they should do about it. The cost of the election was about \$25,000. The library can’t pursue another mill levy increase until the November 2016 general election. Under new business:

The library will continue to operate by pulling funds out of reserves. However, discussion with the management team will start taking place to determine if library

operation hours should be cut by a full day, or possibly a half day.

Private donations to the library in the amount of \$3,200 have been received. Those who donate receive a thank you and a receipt. While the donations are greatly appreciated, they fall short of the \$400,000 that would have been generated had the ballot issue passed. One idea for generating awareness and raising funds would be a financial thermometer. Paladino said, –“The thermometer will show the gap, but this not a one-time gap. It is a per year gap.”

There was a brief mention of budget preparation taking place with the staff; however, specific financials were not presented to the board.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL—COMMENTARY

A LOSS FOR MONTROSE: DEVELOPMENT OFFICER AMY MCBRIDE RESIGNS FROM MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY

By Gail Marvel

Mirror Editorial Team

MONTROSE—During the Nov. 19, 2015 Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) board meeting trustees were taken back when Development Officer Amy McBride tendered her resignation effective Dec. 31, 2015.

Ms. McBride has 14 years with the MRLD, four as a trustee and 10 as Development Officer.

During her tenure Ms. McBride's efforts have contributed significantly to the financial health of the library district including raising \$800,000 to build the Naturita Community Library; \$85,000 in grant income and support for a variety of programs; and \$115,000 raised in 2014 for the Libraries of Montrose County Foundation. In fact, Amy brought in at least \$50,000 in grants every year she was employed here.

McBride's resignation letter does not reveal any future career plans, but she requested an exit interview.

After handing out her letter of resignation to each of the trustees present and to Executive Director Paul Paladino, she verbally pointed out her resignation letter contained a request for an exit interview with the Board, —Consistent with the Personnel Policies..."

Board President Bobbie Sneed said, —The personnel committee will conduct the exit interview."

It is obvious that the entire board of trustees will not participate in this employee's request for an exit interview; however, this is not the first time that MRLD resignations have been placed under the purview of a committee, rather than the full board.

Sometime after May 21, 2015, former trustees Linda Gann and Bruce Grigsby

abruptly tendered their resignations. The MRLD minutes reveal that resignations were submitted to MRLD Board President Bobbie Sneed, but there is no indication in the minutes that the resignations were then brought before the board for discussion or investigation.

It is troubling that those appointed by the Montrose County Commissioners to serve as MRLD trustees appear to function more on an assigned committee level than on a board level.



Amy McBride. Courtesy photo.

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IMPLEMENTS VISITATION RESTRICTIONS FOR FLU SEASON

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Along with many hospitals across the state, Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) is implementing additional patient safety guidelines to protect patients, visitors and employees from the seasonal flu. For individuals visiting patients, MMH is temporarily restricting those 12 and under from the hospital. Re-

search has indicated that children 12 years and younger get sick more often than adults and can spread their illness to others up to two days before having any symptoms of sickness. The hospital is also asking visitors of all ages to limit visitation with friends and families if they are feeling symptoms of cold or flu. —We are committed to ensuring the safety of our patients,

visitors and staff during the flu season. These temporary changes to our visiting policies may be inconvenient to some, but are in the best interest of everyone," said Dr. Michael Benziger, Chair of the Infection Control Committee.

For questions about visitation restrictions, please contact Jessie Neitzer at (970) 240-7351.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TIME BANK OF THE ROCKIES CELEBRATES 10,000 HOURS MILESTONE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The 10,000th hour of time exchange occurred on Oct. 30, 2015 and marked a milestone for Time Bank of the Rockies (TBR), which is now three and a half years old with 209 members.

TBR is located in Montrose, Colorado and currently serves Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray and Delta Counties with the “time exchange” economic model.

Time banks, also known as “time exchanges”, are about people helping other people in a system where everyone’s skills are equally valued and where everyone benefits. One hour spent helping another creates a time credit that can be used to get help or purchase goods available from other members.

Time credits can also be used to donate time to friends, family, or charities who are members.

Executive Coordinator Cynthia Harwood said, “We are excited to reach this milestone in our non-profit’s existence. It means our members are finding the Time Bank useful and incorporating it into their lives as a means of collaborating towards a vibrant community.”

“Time Banking is about forming new relationships and becoming more self-sufficient. As a member, you have numerous opportunities to meet and exchange with others because the credit you earn one day can be used to receive a service from a different person at a later date. The goal is to build healthier communities

based on mutual respect for everyone’s efforts, talents and skills.”

Assistance can be in the form of a number of services and activities including: animal care, arts and crafts, home repair, computer assistance, document editing, errands and shopping, housekeeping, language and music lessons, transportation, tutoring, and many others.

Time Banks have been established in 34 countries, with at least 300 Time Banks established in 40 US states and 300 throughout the United Kingdom.

Time Bank of the Rockies now has a permanent desk at Proximity Space, 201 E. Main Street, Montrose. To become a member or learn more, visit www.timebankoftherockies.com.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING-SIGNATURE EVENTS!



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-The Chamber of Commerce welcome Signature Events to Montrose! This beautiful three-story log home offers just the right amount of space for smaller-attended event. Perfect for a Holiday party!! And for a baby shower, reception, family reunion or any other intimate get-together. Signature Events is located at 145 Merchant Drive and can be reached at 249-5806.



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LEGAL NOTICES:

MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OPENINGS

Montrose County is accepting applications from citizens interested in serving on the Boards listed below. You can make a difference in our County! For an application please contact Kathy Kacso at 317 S 2nd or by email at kkacso@montrosecounty.net. Applications are also on the County web site at www.montrosecounty.net. Please return your completed application to County Administration, 317 S. 2nd, Montrose, CO 81401, by end of business Monday, November 30, 2015.

Montrose Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees – Two vacancies exist with (5) year terms to expire January, 2021. As of January, 2016, one opening will exist with a (5) year term to expire January, 2021. Montrose Memorial Hospital is governed by a local Board of Trustees appointed by the Board of County Commissioners of Montrose County. The Board of Trustees is composed of seven persons who reside in Montrose County and is organized pursuant to CRS 25-3-302 and CRS 25-3-303 and operates in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. The group meets in the Board Room of the Office of County Management (Administration).

Fair Board – There is (1) vacancy with a term that expired 09/2014, (4) vacancies with terms that expired 09/2015, (1) with a term expiring 09/2016 and (2) with terms expiring 09/2017. The Board advises the Commissioners on Fairgrounds improvements and meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Montrose County Historic Landmark Advisory Board – There is one (1) opening fulfilling a term to expire 04/01/2018. This Board was created to encourage protection and preservation of the architectural heritage of the County, document designation of a diverse array of eligible sites and provide authentic historical education and public awareness. The group will meet at least (2) times a year and terms of office will be (3) years. Meetings will take place at County Administration in Montrose.

Weed Commission – There is (1) vacancy with a (3) year term to expire 12/31/2017 and as of 12/31/2015, there will be (2) open positions with (3) year terms to expire 12/31/2018. The group promotes noxious weed control in Montrose County and meets on a quarterly basis at 6:00 p.m. at the Office of County Management (Administration).

Planning Commission – As of 12/31/2015, there will be (2) open positions with (3) year terms and (1) opening currently exists for an Alternate 2 position with a (1) year term expiring 12/31/2016. The group meets in the Board Room of the Office of County Management (Administration) to consider current land use issues, application of zoning, special uses and subdivision regulations.

Nucla/Naturita Cemetery Board – As of 12/31/2015, there will be (1) opening with a (6) year term to expire 12/31/2021. The Board of Directors is responsible for formulating the policies and standard operating procedures to be followed by the District.

Region 10 L.E.A.P. Board of Directors – As of 01/01/2016, there will be (1) vacancy with a (2) year term to expire 01/01/2018. As of 01/01/2016 there will be (1) opening with a (2) year term to expire 01/01/2018. The purposes and duties of the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning, Inc shall be carried out in general by the Board of Directors and more specifically by its' Executive Committee and shall be construed as to having the purpose(s) as set forth in the State and Federal Statutes and program guidelines as amended from time to time: Intergovernmental Relationships, Planning, an Economic Development District and Transportation.

West End Planning Advisory Committee – Effective 12/31/2015, there will be (3) openings with (2) year terms to expire 12/31/2018 and (1) alternate position with a (1) year term to expire 12/31/2017. WEPAC gives citizens of the West End a voice in the planning and development of Montrose County, as well as providing recommendations on the adoption and implementation of new regulations.

Airport Advisory Board - As of 12/31/2015, there will be (4) openings with (3) year terms. The Board advises and assists the Director of Aviation on issues that will further inter-regional representation and cooperation necessary to enhance the Airports' level of service to the public.

Board of Adjustment – There is (1) vacancy with a (5) year term to expire 01/2020, (1) vacancy to expire 01/2021 and (2) vacancies for Associate Members to fulfill terms to expire 01/2021. The Board meets on an as-needed basis to consider appeals as a result of zoning issues.

OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

BULLIES SHOWED UP AT MORGENSTERN COMMUNITY MEETING

Dear Editor:

What a travesty it was, Marge Morgenstern made it very clear from the beginning that the meeting was to be about the subject at hand: Candidates to run for City Council. She said several times that it was not to become a shouting match like the first meeting. However, it soon became obvious that several folks were there just to “stir the pot”, most of them having no clue what they were yelling about and didn’t care. Have lived a long time and in quite a few towns, but have never seen such dissention among citizens who are supposed to have —“what is best for all” in mind. A few were there to really listen and learn, many just wanted to belittle Marge and that is a rotten shame, in my book, for ANYONE to be badgered in such a way, be they right or be they wrong. This is such a wonderful town, we are proud to say we are from Montrose, there are so many activities and used to be so much pride in all of them, the people were happy and love radiated among the citizens. Today I am feeling that It will never be that way again, as long as there are those who are determined to be rebel-rousers and don’t want to hear the facts and act on them, am ashamed of them.

Carol Davis, Montrose

CITY COUNCILOR NICHOLSON: DISAPPOINTED IN CITIZEN

Dear Editor:

Re: Letter to Editor, Issue 143, November 9, 2015 , Response to Marge Morgenstern

It is disappointing to see Ms. Morgenstern once again misleading the public about our City Manager, Bill Bell.

Ms. Morgenstern’s statement that Manager Bell is solely responsible for allowing only city residents to vote for the recreation center is in direct conflict with the truth. The laws of the State of Colorado dictate procedures for sales tax elections within jurisdictions. In the case of the recreation center, there are two potential jurisdictions for the vote. If it is a county vote, the taxing district would be the entire county. If it was a city vote, the state laws provide for taxation only within the boundaries of the City.

The Recreation District did not pursue a county vote because many residents live too far from the facility. City Council did allow the Recreation District to place the measure on the ballot without a petition because the Recreation District had previously proven that they did have enough members of the public to petition the measure onto our ballot. It was an action by Council, not Manager Bell.

Regarding the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center, Ms. Morgenstern’s statement that Manager Bell told the public and City Council that the center would cost nothing is untrue. What Manager Bell communicated is that the center could be funded from our surplus budget without either a tax increase or use of any of our reserves. The reason the City has surplus funds available is because we have an excellent Manager and staff that have operated the City well within our funding constraints and have consistently provided a surplus of revenues over costs.

Bob Nicholson, Montrose City Council Member

**CITY RESPONDS TO ATTORNEY’S LETTER RE:
500K SOLE SOURCE AWARD : CLICK HERE TO READ**

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MONTROSE COUNTY'S STEPHANIE HOLSINGER *From page 2*

immediate environment is not safe, reunification after treatment is the goal.”

More substance abuse professionals are greatly needed in the area, she said. “The services and support we have are great, but we need more substance abuse professionals, and counselors who understand the nature of addiction and the changes it causes to the functioning of the brain.

“Because the problem is not going to go away.”

Colorado has a crisis line that is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Holsinger said. Whether the issue is one involving mental health, addictions, or something else, callers can be routed to Masters level counselors in their area. “They also provide peer counseling,” she

said, “if you just need someone to talk to.” The number is 1-844-493-TALK (8255).

Changes to state reporting laws for seniors took effect July 1, she said. Now, an individual over age 70 is considered an at-risk adult. Anyone who alleges or suspects that a person over 70 is being abused physically, financially, emotionally or otherwise is now required to report those suspicions to an adult protection agency within 24 hours of the issue coming to light.

Holsinger also reminds locals of all ages to be on the alert for scams, which often target the elderly. If a caller seeks personal information, do not provide it. Never click on unsolicited internet links—especially from an unknown source. If a family member is helping an elderly person to get their

mail each day, it is a good idea to watch for forms that seek personal information with the goal of adding someone to a list.

“Scammers check those lists,” Holsinger advises.

Signs of Caretaker neglect and abuse can include changes in behavior and/or appearance, bruises, and fear. Changes to normal patterns of behavior can also be clues—an elderly person who walks their dog by your home every day and suddenly stops could be a sign of something wrong, Holsinger said. “It could be completely normal; or it could be that something is happening at home to put somebody at risk who cannot advocate for themselves,” she said. “We all need to pay attention, and care for our neighbors.”

WIN \$100 IN MONTROSE BUCKS "A BETTER MONTROSE" COMPETITION STARTS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE—The public will have the chance to win \$100 in Montrose Bucks beginning Monday, Nov. 23 at 7 am. Par-

ticipants should download “A Better Montrose” app for free from the Google Play or Apple Store.

To be eligible for the drawing, simply

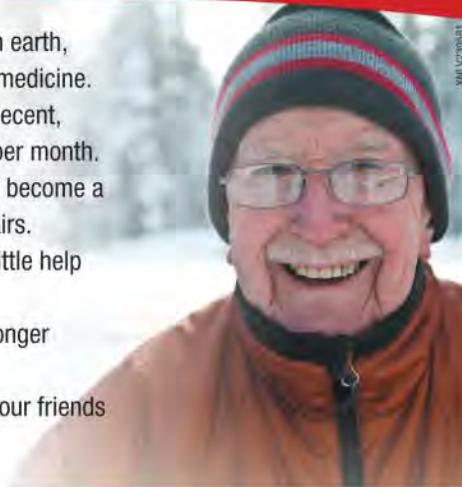
submit a legitimate request through “A Better Montrose” for resolution before Dec. 18 at 6 pm. Entries will be reviewed to ensure requests are based on real issues. A winner will be randomly drawn on Dec. 21. The winner will be contacted through the email address used when registering your user account.

The “A Better Montrose” app is an innovative tool designed to boost civic engagement and improve the quality of services for Montrose residents. Users may submit local issues in real time, facilitating their direct engagement with local government. Issues may include but are not limited to: broken street lights, damaged signs, graffiti, safety hazards, trash, impaired visibility from vegetation overgrowth and potholes. Once an issue is submitted, simply log back in to follow its resolution. Users may also use the app to view city maps and contact local government officials.

Emergency situations should always be reported through the proper public safety channels. Please call 9-1-1 to report an emergency or the Montrose Police Department at [970-252-5200](tel:970-252-5200).

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- **SHELTER:** Imagine having to find a decent, secure place to live on an income of \$800 per month.
- **SAFETY:** For older adults, home can often become a dangerous place without proper repairs.
- **SUPPORT:** Sometimes we all need a little help from our friends.
- **CARE:** When living at home is no longer an option, we can help.
- **CONNECTIONS:** When you outlive all of your friends and family, who do you turn to?



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JUNE
10 - 18

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DMEA will send three students, from area highschools, to the CEEI Cooperative Youth Leadership camp in Clark CO, near Steamboat Springs. At camp you'll set up a camp cooperative, learn about power when you visit a mine and coal plant, and participate in hands-on leadership and communication workshops. Plus, you'll float the Colorado River, hike to Fish Creek Falls, and ride the gondola to the top of Mt. Werner.

JULY
17 - 22

BEAVER HILL HOMEOWNERS SEND LETTER OF CONCERN TO BOCC OVER ROAD RE-OPENING From page 1

travel management process for the Dry Creek Area, and the Old Paradox Road provides a connection to these routes.

The news release also acknowledges that the private lands adjoining the lower portion of Old Paradox Road have been developed for residential use, and were created under an exemption in Colorado State law that does not require county review or approval of parcels greater than 35 acres in size. —As these properties were developed, owners have located homes near the county road. Other improvements such as driveways, outbuildings and utility infrastructure have also been located in the vicinity of the road. In some instances, the developed parcels utilize the county road for direct access in-lieu of constructing a driveway off of private roads,” the release states. —Collectively, the development activities in this area have adversely impacted the function of the county road and public access.” The release goes on to say that the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will authorize signage and minor improvements to the Old Paradox Road, and that the BOCC is committed to working with adjoining property owners to assure that the process is minimally intrusive.

However, Beaver Hill homeowners are upset that a previous offer to substitute the subdivision’s official road, Paradox Trail, for the old route was unexpectedly taken off the table.

In their letter dated Nov. 17, Beaver Hill homeowners ask the BOCC to consider carefully the impacts to their homes and lives of re-opening the historic route.

—We were totally surprised by (the announcement) that the County was withdrawing its offer to accept Paradox Trail as a County Road, and instead was planning on reopening Old Paradox Road as an AT-V/jeep trail,” the letter states.

Issues listed in the Nov. 17 letter include questions on how the County intends to manage safety issues that arise on sections of the road that are common with Paradox Trail.

—Paradox Trail carries traffic of 150 to 200 cars a day,” the letter says, —based on the County’s 2008 and 2015 traffic surveys. This is akin to allowing unlicensed vehicles on city streets. We believe the safety issues to be insurmountable.”

Other questions asked include how the County will manage the six diagonal intersections that cross automobile roads with limited sightlines, and how the County

intends to mitigate impacts to residences with improvements adjacent to the old road. Homeowners also question how AT-V’s will be brought to the area; if the County will maintain sections of Paradox Trail that are common with the old road; if the County plans to install culverts at road crossings to minimize erosion and damage to HOA roads; how erosion and storm water drainage on Old Paradox Road will be managed in the bottom of a major drainage area; how trespass on trails that connect to Old Paradox Road; how noise and dust impacts to residents will be managed; and how travel on Old Paradox Road will be limited during wet and muddy weather.

The letter, which is signed by Beaver Hill HOA President Phil Booker, Vice President Shannon Siedschlag, and board members Bob Drummond, Don Reed and Tony Hoag, finishes with a request.

—We ask that the County contact every property owner along the proposed Old Paradox Trail and work with them to mitigate impact.”

The Montrose County BOCC will hold a special meeting Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 9 a.m. in the Commissioners meeting room at 317 South Second Street.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OLATHE FFA MEAT EVALUATION TEAM PLACES 13TH IN NATION



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-CONGRATULATIONS! The Olathe FFA Meat Evaluation Team took 13th place in the NATION out of 46 teams. Pictured left to right: Advisor Erin Martinez, Justin Mosher, Dexter Flick, Cassie Franks, and Morgan Felix.

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BELL SUPPORTER L.J. ANDERSON THREATENS TO “CALL OUT” CANDIDATES AT MEETING TO FIELD NEW CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FOR 2016



“Any candidate you run will look like fools when we call them out,” Jim Anderson told those gathered for a community meeting to field City Council Candidates for 2016.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Under the title “The Committee to Improve the City of Montrose,” spokesperson Marge Morgenstern held her second public meeting on Nov. 19 hoping to find candidates for the April 2016 city council election. Admitting that her first public meeting was a bit of a donnybrook Ms. Morgenstern said, “The last meeting was a disaster. It’s my fault that I let that happen.” For this meeting Morgenstern distributed a written agenda however, there were those in the crowd of about 40 who appeared to have their own agenda.

The introduction to the meeting included candidate information, district maps and

filing dates. When the meeting was opened for comments some county residents took offense to the idea that the opinions of city residents carried more weight than that of a county resident. Morgenstern said, “People who live in the city are the only ones who can vote for city council, but I respect what you said and I understand what you said.”

The political landscape for this meeting was littered with craters, unexploded bombs, debris and incoming fire. While the Morgenstern camp wants to see change in the city council and city administration, a large contingent of city administration supporters are happy with the status quo.

The volley of accusations and comments included:

- “The morale at the city is low...”
- “There are gag orders on some [city] employees...”
- “If you ever want to have credibility you need to produce them!”
- “You lied.”
- “Don’t speculate, bring me proof!”
- “Grow up.”
- “I didn’t p*** and moan because my hours were cut.”
- “I went to HR and got written up.”
- “I know a hell of a lot of people who work at the city and the morale is OK!”
- “I applaud that we’re here because we care about the community.”
- “Some of these fellows [city employees] couldn’t get a job anywhere else.”
- “This [city] shouldn’t be a welfare situation for a bunch of slackers.”

No winners emerged from the hour and a half smack-down. However, the losers were any potential city council candidates that might have been in the room.

Toward the end of the meeting a veiled threat, and what might well border on candidate intimidation, came from Jim (LJ) Anderson. Speaking to Ms. Morgenstern, Anderson said, —“Any candidate you run will look like fools when we call them out. We will ask them questions about what they don’t know! If you run a candidate, they better be able to answer [our] questions.”

And then the residents of Montrose County wring their hands and wonder why we can’t get good people to run for elected office.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

INVEST IN CHILD CARE, EARN 50 PERCENT RETURN ON STATE TAXES!

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-A small investment can provide big returns thanks to a unique tax credit available through the end of the year. Colorado taxpayers can make a cash donation to a qualified child care provider and earn a state tax refund equal to 50 percent of the amount donated.

Why is Colorado doing this? Lawmakers know that every \$1 invested on early childhood programs returns more than \$8 in benefits to society. Taxpayers and government working together can provide a leveraged benefit to early childhood development resulting in:

Increased academic performance and achievement

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Donations must be made by December 31st to qualify for 2015.

The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club in Montrose County is a qualified child care provider under the Colorado Child Care Tax guidelines. They serve over 450 children in Olathe and Montrose afterschool and during the summer vacation timeframe. Donations to the Club support general operational expenses for facilities,

personnel, program supplies, and snacks for the children. Donations also allow them to scholarship membership fees for families requiring assistance to enroll their children as members.

—Children are extremely vulnerable between the times school gets out and when their parents get home, Clubs provide youth with safe places to gather, do homework and engage in life-affirming activities.

We urge you to take advantage of this tax credit, to help Boys & Girls Clubs across the State of Colorado and to make a difference in the lives of young people.” says Connie Rule, Executive Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Colorado.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION GREEN LIGHTS GLENWOOD’S GRAND AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT

Special to the Mirror

GLENWOOD SPRINGS – The Colorado Transportation Commission, acting as the Bridge Enterprise Fund, has approved the supplemental budget required to allow the Grand Avenue Bridge project to move forward with construction. The project will replace the existing Grand Avenue Bridge which brings SH 82 over the Colorado River in Glenwood Springs. The Colorado state legislature passed a bill in 2009 to fund a program to address the state’s poorly rated bridges. The Grand Avenue Bridge is one of approximately 150 bridges on the state system that has a “poor” rating and therefore has priority for the funding.

The project Construction Manager General Contractor, or CMGC, is the Granite Construction and RL Wadsworth Joint Venture from the Salt Lake City area. The final budget for the project is \$125.6 Million and is funded through the Bridge Enterprise Fund, CDOT, and contributions from utility companies, and several local governments including the City of Glenwood Springs, Garfield County, and Eagle County. Those with questions or concerns about the project, message or email Tom Newland, CDOT Project Public Information Manager, at (970) 618-9922, tom@newlandprojectresources.com.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY RECOGNIZES JACK LEE AS A DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN OF MONTROSE COUNTY ON NOV. 13



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Few people have provided as much time and dedication to community service as Jack Lee. As a standalone item, Jack's tireless efforts as the Chief of the Paradox Volunteer Fire Department are worthy of recognition. What is truly amazing is that his work with the fire department represents just a tiny sample of all that he has given.

Jack's list of volunteerism and service includes; Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, Chief Coroner for the West End, WRETAC Board, METSA Board, Paradox Fire Protection District Board of Directors, Chamber of Commerce, San Miguel Basin Clinic Board of Directors, WEAB, WEEDC and WEPAC. In the midst of all this Jack was a dedicated CDOT employee and also served as the mechanic for the emergency vehicles of the fire district. It is a truly special person that comes to assist in an emergency and then plows snow on his way back home.

For everything that he has done, the Montrose County Commissioners recognize and thank Jack Lee for his incredible service.

Pictured are Montrose County Commissioner Glen Davis, Paradox Fire Chief Jack Lee; Montrose County Commissioner David White. Courtesy photo.



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Food should be nonperishable and provide for Christmas dinner

Drop-off points

- Sharing Ministries in Montrose: Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- The following Alpine Bank locations during banking hours:
 - 2770 Alpine Drive in Montrose
 - 1400 East Main Street in Montrose
 - 1660 Highway 92 in Delta

Happy New Merry Thanksmas

The toy and food drive will begin with this event, November 13 - 14 (drop off at the event itself), and will continue through December 4.

All toys must be donated by December 4 for sorting and delivery by Sharing Ministries prior to Christmas. Food items can be donated through December 18.



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COMMUNITY LIGHTNING RODS

Voices that spark conversations

MY NUMBER ONE RULE IS DON'T OVERREACT: DAVID WHITE

Interview by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—Sixteen years ago David White, owner of the MOOving Company, left Colorado Springs seeking the rural lifestyle of Montrose. “With a business in transportation we could be pretty much where we wanted to be.”

David also has a political career which included serving on the Colorado Springs City Council (1989-1993), Montrose City Council (2004-2008), and two terms as Montrose County Commissioner (2008 – present). Commissioner White’s term will end in January 2017.

He said, “Some counties in Colorado have commissioners who’ve served more than 20 years, but in Montrose we are term limited.”

David first became interested in politics when he witnessed a man being forced to resign because elected officials used the press to create an illusion of wrong doing. He said, “The elected officials connected with other people in order to silence the man. Things weren’t adding up and I heard alarm bells. I saw things that didn’t jive and I wanted answers...I can’t stand that kind of stuff.”

Commissioner White doesn’t see himself climbing a political ladder; however, he would not discount the idea, “I’ll see what the future holds. I would not say no. I enjoy the community service part of being an elected official. Politics is not by any

means what makes me tick. If there is a window of opportunity open, you never know.”

In the political arena the general consensus is that if you are a county commissioner it is the end of the road for your political career. White said, “You get burned out and there is not a lot of desire to put yourself through the mill again.”

White did not take the advice of another politician who told him to never ever run for county commissioner, “City council has a small constituency, but as a county commissioner you have the whole county. You live and die on the decisions that are made regardless of whether those decisions are in your control or not.”

When comparing the demographics of those who run for elected office Commissioner White said, “Historically in Montrose it’s older people who run for county commissioner and younger people who run for city council. A lot of it has to do with time constraints. Younger folks typically can’t run a business and also serve the people. I was fortunate and had a business, a staff and a wife to help fill in. The next commissioners will have a 30 percent salary increase, so people can give more thought to earning a livable wage while holding a commissioner position.”

David has mellowed with age, “How I approached things 30 years ago was —Ready, fire, aim,” but with age I’ve de-

veloped a more deliberative approach. I try to drill down to what needs to be done without producing a lot of turmoil. You learn from experience that there is always a second side to a story.”

An information driven person, David said, “You have to get the facts. Don’t just come to conclusions without asking questions. I want to make good decisions and in order to make good decisions you have to ask the right questions.”

David laughed and said, “In Montrose you also need to know connections — who is related to who!”

Commissioner White admits that people sometimes take what he says at face value when in fact he is being flippant, joking, or talking tongue in cheek.

He said, “My number one rule is don’t overreact. No one should be so enamored with themselves that they can’t just walk away [from a situation]. You need to put away your personal biases...because you just might be wrong!”



*David White
Courtesy photo.*

HONORABLE MENTION

To Amy McBride...for excellence in fundraising and outreach for the Montrose Library District for more than a decade...and for leadership.

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...and to you, thanks for reading!

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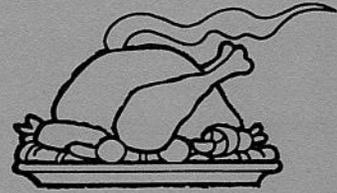
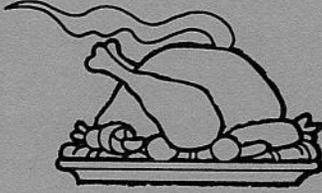
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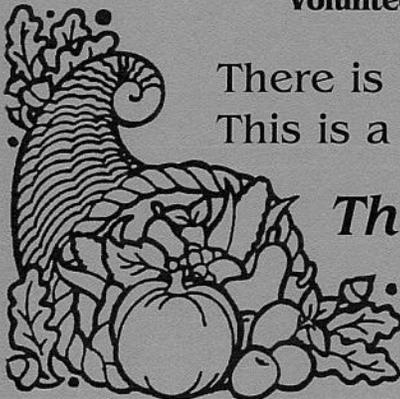
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK HONORS TEN LOCAL STUDENTS NOV. 17



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Alpine Bank awarded money to 10 local Montrose County students on Nov. 17 at a small celebration reception. Jeremy Russell, Banking Officer at Alpine Bank is pictured with the winners Blake, Elliot, Grace, Rosalinda, Kate, Claire, Mark, Amy, Lyndsey and Bailey. Congratulations and keep up the good work. The deadline for the next drawing in Montrose will be Jan. 20. Check out <https://www.alpinebank.com/alpine-bank-pays.htm> for more detail of future deadlines and locations schedules.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW NURSE MANAGER JOINS SENIOR COMMUNITY CARE, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, TO LEAD WITH CREATIVE THINKING AND TEAM APPROACH



Christa Coats. *Courtesy photo.*

Special to the Mirror

ECKERT – Senior Community Care, Volunteers of America is pleased to announce the appointment of Christa Coats as the new Nurse Manager of Senior Community Care’s Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

The PACE model is centered on the belief that the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs are better served by providing health care and supportive services that enable them to remain living in their home whenever possible. Geering will be overseeing the entire nursing support staff in the three PACE day center locations in Montrose, Eckert, and Paonia. The PACE Day Center is a physical location where medical and support services are provided to participants in addition to individual and group social activities.

Coats earned her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Colorado Mesa University and her Master’s of Science in nursing from Walden University. She began her nursing career on the telemetry floor at St. Mary’s Hospital in Grand Junction where she worked as a floor nurse then charge nurse for eight years. She has also held the position of LPN program director for Colorado Mesa University and LPN and CNA program director for Delta Montrose Technical College. Coats has been employed as a nurse with Volunteers of America since 2013 and was promoted to nurse manager in October.

Coats said she chose to apply for the management position because she enjoys being in a leadership role. “I saw the opportunity to grow within an organization that I believe is the future of health care in Western Colorado,” she said.

Her goal for the program’s nursing department is to build on the diverse skills present and create a solid team.

Coats said, “I believe we have some of the best nurses that I have ever had the opportunity to work with. They are all incredibly smart and very proficient in their individual nursing practices. My goal is to unite them as a team. One of my favorite nursing quotes is, “no nurse is an island.” I believe VOA nursing can only grow and improve through unity of the fabulous nurses we have.”

Coats is a Colorado native who grew up

in Paonia and is now living in Hotchkiss and believes big things are in store for this part of the state.

“Western Colorado is developing some “big town” ideas in our small communities such as the healthcare model of PACE and the Montrose Makerspace,” she said. “I feel that nobody in this area should believe they can’t do something because with a little creative thinking, anything is possible around here.”

Coats enjoys taking part in numerous outdoors activities, especially snowmobiling and riding their horses with her husband and four boys. The PACE model is centered on the belief that the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs are better served by providing health care and supportive services that enable them to remain living in their home whenever possible.

There are three PACE day center locations (Montrose, Eckert, and Paonia). The PACE Day Center is a physical location where medical and support services are provided to participants in addition to individual and group social activities.

PACE serves individuals who are age 55 or older, certified by their state to need nursing home care, are able to live safely in the community at the time of enrollment, and live in a PACE service area.

For more information about Senior Community Care, visit

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Kendall Mountain Ski Area, Silverton, CO

Photo by Ray Dileo.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALTRUSA RECOGNIZES GREAT TEACHERS WITH APPLE AWARD



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Altrusa International of Montrose love to recognize teachers that are making a difference in the youth of today in Montrose County. Four teachers were recognized at the November School Board meeting. They were selected by either their peers and/or the administration of the schools for providing educational excellence. The recipients were (from L to R) Tracy Reinhard (Music Teacher at Northside Elementary), Amber Cox (2nd Grade Teacher at Cottonwood), Lisa Bilson (teacher at Early Childhood Education) and Andrew Steck (3rd Grade Teacher at Johnson Elementary).

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Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS CIRCLE 3 COWBOY FELLOWSHIP



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—My visit to Circle 3 Cowboy Fellowship took place on Sunday evening, Oct. 4, 2015. There were under 50 present, not including a multitude of flies, four dogs and one horse... a mare named Charlie. The multiuse facility is a cross between a barn, a recording studio, a workshop and a church. Charlie, who was recovering from an injury, added her voice to the congregational singing, as well as to the message, with snorts, whinnies and ear splitting neighs.

My seat was next to the stall and throughout the service Charlie would chew hay, drink water, and then hang her head over the railing. Worship leader Gary Lear said, "How is she going to write a good article about us if my horse is spitting all over her!" The opening prayer ended with a robust congregational Amen, seconded heartily by Charlie.

The service began with long-winded Richard Black blowing the shofar as a call to worship. Wood clamps held sheet music

—The Old Rugged Cross."

Following Charlie's whinny of adoration for "The Old Rugged Cross," Pastor Rick Williams said, "That's a hard act to follow. I don't think I've ever heard a horse praising God. Well, bless her heart!" The pastor, who works for Telluride Express, uses his drive time to spend time with the Lord. The pastor opened with prayer, which was punctuated with a whinny. The pastor said, "I got an amen out of her!"

Pastor Williams changed the scheduled sermon topic and opted to speak on the mindset, function and feel of the Cowboy Church. He said, "God calls us to specific tasks. God has called us out of the traditional church. Christianity is not a religion; it means you are in a relationship with Christ. Discipleship is what we do and we are disciples. He [Jesus] didn't send us out to save anyone, He sent us out to make disciples." Although this one-year old church doesn't consider themselves to be a traditional church, they have elders, a church board, sermons, communion and

fellowship.

Pastor Williams, a former fire fighter said, "God specializes in using people who are not necessarily accomplished in those tasks. God could have called someone more qualified [than me]. I told

Him, "God, you've called the wrong person; you picked the wrong guy." God is persuasive and persistent."

During his presentation the pastor reflected on Moses, a shepherd who liberated a nation; Gideon, a valiant warrior; and David, the youngest son to be called a king. He said, "God isn't looking for impressive people, He wants willing people, people who will bow their knee."

Referring to the early church (Acts 4:13) the pastor said, "Ordinary men were with Jesus. The disciples, after being filled with the Spirit, turned the world upside down. A shaping and a molding has to take place. God's ways are not our ways and He has purposed us to be His people and to do His bidding."

Communion, small pieces of unleavened bread and small cups of grape juice that represent the body and blood of Christ, were served. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace," and not to be outdone, Charlie added a double neigh.

Announcements were made and at the conclusion of the service chairs were moved to make room for tables and the potluck fellowship meal that follows each service.

Contact Information:

Circle 3 Cowboy Fellowship
19319 Dave Wood Road
Winter address - 622005 Oleander Circle
Montrose, CO 81403
970-216-3991

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.

FACTS ABOUT LED LIGHTING...FROM SMPA!

San Miguel Power Association

REGIONAL LED lights are a very different than their predecessors. Here are some facts about this exciting technology:

Light Source: LEDs are the size of a fleck of pepper, and a mix of red, green, and blue LEDs is typically used to make white light.

Direction: LEDs emit light in a specific direction, reducing the need for reflectors and diffusers that can trap light. This feature makes LEDs more efficient for many uses such as recessed downlights and task lighting.

Heat: According to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, LEDs emit relatively little heat compared to compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) which release about 80% of their energy as heat and incandescent bulbs release at least 90% of their energy as heat.

Good-quality LED bulbs can have a useful life of 25,000 hours or more -- meaning they can last more than 25 times longer than traditional light bulbs, according to the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

Versatility: From traffic lights and vehicle brake lights to TVs and display cases, LEDs are used in a wide range of applications because of their unique characteristics, which include compact size, ease of maintenance, resistance to breakage, and the ability to focus the light in a **single direction**.

Less Risk: Unlike CFLs, LEDs contain no mercury, and a recent [Energy Department study](#) determined that LEDs have a much smaller environmental impact than incandescent bulbs.

Domination of the Market: Between 2011 and 2012, global sales of LED replacement bulbs increased by 22% while the cost of a 60-watt equivalent LED bulb fell by nearly 40%. By 2030, it's estimated that LEDs will account for 75% of all lighting sales.

Win / Win: In 2012, about **49 million LEDs** were installed in the U.S. -- saving

about \$675 million in annual energy costs. Switching entirely to LED lights over the next **two decades** could save the U.S. \$250 billion in energy costs, reduce electricity consumption for lighting by nearly 50% and avoid 1,800 million metric tons of carbon emissions.

The Rural Communities of Norwood, Nucla, & Naturita are excited to be partnering with San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) to complete an LED retrofit of town street lights. Primarily, these towns are looking to realize a significant savings in the annual electric utility costs for roadway lights. This initiative is moving forward not only because each of the towns save money but also, SMPA has lower operations and maintenance costs for each fixture which, ultimately, benefits members. These benefits are the results of a complex equation known as the Life-cycle cost analysis (LCCA). The Life-cycle cost analysis a tool to determine the most cost-effective option among different competing alternatives to purchase, own, operate, maintain and, finally, dispose of an object or process, when each is equally appropriate to be implemented on technical grounds.

The LED light is a newer technology that requires more manufactured materials, more costly metals and more electronics to operate which adds to the up-front cost of assembly. There are many factors that play into a life cycle cost analysis. The outcome is a more expensive product which pays for itself over a relatively short period of time. These LED fixtures cost twice to three times as much as the traditional roadway fixture. However, when the lower energy rate, longer lifespan and the lower operations and maintenance costs are factored in, the result is an overall lower cost which benefits the community. In addition to the cost savings produced by LED street lights, there is a substantial environmental benefit that commu-

nities can enjoy as a direct result of an LED retrofit. "To put it simply, LEDs produce less light pollution." To understand how, one must stop thinking in terms of "light output" (traditionally measured in Lumens) and think, instead, of measuring "useful light." (Measured in foot candles) This standard measures the amount of light at the work surface. In the case of a street light, the work surface would be the street or sidewalk which is useful for pedestrians and motorists to see. Unlike traditional metal halide and mercury vapor lights, which produce light in 360°, the "dark sky compliant" LED lights are highly directional. They put more light on the ground where it needs to be and much less into areas where light is not desired. Because of this, the overall Lumen measurement tends to be low when compared to traditional fixtures. A foot candle measurement, however, reveals the amount of "useful light" produced. This is where the LED really starts to shine! An LED will provide a level of foot candles on the ground that is comparable to the traditional fixtures but it uses less energy and produces less glare in doing so. The end result is a cheaper, higher-quality and less disruptive light that will serve for many years with little-to-no upkeep.

Test lights have been set up in the towns of Norwood, Nucla, & Naturita. There is a 400 watt replacement fixture located at Grand and Market St in Norwood. In Nucla and in Naturita, 400 watt replacements are located right in front of the respective City Hall buildings. Each of these communities are also displaying smaller (175 watt replacement) fixtures. All LED fixtures are marked with a sign asking for member feedback. SMPA and the Towns encourage citizens to observe these test lights, see the results for themselves and provide feedback at [970\)626-5549 ext. 207](tel:9706265549) or email: phora@smpa.com.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE EDUCATION FOUNDATION HONORS RE-1J TEACHERS, STAFF AT RECEPTION



Re-1J 2016 Teacher of the Year Nominees at the American Education Week Reception Nov. 19. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- American Education Week (November 16-20) is to acknowledge the commitment of everyone who is involved in developing the tools that students need to be successful. The Montrose Education Foundation (MEF) sponsored a reception on Nov. 19th to thank and honor all of the Montrose County School District Staff. —We are honored to support this community and its commitment to enhancing our future generation!” said Deann Balash, Vice President of the MEF. The 2016 Teacher of the Year Nominees were announced during the reception. MCSD has many amazing teachers and their students, parents, or colleagues nominated 62 of them, listed below by school and by Elementary, Middle and High levels. MEF will choose one teacher from each level, who will be awarded the 2016 Teacher of the Year honor and each recipient will receive \$500 for their classroom donated by Alpine Bank, in March of 2016.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL- COTTON-WOOD: Amber Cox– 2nd grade teacher; Jessica Dahl– 1st grade teacher; Sharon Sawyer– 1st grade teacher

JOHNSON: Mike Aulthaus– ELL teacher; Ashley Brogden– 5th grade teacher; Andrew Steck– 3rd grade teacher

NORTHSIDE: Lisa Bright– 1st grade teacher; Donna Brummitt– 1st grade teacher; Lucia Cretti– 2nd grade teacher; Nora Pearson– 5th grade teacher

OAK GROVE: Marla Fockler–1st grade teacher; Cara Godbe– 2nd grade teacher; Lisa Romero–Kindergarten teacher; Nancy Schwartz– 3rd grade teacher; Melissa Smith–5th grade teacher; Julie Vigil– 4th grade teacher

OLATHE ELEMENTARY: Kristal Benson– Physical Education teacher; Doris

Swihart– 2nd grade teacher; Sarah Weber– 1st grade teacher

POMONA: Chuck Terrell- Physical Education teacher

MIDDLE SCHOOL- CENTENNIAL

MS: Jeff Blacker–6th grade teacher/Reading; Jamie Gann– 8th grade teacher/Language Arts; Katie Jenkins- Developmental Communications teacher; Kyle Miller- 6th grade teacher/Science; Robert Miller- 7th grade teacher/Science; Eric Palmer– 6th grade teacher/Math
COLUMBINE MS: Ryan Bigley– 6th grade Music teacher; Chris Coleman– 8th grade teacher/Social Studies; Kristin Coleman- 6th grade teacher/Math; Shay Freeburg- 8th grade teacher/Language Arts-Reading; Tami Gallegos– 7th grade teacher/Language Arts-Reading; Wendy Karchut- 7th grade teacher/Language Arts-Reading; Leslie Maddox- Math and Reading teacher; Alex Matlock– 6th grade teacher/Science-Social Studies; Cathryn Munshaw- 8th grade teacher/Math; Amanda Samples- 6th grade teacher/Language Arts-Social Studies; Greg Solseth– 6th grade teacher/Social Studies; Christine Terrell- 6th grade teacher/Math ; John White- Band teacher

OLATHE MS: Kari Keller – Social Studies teacher; Sean Sale- Math teacher; Donna White- Physical Education teacher

HIGH SCHOOL- MONTROSE

HS: Paula George- Post Secondary Prep; Monique Gregory– French teacher; Josh Nothing– Physical Education teacher; Josiah St. Peter- Band teacher; Kurt Scriffiny– Social Studies teacher; Brian Simpson– Engineering and Woods teacher; Darren Slade- Spanish teacher; Shane Yanosky- Science teacher; Shannon Yanosky- Special Education teacher

OLATHE HS: Natasha McCaslin- Eng-

lish and Speech teacher; TeeJay Rose- Industrial Technology teacher; Tony Ryan – Math teacher

PEAK VIRTUAL ACADEMY: Ashley Bennett- Electives teacher; Amber Bray-Counselor; Michelle Cimaglio- Special Education teacher; Eve Donohoe- AP English teacher; Doug Eccher- Biology teacher; Bryant Hunter- Electives teacher; Katheen Jole- Math teacher

VISTA CHARTER

SCHOOL: Angelique Chavez- Teacher of Expulsion/Prevention Program

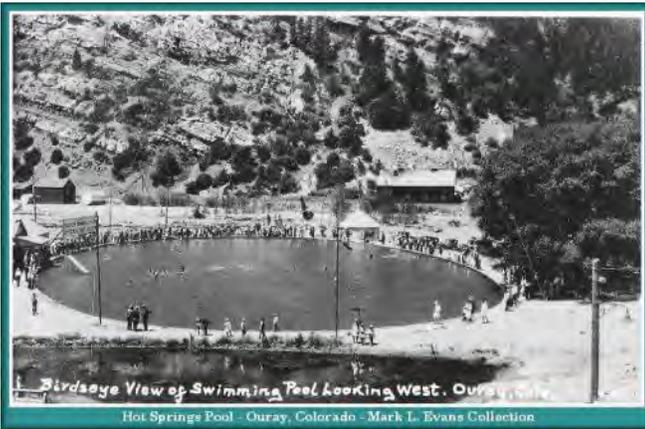
Impact Award-Also during the reception, MEF presented its annual \$10,000 Impact Award. MEF created the Award in 2011 to support innovative projects that enhance educational opportunities in the Montrose and Olathe School District. Under the Award guidelines, only recipients of the MEF Teacher of the Year award can apply. In 2011, the Award went to Jamie Simo to create a family resource room at Northside Elementary School. In 2012, it was awarded to Crystal Sabatke-Smith and Chris Thompson to implement the —Re Inventing Schools Coalition” program at Centennial Middle School. In 2013, Montrose High School received the award for its Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness Center, and last year it went to Greg Whitsell to purchase Chromebooks to promote digital literacy at Centennial Middle School. This year's award went to Teresa Brown of Columbine Middle School for an afterschool program to provide Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) opportunities to students. Local businesses, including 3M, Stryker & Company, and Western Skyways, will assist students in problem-based learning through investigations, open-ended inquiry, and real world problem solving..

CHANGES COMING TO THE OURAY HOT SPRINGS POOL!

From page 1



Upgrades to the historic Ouray Hot Springs Pool will help keep pool temperatures more consistent and at the desired temperature each day. Courtesy photos Rick Noll.



their Facebook page show how the enjoying of the hot springs in winter is a common activity: "Hot Springs in the snow is a wonderful experience." "The setting is awesome, loved the snow falling while kicking back in the pools." And, "My go to place when I'm cold. The city is beautiful. Perfect little get away from it all, from the city life."

While the Hot Springs Pool will be running as usual all this Winter and next Summer, the anticipated time of beginning renovations will be next Fall. The team at the Pool will work to keep people in the know about closures or other interruptions that will interfere with soaking at the pool. "It is a goal to keep the pool open as much as possible, and obviously there will be times when the pool will need to be closed," Noll said. "This will be kept to a

minimum and will be well publicized."

The reason for the renovations at the Pool comes from the age of the Pool and how popular it is. Built in the 1920's as a seasonal pool, much of the original concrete from that time is still in the pool and is cracking in places and leaking water. In the 1980's the pool was opened for year round use and was quickly recognized as a unique pleasure

to be found in Ouray in the Winter. When opened year round it was recognized, too, that the seasonal pool was not optimal for Winter use.

"One of the values of this project is to improve the facility and also maintain the historic look of the pool and honor the character and the community," Noll explained. "The oval shape of the pool will be retained and there will still be three water temperatures. Prices will remain affordable for families."

Another big part of the renovations will be the maintaining of the water temperatures, an important part of any hot springs pool. "People who use the pool regularly in the winter comment about how the water temperatures can vary day to day based upon weather conditions," Noll said. "The number one priority with the pool im-

provement project is to have the pool temperatures consistent, and at desired temperature, each day. This is a large outdoor pool so temperatures are affected by winds and weather, but the new design will greatly minimize the fluctuation. It will be designed so that individual sections can be closed, if necessary, without affecting the entire pool. This will greatly improve temperature regulation."

For people who love diving boards, the new pool design will include deep water activity structures such as a possible climbing wall, diving platform, or other similar amenities. There will also be improvements to the bathhouse to make it more comfortable and efficient. Plus the hot section of the pool will be at least 50 percent larger than it is now.

With a heavy emphasis on maintaining water temperatures at the Pool, Noll explained how operating a hot springs is as much art as it is science.

"Often people think the water just comes up from the ground, naturally keeping the pool full and warm," he said. "It is true that there are hot springs located below the pool, but this water is not hot enough to keep the pool warm."

The natural springs in the area are warm enough to keep the snow melted and grass in the park near the pool green all winter. The local deer appreciate this, but it is not hot enough for swimming. The water for the Hot Springs Pool is piped about a mile from where the hottest springs are located beneath Canyon Creek. The staff at the Hot Springs Pool is highly skilled in adjusting valves and managing the filtration system to keep each section of the pool crystal clear and at optimum temperature as the weather changes throughout the day."

With so many people enjoying the Pool during the Winter months, Noll himself is no stranger to enjoying that aspect of living here. "A perfect day, for me, is when I am able to go cross-country skiing at Iron-ton when the sun is shining after a recent snowfall followed by a soothing soak in the Ouray Hot Springs Pool," he explained. "Relaxing in the hot water, outdoors, with snow falling all around is like being in another world."

For more information, call 325-7073, find them on Facebook at Ouray Hot Springs Swimming Pool, or visit ouray-hot-springs.com.



ANNUAL
GINGERBREAD HOUSE FAMILY WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY

5th
 DECEMBER

from
 10-Noon
 and
 2-4pm



Pre-Registration is Required.
Reserve your house with Weehawken Creative Arts in Advance at 970.318.0150 or at www.weehawkenarts.org \$15 per house.

REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 16

Families will arrive to the Sherbino Theater on December 5th to find a fully assembled house that just needs the magic of imagination and decoration. Once families check-in, they peruse surreal tables of candy and goodies that can be added to the structures with oodles of frosting. When done, you'll take the house home for enjoyment during the holiday season. Additional donations are gladly accepted and appreciated for this program as it runs well over \$1500 to provide the service to participants.

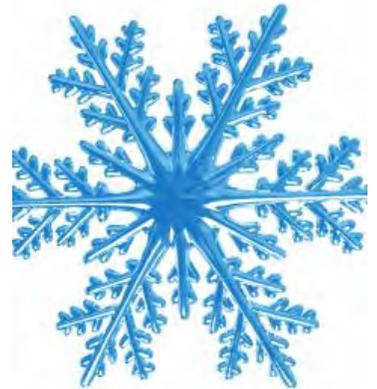


REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER LUNCH AND LEARN PACKS THE HOUSE!



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-On Nov. 19, 55 guests attended the Montrose Senior Center's exciting Lunch and Learn program with Dr. Rhonda Parker of Western Slope Orthopedics. Dr. Parker's presentation was on beneficial approaches to joint health and the new advancements in joint treatments and surgery.



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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets every second Tuesday at St Mary's Catholic Church in the St Paul Room, 1855 St Mary's Drive, Montrose. The Public is welcome to attend. For more information, email alpinephotoclub@aol.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.

MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET— Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 33 South Cascade Avenue.

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.

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-

Nov. 26-The San Juan Mountain Runners are once again sponsoring this year's **TURKEY TROT** on Thanksgiving morning. Both the 2-mile and 4-mile races start promptly at 9 a.m. at Oak Grove School in Montrose but get there early to register for the event and door prizes. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. The cost is still a reasonable \$5/person, \$15/family. Strollers and well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome. It is the most fun you will have all holiday season!! For more info, contact Jan at jbridgway@msn.com.

Nov. 26-21st Annual Thanksgiving Friends Celebration, Friendship Hall.

Nov. 27-28-Basement Boutique Craft Show, Montrose Pavilion. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Nov. 27-28-"Mary Poppins" brings to the Magic Circle Theatre stage the magic and music of the Walt Disney film that is based on the stories of P. L. Travers. Ticket information: 249-7838, or online at www.magiccircleplayers.com or visit the box office at 420 S. 12th St., Montrose, Tuesdays through Thursdays, 2 to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday shows are 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 27--Western-Slope psychedelic rockers Fractalia host an Ugly Sweater Party at RnR Sportsbar in Montrose. No cover, 21+, 8pm. Wear your ugly Christmas sweater and let your freak flag fly with Fractalia!

Nov. 27-Annual Tree Lighting in Montrose, 5:30 to 6 p.m. 320 South First St.

Nov. 28-Garrett Estate Cellars Winery Open House, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.. [53582 Falcon Rd., Olathe, CO 81425](https://www.google.com/maps/place/53582+Falcon+Rd.,+Olathe,+CO+81425). Wine tasting and specials. For more information Call Mitch 970-901-5919.

Nov. 28-The sixth Annual Art Partners Chili Bowl Fundraiser is again the Saturday after Thanksgiving — Nov. 29, 2014. Purchase a bottomless bowl of chili from 11 am - 2 pm. The bowl is yours to keep! Only \$15 per person, or \$25 per couple. Vegetarian chili available. Chili is donated by local restaurants and chefs - VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!

Dec. 1-The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds Poetry Club hosts two poets from Nucla (CO) this month, husband and wife team Ruth Duffy and Michael Olschewsky -- Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. at Arroyo Gallery and Wine Bar in Telluride. The same guests appear at the Montrose Regional Library's Open Mic the next evening (a Wednesday). all 970-729-0220 or visit the Gourds website <talkinggourds.weebly.com> for more info.

Dec. 4-Delta Parade of Lights, A Colorado Christmas, 6 p.m.

Dec 4-Cobble Creek Annual Watercolor Show. Reception Friday 4 —7 pm, **Saturday Dec. 5th** -10-3.Upstairs at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. 699 Cobble Drive. Call 249-5645 for more information.

Dec.4-Ridgway Noel Night will be Friday, Dec. 4th from 5-9pm. Many businesses in Ridgway will stay open late and have holiday treats, drinks, and/or discounts. We will have a Light Parade to begin the festivities. Any person or group may participate; just light up your vehicle, self, bicycle, animal, etc. and walk (or ride, skip, and march) through the short parade route encompassing downtown. Inexpensive battery-powered light packs can be purchased online or at stores. Have fun and get creative! To join the parade, meet at 4:45pm, Dec 4, on Railroad St next to Town Hall. For questions or to participate, contact Pam or Diedra at Town Hall 970- 626-5308.

Dec. 5-Montrose Parade of Lights, 5 p.m.

Dec. 6-Sherbino Theater "Living Room Lounge," 6 to 9 p.m. Featuring stories and music by vocalist Deb Barr.

Dec. 8-Senior Community Care Holiday Art Show and Reception, Amazing Glaze., 209 East Main Street. 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Dec. 11-12-Performances of The Nutcracker are to be held at the Montrose Pavilion on Dec. 11 at 6 pm and Dec. 12 at 2 pm. General Admission tickets go on sale on Nov. 16th at www.weehawkenarts.org and many local outlets. Tickets for general admission are available in Ouray at Mouses Chocolates; in Ridgway at Cimarron Books and Coffee and Weehawken Ridgway; and in Montrose at The Montrose Pavilion and at Tiffany Etc. General Admission tickets are \$16 for adults, \$12 for seniors (65+), and \$8 for children 12 and under. In addition, reserved section seating is available (front, center rows) through Weehawken Creative Arts in the price range of \$23-\$26. Patrons can access these reserved section seats through Weehawken only by calling [970-318-0150](tel:970-318-0150) after Nov. 15th.

Dec. 12-AMontrose Arts Council presents "An Evening of Ragtime," with Bob Milne. Montrose Methodist Church, 321 East Main at 7 p.m. Tickets available at the door. Adults \$15, children \$5.

Dec. 13-Join the Montrose Community Band on Sunday, Dec. 13th at 3 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion Auditorium for a free concert. The band will take you to an Old Fashion Christmas with songs including Sleigh Ride, Christmas Festival, Joy to the World and a narrated version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas. The Jazz Band will start the concert off and the Oak Grove Elementary School music students will also take the stage to show off their holiday musical talent. For more information visit www.montroseband.com or call [970-596-1188](tel:970-596-1188).

Dec. 13- Annual Christmas/Holiday Concert will take place 2015 at the Northeast Christian Church in Grand Junction at 6 PM. Please come, join us and enjoy the music of the Holiday Season--both Spiritual and Secular, performed by the Bookcliff Chorus, the Holiday Chorus, the Sweet Adelines and Quartets. There is no ticket charge, but there will be a chance to donate.

Dec. 31-New Year's Ball at Lark & Sparrow, (511 East Main) 7:30 p.m. Call 970-615-7277 for ticket info or visit www.larkandsparrow.com.

CITY INCREASES EXPENDITURES, REVENUES REMAIN FLAT, NICHOLSON SAYS

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE- At the Nov. 17 meeting of the Montrose City Council, the City was honored with a 2015 Colorado Lottery Starburst Award Presentation that included bacon-scented scratch tickets for each Councilor. The award was presented because of the Montrose Water Sports Park, which was funded in part with money derived from the state lottery revenues.

“The Montrose Water Sports Park is the kind of project we would like to see more of in Colorado,” Lottery Representative Kelly Tabor said. “We hope you will apply for more grants, because the money is out there!”

The evening’s Consent Agenda included approval of the Columbine Multi-Use Trail Subdivision, an Official Act of the City. This subdivision will dedicate a 1.81-acre future trail corridor to the City of Montrose, connecting Sunnyside Road and the future 6700 Road. Council also approved the City’s 2016 budget, voting to approve Ordinance 2362, providing and appropriating funds for defraying the City’s expenses and liabilities during the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2016; and approved Resolution 2015-22 to adopt the 2016 Municipal Budget.

During public comment, Citizen Warren Rosser asked Councilors to simplify their budget presentation. “Can you compare the revenues and projected expenses from 2015 to 2016 so we know where we are going exactly?” Rosser asked.

Councilor Bob Nicholson replied that

2016 will see a \$1.7 million rise in expenditures while revenues are expected to remain the same.

Council unanimously voted to approve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Grant Agreement between the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and the City of Montrose; a CDBG agreement between the City of Montrose and Midwestern Colorado Mental Health Center; and a Promissory Note to the Midwestern Colorado Mental Health Center in the amount of \$600,000.

Council unanimously approved a request to change the location of the Hotel and Restaurant liquor license for Two Sisters Gastro Pub from 647 East Main Street to 1413 East Main Street. Prior to approving the transfer of the liquor license for Pour House Wine and Spirits to new owners for consumption off the licensed premises, Councilor Kathy Ellis questioned the applicant, “Why on-premise consumption? Is this something new?” Ellis commented that she had discussed the issue with her husband Gary. Ellis was advised that she had mis-read the application, which was then unanimously approved. Also approved unanimously were purchases of a trash collection truck and street sweeper, though Public Works Director John Harris acknowledged finding a mistake while in the midst of his presentation. “I made an error in my math,” said Harris. “I just found it in the middle of the meeting.”

Council voted to approve Western Colo-

rado Regional Dispatch Center appointees Police Chief Tom Chinn as the City representative and City Manager Bill Bell as the administrative representative to the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center Board of Directors.

In other business, Council issued a proclamation in support of Hospice and Palliative Care Month as well as a third quarter budget review and sales, use & excise tax report. The second installment in the series of the new My Montrose Video series created by Abrams Co was shown as well. Showing of the video was disrupted with three separate malfunctions; however, viewers could see enough to know that like the previous installment, the video features a conversation between Councilor Nicholson and Rec District President Barbara Bynum and Executive Director Ken Sherbenou.

The Public Information Officer Report was presented by Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph in the absence of Manager Bill Bell. Joseph noted that the Montrose Visitor Center would be closed from Nov. 25 to 30. A pre-tree lighting ceremony will be at the Montrose Library at 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 27, he said. At 5:30 will be a festive gathering around the tree outside the County building, with caroling and Santa’s Cabin to follow. “We want to recreate the ambience of a winter wonderland, Joseph said. The Dec. 5 Holiday Parade will honor the Black Canyon, and this year’s theme is “Starry Nights, Holiday Delights,” Joseph said.

ARTbar NIGHT OUT

at **The Sherbino** HISTORIC THEATER
Est. 1916 CELEBRATING 100 Years!

wednesday Dec 9th
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Winter Wonderland with Allison Wofford

\$35 for the Art Bar includes all supplies, a beer OR glass of wine, and an original acrylic painting to take home created by YOU! During the two hour session, Allison will provide helpful tips and instructions on how to create a painting of your very own winter wonderland based off of a provided image. Please call Weehawken at 970.318.0150 for more info or to save your spot!

weehawken creative ARTS centers
weehawkenarts.org
970-318-0150

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

Post Office Box 3244

Montrose, CO 81402

970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com



Above, Entrepreneur Olivier Marchand welcomes shoppers to the SOM Footwear Warehouse clearance event last week...at left, Michelle welcomes hungry guests to the new and excellent Jimmers Barbecue on North Townsend!

Do you need health insurance?

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November 1st – January 31st

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Locations in both Montrose and Delta

