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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 146 Nov. 30 2015

NEW FACILITY, NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON THE HORIZON FOR WELCOME HOME MONTROSE!



Welcome Home Montrose has announced plans to join Challenge America, a national initiative that links veterans to services in their communities.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Since opening the doors of the Warrior Resource Center in 2011, Welcome Home Montrose has become a model for the rest of the nation when it comes to serving veterans as they return to civilian life. The Welcome Home Montrose Warrior Resource Center at 11 South Park Avenue brings veterans and community volunteers together in a supportive environment that provides information, friendship, support, resources and encouragement for returning warriors of all generations and all U.S. Wars. From regular veterans' programs, coffees, spouse luncheons, eagle head cane ceremonies and "stad down" events to help veterans, Welcome Home Montrose serves as a community center and a place where veterans can find what they need.

Now, Welcome Home Montrose has announced plans to join forces with Challenge America Military Opportunities (CAMO), to multiply the impacts and serve more veterans with its programs and resources. Challenge America is a national initiative created to connect returning service members and

Continued on page 13

THE NUANCES BEHIND THE NUMBERS... CHECK OUT THE HEALTH OF YOUR FAVORITE NON-PROFIT!

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—When a Denver business owner received a recommendation on a Western Slope charity from a friend, she took time to check out the financials online before making a donation—and then she called the *Mirror*. "How can an organization with three employees in a small town pay \$300,000 a year in salaries?" she asked.

Good question.

Here in Montrose, a quick check of the Colorado Secretary of State web site reveals that local non-profits tend to run lean. However, some of the tax-free charitable entities are not nearly as efficient as others. How can consumers check on a favorite cause? The Secretary of State's office makes available non-profit forms 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax. These are the forms that provide information on revenues and the percentage of dollars that go directly to the organization's mission and to salaries. The questions traditionally asked of non-profits focus on the

Continued on page 11



Do you have a favorite charitable cause? Check out the financials at the Colorado Secretary of State's web site.

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and Farm Forum!

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Updates!

LIBRARY TRUSTEE RUYLE ACTS ALONE, SENDS LETTER TELLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER TO CLEAR OUT



A Nov. 21 letter telling longtime Montrose library development officer Amy McBride to clear out her office by day's end on Nov. 23 was not a board action, say library trustees.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Representing himself as the Library "District," the Montrose Regional Library's newest Trustee apparently took it upon himself to send a letter to MRLD's longtime Development Officer Amy McBride on Nov. 21. The letter, sent by

Trustee Robb Ruyle in response to McBride's resignation of Nov. 19, informed her that "the District desires that your termination be effective immediately, and agrees to pay you termination pay and accrued benefits through Dec. 31, 2015. Please clear out your office of personal effects and turn in any keys and any other District property to the person in charge by end of business on Monday, Nov. 23, 2015."

The letter goes on to note that Ruyle himself, as chair of the Trustees' Personnel Committee, would conduct McBride's exit interview at a local coffee shop on Saturday, Nov. 28. Though reached by telephone last week, Ruyle would not comment at that time because he was in Maryland visiting family.

However, two members of the Library's Board of Trustees expressed concern that Ruyle appeared to be acting on his own. "This is not a board action," stated Trustee Board President Bobbie Sneed, a stance that was confirmed by Trustee Tim Garvey.

Though he has an extensive history with the Montrose Regional Library, Ruyle was

most recently appointed to serve on the Library's Board of Trustees on Sept. 21, when he was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) along with Shelly Karo to replace Trustees Linda Gann and Bruce Grigsby, who had resigned. Of three known applicants who applied at that time, only Ruyle had an extensive background of involvement with the Library. According to the library's web site, he first joined the Board of Trustees in 1990, where he served for ten years, and was President from 1992 to 1998. He rejoined the Board in 2007.

Though another qualified candidate had submitted an application for the board seat that was filled by Ruyle in September, that name was not submitted to the BOCC for approval, Library Director Paul Paladino said at the time.

Paladino said that of those who had applied to fill the seats left open by Grigsby and Gann, the two presented to the BOCC were those who had applied while the application process was open.

"We have placed the other names on file, as we may or may not have openings at the end of the year," Paladino told the Mirror.

TIS THE SEASON...

...to Support the Montrose Animal Shelter!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Thank you for participating in our 14th Annual Animal Shelter Christmas Trees! Your generosity will benefit our homeless animals at the Montrose Animal Shelter. Simply take a copy of the Shelters' Wish list, shop and return to place your gift under the tree at either Scott's Printing & Design (315 S. 12 Street), Copy Cats (330 S. 12 Street, Suite A) or Chow Down (202 E. Main

Street). Have fun!

****Please have your gifts back by Noon on Tuesday, Dec, 22rd, 2015****

Montrose Animal Shelter Wish List

- KMR Brand Kitten Milk Replacer
- Dog & Puppy Milk Bones
- Sweaters for Large and Extra-large Dogs
- Purina Brand Pet Foods (Adult Dog & Cat Chow, Kitten & Puppy Chow)
- Canned Cat & Kitten Food
- Gift Certificates from local vets to be used

for shelter pet care (Montrose Vet Clinic, Alta Vista Animal Hospital, San Juan Vet Clinic, Morningstar Vet Clinic)

- Heating Pads
- Soft Cat Toys (i.e., toy mice, soft balls, balls with bells inside)
- Gift Certificates to Chow Down Pet supplies
- Gift Certificates to Murdoch's
- Hard Dog Toys (Kongs or other non-destructible toys)

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2015 Associate Member

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THE MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

A SEASON OF GIVING WITH ALL POINTS TRANSIT: COAT DRIVE IN NOVEMBER, CANNED FOODS DRIVE IN DECEMBER



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – All Points Transit helps people with their transportation needs every day. This Holiday Season, the staff wanted to find other ways to give back to the community. Throughout the month of November, All Points Transit employees collected coats and other warm items to donate to MADA in Montrose. Altogether, the organization gathered 45 coats, 21 sweaters, 2 pairs of gloves, 1 hat and 1 pair of wool socks. In December, the staff will be collecting canned goods that will be donated to a local food bank.

All Points Transit is a 501c3 non-profit organization providing essential transit services to seniors, people with disabilities and the general public in communities throughout Montrose, Delta and San Miguel Counties.

All Points Transit staff members with their donation of warmth to MADA. Pictured, from left to right are Ron Bennett, Terri Orchard, Joe Cordero, Connie Ronngren, Natalie Wills and Kenn Huff.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HIGHEST BIDDER WINS BOSOM BUDDIES HOT PINK HOT TUB ONLINE AUCTION!



Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Congratulations LeAnna Spadafora! LeAnna had the highest bid for the Bosom Buddies Hot Pink Hot Tub Online Auction. LeAnna and Deisel celebrate the installation of their new hot tub thanks to the generosity of Hot Water Productions and co-sponsored by Alpine Bank.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING-SIGNATURE EVENTS!



Special to the Mirror
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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.

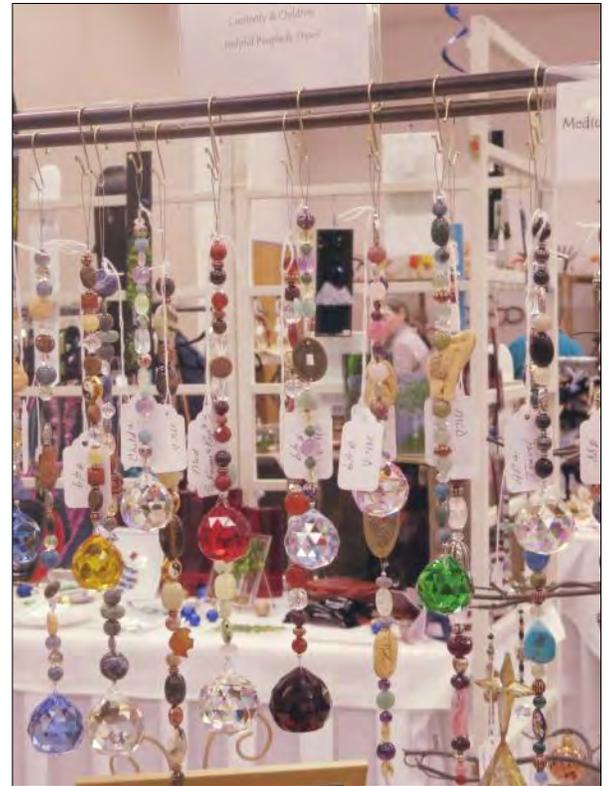
West End Planning Advisory Committee – Effective 12/31/2015, there will be (3) openings with (2) year terms to expire 12/31/2018 and (1) alternate position with a (1) year term to expire 12/31/2017. WEPAC gives citizens of the West End a voice in the planning and development of Montrose County, as well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

MIRROR IMAGES...

2015 BASEMENT BOUTIQUE CRAFT SHOW!



The Basement Boutique Craft Show once again drew appreciative crowds of shoppers from Montrose and surrounding communities to the Montrose Pavilion. This year's event took place on Nov. 27-28.

DMEA SUPPORTS EFFICIENCY, FESTIVITIES AT 2015 GARDEN OF LIGHTS



The first annual Montrose Botanic Garden Garden of Lights event in 2014. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) is proud to support the

Montrose Botanical Society's 2015 Garden of Lights. The local cooperative is supporting the annual holiday festivity for the se-

cond year in a row. This year's event will once again feature only LED holiday lights, plus elaborate light displays, hot chocolate, horse-drawn wagon rides, live caroling, and Mr. and Mrs. Clause.

—Supporting events that bring together our members to celebrate love and togetherness, while at the same time showcasing the efficiency of LED lighting: It doesn't get much better than that," said Becky Mashburn, DMEA Marketing and PR Administrator.

The Second Annual Garden of Lights will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, December 11-13 and December 18-20, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Montrose Botanical Gardens. Minimal entry fees will be charged.

—The Garden of Lights is a one-of-a-kind event in our region. We bring in visitors from across the Western Slope to enjoy a fun, family-friendly, and affordable holiday activity," said Lorraine Shide, Montrose Botanical Garden committee member.

Last year, more than 2,300 visitors enjoyed the wonder of the Garden of Lights. Driven by that success, this year, the event will feature additional music-activated animated light shows, 3-D light displays, and custom sculptures.

For the second year in a row, DMEA is partnering with the Montrose Botanical Society to expand the light displays using only LED lights.

—The LEDs help us keep the cost to operate the event low and stay environmentally responsible by using electricity as efficiently as possible. The committee has estimated that last year, we used just \$1 of electricity per night to illuminate the garden. This also allows us to keep admission fees low and hold an event that all families are able to attend," said Shide.

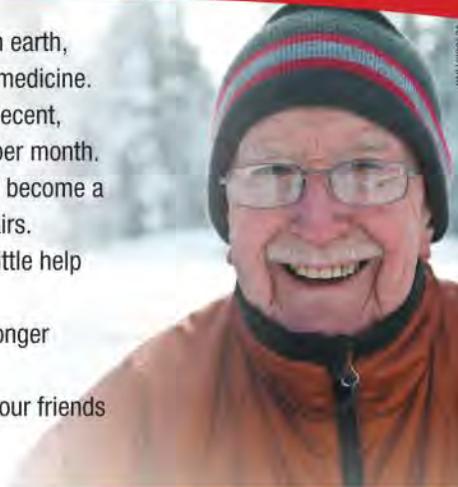
DMEA's partnership includes a special appearance of Power, the robot, on opening night of the event. Power will be present to celebrate efficiency and hand out candy canes to attendees. Complimentary hot cocoa, coffee, and snacks will be served for all to enjoy while warming up around a fire pit.

—We're excited to be able to kick off the event with an appearance by Power. He is a tangible representation of electricity and the work that it does to keep our lives going 24/7. The ultimate goal is to help people understand that power is behind almost all of our daily activities," said Mashburn. For more information about the 2015 Garden of Lights visit

www.montrosegardens.org.

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JUNE
10 - 18

COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

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

THE NUANCES BEHIND THE NUMBERS From page 1

percentage of dollars going directly to the stated mission, and the ratio of funds raised compared to dollars spent on fundraising expenses. According to the American Institute of Philanthropy (AIP) (www.charitywatchdog.org), a well known charity watchdog group, a charity should spend 60 percent or more of its total expenses on its charitable programs, with the remaining percentage being spent on fundraising and general administration. However, there is always more to the story.

The extremely lean Montrose Community Foundation, which employs four, spent just \$94,935 of its total 2013 revenues of \$1,491,791 on salaries for four employees. The Community Foundation serves numerous other causes, with its primary purpose to support local non-profit organizations as the facilitating entity behind multiple community projects involving education, youth activities, infrastructure and community service, according to its 2013 Form 990. The ratio of program services to total expenses is 93 percent, and the ratio of fundraising expenses to contributions raised is one percent.

By contrast, the Telluride Foundation, whose stated mission encompasses community improvement, capacity building; human services; philanthropy, voluntarism and grant making, also has an excellent ratio of program services to total expenses—96 percent. The ratio of fundraising expenses to contributions raised is just six percent. However, the non-profit, which

employed three in calendar year 2013, lists salaries paid of \$392,077 on its 2013 form 990. Total revenues raised in 2013 were \$3,514,924. Executive Director Paul Major notes that the Telluride Foundation is among the nation's top five active grant making organizations. "We have a professional staff, people who are hired and paid to do a job," Major said. "It's interesting that there is a perception out there that non-profits should work for free. We don't believe that."

Non-profit staffers have the same expenses as anyone else, Major said. "If a non-profit is on a starvation diet, not compensating staff, it cannot do an effective job. For-profit companies buy computers and train people—why shouldn't you do that for a non-profit? You need to be as lean as possible, but there is a difference between being lean and being on a starvation diet."

The Telluride Foundation, which serves Telluride and neighboring communities that have a direct correlation to Telluride such as the West End, also has a different mandate than many non-profit foundations, he said. "We are not a normal community foundation," Major said. "All of the money we raise goes out the door. We're not sitting on a large endowment, we're not banking our money—we put our dollars to work in real time."

Appearances can also be deceiving when it comes to international organizations. The Dzi Foundation in Ridgway, whose stated mission as working in partnership with remote communities in Nepal to cre-

ate lasting improvements in their quality of life, appears to have spent \$378,918 of the \$1,100,102 in revenues listed on its 2014 Form 990 on salaries for three staffers.

However, the Dzi Foundation's ratio of program services to total expenses is strong at 73 percent, and the ratio of fundraising expenses to total contributions is listed at 10 percent. Also, the organization actually employed 21 paid staff members in 2014, Founder and Director Jim Nowak said. The Dzi Foundation's American staffer in Nepal and 17 locals are not included on the form 990. "If you scroll down, our Schedule F (which covers activities outside of the United States) does actually list all of those employees."

One local organization that actually does appear not to be so lean is Black Canyon Regional Land Trust, a non-political, non-governmental organization that encourages and assists private landowners in preserving and sustaining the rural heritage, natural, and cultural conservation values primarily in the watersheds of the Uncompahgre, North Fork of the Gunnison, and lower Gunnison rivers and surrounding areas." Black Canyon Regional Land Trust lists revenues of \$189,780 on its 2013 Form 990, with salaries of 169,876 for six employees. Here, the ratio of program services to total expenses is 51 percent, while the ratio of fundraising expenses to contributions raised is a whopping 191 percent.

To check on your favorite charity, visit the Colorado Secretary of State web site at <http://www.sos.state.co.us/>.

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NEW FACILITY, NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON THE HORIZON FOR WELCOME HOME MONTROSE **From page 1**

their families to resources in their own communities, linking them to new and existing services and supporting the development of recreational, occupational and housing programs. According to the CAMO web site, Challenge America grew out of the Challenge Aspen adaptive sports program, which was founded in 1995 but saw a need for specialized military programming in 2005. Challenge Aspen Founder Houston Cowan created a new division, Challenge Aspen Military Opportunities, to serve the increasing number of wounded soldiers returning home. A separate organization, Challenge America, was eventually created to take the mission of serving veterans nationwide. Like Welcome Home Montrose, Challenge America emphasizes the highest standards of transparency and accountability. And like Welcome Home, the organization strives to connect veterans to accessible programs and services. So when Dallas Blaney of Challenge American learned of the work being done and what has been achieved in Montrose, he stopped in for a visit, according to Welcome Home Founder Melanie Kline. "We talked about how we can col-

laborate, put our strengths together, and reach our mutual goals," Kline said. "They will act as our foundation, and provide us with professional assistance--and starting next summer, they will bring groups here. "This is such a good thing for our community."

Blaney said that he was very impressed with Welcome Home Montrose, and with the emphasis placed on community. "Our mission is also to connect veterans to resources in their communities, but on a national level," he said. "There are limits to what can be done online--veterans need real, local support. Welcome Home Montrose is creating a No Barriers community in Montrose--it is an amazing organization, and a perfect fit for us."

As the Warrior Resource Center continues to serve a growing population of veterans and works to fine tune its affiliate program as a model for other communities, the need to find additional space has also become a priority. More than 1,600 individuals were served at the existing Center in October of 2015, Kline said. Kline said that she has located a larger space that appears to be ideal, and that Challenge Amer-

ica has promised to match \$50,000 in funds toward the purchase of the building and contribute \$1,500 each month to the mortgage for up to five years.

"This will be a veterans' welcome center, where we can serve everyone," Kline said. "We can welcome people from other places to come here and train, and take what they learn back to their own communities."

Challenge Aspen Military Opportunities Director John Klonowski said that his organization is also proud to be working with Welcome Home Montrose. "This coincides beautifully with our program here," he said. "To be involved with one of the premiere programs for warriors in the country is a wonderful opportunity."

Now, residents of Montrose and the surrounding communities have an opportunity as well: to help raise the matching funds needed to help Welcome Home Montrose expand to a new facility and new level of service. To learn more about programs and services of Welcome Home Montrose, visit them online at

www.welcomehomemontrose.org. To reach the Warrior Resource Center call 970-765-2210. [To donate click here.](#)

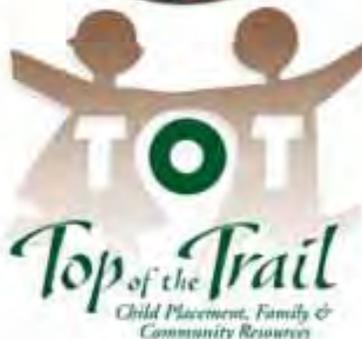
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HOMEOWNER EXPRESSES CONCERN, BOCC APPROVES GRANT APP FOR EVENTS CENTER ARENA

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The Nov. 24 special meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners was brief, but covered a lot of ground. Following a comment from Sherman Mathieu, a concerned homeowner on the Paradox trail Road, regarding the County's intent to re-open the Old Paradox Road to public access, Commissioners approved a Consent Agenda that included a Colorado Department of Local Affairs

(DOLA) grant of \$2,000,000 from the Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund to be used toward the Montrose County Arena and Events Center at the Fairgrounds. If the grant is approved the County will provide a match of \$2,500,000 toward the project as a budgeted capital improvement in the 2016 budget. The new 161,444 square-foot arena is designed to serve the diverse interests of a multi-county region, with seating for 3,730, a

mezzanine, and space for meetings and offices. The grant application notes that since 2010, the Montrose County Fairgrounds has seen a 60 percent increase in use and is booked a year in advance. The new arena will allow a broader range of indoor events, with higher attendance and an increased number of events, the application states. In other business, the BOCC voted to approve a tavern liquor license for Cedar Bowl Three Coins in Nucla.

COUNCIL TO TALK SNOW REMOVAL, REC DISTRICT IGA AT WORK SESSION

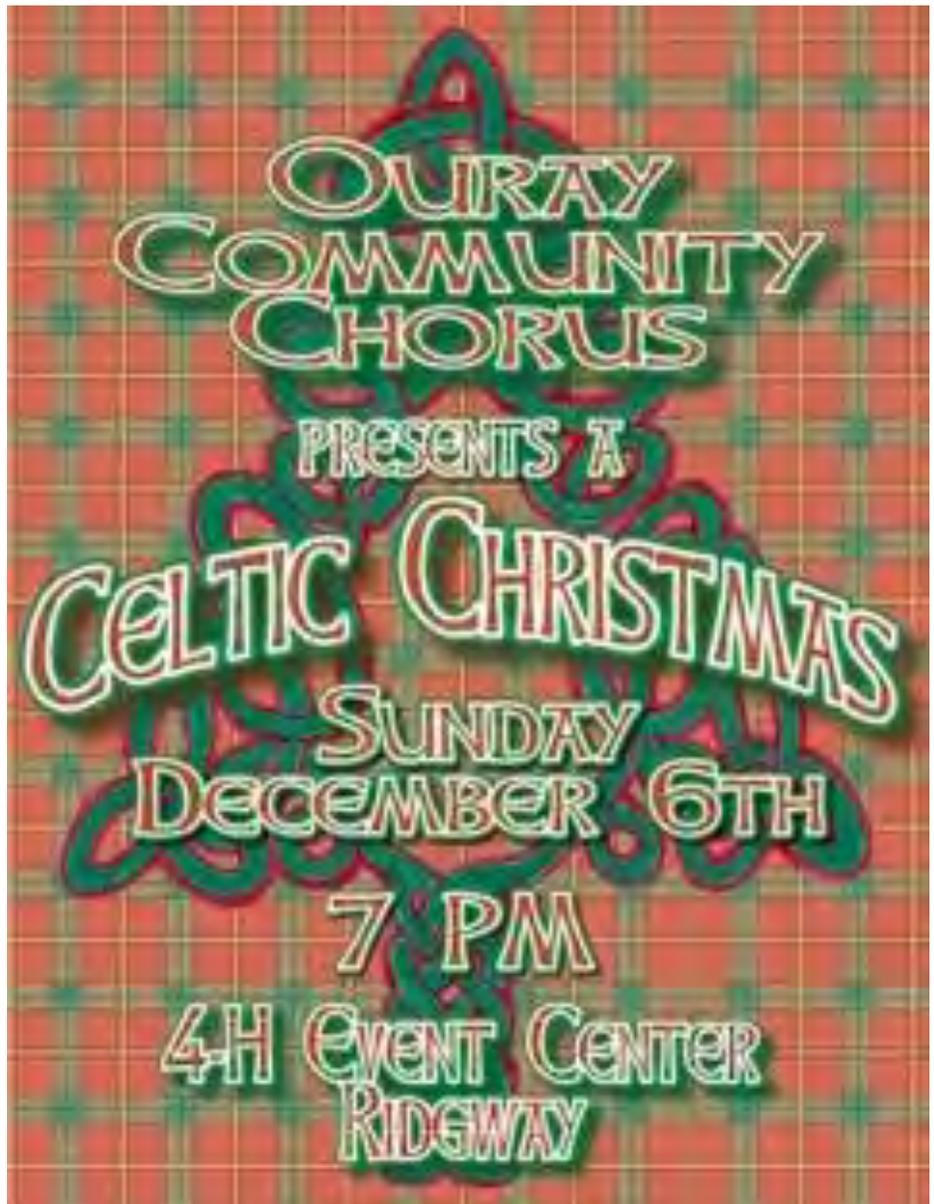
Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council welcomes two new employees at its [work session Nov. 30](#). The City's Public Works Department will introduce Joshua Sickles, Civil Engineer and B. Stuart Slattery, Parks and Special Projects Worker.

Items up for discussion will include a presentation on the Montrose Regional Airport by Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold; an update on the City's 2016 Mail Ballot Election Plan by City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo; an intergovernmental agreement between the City and the Montrose Recreation District; and a presentation by Public Works Director John Harris on the City's 2015-2016 Snow and Ice Removal Plan.

Council will also discuss the recent sale of City owned vehicles to the Town of Olathe and an appointment to the Montrose Regional Airport Advisory Board.

Up for discussion at coming work sessions are Montrose County's Indoor Arena Capital Project and the Cerro Summit Trail Project Update; a Youth Council Report to City Council; FUNC Fest Post-Event Report; Money Purchase Plan Resolutions; the 2016 Annual Plan of Annexation and Three-Mile Plan; and the Designation of Official Posting Places. Also included in Council's Work Session Packet are reports from the Montrose Downtown Development Authority and Black Canyon Golf Course Advisory Committee.



OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

LOCALS TO FORM CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY

Dear Editor:

I am incredibly hopeful that the upcoming Paris Climate Conference can bring about a strong commitment among nations to put firm limits on carbon emissions. This is not only a tardy international need, but the harbinger of an improved economy as we transition to renewal energies rather than rely on depletable or non-usable fuels (due to climate change). We are grateful that the President understands this, and has committed to his participation in this conference. I would support a moon landing type national goal or target to transition to renewable energies.

On a local level, we have a group forming a Citizens' Climate Lobby chapter to promote the politically neutral and non-partisan concept of Carbon Fee and Dividend. Our introductory workshop will be Sun., Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. at the Montrose library conference room. Our hope is to start interest in promoting transition to renewable energy in this country. We welcome interested people.

Wayne Quade, Montrose

LOVES THANKSGIVING, SPECIAL AD SECTIONS IN DAILY PRESS

Dear Editor

As I watched the Macy's parade amidst the cold stone canyons of N.Y. City, I appreciated even more the wonderful region in which we live. Thursday's edition of The Press just added to my appreciation. The section on our exceptional Montrose leadership put names and departments with faces and provided real insight into the current and future direction of our city government. The section on the Montrose Community Foundation was similarly

remarkable in that it pointed out the tremendous positive impact M.C.F. and the recipients of its grants have on our thriving community. Thanksgiving Day was highlighted by that traditional gathering of 2,000 or more souls at Friendship Hall for the annual feast put on by the Thanksgiving Friends Celebration and its volunteers.

We saw many of our friends there, all enjoying the food, the entertainment and the comradeship of neighbors. It is not only the miles that separate us from huge accumulations of humanity, it is our caring culture. As Bob Hope used to say –

–Thanks for the Memories.”

John W. Nelson, Montrose

CRIMESTOPPERS REELS IN ANOTHER ONE!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Over the past several months, the Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers program has caused the apprehension of at least 5 major felons and paid out over \$1,000 in rewards. The most recent success of Crime Stoppers was a fugitive in Alabama, arrested for sexual assault on a helpless victim. This current series of arrests apprehended criminals from four separate counties. There are no borders to the effectiveness of the Crime Stoppers program. Good law enforcement, which our region has, cannot do the job alone. To report a crime or criminal anonymously, call **970-249-8500**. To ensure the continued effectiveness of Crime Stoppers, mail your tax deductible donation to 434 S. 1st Street, Montrose, CO. 81401. **See Something – Say Something** and you might receive money for the holidays as well as making our home a safer place to live.

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COUNCIL TO CHANGE METSA BYLAWS, SET DDA LEVY

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-City Council's packet for the regular meeting of Dec. 1 notes that in addition to approving minutes of the Regular meeting of Nov. 17 and of a special executive session meeting held Nov. 17 with Montrose realtor Jim Renfrow to discuss potential property purchases, Council will hear a project update from History Colorado on the Ute Indian Museum.

Council will consider appointing Applicant Gary A. Seitz as an alternate member of the City of Montrose Planning Commission, and will consider approving METSA

(Montrose Emergency Telephone Services) Bylaws and an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Montrose and METSA. Up for approval on first reading will be Ordinance 2363 on first reading, amending Ordinance 2343 which appropriated funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2015; said expenditures of the City of Montrose over and above those anticipated at the time of the adoption of the original budget for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2015."

Council will consider approving Resolution 2015-23, fixing the tax levy for the Montrose Downtown Development Authority for 2016 at 5.0 mills upon each dollar of the total assessed valuation of all taxable property located within the DDA's boundary.

Following staff reports and possible approval of the transfer of a Hotel and Restaurant license at 35 N. Uncompahgre Ave. from RNR Sportsbar LLC, d.b.a. RNR Sportsbar, to Northman Brewery, Inc., d.b.a. RNR Sportsbar, Council will adjourn.



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COULD YOU ASK FOR IT TO GET ANY BETTER?

REGISTER NOW FOR FOOD AND FARM FORUM!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Western Colorado Fourth Annual Food & Farm Forum will be held all day on Jan. 22nd and 23rd. Register NOW to get the early bird special. This year's conference theme is *Farming the Future: Tools, Tips, Talent*. The conference has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops. Tickets: \$30 Early Bird Pre-conference, \$45 Early Bird Forum, \$70 Early Bird Both. For info visit foodfarmforum.org, or email vista@livewellmontrosecolathe.org. Reach us by phone at: [970.249.0705](tel:970.249.0705).



Give your time. Contact your local homeless shelter, soup kitchen, or animal shelter. They'll be thrilled to have your help!

Give your stuff. By donating clothes, blankets, household items, and more, you can make a big difference to people in need this time of year.

Give your voice. Spread the word about how you're giving back - it might encourage others to get involved.

Give your extras. Whenever you make something this time of year, consider doubling your batch or at least creating a few extra you can give to a local soup kitchen, or senior home.

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CHERRY CREEK RADIO AND ALPINE BANK ARE SPONSORING THE 2015 SHARING MINISTRIES

Toy and Food Drive

FOR MONTROSE AND DELTA COUNTIES

Please donate toys for boys and girls from newborn to 12 years of age (all toys should be unwrapped)

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.



Alpine Bank
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COMMUNITY LIGHTNING RODS

Voices that spark conversations

HISTORY WILL PROVE IF I HAVE MADE GOOD DECISIONS: GLEN DAVIS



Glen Davis.
Courtesy photo.

Interview by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-In 1975 Glen Davis moved from Houston, TX to Montrose, —Houston simply got too big. I had a service station and one day I picked up a tow, but it took me an hour to get back on the free-way. That was the last straw. I called my wife and told

her to get me an airline ticket because I was going to find a place to live.” Glen flew into Denver with a plan to rent a car and drive through Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. However a sales rep told him he should think about Montrose, CO and he said, —Where is Montrose, Colorado?”

It was dark when Glen arrived in Montrose, but the next morning he saw the mountains. —I didn’t go any further. I bought an empty building on a handshake and asked the owner if we didn’t need to do some paperwork. He said if a hand shake wasn’t good enough for me, he wouldn’t sell it to me.” During the eco-

nomie downturn Glen had some lean years. He laughed and said, —Bt I didn’t save enough money to be able to leave!” The economy recovered and at one time Davis Service Center employed 43 people. Today the service center is in the hands of Glen’s son.

Glen’s career turned to real-estate (2006-2014) and his community involvement includes Montrose Chamber of Commerce, Montrose Merchant’s Association, Black Canyon Kiwanis, and the Boy Scouts of America. In 2010 Glen fell short in his first bid for county commissioner, however in 2014 he was successfully elected.

Describing himself as a blend of activist, watch dog and concerned citizen Glen said, —I want to be a voice for the people of the community. I make decisions based on how it will affect the majority of the people in the community...not special interest groups. You follow the law and then make decisions on how it will affect the majority.” Glen knows he won’t make everyone happy with his decisions, —But history will prove out if I have made good decisions. Too many elected officials make decisions for personal gratification, friendships, or to build a dynasty...and Montrose is still paying for some of those decisions.”

Commissioner Davis is adamant that Montrose County cannot solve problems

that were created at the state and federal level. —Government needs to get out of the way of private enterprise and not be a hindrance to business. Don’t ask more of business than you ought to.” Discussing the economic driver in Montrose County, Davis said, —It’s the airport. The airport is the *economic driver*; agriculture is the *economic contributor*.”

Davis does not consider himself a politician, but feels his business experience prepared him to be a commissioner. —I’ve worked for the clothes on my back and the food on my table since I was 14. I have no patience when I see people wanting to make the same mistakes I’ve made.” He laughed and said, —I know when something won’t work because I’ve tried it two times myself!”

Resistant to putting any more of a burden on of the backs of taxpayers Davis said, —County government doesn’t need to be in the education or health care business. Those are state issues.”

Glen has a passionate side, which often backfires, —I get passionate and people think I’m mad. Even in my normal voice they think I’m shouting. The voice that gets me in trouble is the same voice I use in front of a live audience and when I open my mouth they think I’m upset...I’m just passionate!”

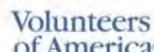


HONORABLE MENTION

To the Ouray County Chorus...for sharing the spirit of the Season in song...catch them at the 4H Events Center in Ridgway at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21!

To everyone who came out to support the Annual Art Partners Chili Bowl Fundraiser at the Lark and Sparrow venue on Nov. 28!

To the Montrose Arts Council and Ouray Performing Arts Guild, for bringing ragtime pianist Bob Milne to the region for two shows this month—on Dec. 12 at Montrose United Methodist Church (7 p.m.) and on Dec. 13 at the Wright Opera House in Ouray (2 p.m.)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WILDLIFE ON THE MOVE!

COLLISIONS STATEWIDE ARE UP 15 PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR



Courtesy photo by Dan Bender, La Plata County Sheriff's Office.

In Colorado there were 3,960 wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVC) reported to law enforcement in 2014 (the most recent data), up from 3,437 in 2013 and above the 10-year average of 3,590 (the highest amount of hits reported in one year was 4,013 in 2012). Of the 3,960 WVCs in 2014, 3,667 involved vehicle damage, 287 involved injuries and 6 involved human fatalities (source: CDOT Traffic & Safety Division). Again, La Plata County tops the list for highest WVCs in the state at

known high-collision areas, there are things motorists can do to further reduce these incidents," CDOT Region 5* Traffic & Safety Engineer Mike McVaugh said. —Avoiding collisions with wildlife is not always possible, but we can all increase our reaction time by slowing down, especially at night, and being aware of animals near the roadsides." *CDOT Region 5 encompasses 15 counties in southwest Colorado, including La Plata County. **CDOT PROJECT INFORMATION:** To sign up for CDOT updates on projects in your chosen area, visit CDOT's website at www.codot.gov and choose the envelope icon at the bottom of the page. Or, to see CDOT's lane closure reports for projects statewide, visit www.codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html. A brief on all upcoming projects (titled "Traffic Watchers") in CDOT's Region 5 (SW Colorado) is posted here: <https://www.codot.gov/programs-projects/projects>. Major CDOT project updates are also available via Twitter @coloradodot and be sure to "Like" us on Facebook. Download the free CDOT Mobile for information regarding the I-70 and I-25 corridors by texting "CDOT" to 25827 or search CDOT Mobile in your App Store.

Special to the Mirror

STATEWIDE – Each fall, data show an increase in wildlife-vehicle collisions on Colorado highways. With the first few storms of the season, wildlife have moved down from the high country as they do each year—and they continue to move to food and water sources, crossing highways along their routes. A majority of the collisions occur during dark hours, from dusk to dawn, when wildlife are more active and they are also more difficult to see.

306 in 2014; Jefferson County, 265; Douglas County, 248; El Paso County, 209 and Montezuma County, 169; (please see more county- and statewide data, here: <http://www.coloradodot.info/programs/environmental/wildlife/wildlifeonthemove/data-and-charts>. (Numbers detailed in the above paragraph came from the chart entitled "Reported Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions by Type and County.")

—While CDOT constructs and implements many wildlife mitigation features in our



Phyllis Wiesner, San Juan Cancer Center Clinic Coordinator and her husband Dr. Paul Wiesner participate in the Walk/Run

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Ouray Hot Springs Pool



Photo by Mark Johnson (www.boxcanyonblog.com)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

STATEMENT BY RACHEL SWASEY, WIFE OF UCCS POLICE OFFICER GARRETT SWASEY



UCCS Officer Garrett Swasey. *Courtesy photo.*

UCCS News Release
COLORADO SPRINGS-The family of Officer Garrett Swasey sincerely thanks everyone for their support during this very difficult time. Our loss

cannot be expressed in words. While the nation now knows Garrett as a hero who

gave his life for others, he was also a devoted husband of 17 years and a wonderful father to his two children. His greatest joys were his family, his church, and his profession. We will cherish his memory, especially those times he spent tossing the football to his son and snuggling with his daughter on the couch.

Garrett was born in Melrose, Massachusetts. After a successful career in ice skating, Garrett found his calling as a police officer. Helping others brought him deep satisfaction and being a police officer was a part of him. In the end, his last act was for the safety and wellbeing

of others and was a tribute to his life. What we need most today, and in the coming weeks, is your prayers for our family and for others who were impacted by this tragedy. We are grateful for the tremendous outpouring of love that has come from the community and across the nation.

We understand this is a public tragedy felt by many and we also appreciate your support for us to grieve privately. Donations are being received at this link: <https://www.youcaring.com/the-family-of-officer-swasey-rachel-swasey-and-children-477034/>

OURAY COUNTY CHORUS TO PERFORM "A CELTIC CHRISTMAS"

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-On Sunday, Dec. 6th, 7:00 pm at 4H Event Center in Ridgway. Experience "A Celtic Christmas" — a concert of the joy and music of the Christmas Season presented by the Ouray County Chorus. Donations gratefully accepted.

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5:30 –7:00 pm

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Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS CHURCH OF CHRIST (WEST MAIN)



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—My first attempts to locate the Church of Christ (West Main) took me to a strip mall and a tattoo parlor. I finally called the phone number listed in the directory and when Chuck answered I explained my dilemma. He laughed and said, “Go get a tattoo and then come on up to church.” My visit took place on Nov. 15, 2015.

The church, which once occupied the space now used by said tattoo parlor, is located above the parlor. In order to find the church you must use the back entrance off the alley, look for an industrial door with a small church sign and go up a flight of stairs. Chuck said, “We used to put a sign out front, but I guess we got tired of putting it out.”

Three generations of one family make up the majority of this congregation and this day there were seven adults present, including one teenager. The opening prayer included praising the Lord for the good community of Montrose and a heartfelt

plea for the Lord to protect the community from evil.

The Church of Christ is non-instrumental and all verses of each song selection were sung a cappella. Hymns included “Hilltops of Glory,” “Friend Like You,” “Hide Me Rock of Ages,” and “What a Day That Will Be.” While the number of people present was small, the cozy room amplified their voices as they sang in parts and harmony.

Although the service was structured, there was a feeling of informality. Chuck announced different aspects of the service saying, “Fee-free to sit or stand during the hymn... we will now have communion...,” and “...it’s now time for the message.”

Kenny Oliver presented the message and the theme was temptation. Using both Old and New Testament passages Mr. Oliver read the passage of Scripture and then gave a brief commentary on each passage. The number of Bible references and fast paced

sermon kept participants quickly flipping from one reference to another (Matt 3:13-17, 4:1; Hebrews 2:14-18).

Citing Satan’s temptation of Jesus in the wilderness — tempting Jesus with food, to use supernatural powers, and to own the kingdoms of the world, Mr. Oliver said, “Satan didn’t have anything to offer Christ here on earth. Everyone’s temptations are different, we have to recognize our temptations. Satan doesn’t come to us dressed in red, with horns and carrying a pitch fork trying to tempt us.”

Referring to the temptation of Eve (Gen 3:1) Mr. Oliver said, “We don’t know how long it took Satan to convince Eve to eat the fruit. Was it seconds, days, years? Satan used partial truths to prove God wrong. He tempted Eve with being able to know what God knows and her desire to have knowledge was strong. Satan said the right thing to trick her.”

Temptations can be overcome as evidenced by the Apostle Paul’s teaching in 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, “So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (NIV).

In conclusion worshippers were encouraged to put on the full armor of God (Eph 6:10-18.) Mr. Oliver said, “Our faith helps us when we are attacked by Satan. We don’t have to know what Satan’s agenda is, or what the rules are in heaven. Just stand firm in your faith.”

Contact Info:

*Church of Christ
242 W. Main # 5
Montrose, CO 81410
209-5356*

Speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, Jesus said, —Go bak 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.

OBITUARIES

PHYLLIS LUCILLE ANDERS

May 14, 1923 ~ November 20, 2015



Phyllis Lucille Anders, age 92 of Montrose, passed away Friday, November 20, 2015 at Valley Manor Care Center in Montrose. Phyllis was born May 14, 1923 to Paul E. and Gertrude (Lane) Dickerson Sr., in Delta, Colorado. She spent her childhood in the Pea Green Area and received her elementary education, and then she attended Olathe High School.

July 24, 1940, Phyllis married John C. –Bud” Anders in Moab, Utah. He preceded her in death on June 7, 2004, in Montrose. They farmed in Olathe on the family farm in the Dry Creek Area and raised their family. Phyllis and Bud moved to Montrose in 2000 to be closer to town and doctors, and made their home until their time of death. She was a member of the Montrose Christian Church.

While raising her children, Phyllis and fellow mothers made sure the children were fed a hot meal at lunch time. She was a homemaker, devoted wife, mother and grandmother. In her younger years she loved to fish and camping with her father, and Phyllis’s family was her life. She was always interested in their activities, and attended their sporting events, without fail. She had a great love for music and she respected the earth which was evident in her beautiful garden. Surviving family members include her children; John E. Anders, Paula E. (Alan) Tollefson, Larry Lee (Pat) Anders all of Montrose, and Jerry Joe (Toni) Anders of Olathe; numerous grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents, husband and siblings.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to HopeWest Hospice, in memory of Phyllis Anders, 725 S. 4th Street, Montrose, Co. 81401 or to the donor’s choice.

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Montrose, CO

The Homestead at Montrose
Montrose, CO

Senior CommUnity Care (PACE)
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Valley Manor Care Center
Montrose, CO

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ANNUAL

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DECEMBER

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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.



OPINION/EDITORIAL-COMMENTARY

CITY INVESTS, BUT DEFERS MAINTENANCE AND SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL



Signs of the times in Montrose...while we neglect safe routes to school, we have money for big ticket purchases.

Mirror Staff Editorial

MONTROSE-The Nov. 26th delivery of the *Montrose Daily Press* included a four-page color "Season Greetings" advertisement sent to all addresses in the community, and an open letter addressed to the "Honorable Mayor, Members of the City Council and Montrose Citizens," from Montrose City Manager William E. Bell.

Under the subtitles of Financial Condition, Fee Changes, and Capital Highlights of the 2016 Budget, Mr. Bell gave a brief recap of 2015 and a look forward to 2016. Noticeably missing from the letter was any mention of the second dispatch center, which is a duplication of services and a huge expense to citizens.

Referencing the transfer of funds from the General Fund into the Capital Improvement Fund Mr. Bell wrote, "Our goal is to increase the capital improvements made throughout the community as much as possible every year moving forward because we have suffered from many deferred maintenance items from years past due to difficult times, and our infrastructure is beginning to show its age. We are pleased with the 2016 estimated Capital transfer of \$1,671,577."

Unfortunately deferred maintenance is not something in the past, but is being practiced today. For example, a sidewalk located in 500 block of South 12th, between Pomona Elementary and Columbine Mid-

dle School, has over many years sunk more than five inches in one corner. Rather than making repairs to the sidewalk, the city opted to wait until they could leverage funds through grants. In this situation the city is working with CDOT on the Safe Routes to Schools project. The long overdue replacement for this sidewalk was scheduled for completion in 2015, but is now postponed until 2016. In the meantime pedestrians continue to walk in the street in order to avoid the hazard.

It is a matter of priorities. While the city administration and the current city council defer maintenance on infrastructure until they can secure grants and leverage funds, they have no trouble moving quickly to purchase a municipal golf course, build a second dispatch, and invest \$150,000 in the Proximity Center owned by Josh Freed and Dennis Lankes of Telluride.

People are often hesitant to weigh in on the city budgeting process because it is unfamiliar territory. However, citizens can and should judge for themselves whether the infrastructure needs of the city are being neglected in favor of special projects, duplicated services, and areas of investments presented as economic development.

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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-

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. 6-Ouray Community Chorus presents a Celtic Christmas. a concert of the joy and music of the Christmas Season. Donations gratefully accepted. 4H Events Center in Ridgway, 7 p.m.

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. 11-13 GARDEN OF LIGHTS at Montrose Botanic Gardens, 1800 Pavilion Dr.. Time: 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Wander among the illuminated Garden paths and displays, enjoy horse drawn wagon rides, Santa and storytellers, snacks, live music, animated light show, and a warming fire. Entry fee and schedule of events at: www.montrosegardens.org.

Dec. 12-Montrose 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—At 2 p.m. — Ragtime pianist Bob Milne will present a delightful concert at the Wright Opera House in Ouray. Adults \$15, Children \$5 — tickets at the door or online at www.ocpag.org. Presented by Ouray County Performing Arts Guild.

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. 18-20--GARDEN OF LIGHTS at Montrose Botanic Gardens, 1800 Pavilion Dr.. Time: 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Wander among the illuminated Garden paths and displays, enjoy horse drawn wagon rides, Santa and storytellers, snacks, live music, animated light show, and a warming fire. Entry fee and schedule of events at: www.montrosegardens.org.

Dec. 21-Ridgway Farmers Market, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Silver San Juan Building at 600 Sherman Street.

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.

Jan. 22-23-The Western Colorado 4th Annual Food & Farm Forum will be held all day on Jan. 22nd and 23rd. Register NOW to get the early bird special. This year's conference theme is *Farming the Future: Tools, Tips, Talent*. The conference has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops. Tickets: \$30 Early Bird Pre-conference, \$45 Early Bird Forum, \$70 Early Bird Both. For info visit foodfarmforum.org, or email vista@livewellmontroseatthe.org. Reach us by phone at: [970.249.0705](tel:970.249.0705).

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CPW PLANS BIG-GAME FLIGHTS IN MONTROSE REGION!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- In order to better track the population trends of mule deer and desert bighorn sheep in and around the Uncompahgre Plateau, Colorado Parks and Wildlife will be conducting helicopter flights and trapping in the area starting as early as Dec. 1.

The flights aid biologists in surveying big-game herds, and allow efficient trapping and radio-collaring of animals. Trapping work will continue through mid-January. Near Montrose, the helicopter could be visible to the public because deer are concentrated on winter range areas just south and west of town. By trapping deer across low-elevation winter range, CPW will gather valuable data on how deer move on the Uncompahgre Plateau. The radio-collars also help biologists understand survival rates for deer.

Helicopter flights for deer will also be occurring in Game Management Units 61 and 62 on the west side of the Uncompahgre Plateau. CPW prefers to avoid flying during the late hunting seasons, but flight days are dependent on the weather and when the helicopter is available.

Deer trapping and collaring started on

the Uncompahgre Plateau in 1997. Each year 60 fawns are captured to monitor over-winter survival. The collars automatically fall off the fawns in about eight months. A certain number of does are also captured to maintain 90 active collars for the area.

Since the program started, 1,118 fawns and 1,852 does have been monitored. Fawns have shown an average survival rate of 73 percent; the average survival rate for does has been 83 percent.

Flights to trap desert bighorn sheep will occur west of U.S. Highway 50 in the canyon areas between Delta and Grand Junction. CPW hopes to capture five desert bighorns and fit them with radio tracking collars. Only about 160 bighorns inhabit that area. CPW is working with the BLM to monitor desert big horn habitat use in proximity to domestic sheep allotments and recreational activities. Since 2013, CPW has collared 20 desert bighorns in order to monitor their movements.

In addition to helicopter capture flights, CPW will also be conducting classification flights to monitor big game populations throughout southwest Colorado. These flights, which usually continue into February, are focused on classifying deer,

elk and bighorn sheep by sex and age to monitor overall productivity and health of a population. Most classification flights are not focused on determining a total count of animals; rather they are used to evaluate population trends in herd areas. Classification data, along with survival data, and hunter harvest data are used to estimate big game population sizes and help to determine the number of licenses that will be distributed in game management units for the following year.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is an enterprise agency, relying primarily on license sales, state parks fees and registration fees to support its operations, including: 42 state parks and more than 350 wildlife areas covering approximately 900,000 acres, big-game management, hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, camping, motorized and non-motorized trails, boating and outdoor education. CPW's work contributes approximately \$6 billion in total economic impact annually throughout Colorado. For more news about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us> For more information about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>.

ARTbar NIGHT OUT

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

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

\$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:
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Montrose, CO 81402
970-275-0646
Editor@montrosemirror.com
www.montrosemirror.com



Thanksgiving scenes...the community dinner begins at Friendship Hall...Fall colors along Cedar Creek.

Do you need health insurance?

OPEN ENROLLMENT IS GOING ON NOW!

November 1st – January 31st

Call your LOCAL office to schedule a
free in-person appointment.

970-252-0660

Locations in both Montrose and Delta

