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# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 149 Dec. 21 2015

## “EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE”

### Methodist Church to Host Annual Christmas Dinner

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-With the passing of many elderly loved ones, Tonja Clark had struggled to find joy in the Christmas Holiday. “I was in a low place,” she said. The North Carolina native had been to Colorado, however, and felt that something was calling her back here.

“I packed up everything I owned in a Budget Truck,” said Clark, who has faced mobility issues since her early 20’s due to a spinal cord injury she suffered in a rollover automobile accident. “I had my sights set on this area; I was actually leaning toward Gunnison. But I ended up in Montrose, because I couldn’t return the budget truck in Gunnison, and I didn’t know anyone to drive me back up there.”

After staying briefly at an expensive local hotel, Clark stayed at the Country Lodge, where the owners befriended the new arrival and helped her settle in Montrose. Clark found a church home through a friend as well, and eventually began volunteering with her congregation at Montrose United Methodist Church. “I still had my belief in God,” she said.

Continued on page 8



Tonja Clark, pictured at the accessible new Buckhorn Coffee on South Townsend, is one of the volunteers helping to put together the annual community Christmas dinner at Montrose United Methodist Church.

## SAN MIGUEL COUNTY PREVAILS AGAINST GOLD HILL DEVELOPMENT

### Public right to cross private mining claims affirmed by CO Court of Appeals



Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY-The original trial court verdict on a case involving multiple entities, public and private landowners, and public access to trails in the high reaches of San Miguel County has been upheld. On Dec. 17 the Colorado Court of Appeals affirmed the original 2013 trial court decision in the lawsuit filed by Gold Hill Development Company, L.P., Plaintiff-Appellant against the Board of County Commissioners of the County of San Miguel Colorado; TSG Ski & Golf, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; TSG Asset Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Defendants-Appellees. Well known Western Colorado realtor Thomas Chapman is involved with Gold Hill Development Company.

Grand Junction Attorney Earl Rhodes represented San Miguel County as it took the lead in litigating the case. “The

Continued on page 14

in this  
issue

A visit with Farmer  
John Harold...

What's New at the  
RnR Sportsbar...

Crimestoppers  
Thank you!

Regional News Briefs,  
Regional Events!

Editorial-  
Dispatch dispute!

## “IT’S LIKE A POKER GAME”...A CHAT WITH JOHN HAROLD

By Caitlin Switzer

OLATHE—Ask Olathe corn farmer John Harold about his career path, and he has a simple answer.

—“You don’t get things done without a partner,” Harold said. —“I have two; one partner I pray to, and one I sleep with. My wife (Donna Harold) has always listened to me, and encouraged me.”

The partnership has roots that extend far beyond the Uncompahgre Valley—“Her parents babysat my sister when we were kids in Tennessee,” said Harold, who was born in Michigan. —“I moved away to New York, but when her brother got out of the service they ended up visiting our house. We struck up a friendship; she was a nurse.”

Before moving to Olathe with Donna in the 1960’s, Harold lived in Chicago for a time as well.

—“That was where I got my first real idea of how a city runs,” he said. —“You always kept a \$10 or \$50 bill clipped to your wallet in case you were stopped by the police.” Eventually the couple moved to Olathe, where they opened the first local care facility, Harold Group Home.

—“I got tired of the city,” Harold said. —“My parents lived in Delta; my mother was a native of Western Colorado—Indians used to ride to her house in Cortez when she was young. So I came to visit them in Delta and stayed. We had the group home within a year, but I had always thought about farming. As a kid, I milked cows for my uncle in Reeves Georgia.”

It was during a card game that Harold —“bought the farm,” however. —“I ran into a guy at a poker game, I think his name was Tom West,” Harold recalled. —“He was complaining about his farm, and I was a pretty good poker player. So I bought a farm.”

The growth of the family farm was gradual, and then it wasn’t. —“I grew broccoli, and built a cooler,” he said. —“I grew corn,



Olathe farmer John Harold loads onions. Mirror file photo by Joseph Harold of Joseph’s Photography.

and built a cooler. I had two kids who were not interested in farming, who are now both in farming.” Son John is a grower in Mexico, and son David continues the family’s growing legacy in Olathe.

John Harold served as Mayor of Olathe from 1980 to 1984, but it was a decade later that he became a national figure through a deal with Kroger Foods. Following the development of the Olathe Sweet sweet corn variety by corn scientist Dave Gallinat of Mesa Maize, grocery giant Kroger Company sent a representative to Olathe.

—“The first year we grew Olathe Sweet, we picked 12,000 boxes,” Harold recalled, noting that today, area growers ship more than a million cases of sweet corn out of the valley in a period of roughly seven weeks. —“City Market (a subsidiary of Kroger) sent a guy to the home office,”

Harold recalled. —“So a guy showed up at our cooler one day. We had no parking places, but we had spots where everyone would park. So one day I saw a silver Chevrolet with Texas plates, and I thought to myself, ‘What’s that damn Texan doing in my parking spot?’ He had been dispatched by Kroger to find out about the corn.”

Today, Kroger Company continues to market Olathe Sweet sweet corn to delighted shoppers nationwide. And John Harold continues to see the big picture view, especially when it comes to the water that helps his corn grow and the workers who pick one million acres a day of corn by hand during the harvest. —“Without farm workers, the vegetable industry in this valley would not exist,” Harold said, noting that when he has hired non-

*Continued on page 18*



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THE  
MONTROSE MIRROR  
MONTROSE



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MARGE MORGENSTERN PICKS UP CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACKET



Montrose City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo, left, provides a candidate information packet to Marge Morgenstern. Mirror Staff Photo.

#### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE—On November 19, 2015, at what was the second meeting of “The Committee to Improve the City of Montrose,” spokeswoman Marge Morgenstern

assured the crowd of about 40 that she would not be a candidate for city council in 2016. Citing her age as the issue Morgenstern said, “You need younger people on city council. I’m 78 and even if I ran for

the at-large position I’d be 80 years-old when my term was up.”

Ms. Morgenstern has since changed her mind. She said, “It’s possible that the intimidation, threats and ridicule coming from some people at the last meeting will keep prospective candidates from coming forward. That meeting gave me pause. I refuse to be intimidated and now I have second thoughts about running.”

Concerning the upcoming April election for three open council seats Morgenstern said, “If voters are satisfied with the status quo there is no reason for anyone to oppose those who currently serve on council, or to think about filling the vacant seat. If people want change someone must step up to plate. I hope others will also step forward.”

Montrose City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo reported that as of December 15, 2015 five city council informational packets have been picked up.

Those who have picked up packets are: Roy Anderson, Judy Ann Files, Dave Bowman, Bill Bennett, and Marge Morgenstern.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS!

### BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB DONATES TO MONTROSE LIBRARY



*Special to the Mirror*  
**MONTROSE**-Kris Schledewitz of the Montrose United Methodist Church's "Brown Bag Book Club" presents a donation of \$261 to Tania Hajar of the Montrose Regional Library. The club was inspired by the novel "Christmas Jars" to donate their change to a needy family or cause, and this year selected the library as the recipient.



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ARE YOU READY FOR THE CAUCUSES?

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Attend your party's Caucus on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Don't know where it is being held?

Contact the local party chair: **GOP:** Scott Riba [scott@mountainwestinsurance.com](mailto:scott@mountainwestinsurance.com) 970-596-9998. **DEMS:** Jayne Bilberry [info@montrosedemocrats.org](mailto:info@montrosedemocrats.org) 970-596-1163.

You can vote at your caucus when you, the voter:

Have been a resident of the precinct in which you live for 30 days;

Have registered to vote no later than 29 days before the caucus; and

Have been affiliated with the party holding the caucus at least 2 months before the caucus.

Important information from the Colorado Secretary of State.

- Jan. 4** Last day to affiliate with a major party in order to vote in the party precinct caucuses;
- Jan. 4** Last day to register as unaffiliated, in order to be placed in nomination (by petition) as an unaffiliated
- Feb. 1** Last day to update voter registration address to participate in caucuses.



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## BEER DISPENSARY WALL, OUTDOOR PATIO SEATING ON THE HORIZON FOR RNR SPORTSBAR



By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-A local favorite for foodies and sport lovers is RNR Sports Bar. But sometimes old favorites need changed up, and in the coming year RNR will have new things to offer their customers.

RNR Sports Bar is located in downtown Montrose and is a popular spot for locals to watch their favorite sporting events or hang out with family. They offer customers high quality bar service for reasonable prices. They also serve up a great selection of appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, entrees, and desserts, with a kids menu for families. Their website recommends that visitors, "Try our signature RNR Nachos, Gator Strips, or Sweet Potato Puffs. Our San Juan Cheese Steak, Sin Burger, and Southwestern Turkey Club are some of our best sandwiches. Try some seafood or chicken for an entrée, each with a dinner salad. To finish it off, try one of our ice cream desserts."

"We are a small, local business," said

general manager Deanne Oliver. "We have good food and lots of sports options to watch, in a fun atmosphere."

Since RNR was purchased by new owner Tom Wyjack, he has worked on the idea to add a brewery to the bar. However, Tom will now be doing the brewing off site. "I believe that the brewery aspect was the original plan for the purchase," Oliver said.

"Tom wanted to brew something somewhere and ended up finding RNR for sale, so he bought it in July."

While patrons were not originally too thrilled with the idea of the brewery, Oliver, who has been working at RNR for five years, believes that the aspect of brewing some of their own beers will be a nice addition for customers. "What we have been

doing, we have been pretty successful with, but we have not had a lot of changes over the years," she explained. "Tom is excited and I think it's great [what he has planned]. I find it interesting, the trend to make [your] own craft beer."

The major changes that will be coming to RNR's actual space will start in February of 2016, right after the Superbowl. "We are doing to close for a week and put in a beer dispensary wall and a copper bar top," Oliver said. "We are also planning for some outdoor patio seating, but that will be some time in the Spring."

To wrap up 2015 and ring in the New Year, they will be having a 70s/80s themed party with a DJ on New Year's Eve to celebrate.

Over the years, Oliver's favorite part of her job has been the people around her.

"My favorite part is interacting with the customers and it's fun to hear the live bands we have play," she said. "Our staff is awesome and we have a lot of steady staff that get to know people."

RNR Sports Bar is located at 35 N. Uncompahgre Ave in Montrose. They are open Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-12 a.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-12 a.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-12 a.m. For more information, call 765-2029.

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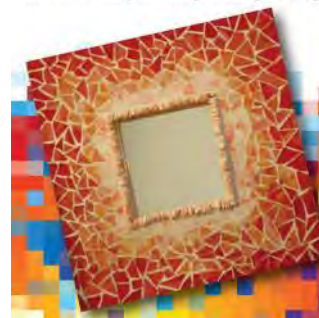
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## EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE *From pg 1*

And a little voice was telling me, “if you isolate yourself, you will not find all of the things I have planned for you.”

This year, Clark is helping MCMU Christmas Dinner coordinator Beckie Pendergrass with the annual Christmas Day community dinner.

“Everybody is welcome at the dinner,” Clark said. “Last year, I manned the glove tree and helped with the pantry. A little man hugged me my neck, and said ‘Thank you so much!’” The feeling of fellowship that she experienced gave Clark a renewed sense of purpose. “Christmas may be about family,” she said, “but it is also about what you can do for others.”

The Christmas Dinner is made possible by generous community donors, she said, and takes place at the church from 12:30 to 3 p.m. All are invited. In addition to the dinner itself, there will be winter clothing, stuffed animals, and groceries available from the food pantry too. The Christmas tree in Baldridge Hall is a hat, glove and

sock tree, Clark said. “As people go out, they can pick from the tree.” The menu consists of turkey/ham; dressing with gravy; mashed potatoes; green beans ; corn; yams; deviled eggs; jello/pistachio salad; rolls and butter. Best of all, there will be an assortment of desserts including traditional pies.

Last year, the Methodist Church welcomed 350 to its community Christmas Dinner. “We are expecting around 400 this year,” Clark said. And because there are no seating charts, families and individuals are placed where there is space. “We heard great feedback about the seating last year,” Clark said. “You don’t know who you will sit with, and that makes it wonderful.” “This is for anyone who doesn’t have a place to go, or who doesn’t want to be alone at Christmas,” she said. “We don’t always see the needs of someone else until we experience something ourselves or within our own family. The sense of isolation, hopelessness...you will never, ever

know until it happens to you.

“Add our church is handicapped accessible,” she said. “There will be people outside to greet and assist those with special needs to get inside.”

Because there is an existing Christmas Dinner for shut-ins run by Norman and Lexy Stevenson, the church opted not to duplicate that service. Those who need a meal delivered can call 275-3336.

Between organizing the church food pantry, volunteering with the Christmas Dinner, and staying in touch with family back in North Carolina, Clark is busy. However, she also hopes to find time in the New Year to advocate for others who have disabilities. She can remember all too well how it felt to be a young mother and college student, trapped overnight in a rolled vehicle, frantic about caring for her six-month-old child.

“We all have a purpose,” she said. “Add there is so much I have learned. I hope to affect change.”

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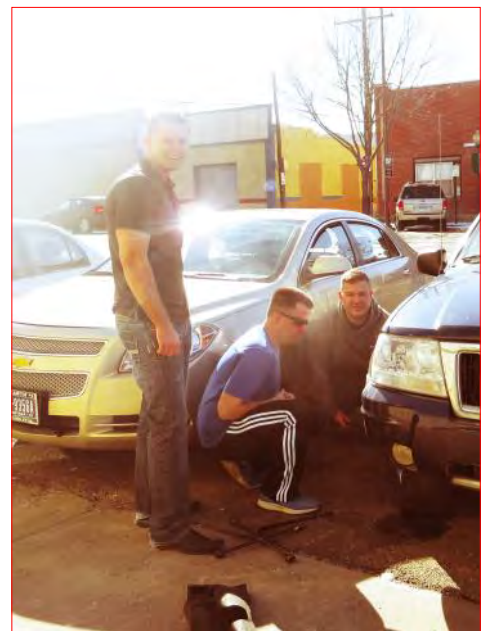
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**Mirror Staff Photo**  
MONTROSE—Pictured are Army Recruiters Staff Sgt. Shiflett, Sgt. McCord and Sgt. Simon as they help change a flat tire for a military spouse who came to lunch at the Warrior Resource Center Friday. The Warrior Resource Center has also received generous Holiday donations of all kinds...thank you for supporting a local non-profit that helps veterans and their families, Montrose!



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING: COMMUNITY OPTIONS!



*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**-Community Options celebrated the move to their new location with a ribbon cutting! Board members for Community Options, staff, friends and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce Redcoats were in attendance to help them commemorate this exciting new location. They are located at 930 N. Park Avenue and can be reached at 970-249-1412.



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TELLURIDE SCHOOLS PLACED ON EXTERNAL LOCKDOWN FRIDAY, SAN MIGUEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE EVACUATED AFTER BOMB THREAT

*Special to the Mirror*

TELLURIDE--Telluride Schools were placed under "external lockdown" and the San Miguel County Courthouse was evacuated following a bomb threat received by a state government office late Friday morning.

The Department of Agriculture in Denver reported receiving a voicemail from an agitated individual requesting an immediate call back regarding what he called an animal abuse case.

The same individual called the same office again approximately 30 minutes later (11:45am) claiming he had dynamite and threatened to blow up public government buildings and made general threats against children in Telluride School yards. San Miguel County Sheriff's Office were contacted by the government employee who received the call at 11:57pm. Sheriff's Deputies and the Telluride Marshal's Department dispatched all available personnel

to schools and government buildings. The Telluride High School, Intermediate School and Elementary School were placed on external lockdown, meaning classroom activities continued, but buildings were locked and secured with law enforcement presence.

The Telluride Mountain School had a San Miguel County Deputy present but released students under a planned early release for a special event.

The San Miguel County Courthouse was immediately evacuated by San Miguel County Deputies and closed for the day. The Grand Junction office of the FBI was consulted by San Miguel County Sheriff Bill Masters and provided assistance in an effort to apprehend the suspect.

The individual who allegedly made the phone calls and threats was apprehended and arrested at approximately 2:28pm by the Montezuma Sheriff's Office in Cortez. Kevin Krawchuk, 65 years-old, is known

by local law enforcement for months of protests in front of the San Miguel County Courthouse earlier this year. He is considered to be a transient, and he was never thought to be in the Telluride region while making today's threats.

External lockdown of the Telluride Schools was discontinued following the apprehension of the suspect. Law enforcement conducted internal sweeps of the properties, and school officials were told they could resume regularly scheduled activities.

Sheriff Masters said the multi-agency effort was efficient and the community reacted well to this unusual emergency incident. "School officials followed their protocols, staff remained calm and there was a swift and safe end to the incident."

San Miguel County Sheriffs Deputies traveled to Cortez Friday afternoon to bring the suspect to the San Miguel County Jail. Formal charges are pending.

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## SAN MIGUEL COUNTY PREVAILS AGAINST GOLD HILL DEVELOPMENT

From page 1

County's position that the public has the right to cross mining claims in the high country was affirmed by both the trial court and the Colorado Court of Appeals," Rhodes said. "They have received very favorable Opinions, and the County is very pleased."

For San Miguel County Commissioner Joan May, the Court of Appeals Opinion comes as welcome news. "It's great when right prevails," May said. "We're really happy with the decision. It has taken a long time, and I hope this will finally bring closure."

"I'm ecstatic," San Miguel County Commissioner Art Goodtimes said of the decision. "It's really exciting to be able to preserve the public's right of access to Bear Creek. I want to thank San Miguel County and Telluride Ski Resort for working together so well, and the United States Forest Service for their help. We have had excellent attorneys and advisors, and we were affirmed on every count."

"The fact that this will set precedent is really exciting news for the County."

San Miguel County Commissioner Elaine Fischer said that the time and money invested by San Miguel County to preserve trail access for its citizens were put to good use. "I think it is fantastic that the decision came out the way it did," Fischer said. "This preserves the rights of San Miguel County citizens to access public lands as they always have, in perpetuity."

The matter was both legally and factually complex, noted San Miguel County Attorney Steve Zwick. While the trail is a United States Forest Service (USFS) trail where it crosses Forest Service property, it becomes a public trail where it crosses the private mining claims, Zwick said.

But the outcome is not complex: "The Wasatch Trail along Upper Bear Creek will remain open to the public as it traverses certain private mining claims," San Miguel County Parks and

Open Space Director Linda Luther-Broderick said. The County stepped forward to defend the public right to access after Gold Hill Development Company launched a campaign to inform hikers that access to the trail had been closed, she said.

Because San Miguel County has a dedicated Open Space fund that includes trails, the county was able to have its assistant county attorney research the matter for two full years prior to going to trial in 2013. "We have spent \$180,000 out of pocket and five years of in-house legal staff resources to get to this point," Luther-Broderick said.

Colorado Court of Appeals Justices Furman and Ashby note in the Dec. 17 Opinion that the trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying GHDC's motion for a new trial, and affirmed the original judgment and order of District Court Judge Mary Deganhart.





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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SENIOR COMMUNITY MEALS VOLUNTEERS PREPARE BLIZZARD BOXES FOR HOMEBOUND ADULTS

*Special to the Mirror*

**REGIONAL-Senior CommUnity Meals**, a program of Volunteers of America, is assembling emergency "blizzard boxes" to distribute to their homebound older adult clients. The emergency food boxes will contain enough food for six meals in the event a storm hits the area. Over the past year, approximately 75,000 hot and frozen meals have been provided through Senior CommUnity Meals to the senior citizens of Delta, Montrose and San Miguel Counties. The program serves lunches at seven community meal sites and delivers meals to seniors homes using a network of staff and volunteers that covers roughly 4,600 square miles.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

### SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER LEADER: 100 PEACE POLE PROJECT NOT A RELIGIOUS PROJECT

*Dear Editor:*

I was astonished to read in the *Montrose Mirror* that several people had appeared before the Library Board to protest the request to put up a Peace Pole at the library because it was a religious symbol and would generate religious meetings on public property. I had not yet asked for the request to be put on the agenda of any Library Board Meeting because I wanted to provide more information to the Director beforehand and to the Library Trustees.

The 100 Peace Pole Project is not a religious project of any nature. It is a peace project. It is not intended, nor has ever been intended, to represent any religious doctrine or religious belief. It simply states the word "Peace" in different languages as a symbol of peace on earth. Peace Poles are not a "marker" for any group, individual, or religion. It is a simple symbol of peace. There are no plans for any kind of gatherings at the new Peace Poles now or in the future.

Over 240,000 Peace Poles have been put up in communities in 195 countries with many renowned world leaders supporting the project. Sites of Peace Poles in these

communities are at libraries, parks, universities, schools, businesses, public outdoors lands, memorials, and in public and private gardens. Peace Poles stand at Ground Zero, New York; the Pyramids in Egypt, in Baghdad, Iraq; in Bethlehem, Israel; Machu Pichu, Peru; the US Pentagon; Florida International University; McDonald's in Serbia; on Mt. Everest in Nepal; on US Forest Service land in Alaska; at Planet Hollywood, Australia; at churches of all denominations; and, at other locations across the United States and the world, to name just a few.

An outstanding example of a community for peace is Atlanta, Georgia, which has put up 55 Peace Poles in their community, including 39 Peace Poles along the Atlanta Peace Trail which connects Peace Gardens and Peace Monuments along city trails through a combined effort of the Atlanta City Council, various prominent individuals and Tourism for Peace. The Montrose Project is to put up 100 Peace Poles, more than any other U.S. city to become the first "City of Peace." 100 Peace Poles will be a statement to the people who live in our community that we practice peace, toler-

ance and respect, to visitors it will be a welcome sign that this is a great caring community in which to live and work, and to other cities it will be a model for creating a more peaceful and attractive environment.

The Spiritual Awareness Center initiated this community project, not as a religious program, but to encourage a new awareness of peace by bringing these symbols into our community. The project is just beginning and we have already had requests from people in other communities on the Western Slope for Peace Poles in their community. Montrose has a wonderful opportunity to become a City of Peace and be an outstanding model for other cities in the United States and in the world.

I hope that this letter has explained the real purpose of the 100 Peace Pole Project and has reassured those who thought it was a religious or church project, which it is not.

It is simply a way to symbolize peace and remind our community of the importance of living in peace.

*Sincerely,*

*Arlyn Macdonald, Montrose*

### TRUMP REPRESENTS ONLY MONEY, MANIPULATION

*Dear Editor:*

Donald Trump's base is base. The Republicans dug their own hole when they determined that only those thoughts promulgated by the thought police on the right were to be used by their candidates.

The candidates were cowed while Trump was not. As a result, voters on the right have moved toward him. It is a travesty because the Republicans are not truly being represented to date. It is time for other

factions to step forward.

Is there a viable candidate in the wings who can truly represent the party of those who are sometimes viewed to covet money over all else? Think about it.

All Trump represents is money and manipulation. Where is the party of Lincoln? If they stick with the philosophy that government is the problem the country will be stuck with no government and so will their party.

They have no real chance with their candidates threatened by a failed philosophy of do nothing and be proud of it.

The fundamentalists have no business dictating religious tenets as policy.

We are not ISIS, why do we imitate them. There should be enough inflammatory rhetoric here to get conversation going and give the real Republicans a chance to speak up.

*Bob Connor, Montrose*

*The Montrose Mirror welcomes thoughtful, well-written letters and commentary.*

*Please send to: [editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:editor@montrosemirror.com).*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ELEEMOSYNARY GROUP PRESENTS CHECK TO SHARING MINISTRIES



*The Eleemosynary group presentation of \$750 dollars to Sharing Ministries Board President Tom Vogenthaler for the building fund. Pictured left to right are Bill Wilson, Bart Disher, Jock Fleming, Tom Vogenthaler, Jon Gordon, and Bill Heckard. Courtesy photo.*

# The Mirror:

For coverage that never leaves  
our readers out in cold ...



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## IT'S LIKE A POKER GAME: JOHN HAROLD From page 2

migrant workers to pick corn in the past they have lasted an average of 16 to 24 hours. "It is imperative that we are able to bring in migrant labor to make this a viable industry," he said. "But it is also the chance that some of our workers have to make enough money to invest in their own country. My son John farms in Mexico, and some of the people who come here in the summer go back to work there afterwards. One worker has an American flag on his wall; when you ask why, he will tell you it is there because America allowed him to make enough money to build his house. "I think that's a much better way to do foreign policy," Harold said, who has testified before Congress on behalf of the Dream Act. "Because when you go to Mexico, every now and then you are

stopped by local militias. They set out coffee cans and they have American guns. They stop everybody and search your car, and you will find things of value missing. Even the locals dislike them, and they dislike us for the drug wars.

"If we are so proud of our system of education, let's educate foreigners. Because we need to educate those we hope to influence—let's send them home as doctors and teachers. They will be our friends.

"I have always said that we should show them a better way, rather than showing them how to bully each other."

Son David Harold continues to farm in Olathe, allowing his father to step back, John said. "He is smart and innovative," Harold said. "He tries anything and everything. He started a soil health group a few

years ago, and he knows that water is the most viable resource in the valley for years to come; we have drip irrigation. David sees that there will be a big demand on our water down the road—I will be pushing up corn by then, but it will be a huge issue for his generation." That's because the sheer population numbers between Colorado and California will ultimately determine where the water will go, Harold believes. "We only have the right to divert water," he said. "It's not ours. Look at the Governor's Water Plan and the populations of the cities and towns in the lower basin—the increase is dramatic; some cities have grown by 1000 percent or 10,000 percent.

"It's like a poker game," he said. "You have to understand the hand you've got, and what the other players have."

## COLORADO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ENDORSES COLORADOCARE PLAN

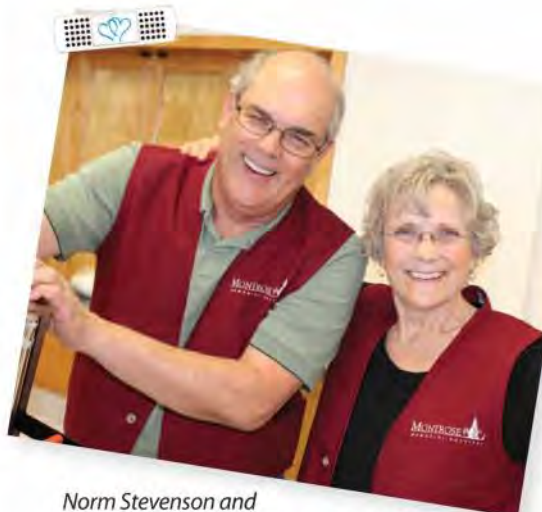


*ColoradoCare's Amendment 69 on next year's ballot promises to cover more residents than the Affordable Care Act at a lower cost to consumers. (Jeremy Campbell/Wikimedia Commons).*

### Special to the Mirror

DENVER- One of the state's leading non-partisan voices has endorsed [ColoradoCare](#), a health care plan on next year's November ballot. Barb Mattison, president of the League of Women Voters of Colorado, says the initiative would ensure all of the state's residents have access to mental health and substance abuse care, a priority for the group. And she says the plan would also cover thousands of Coloradans currently falling through coverage gaps under the Affordable Care Act. "We have too many people using emergency rooms for their care," says Mattison. "Every one of us now supports all that through our health care premiums. We need to even things out in Colorado, make care affordable for everyone."

Mattison adds low-income families, as well as people suffering from poor mental health and substance abuse, would be treated the same as any other patients under the initiative. The Colorado State Association of Health Underwriters opposes the plan and told the Denver Post a single-payer system could mean the end of private health insurance.



Norm Stevenson and Jan Stryker help at the annual Health Fair

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# COMMUNITY LIGHTNING RODS

## *Voices that spark conversations*

### WE HAVE TO COME TOGETHER: BOB BROWN



**Bob Brown.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

*Interview by Gail Marvel*

MONTROSE-Bob Brown moved to Montrose in early 2003 after retiring from Chevron Corporation as a manager of Geophysical Research in Houston.

Having lived on the East Slope during one of many

career re-locations the Browns were familiar with Colorado, however they knew little about Montrose. Bob said, "In 2001 we stopped by for a few days. We poked around on our own for the first day just to experience it [the community]. Then we engaged a realtor and he showed us around...we scratched all other communities off our list."

Airline connections between Houston and Montrose played a large role in the Browns decision to relocate to the area. With housing limited their first project was to build their own home.

During his time in Houston Bob lacked community involvement, "It was all about the job. That was one of the drivers for our moving here. We wanted to do it differently and be involved. We came here to stay."

Bob embarked on building condominiums in the city and then in 2007 decided to open Around the Corner Art Gallery on Main Street. Unfortunately the art gallery closed their doors in July 2015, but the business was the catalyst for getting Bob more involved in the downtown retail sector. "I started with being a part of Heart of the City, a forerunner (to involvement with) Montrose Area Merchants Association (MAMA). I was on the MAMA Board for about a year." A door of opportunity opened for Bob when Scott Sellers, former Montrose Assistant City Manager, approached businesses with the idea of a Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Bob said, "I was on the committee to vet the idea and then fortunate enough to chair the support group. I'm really proud of the work I did on the DDA and I chaired their board for three years."

Other community involvement for Bob has included being on the Colorado Mesa University Advisory Board, the Public Art eXperience (PAX) Committee, the Republican Party Central Committee, serving as a member and big supporter of Montrose Economic Development Corporation and serving on his church board. For someone who says he likes to work behind the scenes, Bob has an uncanny way of being propelled forward to serve as president or chair of many of the committees he serves

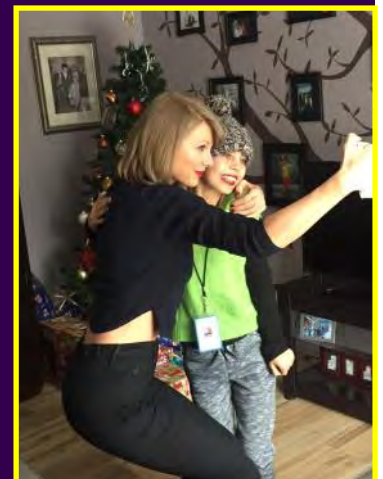
on. Bob has no interest in running for elected office, "I'd rather get things done. I want to be an instrument for getting things done at lower levels."

Bob feels involvement in committees is the key to a successful community. He said, "Committees are being killed off and the community is limited in ways to participate. Businesses and the private sector need to have a say and they need to be listened to. Public involvement comes through committees." A disturbing trend observed by Bob is that growing city government has become the biggest employment sector.

A self-described facilitator Bob said, "I'm not as creative as some, but I like to see things move forward. I try to lead by consensus." Bob recounted a leadership story from his early days in Air Force training. "We had to take turns learning how to march a squadron of about 30 men. I'm tall and they could see me, but when I turned around the whole squadron was about 90 paces behind me. I didn't get a very good grade when I left people behind." Speaking to the fragmented community of Montrose Bob said, "Well, we all agree that we like to live here, but we can't seem to agree on what we want to do. People can't move here and then want to shut the gate on others. We have to come together."

## HONORABLE MENTION

*To Delaney Clements of Grand Junction for that smile, to her new friend Taylor Swift for caring and showing up to meet Delaney (who has been fighting cancer) and to Delaney's family for sharing the experience with all of us. Merry Christmas. Courtesy photos.*







# The Homestead Fundraising



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## OBT EVENT SUPPORT SHIFTS TO "MAINLY MARKETING" IN 2016, RYAN SAYS

### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Youth Council offered an update on the many projects with which they are involved, and issued a Proclamation in Support of the regional Dark Skies Initiative at the [regular meeting](#) of the Montrose City Council Dec. 15, the last regular Council meeting of 2015. Uncompahgre Valley Association member Karen Sherman Perez spoke in support of the proclamation during the Call for Public Comment.

City Council also approved a City contribution of \$50,000 from its 2016 budget toward the Montrose County Indoor Arena Capital Project. The Arena project has been in the works for several years, Montrose County Manager Ken Norris informed Council. "We looked at capital projects, and where we can get the most bang for the buck in the community," Norris said. "With our ag-based community and successful fair and rodeo events, an indoor arena would be wonderful." In conferring with local community leaders and cowboys, the advice most often heard was ~~not~~ to make it too small," Norris said.

Plans for the facility, which is being designed by Architect Phil Motley, include 120,000 square feet of space on the ground floor and 40,000 square feet on the Mezza-

nine level. There will be 1,000 parking spaces and space in the bleachers for 4,000 spectators. "This is a big, big building," Norris said. Current cost estimates for the facility are \$8 million, to be offset by grants and contributions whenever possible. The Indoor Arena will be a marketing draw for visitors, along with the Montrose Pavilion and Friendship Hall, Norris said. Friendship Hall is already booked a year in advance, he noted. The Indoor Arena is tentatively scheduled for completion around the end of 2018.

Council approved sale of a City-owned 2005 F-150 pick-up truck to the Town of Olathe for the sale price of \$3,600; an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Montrose and Montrose Recreation District Regarding Shared Services; and a professional services Contract with Cartegraph company for the purchase of asset management software, integration, and training for the total 2016 price of \$106,792. Jeff Scheetz of the City's IT department noted that of five proposals received in a thorough competitive bid process, Cartegraph was the product of choice as well as the low bidder.

Council approved Ordinance 2363 on second reading, an Ordinance of the City of Montrose, Colorado, 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 January 1, 2015." Council approved Resolution 2015-24 as well, a resolution authorizing the conduct of the City of Montrose's mail ballot General Municipal Election of April 5, 2016.

Office of Business and Tourism staffer Stacey Ryan provided a recap of 2015 special events, and said that special event support in 2016 will be shifted mainly to marketing. "Our commitment remains very steadfast," Ryan said, and presented each Councilor with a framed FUNC 2015 poster.

During his public information officer reported, City Manager Bill Bell, who along with Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph is now sporting a beard, said the local economy is on an upward swing as the City enters 2016. "A lot of people are looking at our community," Bell said. "A lot of positive people in our community are pushing forward with partnerships and collaboration." Bell advised those who still have money to spend to —~~shop~~ local."

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*To support our Crime Stoppers program, send your tax deductible donations to Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. at 434 South First Street, Montrose, CO 81401.*

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# Experiencing the (local) Church

## WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS HOREB IGLESIA (CHURCH)



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—My visit to the Horeb Church took place on Dec. 13, 2015. The start time for worship was 11:45, however when I arrived I found a notice on the locked door written in Spanish. Thank goodness Arabic numerals are cross-cultural because the only thing I could read was 12:15.

I returned at 12:15 to find Pastor Mauro Zuniga and his wife Joanna rushing back from doing a program at Rosemont Baptist Church. The Horeb Church, a Spanish speaking church plant of Celebration Church, is also supported by Rosemont Baptist. The three congregations have joined forces in an —Adopt a Teen/Child” program and together they purchased Christmas gifts for 90 children. Joanna said, —The gifts are for the children who live in the West Main Trailer Court and for children in the Horeb church. Next Sunday there will be a special program and we’ll get together for dinner, share the Gospel and let the kids open gifts.”

Accompaniment for the five-member

praise team included two electric guitars and drums. Usually songs are displayed on an overhead screen, but unfortunately the soundman had a hospital emergency which left only the praise team with the words to the song selections. At the start of each selection I played a little bit of Name-That-Tune. However, Christmas songs are universal which allowed me to sing-along in English with —Joy to the World,” —Angels We Have Heard on High,” —Away in the Manger,” and —Oh Come All Ye Faithful.”

The average attendance for this congregation is about 35, but on this day there were 13 present and the ages ranged from middle-aged to youth. Prior to the sermon the children were dismissed to go to their age-appropriate class.

In some respect I became a detective listening for words or phrases that held some meaning. Even without knowing the language I could understand moments of praise, adoration and thanksgiving. In one segment of the service I heard names of people and I assumed it was in regard to prayer requests. When I heard —Facebook,”

which brought a chuckle from the audience, I knew the pastor had used an illustration...and I was the only one who missed the punchline.

Because we sang Christmas songs earlier I suspected the sermon might have been about the Christmas story. It wasn’t until about half-way through the message that Pastor Zuniga said, —Eua dos.” Ah-ha! Luke chapter two...the birth of Jesus. The pastor also mentioned Israel, not as a place, but as a people and I later learned he had referenced a passage from Isaiah.

For me, there were other identifiable words such as salvation, victorious, Christo, and Joseph and Maria. Spanish is nowhere near a second language for many of us, but it is possible to hear the Gospel message

in spite of a language barrier.

The Apostle Paul wrote, —If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say —Amen” to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? You may be giving thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified” (1 Cor 14:16-17).

Although I didn’t understand all that Pastor Zuniga said, I understood enough to be edified and confident in saying —Amen” to the congregation’s thanksgiving.

As I put on my coat to leave I was touched when Joanna ask me if the congregation could pray over me for my efforts in visiting churches and writing about the experience.

Of course I accepted, but then she asked, —Do you want us to pray in English or Spanish?” I choose Spanish...Muchas gracias, Amen!

*Horeb Iglesia Church  
2304 South Townsend  
Montrose, CO 81401  
720-322-9619*

**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*.**



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### DELTA HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES DONATE 5600 POUNDS OF FOOD TO AREA FOOD BANKS



*Gretchen Pulver, Food Service Manager and Mary Grosvenor, Manager of Nutrition Services look over some of the 5,700 pounds of food collected for area food banks, and shelters during a Delta County Memorial Hospital wide competition between hospital departments. Courtesy photo.*

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-The Third Annual Delta County Memorial Hospital "Holiday Food Fight" was a huge success. Hospital departments competed in teams to see who could donate the most food, toiletries and pet food for local food banks, with close to 5,700 lbs donated this

year. The grand total for 2015 was 5,696.15 pounds of food, toiletries and pet food. Total for 2014 was 3,147 pounds and for 2013 was 3,494 pounds.

The food donations were evenly divided among the Delta Food Pantry, the Abraham Connection, the Hotchkiss Elks Food Pantry, Surface Creek Community Services and the Surface Creek Animal Shelter. Contributions came from all nine hospital teams and one generous anonymous community member who heard about the food drive and donated 750 pounds of rice and beans. The top three teams were: First place 1463.4 pounds of food donated by Lab, Maintenance, Surgery/PACU, Anesthesiology. Second place with 1207.1 pounds of food donated by Radiology, Quality Services and Medical Records. Third place with 807.4 pounds of food donated by the DCMH Clinics – Internal Medicine, Premier Women's Healthcare of Delta, DCMH Family Medicine – Delta/Hotchkiss, DCMH Primary Care-Family Practice, Physical Medicine and Rheuma-

tology.

—Special thanks to the hospital staff of maintenance and nutrition services for all the help organizing, packaging and lifting. It wouldn't work without you." commented Mary Grosvenor, Manager of Dietary Department at DCMH. She also mentioned Sharon Wolf, from Radiology who sent out an email challenge to all hospital employees to beat last year's record donations, and it worked! —This is a great thing we do for our community, stated Grosvenor.

—It is a privilege to be able to give back to the community we serve. I'm very proud of the caring nature of the hospital employees and their dedication to our community," commented hospital CEO Jason Cleckler Delta hospital employees in the Christmas spirit also "adopted" 45 local area underprivileged families and children as part of the St. Nicholas Project managed by Marianne Hennessy of Delta and to provide the children and families with warm clothing, snow boots and toys.

Home Health of Western Colorado  
Montrose, CO

The Homestead at Montrose  
Montrose, CO

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

Valley Manor Care Center  
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## OPINION/EDITORIAL-COMMENTARY

# DISPATCH HEADS TO COURT: YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

By Gail Marvel  
Mirror Staff Editorial

The Players:

- The Montrose Regional Dispatch Center (MRDC) is operated by the Montrose County Sheriff's office and is represented by the county attorney.
- The Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (WCRDC), has apparently rebranded their name and now goes by WestCo. WestCo has an IGA with the City of Montrose for administrative services, including the use of city attorneys.

WestCo sought a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction to force the Montrose County Sheriff to provide dispatch services beyond Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> to entities in San Miguel County.

On Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> Judge J. Steven Patrick, 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Chief Judge, denied the temporary restraining order stating, "No irreparable harm will occur in the short term." The date of the hearing on the preliminary injunction is set for Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Judge Patrick said that because witness testimony heard during the temporary restraining order hearing is now on record, there is no need for it to be repeated during the upcoming preliminary injunction hearing.

In stark contrast, the WestCo side of the court room was packed with attorneys

(four or five), city representatives, and those with a vested interest in proceedings; while on the county's side of the room the lone representative was assistant Montrose County attorney Carolyn Clawson.

Judge Patrick agreed with the county's contention that the city had not properly served notice to them for the restraining order and the injunction.

He said, "Why wasn't the county served? You had two weeks to offer personal service." The judge rejected the suggestion that electronic filing constituted personal service.

Both WestCo and the County presented arguments in which each documented and justified their efforts to find a solution to the problem. The city argued that Sheriff Dunlap's timeline was a moving target - April 9 the city had 18 months to make other arrangements, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> it was reduced to one year, and on Sept. 30 it dropped to 90 days.

The county countered the city's timeline argument saying this whole situation was of the city's own making. It was widely reported in local newspapers that the new dispatch center would be operational by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

The idea of just going back to business as usual gets sticky because WestCo hired two dispatchers away from the county,

leaving the county understaffed to accommodate all of the entities it would need to serve.

WestCo Executive Director Mandy Stollsteimer is now scrambling to have her newly hired dispatchers trained under an emergency program offered through FEMA. Ms. Stollsteimer is suggesting that once her dispatchers are trained under Telecommunication Emergency Response Taskforce (TERT), the city would pay their salary, but they could work out of the county dispatch center. Throughout the proceedings county attorney Clawson maintained, "There is no emergency."

The San Miguel County Sheriff's office has agreed to provide dispatch services to the San Miguel entities, however WestCo is not in favor because there are stipulations attached. Among other things, WestCo employees placed with San Miguel would need to perform the same work as jail correctional officers and janitors. WestCo Executive Director Stollsteimer said, "It would be subpar communications if we have to go to [with] the San Miguel Sheriff's Office."

Montrose County Sheriff Dunlap has given contracts to all Montrose county entities, including the City of Montrose, to provide dispatch services through the first quarter on 2016.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENTS AROUND THE REGION!

*Special to the Mirror*

**REGIONAL**--There will be a 1930's themed 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](http://www.larkandsparrow.com). Tickets \$50-only 140 will be sold. Included are complimentary sips, dinner, dancing sweets, champagne toast. Also:

- Turn of the Century-Celebrate New Year's Dec. 31 with the excellent Blue Gators Band at Turn of the Century! Starting at 8:30 pm and ending at 1 am. Tickets are \$20, available in advance at Montrose Music or at the door. Includes Live Music, Hors D'oeuvres and a Midnight Champagne Toast. Discounted Rooms are available at Holiday Inn Express with shuttle service to and from the event. For rooms call 970-240-1800.
- Ring in the New Year in Ridgway at the historic Sherbino Theater! DeLand Garcia Band will bring the jams to ring in 2016. Doors and cash bar will open at 8 pm with openers, Fractalia, taking the stage at 8:30 pm. DeLand Garcia Band will start at 10 pm and play into 2016. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15.
- Ghost River Band will play at the Montrose Pavilion. \$5, at 9 p.m. Bring non-perishable food item for Sharing Ministries.
- RnR Sportsbar will host a 1970's-80's theme party with D.J.





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### HELPING OUT THE OURAY MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM



Barbara Wolfe, Dennis Alexander and Koree Schmidt from Alpine Bank photographed with part of the Ouray Mountain Rescue Team. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

OURAY – Alpine Bank is pleased to be

able to support the Ouray Mountain Rescue Team in their capital campaign to replace "Rescue 12."

After 19 years of service on countless lifesaving missions, their primary rescue vehicle, the venerable Rescue 12, as reached the end of its useful life. The vehicle is equipped with a customized boom pole and capstan system; it has served as a lifeline for their patients and rescuers alike on rescue missions throughout Ouray County.

The group started a capital campaign to raise \$65,000 to purchase a new half or three-quarter ton customized truck. The difference between life and death often depends on their ability to carry out safe and effective rescue attempts. Having a safe and reliable vehicle capable of back-country travel and patient/rescuer extraction is vital to the continued operation and success of this team. Alpine Bank is excited to contribute to this incredible community service and to do our part to help these amazing volunteers remain safe and effective for our community and surrounding areas.

About the Ouray Mountain Rescue Team

Formed in 1974, the Ouray Mountain Rescue Team is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving the technical rescue and back-country emergency medical services for Ouray County and the surrounding mountain communities of Southwestern Colorado. Their entirely volunteer based team is trained in technical rope rescue, emergency medicine, avalanche rescue, swift water, tracking, search management and communication. Their mission remains the same as it did over 40 years ago, —"Anyone, anywhere, any time".

About Alpine Bank

Alpine Bank is a \$2.7 billion, employee-owned organization chartered in 1973 with headquarters in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. With 38 banking offices across Colorado, Alpine Bank employs nearly 600 people and serves more than 130,000 customers with retail, business, wealth management\*, mortgage and electronic banking services. Alpine Bank was recently elevated to a 5-star rating for financial strength by BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation's leading bank rating firm. The 5-star rating is BauerFinancial's highest rating for financial institutions.

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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](mailto: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.

**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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. 21**-Ridgway Farmers Market, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Silver San Juan Building at 600 Sherman Street.

**Dec. 22**-Let's learn to Dance-Swing and Foxtrot. Lark & Sparrow Venue, 511 East Main Street. 6:30 p.m. RSVP.

**Dec. 29**—Let's learn to Dance-Swing and Foxtrot. Lark & Sparrow Venue, 511 East Main Street. 7:30 p.m. RSVP.

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**Dec. 31**-Montrose Pavilion Dance Club New Year's Dance with Ghost River Band. 9 p.m. \$5.

**Dec. 31**-RnR Sportsbar New Year's Party 1970's-80's theme with DJ.

**Jan. 5**-Poets Jewell and Judyth Hill to perform at Talking Gourds Poetry Club. 6 p.m. at Arroyo in Telluride.

**Jan. 6**-Talking Gourds Poetry Club poets to appear at Montrose Public Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Jan. 8-10**-Mosaics Workshops for Adults, Weehawken Creative Arts. Instructor Ann Cheeks. [www.weehawkenarts.org](http://www.weehawkenarts.org).

**Jan. 8**-Sherb Nerds Trivia Night at the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway, 6:30 p.m.

**Jan. 10**-Vocalist Deb Barr and Artist Kellie Day at the Sherbino Theater Living Room Lounge. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Jan. 16**-The KAFM RADIO ROOM Proudly Presents Robert Burns — Selected Works and the Music of Fifth Reel at 7:30 PM. Grand Junction's own Celtic band, Fifth Reel and friends will share many of Burns' most treasured songs and poems, and will play the hornpipes, jigs, strathspeys and reels that define Scottish Traditional Music. Fifth Reel is: Connie Smith, Norm Ashley, Mick Wilson, and Ron Young. They will be joined by special guests: Vocalist Kathleen Ruhleder, President of Clan Cameron Robert Cameron, Highland dancers Sarah Reed and Kim Kelleher, and piper Connor Wilson. Together they will create a multi-dimensional presentation truly honoring the star of this show, Robert Burns, and Scotland's traditional music. Scottish attire is admired but not required! Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext 202 or online at [www.kafmradio.org](http://www.kafmradio.org). The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m.

**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](http://foodfarmforum.org), or email [vista@livewellmontroseatthe.org](mailto:vista@livewellmontroseatthe.org). Reach us by phone at: [970.249.0705](tel:970.249.0705).

**Jan. 26-27**-The Secret Life of Drawing, workshop with Artist Meredith Nemirov. 10 to 2p.m. in Ridgway. [www.weehawkenarts.org](http://www.weehawkenarts.org).



# NEW YEAR'S EVE — HISTORIC — CELEBRATION



**December 31st, 2015 • 7:30 pm**

*1930's Themed Gala*

Early Bird Tickets: \$50 (until 12/24 @ 5:00pm) and \$65 after deadline.  
Only 140 tickets will be sold - Reserve your seat online.

**Celebration includes Complimentary Sip Ticket, Savors,  
Dinner, Sweets & Champagne Toast.**

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Sparrow**  
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**511 East Main Street, Montrose • [www.larknsparrow.com](http://www.larknsparrow.com)**

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

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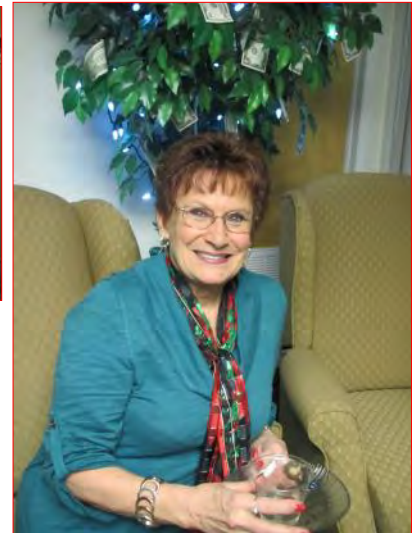
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[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)

*At left, Miriam Boling and  
Lori Winblood celebrate  
the season at Delta's Col-  
umbine Village Mall.*



*Above, a photogenic Jeannie  
Watkins at the Elderado Financial  
Services Holiday Open House.*



*At left, Debbie and Ray Blanchard at the Elderado Financial Services  
Holiday Open House Dec. 16; above center, elegant Janet Elder in-  
spires serious shoe envy at the open house.*

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

**970-252-0660**

Locations in both Montrose and Delta



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