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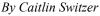
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CITY TABLES MAYFLY AGREEMENT, SETS JAN. 25 EXECUTIVE SESSION AT PROXIMITY SPACE



MONTROSE-Montrose City Council considered an incentives agreement for Mayfly Outdoors at its regular meeting Jan. 19. A sizeable crowd turned out to express support and concerns, and City Council ultimately tabled the agreement at the urging of Councilor Bob Nicholson.

The incentives package includes a combination of grants, accommodations and abatements: a \$50,000 cash grant for marketing; \$5,000 in broadband reimbursements for cable upgrades at Mayfly Outdoors' existing facility; and up to \$270,000 in disbursements for the addition of second-shift full time permanent (FTP) staffers, at \$5,000 per FTP. The complete Incentive Agreement is included in the <u>Council meeting packet</u>.

Following a brief discussion of the background and details of the Incentives Agreement by City Attorney Stephen Alcorn, Mayfly President David Dragoo and company Vice President Craig Baker spoke. According to Dragoo, the company has released five new products in the past 12 months, and will be working closely with *Continued on page 12*

RIDDLE STEPS DOWN FROM LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, PALADINO CONSIDERS FRIDAY CLOSURES

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) held a Board of Trustee Meeting on Jan. 21, 2016. The board, which still does not have its full complement of seven members, received yet another resignation, this time from board member Jeff Riddle.

Applicant Ed Hagins, whose appointment is pending, will be interviewed by the Montrose County Commissioners on Jan. 26th. The trustees directed Paul Paladino, MRLD executive director, to publish a public notice seeking applicants for the seat vacated by Riddle, whose term would have ended in December 2019.

Trustees present for the meeting were Anne Gulliksen, the only currently serving officer, and newlyappointed board members Caroline Evans and Tim Conner. Nucla board member Shelley Karo could not be reached by conference call and newly-appointed Trustee Emily Schneider was out of town for a previously scheduled meeting. *Continued on page 11*



Montrose Regional Library Director Paul Paladino has recommended to the board of trustees that the library close on Fridays. No action has yet been taken.

	in this issue	Gail Marvel's Club Connection!	Vintage Farmer Roger Bentley!	<i>Connect for Health Update!</i>	<i>Op/Ed-Letters and Commentary!</i>	Local Stories, Local photos!	
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Mayfly Outdoors Vice President Craig Baker and President David Dragoo address Montrose City Council and the community on Jan. 19. After hearing from concerned citizens the City tabled the Agreement for Executive Session at Proximity Space today at 5:30 p.m..

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

GRAVEL PIT DECISION WILL POSE SAFETY HAZARDS

Dear Editor:

The deleterious effects of the short-sighted approval of the gravel pit on T-Road by County Commissioners Davis and Henderson will soon come to roost on everyone using Highway 550.

The County and State have commissioned a consulting firm to make recommendations for a 1.07 mile Access Corridor for the pit using November 2015 County-provided traffic data, hardly a peak-volume month for Hwy 550. The pit will add a projected 60-70 trucks per day to the *entire* highway, not just the 1.07 mile gravel pit corridor.

Per CDOT, 47% percent of highway intersection accidents involve left-hand turns (turning in); 27% are left-hand turning out accidents. Consider the numerous driveways and roads that intersect Hwy 550 which may require left-hand turns. Leftturning vehicles can either slow down or stop traffic, causing long lines of vehicle stacking. Adding numerous large, slow gravel trucks will cause enormous frustration and hazard to other vehicles, because there are either no or few deceleration or acceleration lanes. Those driveways and crossroads will become more dangerous than the actual pit —Acess Corridor" which will at least have ingress and egress lanes.

The gravel pit owners should be required to provide safety lanes for every driveway and crossroad on Highway 550 from Montrose to Government Springs Road.

Why should County and/or State taxpayers be forced to assume the expense of making the highway safer in the future after numerous accidents? Public apathy towards or resignation to the County's pandering to, and support of, one entity should end.

We should demand the County refocus on the welfare and best interests of the public by addressing the dangerous conditions imposed on an extensive section of Hwy 550 by approval of the pit. Voice your concerns/opinions to CDOT and County Officials.

M. Elizabeth Tesitor, Montrose

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And to Montrose Regional Crimestoppers President John W. Nelson, for working so hard to make Montrose a better place to live.



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COUNTY APPROVES TRADEMARK APP FOR RIMROCKER TRAIL LOGO

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Following approval of Consent Agenda items at the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Jan. 19, Citizen Roger Brown asked County staff for more information on why the County had paid a retainer to the local law firm of Crossley and Stevenson for a trademark application associated with the Rimrocker Trail.

-Can we find out a little about that?" Brown asked. Montrose County Government Affairs Director Jon Waschbusch explained that the firm would trademark the logo for the trail for a flat fee, to protect the County's intellectual property. -The proposed route of the trail is over the plateau to Nucla, from Buckeye Reservoir to the Utah border, and from there...to Moab," Waschbusch said.

Commissioner David White referred to the Rimrocker Trail as a tourism opportunity, while Commissioner Glen Davis commended Waschbusch for taking on the project. —This trail from Montrose Moab will help the economy of the West End," Davis said, and noted that the trail would open in late June —depending on the snow over the Lasalles."

Citizen and 2016 Commissioner Candidate Dave Frank suggested that the County send a news release out about the trail.



Montrose BOCC candidate Dave Frank suggests that the County issue a news release about the new Rimricker Trail, which extends from Montrose to Moab.

-There have been several press releases," Davis

said. -But when we officially open this trail, we will have a party-and the whole County is invited."

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FARMER ROGER BENTLEY CHAMPIONS VINTAGE AGRICULTURE



Farmer Roger Bentley presented at the Food and Farm Forum in Montrose this past week. Bentley practices vintage, or "old school," farming methods on 90 of his 300 acres. Photo by Tanya Ishikawa.

By Tanya Ishikawa

DELTA–When Roger Bentley was asked to give a presentation about growing grains at last week's Food & Farm Forum, he saw the conference theme, Farming Futures: Human-Landscape Transformations for the 21st Century, and thought to himself, _Sounds like some kind of liberal agenda.'

The libertarian who splits his time between his farm and his chiropractic practice still said yes to the request to participate in the event, which brought a less conservative, more eco-activist crowd to the Montrose Pavilion. The fact is, Bentley shares a belief in most of the basic growing practices of the organic, local and slow food movements, even though it seems most of his political views don't align with them.

-+think farmers have forgotten farming is a way of life – a way to provide for neighbors and family. It's gotten too commercialized, industrial, stock oriented, and way over subsidized," he said. -+don't believe in being a commodity grower. I use, store, sell or trade the grains I grow locally. It keeps the community actively engaged and provides for our own neighbors."

When he bought his property in the Peach Valley area of Delta County in 1983, he dropped all the agricultural subsidies previously attached to the land, because he doesn't want or need that enhancement – or detriment as he calls that type of government —wlfare." Today, he said, —The farm has literally paid for itself. It's nearly debt free. It's a beautiful way of life."

His parents hailed from the plains of Oklahoma where his father farmed dry land on old tractors, planting wheat year after year. Bentley grew up in Montrose, went away to college, and started his first chiropractic practice on Colorado's Front Range in 1980, moving back to the Western Slope in 1998.

Though he has grown corn a couple times in the past, he found it too cost prohibitive with low market value locally. His main crops are rye, wheat and sometimes oats, rotated with hay production. He has also been making flour with his own flour mill for the last eight or nine years.

His wholesale buyers and trading partners, mostly other growers, farmers and ranchers who buy his grains for livestock feed, are all within 20 to 30 miles, no further away than Paonia or Montrose. He also feeds the pigs that he raises.

-I don't have chickens anymore because my neighbor has them so I can get eggs from them. I also used to have a milk cow but now I get milk from my neighbor's cow," he explained.

-H do raise my own beef. I will have two to three cows when I can get them from a farmer that uses no antibiotics and no immunizations, and that are all grass fed."

He practices what he calls vintage farming on 90 of his 300 acres, most of which is left growing naturally with greasewood and sagebrush. —Ike a vintage car is old, vintage farm practices are old school," he explained.

Pests and weeds are controlled by nature alone; he has never sprayed his land nor put commercial fertilizers on the ground. He uses chicken litter and feedlot manure, and controls weeds mechanically or by hand, cutting or burning them. He mainly works the farm on his own, but hires occasional day labor when needed. He rotates his crops to revitalize his fields and leases the pastures to neighbors' cows for forage in winter.

The other reason for the vintage label on his farming method is that he uses old equipment, which is smaller to suit his small acreage. <u>-</u>produce quality not necessarily quantity," he observed.

He is adamant about avoiding the use of GMOs (genetically modified organisms) in his crops. At the same time, he is completely against requiring the labeling of GMOs in foods.

Though his methods are similar to organic growers and he uses only soil enhancements that are approved under organic standards, he prefers not to get certified as organic. In 2003 and 2004, when he was only farming 25 acres, he got five acres certified. At the time, the process was reasonably priced, he said, but then a government board was added to the certification process and the cost of certification went up 800 percent.

A VINTAGE FARMER: ROGER BENTLEY From page 4

Bentley admits that vintage farming on a small, community scale has its challenges, like dealing with county property tax assessments that don't recognize the difference between the amount he can produce with his methods compared to commercial growers. Still, he believes the results are worth the effort. —The grains I grow have great food value because I control the inputs," he said. —You can get a truckload of grain from Minnesota, and you have to take the farmers' word that it's not tainted with chemical sprays. Most are reputable, but you don't always know the credibility of the producer. — hate to go to a grocery store because you don't know what's in there. Ninety percent of vegetables in grocery stores are genetically modified and who knows about what's in the meat," he concluded. — When I buy a grass-fed cow, I know my neighbor who raised it, so I know there are no enhancements. Buying a steak from my neighbor is also kind of fun." *Roger Bentley's Film Recommendation:*

The Future of Food

(<u>www.thefutureoffood.com</u>) is directed by Deborah Koons Garcia and was released in 2004. This documentary distills the complex technology and consumer issues surrounding major changes in the food system today – genetically engineered foods, patenting, and the corporatization of food – into terms the average person can understand and empowers consumers to realize the consequences of their food choices on our future.

MEREDITH NEMIROV THE SECRET LIFE OF DRAWING

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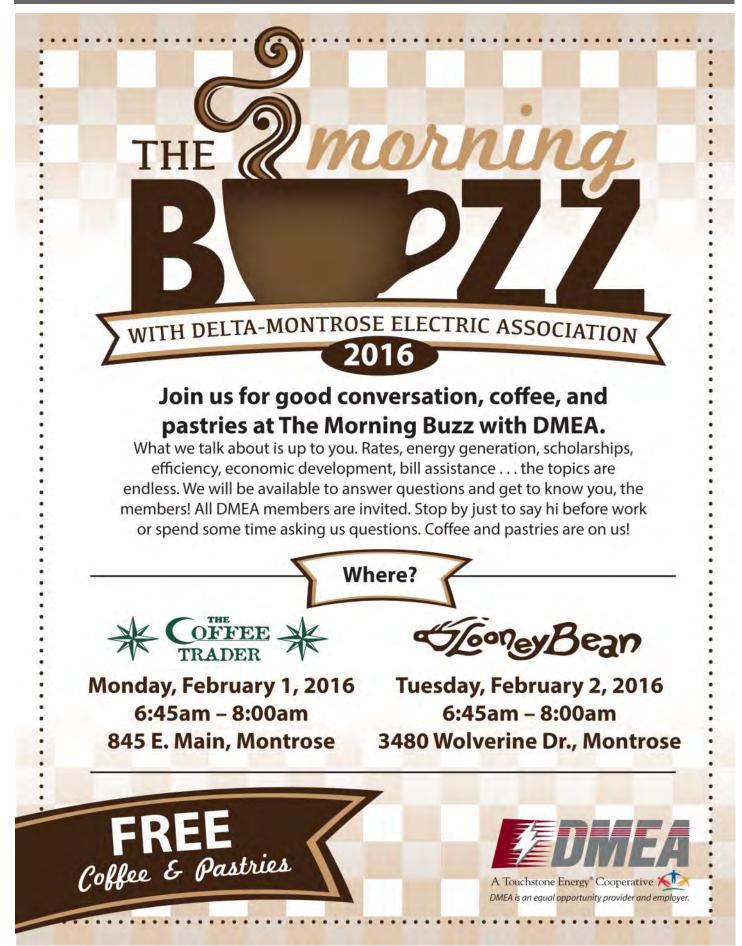
Mirror staff report MONTROSE-Tia's Treasures is now open at 1246 East Main Street in Montrose. Reach them by phone at 970-901-8138.

The Mirror welcomes New Business Recognition ideas from our readers... share your great experiences with us at editor@montrosemirror.com!



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Thursday, February 4, 2016: 12:45 pm-1:30 pm - Montrose Senior Center (Montrose Pavilion), 1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose

Tuesday, February 16, 2016: 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm - Region 10 Building, 300 N Cascade Ave, Sneffels Conference Room

Contact Erin Berge at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org for more information

CANDIDATE MORGENSTERN SHARES VIDEO OF CONTENTIOUS MEETING WITH COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE



One of two contentious meetings intended to field City Council candidates. Mirror file photo.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-We live in a technological society where everything we do or say has the potential to be caught on camera. The Montrose political landscape is not exempt from scrutiny and a videotape is now making its way to the office of the Colorado Attorney General.

Two public community meetings designed to find and encourage candidates to run for Montrose City Council were chaired by retired school teacher Marge Morgenstern.

The first meeting took place on Sept. 21, 2015 and was attended by a standing room only crowd of less than 100 people. Many of those in attendance were there to oppose and protest the efforts of those who called the meeting. The environment was contentious.

The second meeting took place on Nov. 19, 2015 with about 40 people in attend-

ance. At the beginning of this meeting Morgenstern made a disclaimer to the audience stating that because the first meeting was so tumultuous she decided to have the second meeting professionally videotaped. Again opposition, although less of a presence than at the first meeting, was forceful, outspoken and intimidating toward those holding the meeting and to anyone contemplating running for city council.

As reported previously in the *Mirror*, —Toward the end of the meeting a veiled threat, and what might well border on candidate intimidation, came from Jim (LJ) Anderson. Speaking to Ms. Morgenstern, Anderson said, —Ay candidate you run will look like fools when we call them out. We will ask them questions about what they don't know! If you run a candidate, they better be able to answer [our] questions." It is unknown who the collective ---w" that Anderson was referring to, however it was obvious that he spoke for a group, rather than speaking as an individual.

On Jan. 14, 2016 Morgenstern submitted the videotape of the second meeting to Colorado Attorney General Cynthia Coffman and requested her office review the video to ascertain if any election laws (candidate intimidation) or civil rights laws were violated.

Morgenstern charges that disruptive attendees at the meeting ridiculed, intimidated and bullied those who may have wanted to run for city council. She said, -**H**'s all recorded on the flash drive. I'll let the video speak for itself."

It was only after the second meeting that Morgenstern herself considered running for city council, –It seemed to me that no one was going to run, so I picked up a packet and a petition...I refuse to be intimidated."

City council candidates have until 6 pm Jan. 25th to turn in signed petitions to the city clerk. The city election, which is not based on party affiliation, will be held on April 5, 2016.

The office of the Colorado Attorney General (AG) has since contacted Ms. Morgenstern regarding her concerns of candidate intimidation and requests for review, and has suggested she contact: The District Attorney for the 7th Judicial District - Investigates potential crimes committed. The Colorado Civil Rights Commission – Civil rights violations.

The Colorado Secretary of State – Election laws.



CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Montrose Sheriff's Office are seeking the help of citizens to locate and apprehend the perpetrator(s) involved in the following incident(s). Sometime between the night of January 16 and the morning hours and January 17, person or persons unknown broke windows out of 7 vehicles in the West Montrose Area. Windows were broken out of the vehicles on Marine Road, Fruit Park Road, and Earle Lane.

Anyone with information about the sus-

pect(s) or the location of the stolen item(s) can call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500. Crime Stoppers and the Montrose Sheriff's Office want your Information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the caller may receive a cash award.



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RIDDLE STEPS DOWN FROM LIBRARY BOARD From pg 1

Although the board had a quorum with three out of the five currently appointed present, they postponed electing new officers and making committee assignments until other board members were in attendance.

During the Librarian's Report Paladino discussed budget issues and the fact that the library staff is down about a third from its high of 42 personnel. He said, –I will be recommending to the board that we close an additional day [Friday]." While the board brought up alternative ideas, Paladino said he had already researched those suggestions and did not find them to be the best options for MRLD. One scenario discussed was simply having the library open with service desks unattended and custom-

Paladino continues to glean information from the library staff to come up with solutions to the current financial pinch. He said, –We just don't have the number of bodies that we had before." No action was taken on closing the library for an additional day.

With the revolving door of MRLD trustees, it appears that leadership, decisions, recommendations and research come to and through the executive director Paladino as the one constant in the organization. For the last couple of years the executive director has taken the minutes for the board meetings. However, that duty has now been turned over to a library staff member, which will allow the director to be more engaged in the meetings.

Under old business, the discussion to place a Peace Pole on MRLD property was tabled because there was no report available from board member Karo, who had previously volunteered to research information on the Peace Pole.

Starting in February the MRLD board meetings will move to 3 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

However, because of a scheduling conflict the February meeting will take place at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3. The March meeting will be on the first Monday of the month.

2016 Health Fair Early Blood Draws

Montrose Pavilion February 3, 4, 5, & 6 6:30-9:30 a.m.

Additional Locations for Early Blood Draws January 30th 4H Event Center in Ridgway 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.

> February 1st American Legion Hall in Olathe 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.

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Health Fair 2016 is Saturday, February 27 The lines are long, so MMH offers early blood draws to make it more convenient for you.



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TEI ROCK DRILLS

CITY TABLES MAYFLY AGREEMENT, SETS EXECUTIVE SESSION From page 1



Political watchdog Roger Brown speaks to the Montrose City Council on Jan. 19.

Colorado Mesa University (CMU).

-We are very excited for our future here," Dragoo said.

Angler Joel Evans spoke in favor of the Mayfly incentives package, and pointed out that marketing opportunities exist to capitalize on two other local companies that cater to the fly fishing industry, Scott Fly Rod and Whiting Farms of Delta. —**A** three are major players in the industry and well known to fishermen," Evans said, adding that Montrose has had a successful fly fishing expo for years.

Eric Lee of Montrose also spoke in support of the agreement. —When I moved here a year ago, one thing that drew me was the fly fishing, as well as the other outdoor opportunities here, and the companies that call Montrose home," Lee said. —Having Mayfly here is a tremendous asset; I support the incentives package."

Calling the process of attracting companies a bidding game, Jim Renfrow said,—This is a really good program and you just need to pass it.

-If you don't think we need the jobs I invite you to lunch at the soup kitchen tomorrow."

Speaking against the deal was Dee Laird. -I-support Mayfly coming here but I don't support the program in which you put \$341,000 in taxpayer dollars on the table," Laird said. —Ay way you cut it that filters down to the bottom line. A lot of folks don't think that's an appropriate use of tax dollars."

He urged Council not to take action that

night.

Councilor Bob Nicholson informed Laird that his comments were -out of order," as the hearing was being held to discuss the incentives package and look for errors, not whether or not to offer one. -We had a good letter (concerning errors) from Bill Bennett, who frankly should be congratulated," Nicholson commented.

Roger Brown said that he was surprised at Nicholson's comments, stating that the net gain would be 29 jobs for \$279,000. He used the example of local solar company

Brightleaf Technologies, which declared bankruptcy earlier this month. -In 2010 they promised to bring 400 jobs here," Brown said, --wth extraordinary sales of, I believe, \$100, 000,000. -Now I hear that the City spent \$10,000 for a solar array at their water treatment facility just as the company was trying to refinance its debt. And then there was Extra Aircraft—a whole lot of incentives were planned there.

Ht's just rubbish," Brown said. -Cable upgrades? What can I do to qualify? It would be nice to have every business get the same deal—we have seen three deals tonight that seem unfair to the rest of the community. What should be available for one should be available for all."

Brown also asked if Councilors had read Mayfly's business plan, but none stated that they had, which Brown called -shocking."

Downtown night club owner Yvonne Meek also addressed Council. – welcome Mayfly here but I think everybody should get a deal like this," she said. — Aot of small businesses downtown have been investing their own dollars."

Meek said that she has invested a total of \$500,000 in her own downtown building, the former Masonic Temple.

-Because of the improvements I am going to pay higher taxes," she said. -I-did not ask for incentives and breaks. It's frustrating to be working so hard, and to practically live at the space as so many business owners do here."

Meek told Council that it is not fair to

offer incentives to one business but not another.

-You need to start thinking about the rest of the community," she said. —There are empty storefronts downtown; do something about it. Don't pick and choose who you choose to support."

Others who spoke included business owners Terri Leben, Dennis Mitchell, and Republican Party Chair Scott Riba.

Leben, whose family owns several local businesses including Welcome Western Colorado and Cactus Car Wash, spoke of selling the family business in Wisconsin and relocating to Montrose. —Aot of people like us have put in their own money," she said. —If this is the start of the City and County being more business friendly, that's great. But can my clients come in and see what you can do to help THEM expand? If we can work together to create a more vibrant business community, that's a great thing."

—Aot of people didn't see or understand what's been going on here," he said.

Noting that the Montrose business community is still suffering from economic blight, Riba called the Mayfly deal –a redistribution of wealth" that amounts to –eorporate welfare."

-H^{*}s corporate blackmail," Riba said. -Is the best use of our tax dollars corporate welfare? Taking money from the taxpayers to be distributed to a multi-million dollar company? I too am a business owner, but nobody offered to bring broadband to my office."

Nicholson, noting that the City has lost 110 residents in the past five years, mentioned Montrose's ongoing broadband efforts.

-In the interest of the public we better move forward on this (Incentives Agreement)," Nicholson said.

-We have put in a huge amount of time, and it has been a really interesting, tough process. We have to protect the public but we also have to protect Mayfly. This has been a real piece of work."

After more discussion by councilors, City Council moved to table the Incentives Agreement, which will be considered again in Executive Session at the Abrams Proximity Space on Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Have a lead for us? Reach the Mirror Publishing Group at 970-275-0646, or editor@montrosemirror.com.

WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION MONTROSE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL!



The inaugural breakfast meeting for the Montrose Rotary Club was held in July of 2014. Courtesy photo.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The first Rotary Club was established in 1905 in Chicago and is now known as Rotary International. According to current Montrose Rotary President David Crane, –We are the premiere service club in our community." The local club holds a half a dozen service events each year.

A requirement for membership into Rotary is that the candidate is a person of good reputation. David said, –We look for people who can control their own time [professionals]. There is a process to membership.

Occasionally someone will come to us wanting to join, but more often we find them and invite them to join." Rotary dues are \$575 a year, with an additional community service component of \$300 which can be paid out of pocket, or worked off through serving on fundraisers. Although actual administrative duties are done on a volunteer basis, the dues collected cover the costs associated with administration as well providing members with the weekly breakfast or lunch.

Currently club membership totals 95, with about an 85 percent participation rate. In order to accommodate the business sector's schedules, members can choose between attending a casual breakfast discussion meeting, or the more formal lunch meeting, which has more attendees. David said, –We are one club, but we have two meetings. The traditional lunch meeting lasts a little over an hour and includes an invocation, singing songs, and using a podium." Meetings are held every Tuesday with the breakfast meeting taking place at the Colorado Mesa University Montrose campus and the lunch meeting at The Bridges.

The fiscal year for Rotary runs from July to June and the umbrella theme for 2015-2016 is, -Year of the Healthy Child" with a focus on improving the intellectual, physical and emotional health of children and their well-being. David said, -Kids here [Montrose area] have more needs than are being met. Our goal for this year was \$50,000, but by last November we surpassed the goal and raised \$90,000 to give to the local community." The club is in the process of taking grant applications and those who wish to apply can go to <u>montroserotary.org</u> and look under the subtitle, -How to apply for a community grant."

Other outreaches in the community grant. Other outreaches in the community include scholarships, giving dictionaries to every third grader, and the —**B**oes for Kids Program." David said, —In the last eight years we've given well over 1,000 pairs of shoes to local children." The main fund-



The Rotary Winter Carnival is held annually on the last Saturday of February at Cerro Summit. The event is free and Rotarians provide inner-tubes, rides to the top of the mountain, a warm fire, hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks. The 2016 carnival, which will be marking its 20th year, will be held on Feb. 27. Courtesy photo.

raiser for the club, and the most visible in the community, is a yearly raffle for cash prizes which is held during the fall.

When ask about any club weaknesses President David Crane said, -H's easy to fall back on our successes and rest on our laurels. We've already accomplished a lot and there's a tendency to say we don't have to try so hard...let's just keep doing what we've always done. A lot of people in our club have helped set a new vision. We don't want to rest on our laurels."

Rotary has been instrumental in building the Pavilion, purchasing the first mammography equipment for the hospital and establishing the Montrose Community Foundation.

The local Rotary Club is regional in makeup with membership coming from Ouray, Ridgway, and Olathe. The motto for Rotary International is <u>-Service above self.</u>"

Contact Information:

Montrose Rotary Club International President David Crane 970-417-2597 Meets Tuesday (breakfast) 7:30-8:30 am at CMU Montrose campus Meets Tuesday (lunch) Noon – 1:15 pm at The Bridges

GET A PLAN BY JANUARY 31...AVOID A FINE! Connect for Health Deadline is Jan. 31



The Montrose Connect for Health office is now located at the Park Avenue Professional Building.

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL-If you file taxes this year without a health insurance plan in place, you may be costing yourself money due to IRS fines. Local Connect for Health staffers in Montrose and Delta want to be sure that nobody loses their hard-earned tax refund when it can still be prevented.

-Montrose County residents who have

signed up for a plan will receive an average tax credit of \$424," Connect for Health's Lynn Caretta said.

Aross the state the average tax credit is \$228, but because our premiums are higher herein our region we get a better tax break."

However, -the IRS has the ability to take your tax refund away if you do not have

insurance," she said. —We worry that people will file their taxes and expect the usual check back—but if you have no insurance you won't get it.

-- hope people know that they can avoid the fines," Caretta said.

-You have until Jan. 31, 2016. After that, you cannot buy health insurance unless you have a life-changing event. It will be too late."

Life changing events do not include not being able to obtain a tax refund, Connect for Health Staffer Alicia Plantz said.

However, those who have gone through an event such as a birth, death, divorce, loss of a job or move may apply for insurance within days of that happening.

While this year's tax penalty would be two percent, that percentage will rise each year, Caretta said. The penalty for 2016 could be 2.5 percent.

Those who missed Connect for Health's Open House in Delta this past weekend still have time to enroll, however.

-Our services are free," Caretta said, -and financial assistance is available. We have moved our locations to the Park Avenue Professional Building in Montrose, and to the Brown Building in Delta.

-We just want people to come in and get a quote on what insurance would cost," she said. -You might be surprised."

According to Connect for Health statistics, federal tax dollars that were returned to Montrose County residents who purchased health insurance through the exchange in 2014 amounted to \$4,890,252.



CITY APPROVES PIC PLACE GRANT APP, VIEWS THIRD VIDEO IN SERIES



City Council and Staffer Virgil Turner view the third in a series of "My Montrose" promotional videos created by Abrams Co. at the Council meeting on Jan. 19.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE- Montrose City Council welcomed a presentation by Montrose Regional CrimeStoppers board president John W. Nelson on National CrimeStoppers Month, and previewed the third installment of the -My Montrose" video series being produced for the City by Abrams PR at its regular meeting Jan. 19. The videos, intended as promotional materials, have so far featured digital music, outdoor footage shot under overcast skies and lengthy studio interviews with sitting Council members, City staff, rec district officials, and Todd Haynes of Haynes Excavation.

Council presented Key Citizen Awards to Bill Harris and Ralph Files for their work on the Cerro Summit Trails Project. During the Call for Public Comment Montrose concert promoter Dave Bowman addressed Council. Introducing himself as an official City Council Candidate, Bowman expressed anxiety over the new, notyet-released *Montrose Winter Visitor Guide*.

-(OBT Director and Assistant City Manager) Rob Joseph has announced that you have a new Visitor Guide," Bowman said. -I'm glad that we have new Visitor Guide. I have heard there are some problems. I asked Rob for a copy but he won't give me one. You have 80,000 copies and I don't know how you will get rid of them, but I would like to get one copy."

Jim Renfrow also addressed Council to comment on the need for a local homeless shelter. —The pain and suffering in Montrose is the worst I have seen since I have been here," Renfrow said. He pointed out that many of those who seek shelter at the Abraham Connection Shelter in Delta are coming from Montrose, and added – know of two couples who are sleeping by the river tonight-- We've got a real problem." Renfrow suggested the City of Montrose take the lead in pursuing a local shelter for homeless people.

Council also approved a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA); a CDBG agreement between the City of Montrose and Sharing Ministries, Inc.; and a \$600,000 Promissory Note to Sharing Ministries, Inc.

Resolution 2016-01 was approved as well, allowing the City to file an application requesting up to \$600,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through DOLA to relocate, expand, and remodel the Community Dental Clinic to create a much larger entity called <u>-PIC</u> Place" in Montrose.

The City will provide \$10,170 in fiber optic connections, building permit and plan check fees estimated at \$9663.97, and grant administration to the project.

PIC Place would be located in the former motor sports shop at 87 Merchant Drive, which is set to close Feb. 17. The new facility will include not only dental care but primary care and behavioral health services.

Councilor Rex Swanson asked Community Dental Clinic Executive Director Melanie Hall if she had approached Montrose County for additional funding. –Not yet," Hall said.

The new clinic will create a single delivery point for services, she said. –Many people have transportation and language issues," Hall said.

-If in one stop we can meet more of their health care needs we all benefit as a community."

City Council also considered the Incentives Agreement with Mayfly Outdoors (see related story).



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Page 16

Photo by Ray Dileo.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BOSOM BUDDIES ANNOUNCES EARLY DETECTION CAMPAIGN

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Bosom Buddies aka The Breast Cancer Support Group of Southwestern Colorado is joining with Alpine Bank, San Juan Cancer Center at Montrose Memorial Hospital, and Cherry Creek Radio to promote monthly breast self-exams.

-Early detection is the number one way to beat breast cancer," said Patti Powel of Bosom Buddies. — A of us at Bosom Buddies are excited to team with these local sponsors to create a campaign to remind everyone just how important it is to check yourself on a regular basis.

The focus of the promotion will be to perform a monthly self-exam the first thing hearing a lot about this subject. We en-

in the morning on the first day of each month.

Allison Nadel of Alpine Bank, member FDIC, said, -It only takes one minute each month. Many women forget to take care of themselves first so that they can then take care of their families."

According to Leann Tobin of Montrose Memorial Hospital, -We plan to distribute information on how to perform a self-exam and examples of what to look for when examining yourself. Of course, if you find anything unusual, you should talk to your care provider immediately."

-In the next couple of months, you'll be

courage everyone to do a self-exam and, hopefully, make it a monthly routine," said Powel.

Bosom Buddies offers support to the residents of southwestern Colorado with group meetings every Wednesday at noon. The organization also offers financial assistance for a variety of breast cancer medical procedures, and educational assistance to those who qualify. Hat, scarves, wigs and prosthesis supplies are available at the Bosom Buddies office at 645 S. 5th Street in Montrose.

Bosom Buddies can be reached via email at info@bosombuddiesswc.org or at 970-252-2777.

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SURPLUS COUNTY VEHICLES UP FOR AUCTION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE.-- Are you looking to get a great deal on a well-maintained vehicle? Good news—four surplus county vehicles are now available on GovDeals.com online auction site. Following action from the Board of County Commissioners, these decommissioned patrol vehicles were identified as surplus trucks and sent to public auction.

"Since the vehicles are sold in an auction

format, community members often have the opportunity to take advantage of great prices," said Assistant County Manager Dave Laursen. "Most of our vehicles are purchased by out-of-state buyers looking for vehicles with minimal rust, and we want to make sure that our local community is aware of these auctions." County vehicles receive routine maintenance every 5,000 miles and are meticulously maintained. Another advantage that local buyers have over those out of the area is the opportunity to come inspect the vehicles in person.

The four pick-up trucks are 2008 half-ton models with mileage ranging from approximately 112,000 to 122,000. For more information on the trucks, please visit www.govdeals.com and search "Montrose." To view the trucks locally or inquire about maintenance, please contact the Fleet Department at 970-964-2440.

BOOKCLIFF BARBERSHOP HARMONY CHORUS DELIVERS SINGING VALENTINES FROM PALISADE TO MACK

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION--Singing Valentines will be available again in the Grand Valley this year. Call the dedicated Barbershop phone number: 970-257-7664 and set one up with Jack. On Feb. 12, 13 or 14; he can send you a quartet dressed in tuxedos delivering two LOVE songs, a red rose and a simple card with your words on it from 8 AM to 8 PM from Palisade to Mack for only \$45. Bonus Bargain for showing your LOVE for/to someone!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK SUPPORTS MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS INC.



In honor of both the Montrose County and City of Montrose proclamations of January being Crime Stoppers Awareness Month, Alpine Bank provided a \$1500 donation to Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers Inc. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror MONTROSE - Alpine Bank is proud to support the Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers. In honor of both the Montrose

County and City of Montrose proclamations of January being Crime Stoppers Awareness Month, Alpine Bank provided a \$1500 donation to Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers Inc.

-We are happy to be able to support a local organization that is making a difference in our community and surrounding area" says Allison Nadel, Regional Marketing Director for Alpine Bank. About Alpine Bank

Alpine Bank is a \$2.7 billion, employeeowned 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.

Learn more at www.alpinebank.com.

FRIDAY'S POP UP JAZZ CLUB IN **RIDGWAY TO BE A ONCE IN A BLUE MOON EVENT...**

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-7:30 pm - One Night Only -The Blue Moon Jazz Club is popping up in evening promises to be a great deal of fun Ridgway for Weehawken's Annual Fundraiser on Friday, Jan. 29th. For one night only, on Friday, the Blue Moon Jazz Club is the venue for Weehawken's annual fundraiser and donor appreciation event. Weehawken Creative Arts is transforming the Sherbino Theater into a swanky jazz club where guests can come dressed to the nines and go out to be seen. The paparazzi will eagerly be waiting to snap a shot of the glamour and style at the door, and regional jazz band, -Take Five" will be the entertainment for the evening creating the perfect atmosphere for dancing, mingling, and more dancing. Appetizers and desserts throughout the evening, a cash bar with signature drink specials, dancing to a jazz band ensemble, striking a pose for the paparazzi---all just a typical night at the Blue Moon Jazz Club. Doors open at 7:30pm on Friday, January 29th at the Sherbino Theater, 604 Clinton Street, Ridgway, CO

81432.

Event Chair, Sandy Kern said: -This and entertainment for a wonderfully worthy cause. The committee has been planning for months and we are so excited about presenting a memorable evening for all." Just \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door will grant entry to an evening of jazz, style, and fun. All ticket sales will go to benefit Weehawken Creative Arts. . Weehawken Creative Arts is a non-profit organization based in Ouray County that offered over 200 classes over the past year alone to both adults and children. They have a small classroom and storage space in Ouray and a classroom and office space in Ridgway. They also offer the Soulshine Artists' Cooperative in Ridgway, which is a 24-hour artist studio space with clay equipment for up to nine artists to share. Weehawken's programs are also offered to youth in Montrose and Silverton as well. Further, Weehawken hosts and organizes a multitude of events and programs for the

communities each year: The Ridgway Rendezvous Arts and Crafts Festival; The Nutcracker and 2 other major dance productions; The Annual Gingerbread House Workshops; The Sneffels Fiber Festival; The Annual Amateur Sculptor Contest and more! Executive Director, Ashley King noted,

-We are so grateful for our incredible annual business sponsors and annual patron families. Both are essential to achieving our goals for success. The Blue Moon Jazz Club will be a way to experience a new jazz club' in Ridgway, and it is a great excuse to send in a contribution with a little extra padding so that you (and a guest) can have full access to this wonderful, fun night. It's a great way for us to say thank you to our patrons as well!" For information on supporting Weehawken as an annual patron, or for information on tickets or the Blue Moon Jazz Club event visit www.weehawkenarts.org or at www.facebook.com/weehawkenarts or by calling 970.318.0150.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MMH HEALTH FAIR SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 27

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Memorial Hospital's annual Health Fair will be Saturday, Feb. 27 from 6:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Montrose Pavilion. Early Blood Draws, held in conjunction with the Health Fair, will be February 3-6 from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. Early Blood Draws will also be available on February 1 at the American Legion Hall in Olathe, from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. and on January 30 in Ridgway, at the 4-H Events Center from 7-10 a.m.

Appointments for ALL three locations must be made for the Early Blood Draws. Appointments can be made at www.MontroseHospital.com January 17-27th or by calling 1-888-592-6255 January 18 and 19 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 pm. Appointments are not necessary on the day of the Health Fair.

The following blood tests will be offered at the Early Blood Draws and the Health Fair. The total chemistry profile evaluates kidney function, electrolytes, triglycerides, HDL and LDL cholesterol levels and over 15 components in the blood. The profile also includes iron, iron binding and TSH (Thyroid Screening). The cost of this test is \$40. The PSA blood test for prostate cancer, offered for men 40 and older, is \$30 and the CBC (complete blood count) blood test, is \$20 and the Hemoglobin A1c, which is an additional screening for diabetes, will cost \$35.00. We also have the Vitamin D screening for \$40, the Vitamin B-12 screening for \$40 and the Male Testosterone screening for \$45.

About Montrose Memorial Hospital (www.MontroseHospital.com) Montrose Memorial Hospital is a 501(c)3

nonprofit healthcare system serving Mont-

rose, San Miguel, Ouray, Gunnison, Delta, Hinsdale and San Juan counties. The health system offers a 75-bed hospital and an extensive range of inpatient & outpatient health care services, including cardiology, oncology, minimally invasive surgery, laboratory, medical imaging/ radiology, Mountain View Therapy, Level III Trauma Center and the family birthing center. The health system partners with regional providers on joint ventures to meet local healthcare needs, including CareFlight air ambulance service, San Juan Cancer Center and Black Canyon Surgical Center. Montrose Memorial is the secondlargest employer in Montrose County, with more than 600 employees and 100 physicians who represent 23 medical specialties. The hospital has received patient satisfaction ratings exceeding 90 percent since 2010.

FIRE DANCERS. AERIALISTS. AND A MAGICIAN TO DELIGHT AT VARIETY EXTRAVAGANZA

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The public is invited to the First Annual Variety Extravaganza at the Montrose Pavilion on Saturday, Feb. 6th from 3-5 pm. This family-friendly event features magician Ty Gallenbeck, and fire dancing, aerial acrobatics, and an LED light show by Lumina Entertainment of Denver. Free tickets are available at Alpine Bank. The event is sponsored by the Montrose Education Foundation.

Gallenbeck's magic and wit have delighted audiences from Las Vegas to New York City. Lumina Entertainment's four performers will bring a spark to your winter day with fire dancing (and eating!), along with aerial silk acrobatics and an LED light routine. Though the event is free, tickets are required, and are available at both Alpine Bank locations (2770 Alpine Drive and 1400 E Main Street). The Montrose Education Foundation has organized this event to chase away the winter blahs, and to bring attention to its work. For 14 years, the Foundation has sponsored the Teacher of the Year Award and American Education Week Reception to honor teachers. Each award winner is eligible to compete for the \$10,000 Impact Award to bring an innovative project to his or her classroom. MEF sponsors an annual Distinguished Alumni Award at Montrose High School and Olathe High School.



NELSON SHARES CRIMESTOPPERS ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Crimestoppers President John W. Nelson, above, presented to both the City and the County (shown above) on Jan. 19.

working to promote the Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers program in honor of Crime Stoppers Awareness Month.

-If we take even one felon off the street we are doing our job, and we have taken six or seven off the street," Nelson said at the County meeting.

-We will be getting into the school system as well, with a phone number that can be used for suicide prevention, and to report bullying in schools and domestic violence. We have no paid employees. I would like to thank Montrose County Sheriff Rick Dunlap for being one of our very first supporters."

Nelson also pointed out drug activity in the local area is mostly concentrated in Montrose. Crime Stoppers has already taken 671 grams of cocaine, 5,168 grams of methamphetamine, 13,820 pounds of illegal marijuana, 2,225 pounds of processed marijuana and 10.4 grams of Heroin off the streets.

Crime Stoppers meets at Christ's Church of the Valley on the third Thursday evening of each month, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The phone number is 970-249-8500.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The tireless John W. Nelson appeared at the 9 a.m. meeting of the Montrose County Commissioners on Tuesday, Jan. 19, as well as before the Montrose City Council that evening at 6 p.m. Though officially retired, Nelson was

Feb. 11: Sherb Talk with Dr. William Steding "The Future of American Identity"

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Approximately every 80 years, American identity—what it means to be an American—goes through a fundamental transformation. Currently, we are facing the fourth such transformation in the history of our country. Dr. Steding will share his framework to understand these transformations and the competing narratives that will shape America's future identity. Doors at 7 pm. Lecture starts at 7:30. Cash bar available. \$10 suggested donation at the door. Info: www.sherbinotheater.com or 970.318-0892.

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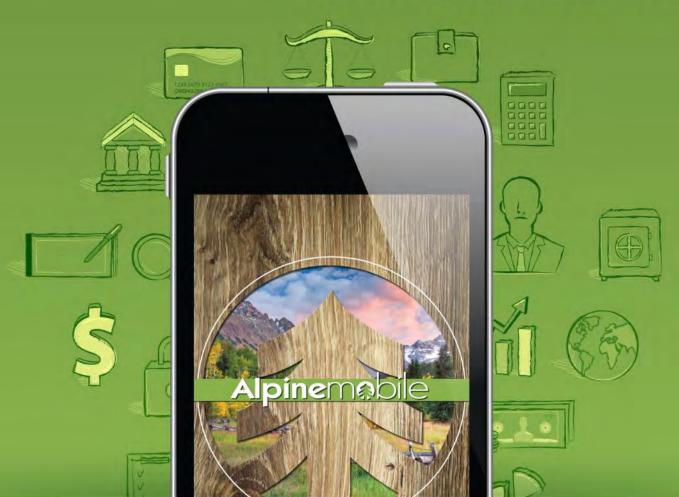
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR DMEA SCHOLARSHIPS \$22,000 Available for Local Students!

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The deadline to apply for a Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) scholarship is quickly approaching. High school students and continuing education students whose parents or guardians are members of DMEA are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be dependents of a DMEA member and planning to enroll, or be enrolled, full-time in an accredited college, university, or vocational school. Applications are available online at www.dmea.com<http://www.dmea.com>. The deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 29, 2016.

As a not-for-profit rural electric cooperative, DMEA operates according to seven guiding principles. One of those principles is Education, Training, and Information, which states —Coperatives provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative." DMEA's scholarship program recognizes the importance of this principle and the role education plays in improving the lives of its members.

DMEA's 2016 scholarship opportunities include:

\$1,500 to one graduate from each of these schools: Cedaredge

High School, Hotchkiss High School, Olathe High School and Paonia High School;

\$1,500 to two graduates of Delta High School

\$1,500 to three graduates of Montrose High School

\$1,500 to one student in each county attending a non-traditional

REACH THE MONTROSE MIRROR AT 970-275-0646 OR ONLINE AT EDITOR@MONTROSEMIRROR.COM. school, such as homeschool, VISION, VISTA and/or charter schools \$1,500 to one student to attend Colorado Mesa University Montrose \$1,500 to two students to attend Delta-Montrose Technical College \$500 to two students from across the service territory, sponsored by Tri-State G&T \$1,000 to one student from across the service territory, sponsored by Basin Electric Power Cooperative DMEA awards all scholarships based on

DMEA awards all scholarships based on academic performance, extra-curricular and community activities, futures goals, and an assigned essay. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Applications must be received by close business (5:00pm) on Friday, Jan. 29, 2016. Return completed applications to:

DMEA Scholarship Committee Attn: Phil Sanchez PO Box 910 Montrose, CO 81402 Applications may be submitted electronically to phil.sanchez@dmea.com<mailto:phil.sanc hez@dmea.com>. For more information visit www.dmea.com<http://www.dmea.com> and review the scholarship information and application located under the community tab, or contact DMEA Communications: Phil Sanchez, (970) 240-1207, phil.sanchez@dmea.com<mailto:phil.sanc hez@dmea.com> and Becky Mashburn (970) 240-1263,

becky.mashburn@dmea.com<mailto:beck y.mashburn@dmea.com>.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE BOCC APPROVES PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF CRIMESTOPPERS AWARENESS MONTH



Pictured L to R: Commissioner David White, John W. Nelson, Commissioner Glen Davis, Sheriff Rick Dunlap, and Commissioner Ron Henderson). Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted 3-0 to approve a proclamation declaring January as Crime Stoppers Awareness Month. As part of the proclamation, the BOCC also urged residents to join Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers in an effort to help prevent crime and make our communities safer.

"The system works the more people know about," said Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers President John W. Nelson. "And we are starting an even larger campaign this year than we had last year. If all during the year we got one tip to take one felon off the street, it is successful. Within the last couple of months, we have taken six or seven [felons] off the street and there are other cases under investigation right now."

The Board of County Commissioners as well as Sheriff Dunlap heartily endorsed the program and congratulated Mr. Nelson on its success thus far. Additionally, Commissioner Henderson addressed the need for such a program in our area as "the surge of anti-civil behavior is increasing and there is nothing left to do but become more active and no longer turn your head aside and not participate in an active manner against it." He continued by stating, "We need to change our whole attitude about it [drug war] and I am so grateful people like John are willing to come forward to bring programs like Crime Stoppers to our public's attention."

Following its inception in mid-2014, Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers has been effective in not only Montrose but all six counties of the seventh judicial district. The 11-member board operates on a volunteer-only basis, and has awarded approximately \$2,000 in tips thus far. According to the proclamation, the group has received tips from as far away as Illinois and some that even resulted in the capture of fugitives in Alabama and throughout the local area as well. For more information please visit www.fb.com/

montroseregionalcrimestoppers, and call 970-249-8500 to report a tip.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE YES – A BLANK CHECK NO



Colorado State Representative Clarice Navarro. Courtesy photo.

By State Representative Clarice Navarro House District 47

DENVER-The population in Colorado is rapidly increasing, and the quality of our roads is significantly decreasing. It is more important than ever to find strategic ways to improve the quality of local streets, roads and state highways. Colorado's Governor has suggested that we need to increase taxes in order to fund these largescale and critical infrastructure projects. I can assure you that a lack of revenue is not the problem. Coloradans can't afford an increase in taxes and yet we need to prepare and plan to for the volume of people that will continue to use our deteriorating roads.

In 2009, the Colorado State Legislature passed SB 09-108, Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery Act better known as (FASTER). The purpose of this bill was to increase revenue by implementing fines and late fees on motor vehicle registration. Sixty percent of the revenue generated from FASTER goes to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and is to be used to support construction and maintenance of transportation projects.

With such a large portion of the FASTER revenue going to CDOT, it is crucial that we take a serious look at what projects are being funded and how the money is being allocated. In August 2015, The Office of State Auditors (OSA) found that CDOT's process for selecting projects to receive FASTER funding was not -thorough, integrated, or strategic." It was also reported by OSA that projects receiving

funding from FASTER may not have met legislative requirements. It certainly makes you wonder where our tax dollars and transportation fees are going. This is why I won't be supportive of giving the Governor the proverbial –blank check."

According to the OSA findings, —CDOT could not confirm how an additional \$6 million of FASTER revenue was allocated or spent," and —CDOTid not maintain complete and accurate information on FASTER transit revenue and expenditures." This isn't the accountability that the taxpayer deserves. I have a hard time swallowing the pleas for more money when the State isn't taking care of what it already has.

The OSA audit of CDOT sheds light on a major problem that has a lot of Coloradans feeling a sense of distrust when it comes to the Governor and the Colorado State Legislature pushing to raise taxes, and I don't blame them one bit. Instead, the first step that must be taken before we consider raising taxes, is to carefully analyze the State's allocation of existing revenue and ensure appropriate usage. We also need to find logical and strategic ways of prioritizing projects. In September Governor Hickenlooper announced a fouryear plan to increase bicycle infrastructure. This project will require over \$100 million. This effort is being pushed so that Colorado is -the best state for bicycling." CDOT has agreed to spend 2.5 percent of the Department's budget on programs for bicycles and pedestrians. For some reason I'm doubting that this is the priority of constituents living on county roads across this great state.

As Coloradans, we certainly value being outdoors and having places to walk and bike, however, we are in a time when we are watching our transportation infrastructure crumble. We need to look at what projects should be high priority, and what projects may need to be reconsidered as lower priority. I simply can't see how a \$100,000,000 bicycle effort is the priority of those at a standstill on I-70 or I-25. Give me a break. The risks of turning a blind eye to this, and not holding CDOT accountable for the misuse of FASTER revenue is that roads and bridges will continue to rapidly deteriorate, and one study suggests that traffic delays will increase by 158 percent which would make a 17 minute commute turn into at least a 44 minute commute. Improving transportation infrastructure is a high priority and raising taxes to accomplish this goal is simply the road most travelled. Before we board the speeding train to raise taxes and increase the size and scope of government I'd appreciate some accountability to those that are paying the bill, and that is the Colorado taxpayer. To view OSA Report referenced in this op-ed you may visit http:// www.tornado.state.co.us/gov dir/leg dir/ jbc/2015-16/trabrf.pdf.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES ARE BEING APPLIED IN MONTROSE AREA GARDENS

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Gardeners in the Delta and Montrose areas look forward to the Soil Health Conference held in Delta, Feb. 11 and 12. Montrose gardener, Larry Wobeter, has attended the last several conferences.

Wobeter said – am really excited that Gabe Brown and Jay Fuhrer are featured speakers at this year's conference. They are two of the pioneers and innovator in soil health. I always come away from the conferences enthused with new ideas to try in my garden."

Reed Irwin, another past conference attendee said, -In some ways, gardeners and small producers have an advantage in applying soil health principles. I use raised beds so I don't need to step in my planting areas. Major soil disturbance only occurs in each bed every four or five years when I

dig potatoes or other root crops. I can mix in compost and more soil that year as needed but most years I don't do much soil disturbance," Irwin continued.

-- plan my rotations of garden crops several years ahead and adjust cover crops to nurse what is growing in the bed this year and help prepare for next year."

Dave Dearstyne, a retired Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) soil scientist and local gardener has attended all five of the previous conferences.

He said ,-L can always find something to take home and use. The conferences also bring together people with different operations who have tried different approaches. Discussions during breaks often spark new ideas to take home.

-Things I have learned allowed me to start a new garden in an area that had been

lawn. I didn't need to dig out the grass or use chemicals to kill the grass.

-I did dig small holes to plant some produce the next year but organisms living and working in the soil weren't disturbed. They continued to break down organic matter and release nutrients for my plants to use. I don't need to add chemical fertilizer now."

The Sixth Annual Western Slope Soil Health Conference will be held at the Delta Center for the Performing Arts and Education, Feb. 11th and 12th.

For more information and registration go to www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.com.

Paul Stockwell, Program Coordinator, Delta County Economic Development can be reached at 970-874-4992 or paul@deltacountyed.org if you have questions about the conference.

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

www.montrosemirror.com

JANUARY DEATH NOTICES

Mr. Rick Alan Rowe, 65, passed away at his home in Hotchkiss January 13, 2016. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

Mr. David Walter Harper, 91, passed away at San Juan Living Center in Montrose Monday, January 18, 2016. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

OBITUARIES

FRANCIS CORNELIUS CALLAHAN 1941-2016

MONTROSE-Francis Cornelius Callahan, age 75, formerly of Medford and Melrose, Massachusetts, and The Villages, Florida, passed away at his home in Montrose, Colorado on January 15, 2016. He was comforted by his wife, Michele; his son, Ryan and loved ones, Kendra and Dillon.

Born on January 1, 1941, in Cambridge, MA, Francis was the son of Cornelius (Neil) and Ellen (Nell) Callahan. He graduated from Medford High School, class of 1959. Frannie excelled at sports (hockey, baseball, soccer and golf) and played on many local teams. He loved being a family man. His greatest joys were instilling his love and knowledge of sports to his son, Ryan, and coaching Ryan's teams in Melrose. He imparted his love of life and his wonderful Irish humor to all who knew him.

Francis is also survived by his twin brother, Edward Callahan, and his wife, Nina, of Plymouth, MA; his sister, Eileen Fahey and her husband, Paul, of Dorchester, MA and many close nieces and nephews. He has now been reunited with his deceased siblings: sister, Margaret Harrington and brothers, John Denihan and Stephen Denihan.

A gathering in Francis' memory is scheduled for January 30, 2016 at 11 A.M. at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse located at 699 Cobble Drive, Montrose, CO 81403. Donations in Francis' memory can be made to HopeWest Hospice, 725 South 4th Street, Montrose, CO 81401.

Visit the tribute website at www.SunsetMesaFuneralDirectors.com. Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors (970) 240-9870.

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OBITUARIES

SYLVIA P. (TRUJILLO) ALLEN 1936-2016

MONTROSE-Sylvia P. (Trujillo) Allen, 79, of Montrose passed peacefully in her residence at Valley Manor Care Center on January 15, 2016, after a long fought battle with rheumatoid arthritis. Sylvia enjoyed a myriad of family and friends coming by to say farewell all day.

Sylvia was born in Saguache, CO on October 1, 1936, to Nabor (Mike) and Josephine Trujillo. She is survived by 2 children, daughter Glenda Allen of Modesto, CA, and son Michael Allen of Montrose, CO. Sylvia is also survived by 4 siblings: Danny (Georgie) Trujillo of La Crescenta, CA; Richard Trujillo of Wilhoit, AZ; Margaret Eddy of Montrose, CO; and Fred Trujillo of Tucson, AZ.

Sylvia had nieces and nephews that were very special to her. Tam, Lizzy, and Dannv: Cathy, Chris, Annie, and Richard; Freddie and Rena; Shelly and Drew. Of these, there were also 23 grand-nieces and nephews, and 7 great-grand nieces and nephews. The family will be forever grateful for the love and attention that Annie and her two granddaughters, Cameron and Jonnie, gave their Aunt Sylvia to the last. Sylvia shared love with her granddaughters, Erica (Brad) Ormsby of Modesto, CA, and Heather (Ross) Davis of Yorba Linda, CA. Erica's son, Kai, and Heather's children Tristen, Erykah, and Evellen so loved their great grandma.

Sylvia graduated from Saguache High

School in 1954, married Robert Logan Allen Jr., and started her adventures travelling with Bobby as he was in road construction. Glenda and Michael were in tow everywhere they went. The marriage ended in divorce, and Sylvia moved to Montrose in 1963.

Many remember Sylvia most as manager of the Lazy IG, then as Front Desk Clerk extraordinaire at the Best Western Red Arrow for 30+ years. She really gave her all to her work, making friends every day with people from all walks of life. Two gentlemen of note, John Wayne and Don Johnson, were both taken by her, and she spoke of them often.

In 1972, Sylvia joined forces with her sister Margaret, to raise their children. Glenda and Michael grew out of the house quickly, and Margaret's children Tam (Laurie) of Evergreen, CO, Liz (Al) Rankin of Montrose, CO, and Danny (Summer) Eddy of Olathe, CO, all considered their aunt a parent.

Sylvia was known for her dedication to her job, her generosity, and her wonderful sense of humor. She was so hospitable, a conversationalist, an avid reader, loved trains, history, and music. She would take personal responsibility for every person that came into her motels. If you walked into any lobby when she was on duty, there would most likely be people gathered around her, listening to her stories. Sylvia

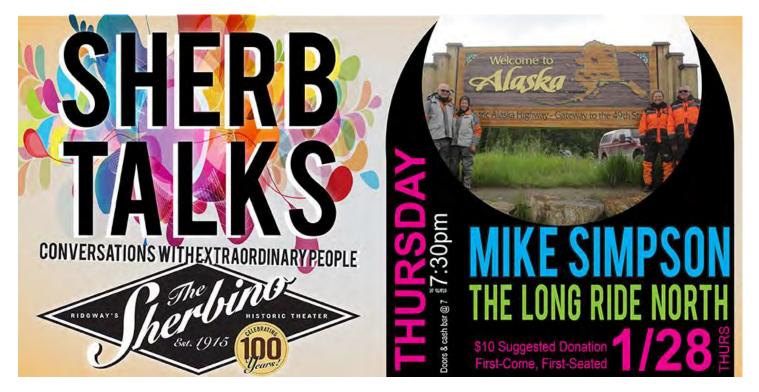


truly never met a stranger.

Services will be held 11:00 AM Friday, January 22, 2016, at Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, 155 Merchant Drive, Montrose, Colorado with a reception following at Signature Events.

Visit the tribute website and send condolences to Sylvia's family at

www.SunsetMesaFuneralDirectors.com. Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors (970) 240-9870.





2016 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Dear Montrose County Resident,

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse is made up of volunteers who donate their time and equipment to help make Montrose County a better place to live. Our members spend many hours maintaining a fleet of rescue vehicles, ATVs and equipment at our rescue facility to be ready on a moment's notice. In addition, many members use their own vehicles, ATVs and equipment on callouts.

These dedicated and highly trained men and women are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week for any emergencies. Our members train in many specialties such as first aid & CPR, wildland firefighting, ropes & water rescue, ATVs, tracking, GPS, radio operation and survival skills. Aside from rescue work, the Posse also performs various community services, such as security and traffic control. Perhaps you have seen us at the Montrose County Fair, the Ranch Rodeo or one of the busy intersections during a parade or event. We also assist the Sheriff's Office and Police Department with crime scene security and other duties. This saves the taxpayers of the county thousands of dollars each year.

Many of you live in Montrose County because of the vast availability of outdoor activities right outside your door. Whether it is hunting, fishing, hiking, cycling, photography, ATV riding or 4-wheeling, there is something for everyone. Enjoying the great outdoors is a year round activity - but what if the unthinkable happens? What if you fall while out hiking and are injured? Maybe you are out hunting and lose your way. Maybe you have an ATV accident on one of our many trails. Rapidly changing weather conditions can complicate the matter. Maybe a wildfire is threatening your home or property. Unfortunately these things happen, but fortunately the Posse is there to help.

Training and keeping up with new technology is an ongoing task for the Posse and it requires a large time commitment. This past year we sent 14 members to a 4-day National Search & Rescue Conference and training event. We were able to train and interact with other Search & Rescue teams from around the country. We also updated some of our radio equipment this year. We applied for and received a grant for the new radios but were still required to pay almost \$10,000 for our portion of the cost.

Every year we make a single appeal to you, our neighbors, for donations to support us in providing these services. With your help, the Posse can continue its mission of providing search & rescue, wildland firefighting and community services to the residents and visitors of Montrose County.

Thank you in advance for your donation, large or small. As a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit corporation, all donations are deductible for income tax purposes. Please mail your gift today in the envelope provided.

Sincerely,

Montrose County Sheriff's Posse

HENDERSON SHARES LESSONS LEARNED FROM BARNETT CASE



Commissioner Ron Henderson. Courtesy photo.

on our policy regarding direct hires and department heads, and how we take care of their employment," Henderson said.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose

County Commissioner

stepped forward during

public comment time at

County Commissioners

(BOCC) meeting Jan. 19.

-Athis time I would like

to request further review

the regular Board of

Ron Henderson was

among those who

Henderson shared his written comments as well:

-The Stephanie Barnett issue was terrifically instructive:

Our job evaluation criteria was/is entirely too subjectively narrow (a. the number of

people evaluating the individual in the job. B. the criteria areas of evaluation of the job performance of the individual for that job) to be reflective of what the job description is and what the work results were/are expected to be. We need to have the job evaluation criteria as objective as possible (as was not done with Stephanie) to comply with National Labor Relations Laws. We also need to have the ability to exercise the right to have the best people possible in any job description for Montrose County.

We have no over riding review to verify that proper procedures are followed in these matters, especially upper level county positions. This is important if we do have a weak defensive posture and should work to negotiate out of the error of the action initiated.

We need similar safeguards for the hiring process.

Former County Managers are also included as case in point. We should have the ability to notify the hire that they are in jeopardy of termination. We need to have a vehicle of discourse about interpretation of management style vs. what the county expects for results, including employee evaluation.

We need to work with the high probability that terminating a person is going to cost some money. Not doing the termination of an individual because it is going to cost money is not the right maneuver. The individuals, department heads, HR, and Commissioners need to be more directly involved early in the event cycle with a priority of procedure.

None of this is of concern if we do not intend to remove employees that are not complying with the job the County is paying.

Ron Henderson 11/19/16

FEBRUARY 11: SHERB TALK WITH DR. WILLIAM STEDING "THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN IDENTITY"

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Approximately every 80 years, American identity—what it means to be an American—goes through a fundamental transformation. Currently, we are facing the fourth such transformation in the history of our country. Dr. Steding will share his framework to understand these transformations and the competing narratives that will shape America's future identity. Doors at 7 pm. Lecture starts at 7:30. Cash bar available. \$10 suggested donation at the door. Info: www.sherbinotheater.com or 970.318-0892.

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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

LARK AND SPARROW VENUE-Fridays beginning in February-Every Friday from 4:30 to 7 pm : Sparrow's Social Hour, Live @ 5 ... Music by Local Artists in Sparrow's Library. 7:30 pm : Lark's Skylight Jazz Club. Live Jazz Weekly : The House Blend Combo & Guest Artists. Every Third Friday : Cabaret "Open" Stage. MONTROSE WINTER FARMERS MARKET 10 am - 1pm Beginning Saturday Jan. 2, 2015

Location: Behind Straw Hat Farm Kitchen Store

514 S. 1st Street (Every other week through April 23) January 2, 16, 31; February 13, 27; March 12, 26; April 9, 23.

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 <u>alpinephotoclub@aol.com.</u>

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 Uncompany 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.

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.

MONTHLY-

Jan. 26-27-The Secret Life of Drawing, workshop with Artist Meredith Nemirov. 10 to 2p.m. in Ridgway. Www.weehawkenarts.org.

Jan. 28 - 30 Friends of the Library Book Sale Thursday (Jan. 28) 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. FOL members only 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. (you may join at the sale); open to the public at 11 a.m. Friday (Jan. 29) 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday (Jan. 30) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bag sale 2 - 4 p.m.--fill a reusable bag with books for \$4. Information, 596-3909. Jan. 28 - Alcohol Inks Class. Vibrant colors, for people of all skill levels. Taught by Sandy Anderson, winner of Ridgway Paint-In-The-Park competition. A two session class, also on Feb. 4. 1-4:45 pm; \$75. Call 249-4969.

Jan. 28-Moors & McCumber perform at the KAFM Radio Room in Grand Junction. 7:30 p.m.Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext 202 or online at <u>www.kafmradio.org</u>. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m. Jan. 29-7:30 p.m. - "The Last Lifeboat", a drama of the untold tale of the man who built the Titanic, J. Bruce Ismay, at Magic Circle Theatre. Ticket information: 970 -249-7838 or visit the Magic Circle Theatre box office at 420 S. 12th St., Montrose, Tuesday through Thursday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Visit the website at www.magiccircleplayers.com for information or online tickets.

Jan. 30-Montrose Chamber of Commerce Black & White Gala; an Evening of Elegance. Annual awards presentation.

Jan. 30--9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Winter Mining District Tour hosted by Uncompany Watershed Partnership & Ouray County Historical Society. Snowshoe or cross country ski at Red Mountain Pass with historian guide. Information: www.uncompanyrewatershed.org/event/2016wintertour/ Contact: Judi at UWPcoordinator@gmail.com or 970-325-3010.

Jan. 30-7:30 p.m. - "The Last Lifeboat", a drama of the untold tale of the man who built the Titanic, J. Bruce Ismay, at Magic Circle Theatre. Ticket information: 970 -249-7838 or visit the Magic Circle Theatre box office at 420 S. 12th St., Montrose, Tuesday through Thursday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Visit the website at www.magiccircleplayers.com for information or online tickets.

Feb. 3-Montrose County Historical Society Presents is hosting the program "Using the Montrose Library Resources to Conduct Historical Research," on Feb. 3rd in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd Street, at 7 pm. Montrose Library District Head Reference Librarian, Tania Hajjar, and Assistant Reference Librarian, Sara Rinne will demonstrate techniques and share resources available locally to find and access diverse information. Free admission and public welcome. For more information call 323-6466.

Feb. 5-Free Family Law Day, Seventh Judicial District, for people representing themselves in family law court proceedings. The event will offer services including legal advice, mediation and parenting education free of charge to self-represented parties involved in domestic relations cases. To attend parenting classes, obtain legal advice, or seek mediation service must register before Jan. 29, 2016, by call 970-642-8330.

Feb. 6-The public is invited to the First Annual Variety Extravaganza at the Montrose Pavilion on Saturday, Feb. 6th from 3-5 pm. This family-friendly event features magician Ty Gallenbeck, and fire dancing, aerial acrobatics, and an LED light show by Lumina Entertainment of Denver. Free tickets are available at Alpine Bank. Though the event is free, tickets are required, and are available at both Alpine Bank locations (2770 Alpine Drive and 1400 E Main Street).

Feb. 11-12-The Sixth Annual Western Slope Soil Health Conference will be held at the Delta Center for Performing Arts, located at 822 Grand Avenue in Delta. Nationally renowned speakers Gabe Brown and Jay Fuhrer will highlight the 2016 conference. The conference will feature a mixture of keynote speakers, 2015 local cover crop date and testing information, as well as breakout sessions. This conference is the premier area educational event designed to educate producers, orchardists, ranchers, government officials, and the broad community about ways to increase organic matter and increase the health of our soils by using cover crop, green manure, grazing, composting, entomology and other sustainable practices.For more information please visit www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.com or call DCED at 970-874-4992.

Feb. 12-Author John O'Sullivan to speak on youth sports, "Changing the Game," from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion.

Feb. 13-<u>Art Show at the Lark & Sparrow venue</u> (511 East Main St.), to feature artist Linda Nadel. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meet the Artist reception 2 to 4 p.m. For info call 970-615-7277.

Feb. 13-Valentine's Concert at the Lark and Sparrow Venue (511 East Main St.) with Josefina Mendez. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information visit <u>https://</u> thelarknsparrow.com/events.

Feb. 20-Montrose County Historical Society and Museum Fifth Annual Pioneer Social. Featuring the Flowers family. For info call 970-249-2085.

Feb. 27-March 5-Gallery 88.1 — Art Interplay. Gallery 88.1 — Art Interplay exhibition will involve more than 70 regional artists, artisans and musicians representing the best of Grand Valley with art, music, food, wine and spirits. Each day of the exhibition will be a unique experience and interplay. For a complete schedule visit the event pages at the KAFM Community Radio website at <u>www.kafmradio.org</u>. The event will be held on the lower floor of the KAFM Community Radio building at 1310 Ute Avenue in Grand Junction. Contact Brian Gregor at (970)241-8801, extension 0 for more information about the Gallery 88.1 — ArtInterplay event.



Advertisement

MONTROSEM I R R O R

Contact the Montrose Mirror: Post Office Box 3244 Montrose, CO 814O2 970-275-0646 <u>Editor@montrosemirror.com</u> www.montrosemirror.com





A new look at some local favorites...at right, "Three Rooms," by Paonia sculptor Mary Zimmerman...above, the big guitar at Big J Jewelry & Loan...the bell tower at Montrose United Methodist Church.



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