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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 173 June 13 2016

COMMENT TIME AT BOCC MEETING ERUPTS IN SHOUTING, NAME CALLING



Veteran Bill Bennett called Montrose County BOCC Chair and fellow veteran Glen Davis a "snotty somB" and a "nitwit" during the time allotted for public comment at the BOCC meeting on June 6. Mirror Staff photo.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-In a scene that called to mind Shirley Jackson's famous short story, *The Lottery*, public comment descended into name calling and verbal stone throwing at the June 6 meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). A mob of veterans and others angry with Montrose County Commissioner Glen Davis for exaggerating his service record and that of his uncle expressed rage during the time allotted for public comment. At one point, Montrose resident and veteran Bill Bennett took to the podium to unleash invective that included calling Davis "a snotty somB" and a "nitwit."

The controversy first erupted on Aug. 15, 2015, after the BOCC did not agree to house a full time county employee—Veterans' Service Officer Sheldon Smith—at the privately held non-profit Warrior Resource Center at 11 South Park Avenue, where Smith's wife serves as executive director.

Present in the audience June 6 were a number of veterans and others who had responded to the following email circulated by Lane Sterling prior to the June 6 meeting, which stated in part: "This is an important meeting as Bill

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DMEA IMPLEMENTS REGIONAL BROADBAND

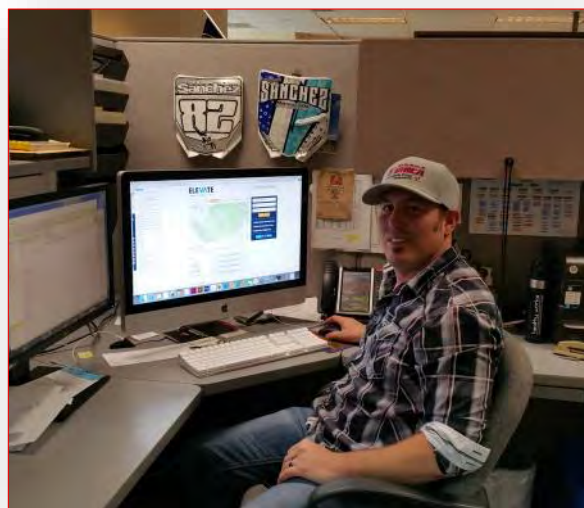
By Gail Marvel

REGIONAL-Are you ready for faster internet? Broadband is closer than you think. Elevate Fiber, a subsidiary of Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA), is on the cusp of implementation. Although they are two separate companies, customers of Elevate can expect the same level of customer service and professionalism that they now receive as members of DMEA.

DMEA CEO Jasen Bronec said, "Elevate is located in the DMEA facility and for now we will have shared services. Our customer service representatives and cashiers will be cross-trained for both organizations."

The first phase rollout for Elevate Fiber has begun in four areas — Paonia, Montrose Downtown business (north and south), and Greater Cobble Creek in Montrose. Generally speaking, the downtown Montrose business district includes the length of Main Street and spreads two blocks north and south on either side of Main Street.

Continued on page 6



Communications Specialist Phil Sanchez is prepared for the June 16th activation of the Elevate web site. For information go to: join.elevatefiber.com. Photo by Gail Marvel.

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Gail Marvel's Cruisin' in Style

CLASSIC COLLECTOR SPOTLIGHT: DUANE GARDNER



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-In 1992 Duane Gardner found his 1966 Mustang sitting in the yard of a Montrose residence with a for sale sign in the windshield. "I'd been looking for one and just stopped by. There was a big gash in the hood and a mouse nest in the headliner. It was a real dog!"

The Mustang sat in Duane's garage for several years before it was drivable and

finally licensed. The vehicle is a three speed automatic with 3,000 miles on the rebuilt 302 cubic inch Ford engine. "It's not a complete restoration where you take it down to the nuts and bolts, but I did a pretty good job of getting it back to the original." Gold is the standard color for the 1966 Mustang, but Duane was smitten with the color combination of medium-blue and white racing stripes. "I'm happy

with it the way it is right now. It needs a few little things here and there, but the big expense is done."

Duane discovered the challenge of finding car parts was part of the fun, "I took photos along the way and it was fun to see it progress." The Mustang was Duane's first restoration project and he good naturedly admits, "I'm tired of working on it."



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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

SOLARIZE DELTA COUNTY BRIGHTENS ECONOMY WITH INVESTMENT!



Brad Burritt of Empowered Energy Systems with the rooftop solar energy system at ProSpace in Delta.



Celebrating the new system at Delta's ProSpace, completed through Solarize Delta County, are (l-r) front row-Joseph Inman, Asa Carre'-Burritt, Danielle Carre'. Back row: Jeff Tobe, Kristin O'Brien, Joey Torstveit, JJ Riggs, Gerald Espinosa, Trish Thibodo, Kaiden Carre', Brad Burritt, and Paul Stockwell.

By Caitlin Switzer

DELTA COUNTY—On June 1, the [Delta County Independent](#) reported that [Solarize Delta County](#) was nearing the halfway point of a three-month outreach program, with 55 homes and businesses currently registered for a free remote site assessment to learn more about going solar. A week later, that number had already climbed to 66 and rising. Local residents still have until July 15 to sign up for the popular initiative. The timing couldn't be better—with the June 2 announcement that the West Elk Mine would lay off 80 more workers, Delta County needs jobs and investment. The "Solarize Delta County"

concept began with [Solar Energy International \(SEI\)](#), a Paonia-based non-profit educational organization that provides training to professionals from around the globe. In 2015, SEI created a regional project called Solarize North Fork Valley, which generated \$400,000 in local investment and resulted in the installation of 23 new photovoltaic systems.

Solarize Delta County is intended to reach even more potential investors. In addition to stimulating the economy, locally produced, renewable energy can help stabilize utility rates, said Trish Thibodo, Executive Director of Delta County Economic Development (DCED) which has

partnered with Solar Energy International Empowered Energy Systems on the Solarize program.

"Solarize Delta County has been really successful, even more than we expected," Thibodo said.

"It's local economic development and the impact is immediate." The program also makes sense in the big picture, she noted. DCED convened a committee in 2015 to look at the development of local renewable

energy projects to supply Delta Montrose Electrical Association (DMEA), as DMEA awaits the outcome of a 2015 FERC filing expected to encourage further development of local and renewable generation projects. "A lot depends on the FERC ruling,"

Thibodo said. "As part of a larger initiative, the idea is to have 50 to 55 percent of our energy produced locally by 2025. We think it's do-able."

"We are starting to work with Solar Energy International to see where we can put utility-sized installations, and at possible sources for hydro projects."

"We want to use the resources we have here."

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PUBLIC COMMENT TIME AT BOCC MEETING ERUPTS IN SHOUTING From page 1

Bennett will be presenting to the commissioners Davis's military records and the statements he made on August 17th that were false. As most of you know Bill retired from the Marines and he will have a dynamic talk prepared. He is Vickie's dad, she is at the front desk at WRC. Please work your schedule around this meeting as it's important for us to support each other as veterans...It is also important not to let the public know about this as the commissioners won't be able to react beforehand. I hope we have a huge turnout in support of the veterans in the county."

Lane Sterling

The time for public comment began with a citizen taking Davis to task for another issue, however. Mary Maurer informed commissioners that she had attended the BOCC meeting of May 16 to express concern over a County Resolution opposing Amendment 69 (the Colorado State Health Care System Initiative) but left early because of time constraints. However, "It is just as well I left, because I would have felt intimidated by Commissioner Davis' treatment of Marv Ballantyne (who spoke against the County's resolution).

"It would have made me nervous to subject myself to public ridicule," Maurer said, and questioned also whether Davis has a conflict of interest in owning Davis Service Center and voting on the County's recent initiatives concerning off-highway-vehicles (OHV's). "Why not recuse yourself?" asked Maurer. "And I feel that you treated citizens in a disrespectful way. What changes can be made so that citizen concerns are valued by the board of County commissioners?"

Citizen Stu Krebs then spoke to the

BOCC, offering to donate a book by T.R. Reid concerning health care in America to the Montrose Library for citizen use.

Then Bill Bennett stepped forward, addressing the BOCC. Noting the Anniversary of D Day, Bennett said, "But I am here to talk to Commissioner Davis." He then asked Davis directly about his military service.

"I drove a cab," Davis responded. "My honorable service was over in 1964." He reminded Bennett, "This is not County business, it is a personal attack."

After stating that he wanted to speak, Bennett finished with, "You're a snotty somB. Anybody else have anything to say to this nitwit?"

Citizen Nancy Johnston spoke on two separate occasions, about the impact of the Vietnam era on her own life. "I never went to war, but these guys were my age," she said.

"We should owe them something...I am fighting for them." Later in the meeting, she spoke of "still wearing my POW bracelet." Johnston assured those present, "I have no axe to grind, we just want the truth."

Veteran Mike Bronner told the BOCC he had contacted the society that awards medals and found that Davis exaggerated in saying at the Aug. 17 BOCC meeting that an Uncle had won the Congressional Medal of Honor. He acknowledged Davis' military service, saying, "He served in Korea and stateside as a taxi driver and driving instructor."

Davis repeatedly reminded those attacking him that he would be happy to meet with them. At one point the meeting dissolved into a free-for-all as someone who did not

state his name shouted questions at Davis from the audience.

When Sterling took the podium, he asked Davis to apologize for making untrue statements.

Veteran Bill Ramsay recalled sitting in Vietnam, seeing people shot and burned. He said, "...for every veteran who has served there are six wannabes...especially special ops and seals. That's why we have the sensitivity we have."

VFW Commander Whit Bailey invited Davis to join the VFW, and said, "I was asked to come here today. I heard things about you but nothing good. If you are a veteran, come and join."

Davis attempted to address the concerns raised. "I am third or fourth generation military, but I was flat wrong about the Medal of Honor—I was 12 when my Uncle came home. I never said I served in Vietnam, but I have been there. I am not a wannabe. I am from a different generation. When I was growing up, we didn't talk about our military service.

"I was a taxi driver, and I do have secret clearance," Davis said. "I served four years in the Air Force and I was PCS five times."

Citizen George Vandersluis took the podium to say, "With all due respect to veterans, who I admire very much, I am not sure what this has to do with County business. I think personal issues can be handled differently."

Citizen Nancy Medlock stepped up to thank County officials and staffers for attending the recent law enforcement officers' memorial in Centennial Plaza. Following the public comment, most of those present left prior to the start of the business portion of the meeting.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN HOUSE JUNE 18 FOR BLONDIE (LAVON) CAMPBELL!



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--The family of Montrose native Lavon Campbell will celebrate her 90th birthday at the Montrose Elks Lodge (801 South Hillcrest Drive) from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 18. No gifts, but please bring a good memory to write down and share.

Everyone is welcome! We hope to see you there.



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CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT: ATTEMPTED ARMED ROBBERY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and The Montrose Police Department are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate the suspect in an attempted robbery at the Montrose Travel Center in the 1400 Block of N. Townsend Ave.

On 06-02-16, at about 11 p.m., an unknown male rode an orange and black BMX style bicycle to the exterior of the west side of the store before entering. Once inside and while wearing a mask, the male brandished a handgun and asked the clerk for money from the register. Once the panic alarm was activated, the unknown male fled on foot southbound from the store, leaving the bicycle behind. The male is described as being of medium build, approximately 5ft tall, wearing a black hooded jacket, white t-shirt, dark possible olive color pants.

Anyone with information about this crime may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500. Crime Stoppers wants your Information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the caller may receive a cash award.

DMEA IMPLEMENTS REGIONAL BROADBAND From pg 1



Currently under construction, the DMEA lobby will soon offer five cashier stations which will serve both DMEA members and Elevate Fiber customers. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Businesses and residences in these areas can preregister for Elevate services (internet and voice-telephone); however, there is no financial commitment until installation takes place.

Bronec said, "We picked some zones in order to get started and by using a phased approach we can get a feel for construction costs." Speaking from the DMEA parent-company perspective Bronec said, "We want assurity that when we make the investment to go into an area there is support from our membership."

A key component for the multi-year broadband project is crowdsourcing. The feedback, interest and preregistrations obtained through the Elevate website will help determine when and where each

phase will be built out. Bronec said, "Decisions will be made on where we see the most interest. If crowdsourcing showed 80 percent of Olathe wanted fiber, we would get fiber to them." Because the information on the website drives the development of specific areas, it is important that even those in the phase one area show an interest in that phase. "Within the first month we will have a good feel for how much interest there is in the development of an area." While many people have already tried to access the Elevate website for information, the start date to be fully operational is June 16. Those interested can go to: join.elevatefiber.com.

As part of DMEA's annual meeting, which will be held at Montrose County

Fairgrounds on Thursday June 16, a demonstration of Elevate's high speed internet capabilities will be available. Bronec said, "Fiber is installed at the fairgrounds and we will have the internet 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps), which is the fastest speed in the nation." Activities for the annual meeting, which include prizes, food and voting for board candidates, take place from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

While a number of local organizations are partnering on the broadband initiative to revitalize the community, the internet business and the stakeholders are competitive. With the implementation of phase one Elevate has moved beyond the planning and development strategies and is installing infrastructure in the four designated zones.

Past community broadband discussions have included not only DMEA, but Region 10 LEAP, the City of Montrose, local businesses (Deeply Digital) and Charter Communications. Community wide broadband efforts recently received an assistance grant of \$30,000 for the "Cool & Connected" program offered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. According to the *Montrose City Beat Newsletter*, "Montrose will receive direct technical assistance from a team of experts to develop broadband strategies and an action plan." However, having broadband in the community does not mean high speed internet service is free. Similar to cable TV, telephones and internet, there is an ongoing cost to internet and voice service once it's installed.

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- Has attended 99% of BOCC Meetings and work sessions to date since becoming a Candidate
- Has invested the time to examine the roles, responsibilities and effective processes to oversee County's diverse programs, organizations, and budgets to benefit the interests of taxpayers
- Not "retiring from one government career to start another"
- Life-long entrepreneur who has never defined 8am–5pm as "working full-time"
- Native Son of Montrose County
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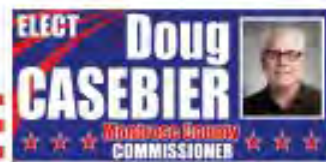


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CLERK AND RECORDER ANNOUNCES DELIVERY OF PRIMARY BALLOTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes is proud to report that primary election ballots are arriving in mailboxes this week. Registered voters who are affiliated with a party are encouraged to check their mail to begin filling out their ballots.

"This is an exciting year for our team," said Guynes. "Our elections staff and volunteers have been refining our procedures and working to enhance public convenience this election.

"To that end, the Montrose County Facilities Staff are currently working on installing a 24/7 ballot box outside our office

at 320 South First Street."

Voter Service and Polling Centers are now open and ready to assist the public. Voters can verify/update their address and register to vote by visiting www.govotecolorado.com.

Unaffiliated electors may affiliate with a major party up to and including Election Day. Ballots may be returned via U.S. Mail (with appropriate postage of .47 cents) or dropped off. Electors may also vote in person at the following locations and times:

Montrose County Courthouse (320 South First Street, Room 103; Montrose, CO 81401)

- Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 25th

- 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28th (Election Day)

Nucla/Naturita Chamber of Commerce (230 West Main Street, Naturita, CO 81422)

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 25th

- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday June 27th

- 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28th (Election Day)

Nucla Clerk & Recorder Annex (300 Main Street, Nucla, Co 81424)

- 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday June 9th to June 24.

BACKSTREET BAGEL PRESENTS FREE SUMMER STORY TIME ON THE BACKSTREET PATIO!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-All story lovers are welcome to our summer story time (recommended for ages 3-8). Thursday Mornings from 10:30-11 a.m. on the Backstreet Patio

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SMPA ELECTION: GARVEY, SIBOLD ELECTED

Special to the Mirror

NUCLA-On June 9 San Miguel Power Association held its 77th Annual Meeting at its office in Nucla, CO. The meeting concluded with the reading of election results for its District No. 1 and District No. 4 board director elections.

In District No. 1, challenger, Tom Loczy received 160 votes while incumbent, Doyleene Garvey received 227. Garvey was declared the winner and will resume her directorship for another four-year term.

In District No. 4, incumbent, Jack Sibold received 118 votes, while challenger, Toby Brown received 73. Sibold will continue as the District No. 4 board representative.

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 14,000 meters and supports local communities with \$300,000 annually in property taxes and \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates. SMPA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION

WOODWORKERS GUILD OF WESTERN COLORADO CARVES OUT LOCAL NICHE



Birdhouses made of red cedar and hand crafted by Jim Norfleet for the Audubon Society's fundraiser. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Woodworker's Guild of Western Colorado began to take shape when local woodcrafter Martin Lutz put out a sign-up sheet at his booth at the Montrose County Fair in 2004. Today the Guild, which includes both men and women, has 45 members and there are no dues. The basis of their mission statement: "To provide an educational forum for the exchange of ideas and techniques while furthering the individual's appreciation and enjoyment of various aspects of wood-working..."

About 20 people were present for the April 19 meeting and following a brief business meeting were discussion and updates on the charitable work the Guild is undertaking. The Woodworkers, along with the local Woodturners and Woodcarvers, make the Eagle Head canes for Veterans. Bob Hampton reported that Air Options had generously donated cane tips.

In conjunction with CASA (court appointed children's advocates) the woodworkers participate in the "Bags of Love" program and make toys to put into goodie bags for children who are in stressful family situations. Bob Hampton made a small doll cradle and Len Johnson a small wooden car which will be included in the bags.

Another beneficiary of the group's handi-

work is the Audubon Society. Woodworkers build birdhouses to the Audubon Society's specifications, which are then auctioned off as a fundraiser at the fair. Guild President John Renzelman said, "It's a very successful auction. Last year we made around 48 birdhouses and we expect to do about the same this year. We follow an Audubon pattern and the hole has to be the right size for the right type of bird, and there needs to be easy access to clean out the old nest."

During show and tell two birdhouses made out of red cedar, resembling the heads of an Indian and a mountain man, were displayed by crafter Jim Norfleet. As Jim described his work fellow member Al Head quipped, "Some bird would have to think twice about going in there!"

Jack Ditlove showed off a variety of crosses and Stars of David that are crafted with a skill saw and made from hardwoods. He said, "I don't charge, I just give them away to people in need...churches, hospice, confirmation classes. People are extremely grateful and it makes you feel good."

The Woodworkers have their own version of brown-bagging it. Similar to a grab-bag experience, members bring in brown paper bags of wood and then swap with one another. Their assignment is to come to the next meeting with something they



A variety of crosses and Stars of David crafted with a skill saw by Jack Ditlove; a small car destined for "Bags of Love" made by Len Johnson. Photo by Gail Marvel.

have created from their bag of wood.

Dustin Orth, co-owner of Custom Wood Products, presented the program on used equipment. He said, "How do you come up with a price? Condition, age of piece, accessories, desirability. Is it something you'll use, or is it a wall-hanger [for decoration]."

Dustin recounted a time when his fiancé accompanied him to a sale and she saw a good looking wooden hand plane and thought he should buy it. Richard Black chimed in, "Well then she's a keeper...my wife has never seen a good looking plane!"

By all appearances the trim router held up for the group to see was in pretty good shape. However, when Dustin plugged it in there was a high pitched scream coming from bearings. A member said, "That sounds like what my dentist uses!"

Showing off a variety of chisels, Dustin reminded the audience that looking for the maker's mark helps determine the quality. One chisel was void of any markings, but Dustin speculated that a little bit of red on the handle might be a clue. A voice of experience quipped, "Naw, that's probably blood."

Contact Information:

Woodworkers Guild of Western Colorado Meets at 7p.m., the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Custom Wood Products 18235 Woodgate Rd.

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President John Renzelman, 970-901-1703.

YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR AUSTIN RICHARDSON JOINS CITY COUNCIL, ROY ANDERSON URGES PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT ROUNDABOUT

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-

Prior to issuing a Proclamation in support of June as Bike to Work Month and Day, Montrose City Council took a step "off the agenda" to introduce a new member of Council--City Youth Council Mayor Austin Richardson. "We want and need youth input," Mayor Rex Swanson explained at the Council meeting of June 7.

Introducing to Bike to Work Day June 22 as "our state's national celebration," Swanson noted that the City has partnered with others including Montrose Bicycle Alliance to promote Bike to Work Day. Council then posed for a photo with MABA members.

Council voted to approve the evening's Consent Agenda, setting Aug. 2 as the hearing date for the annexation of the Museum of the Mountain West Addition and authorizing Mayor Swanson's signature on a letter endorsing the re-election of City Manager Bill Bell to the Colorado Municipal League (CML) executive board.

"Can we afford the candy? Every year we give out Russell Stover Candy to get people to vote for Bill," Councilor Judy Ann Files quipped prior to the vote of approval.

Councilor Dave Bowman, a high-profile regular at Horsefly Brewing Company, recused himself and left the room when an application for a new brew pub liquor license at 512 E. Main Street came up for consideration. Former Horsefly Brewing Company partner Nigel Askew's new Zulu Brewing Company LLC was swiftly approved by the remaining members of City Council. No members of the public spoke in support of or in opposition to the application, though City Attorney Steven Alcorn affectionately acknowledged asking

Askew recently when he intended to start his own establishment. Askew promised that Zulu Brewing Company would be "laid back and quiet" with "no shenanigans."

In other business, Council awarded a Construction Contract for the new Sunnyside Hillcrest Roundabout to Rundle Construction, Inc., for the total bid amount of \$920,624.64, including a 10 percent contingency.

Councilor Roy Anderson mentioned that constituents had expressed concerns over pedestrian safety. "There is a lot of concern about children crossing," Anderson said.

"Pedestrian safety is a two-way street," responded Public Works Director John Harris, noting that pedestrians are obligated to make sure that streets are clear before stepping out. He pointed out that there will be pedestrian crossings and a refuge island, and that the roundabout will be fully ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant.

Council approved a bid for janitorial services for the "Civic Campus," Public Works facility, Black Canyon Golf Course, and Lions Community Building to Aspen Enterprises LLC for the annual cost of \$76,289. The Selig Commercial Condominiums Final Plat to subdivide the former Jean's Westerner building at 147 N. Townsend Avenue was approved as was Ordinance 2369 on second reading, amending the zoning district designation of 1269 Spring Creek Road, Montrose, Colorado, from "B-2" Highway Commercial District, to "B-3" General Commercial District.

Council tabled consideration of Bear Creek Amendment 3 Preliminary Plat after hearing comments from Bear Creek resident Bruce Rosser about the condition of

the road in front of his house. The developer of Bear Creek Subdivision had requested an additional five-year filing period for future final plats. Approximately 100 acres is undeveloped. "The street front of my house is sinking," Rosser said. "It does not meet code...the City allowed construction that does not meet code."

Senior City Planner Garry Baker pointed out that City has adopted a 15 percent warranty policy since Bear Creek's approval. "That is better protection than we had," Baker said.

Mayor Swanson questioned whether patching was sufficient to fix the road near Rosser's home; Harris informed him that the road would need to be reconstructed. "We are developing a maintenance plan for 2016," Harris said.

Mrs. Bruce Rosser raised the issue of prairie dogs in Bear Creek.

"Our HOA has been concerned for years about the prairie dogs and Hanta Virus," she said. "Can you get him (subdivision developer Matt Miles) to take care of the prairie dogs? There are people here who have them running in and out of their yards! We have kids here, and we worry about Hanta Virus."

City Attorney Alcorn stated that Hanta Virus is carried by deer mice, not prairie dogs, which have been known to carry the plague virus.

"I am not sure we can do anything, but we are happy to talk to the developer to see if something can be done," Alcorn said. "We will not be recommending the 'Boulder' approach of relocating them to condos."

After some discussion of possible fixes, Council tabled the vote on Amendment 3. Councilor Anderson suggested more study and careful discussion.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

USA SWIMMING FOUNDATION AWARDS MORE THAN \$300,000 IN 2016

Funding for free or reduced cost swim lessons grows to more than \$4 Million since 2007

Special to the Mirror

be able to afford them, the USA Swimming Foundation has awarded more than \$330,000 through its 2016 Make a Splash grant program.

Since 2007 the Foundation has given more than \$4 million dollars to help fund learn-to-swim programs across the country. Through Make a Splash funding this year, more than 20,000 children will be served through grants provided to 52 Make a Splash Local Partners across 23 states. Over the last nine years, almost four million children have received formalized swim instruction through Make a Splash local partners.

“Our goal is to teach one million children to swim annually by 2017 and this year’s distributions will provide swim lessons at reduced or no cost for more children than ever before,” says Debbie Hesse, Executive Director of the USA Swimming Foundation.

“Swim lessons reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent so through the teamwork of the USA Swimming Foundation and our local partners we’re saving lives of today’s children and many more in future generations.”

Make a Splash Local Partners such as the Akron YMCA (Ohio), Treasure Family YMCA (Idaho), Monterey County Aquatic Team/SwimAmerica (California), Harris County (Texas) and City of Detroit Parks and Recreation (Michigan) will each serve lessons to over 1,000 children through their learn-to-swim programs.

The USA Swimming Foundation awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process.

This year, the Foundation received more than 150 applications and awarded 52 grants totaling \$337,017 to help fund learn-to-swim programs across the country. There are approximately 750 Make a Splash Local Partners who promote water safety education in their communities and provide scholarships for children to participate in their swim lesson programs. The 2016 USA Swimming Foundation

Make a Splash Grant Recipients are:

- [Cincinnati Recreation Commission \(Ohio\)](#)
- [NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation Swim for Life Program \(New York\)](#)
- [Copley-Price Family YMCA \(California\)](#)
- [City of Jersey City - Department of Recreation \(New Jersey\)](#)
- [City of Detroit Parks and Recreation \(Michigan\)](#)
- [City of Newark, Division of Recreation \(New Jersey\)](#)
- [Greater Houston YMCA \(Texas\)](#)
- [Harris County \(Texas\)](#)
- [5 Cities Swim School \(California\)](#)
- [Little Fishes Swim School \(Missouri\)](#)
- [Akron YMCA \(Ohio\)](#)
- [Lawrence YMCA \(Massachusetts\)](#)
- [YWCA Tulsa \(Oklahoma\)](#)
- [HYCAT at Charleston Inc. Swimming Program \(West Virginia\)](#)
- [Monterey County Aquatic Team/ SwimAmerica \(California\)](#)
- [Pacific Coast Marlins Learn to Swim \(California\)](#)
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley \(Tennessee\)](#)
- [Fort Worth Drowning Prevention Coalition \(Texas\)](#)
- [YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago - South Side \(Illinois\)](#)
- [The Gift of Swimming \(Florida\)](#)
- [Muskegon YMCA \(Michigan\)](#)
- [The Roeper School \(Michigan\)](#)
- [Waycross YMCA \(Georgia\)](#)
- [Treasure Valley Family YMCA \(Idaho\)](#)
- [Belle Chasse YMCA \(Louisiana\)](#)
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of San Dieguito \(California\)](#)
- [Duluth Area Family YMCA \(Minnesota\)](#)
- [Peninsula Family YMCA \(California\)](#)
- [SwimRVA \(Virginia\)](#)
- [YWCA Evanston North Shore \(Illinois\)](#)
- [YMCA of Broome County \(New York\)](#)
- [DeKalb Aquatics Swim Team Inc. \(Georgia\)](#)
- [YMCA of Broome County West Family Branch \(New York\)](#)
- [Buffalo City Swim Racers \(New York\)](#)
- [Cumberland Cape Atlantic YMCA – Vineland \(New Jersey\)](#)
- [YMCA of Garfield \(New Jersey\)](#)
- [Canton City Schools \(Ohio\)](#)
- [City of Spokane \(Washington\)](#)
- [City of Urbandale \(Iowa\)](#)
- [City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept. \(California\)](#)
- [Derby Recreation Commission - Unsinkables Program \(Kansas\)](#)
- [City of Gunnison Parks and Recreation \(Colorado\)](#)
- [Irving Independent School District - Swim Safe \(Texas\)](#)
- [Montrose Recreation District - Montrose Aquatics Center \(Colorado\)](#)
- [District 196 Community Education Aquatics Program \(Minnesota\)](#)
- [Holland Community Aquatic Center \(Michigan\)](#)
- [City of Boynton Beach \(Florida\)](#)
- [City of Alexandria Potomac Marlins USA Swim Team \(Virginia\)](#)
- [City of El Cajon-Fletcher Hills Pool \(California\)](#)
- [Chatham County Aquatic Center \(Georgia\)](#)
- [Bridgeport YMCA \(Connecticut\)](#)
- [City of Bakersfield Recreation and Parks \(California\)](#)

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

INTERIM COMMITTEES TACKLE RESOURCE CHALLENGES

With the 2016 Colorado legislative session behind us, the interim committees now begin their work to dig deeper into the issues that present some of Colorado's biggest challenges. Many legislators serve on at least one of the interim committees, which often involve field tours around the state to see and talk with people on a variety of policy topics.

I'm on two interim committees, one focused on forest health and the other on water resources. These two topics are intertwined as the health of our forests directly impacts the quality and quantity of our water supply. This year, I am chairing the wildfire matters committee and am vice-chairwoman of the water resources review committee. As senator for 8 counties in the southwestern corner of Colorado, I rarely need to explain why these committees are very important to my district's constituents, but, in fact, these committees are important statewide, including to the urban areas of the state and here's why.

Colorado's a very popular state to live in these days. The state demographer fore-

casts that the state's population, currently about 5 ½ million people, will grow to over 8 ½ million by 2050. Where will these people live? Some of the newcomers will move to the Western Slope. The forecast is that about 1 million people will live on the Western Slope by 2050, about double what we have today. But, the vast, vast majority of Coloradans, over 7 million strong, will live on the Front Range.

What does this mean to Colorado as a whole to have so many people packing in along the semi-arid, fire-adapted environment of the Front Range? This population increase will lead to more people living in the wildland urban interface, (WUI), where wildfires are the hardest to fight, pose the greatest threat to public safety and cost the most in loss of life and property. This increase in Coloradans will also lead to mounting pressure on securing and using water supplies to accommodate this new growth in our state. Pulling up the welcome mat isn't an answer, so the legislature needs to focus considerable attention studying how to meet the challenges this kind of growth presents to all of its residents, now and in 2050.

This'll be much of the focus of the wildfire matters committee this interim. We'll have two field tours; one'll be along the Front Range where major catastrophic fires in the Colorado Springs area have occurred. We'll visit a biochar facility in Pueblo to explore private sector opportunities regarding excess fuel load in the forests and in the WUI that isn't marketable to the timber industry. There's an important role for the private sector in re-establishing forest health as a decline in severance taxes as the revenue source to get the needed work done is clearly not sustainable or sufficiently productive.

We'll also head west along the I-70 corridor to see the mitigation work being done by water utilities dependent on healthier forests for their municipal water supplies and by conservation groups like The Nature Conservancy. We'll visit a biomass electricity generation facility in Gypsum to further explore opportunities for productive use of unmarketable timber. I'm working with state and federal forest service personnel, as well as local governments and fire districts, to add meaningful information to the committee's agenda.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SUNNYSIDE ROAD AND HILLCREST DRIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Contractors working for the City of Montrose are scheduled to begin construction of a new roundabout at the intersection of Sunnyside Road and Hillcrest Drive on June 14. The intersection itself and entrances to McGuire Drive and Essex Street immediately adjacent to the project will be closed to all traffic throughout the duration of the project. This closure is scheduled to last through the end of October.

Motorists will be directed onto the detour

route shown in the attached figure. This detour route is intended to keep through traffic from shortcutting through residential neighborhoods to the extent possible. Access to residential streets, churches, the Elks Lodge, and the Black Canyon Golf Course will remain open to local and emergency traffic; however, the intersection of Sunnyside/Hillcrest will remain impassible throughout construction. Accommodations will be made immediately alongside the project to allow for pedestrians to cross both Sunnyside and Hillcrest.

The roundabout detour will overlap with an existing detour around the intersection of South 12th and Park as shown in the attached figure. This overlap will only be for a few weeks as the South 12th/Park project is on track to be completed by early July.

Motorists and pedestrians are asked to exercise caution near the project area and to please respect all coned-off areas. Any questions regarding the project may be directed to Scott Murphy, City Engineer, at (970) 901-1792.

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CITY OF MONTROSE SEEKS CANDIDATES TO FILL BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The City of Montrose is accepting applications from citizens interested in serving on the City of Montrose Planning Commission and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board of Directors. The Planning Commission evaluates matters related to planning and community development. Montrose City Council

appoints members of the Planning Commission to serve for four-year overlapping terms. Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 5 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Elks Civic Building. Each appointed member of the DDA Board must reside, be a business lessee, or own real property within the Downtown Development Au-

thority boundary. The DDA Board meets the third Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in the Centennial Room of the City Hall Annex. Applications for both opportunities are available at City Hall, 433 S. First Street, on the City of Montrose website at CityofMontrose.org, or by calling (970) 240-1422. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, June 14.

MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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For more information and to apply go to: <http://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/33542>.
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH: TIME FOR A NEW DAY, NEW CULTURE IN DELTA COUNTY

Dear Editor:

I can't imagine how big the pile of sand is that the Delta County Republican Central Committee has its collective head stuck under. Where are elected County leaders who seem to have their lips stitched up tightly? Enough is enough! The damage that Linda Sorenson has done to this County is beyond comprehension. It has nothing to do with partisan politics. It has to do with the adverse publicity she generated throughout that State and yes even the Nation about our County and only adds to the woes we face in our declining economic future.

Then as if the mistake she made was not bad enough she issues a statement in which she claims to be the victim of a "gottcha" internet blogger and then launches into a divisive partisan ranting that only worsens the image of this County. This was not a humble apology nor did it express contriteness for being a Party leader who made a grievous error. No she just heaped more fuel on the fire. Then the statements to the press made Party vice-chairman, Vic Ulery and treasurer Sue Whittlesey in her defense claiming she was hacked would be laughable if not so pathetic.

In case some of your readers are so mired in their complacency about what is happening in this County and why Linda did great damage let me explain: Unless you live under a very large rock everyone is aware that in the last couple of years we have lost most of the high paying coal mining jobs. But worse than the dollars is the loss of human resources in declining overall population and drastic decline in our schools. On a daily basis we become poorer and unfortunately older as it is the younger generations leaving and the new arrivals are mostly retirees.

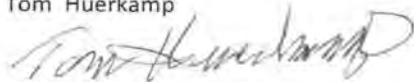
In addition to the fact of being poorer and older she gave the impression that we are a bunch of red necked hicks from the sticks; bigots thumbing our noses at those who do not adhere to philosophy and beliefs put forth by citizens of Delta County. And because Republicans have long dominated local elective offices it gives the impression that the hard core Republican Central Committee speaks for all of us.

As 76 year old, lifelong registered Republican and fiscal conservative, I am totally mortified to think that Linda Sorenson is speaking for me. I too am very unhappy with our current U.S. administration. However, she not only needs to step down our elected County officials need to publically and collectively disavow what has taken place. Furthermore those members of the Central Committee who will not vote to replace Linda also need to step down and make room for a more responsible representation of our Party.

Specifically what damage did she do that causes me to take such a harsh stand? For the past two years a large number of us have been busting our butts to come up with ideas, plans and feasibility studies to create a new economy for us and just as we reach a stage of identifying funding and implementation we are the looking like complete idiots.

We need bi-partisan support from local officials, regional officials and State officials in order to accomplish what we strongly feel is a feasible chance to create a new economy that will maximize our natural resources and will mesh with DMEA Fiber to Premise internet program to make Delta County attractive to younger generations of entrepreneurs and the people they will employ. It is going to be difficult to convince regional and State elected officials to help us get this jump started with the black eye we have received. I fervently pray for a new day and a new culture for the place I have called home for 50 years.

Tom Huerkamp



Delta and Western Colorado businessman
Orchard City resident

FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

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Musical Guest – Beth Williams and David Snider

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OPINION/EDITORIAL:COMMENTARY

VETERANS EAT THEIR OWN: GLEN DAVIS INTERVIEW



Gail Marvel.
Courtesy photo.

By Gail Marvel - US Navy Veteran (1967-1970), Montrose City Councilman (2008-2012)

MONTROSE-At the June 6, 2016 Montrose Board of County Commissioner (BOCC) meeting Commissioner and veteran Glen Davis

was ambushed by fellow veterans. Prior to the meeting veterans received an email from Lane Sterling which asked them to rally at the meeting, "...it is important for us to support each other as veterans...It is also important not to let the public know about this as the commissioners won't be able to react beforehand. I hope we have a huge turnout in support of the veterans in the country."

In the past few months the local media has been baited to investigate Commissioner Davis' military service. To his credit Davis has volunteered to meet with those bringing accusations, but they have not taken him up on the offer. Davis said, "At first I laughed it off. One man didn't believe I'd served in the military so I invited him into my office and showed him the military discharge certificate hanging on the wall. He said it didn't look real. He didn't believe it was real because it didn't look like his discharge certificate. I told him to look at the signatures and the

dates...he still didn't believe that I'd served."

In order to satisfy his accusers Davis went to the extreme measure of giving them access to his military records. "I don't have anything to hide. I served in the Air Force for 47 months, I was an Airman 2nd class [E-3], I had a secret clearance, and I was honorably discharged." Specialty codes (job descriptions) are assigned in all branches of the service and during his tour of duty Davis was deployed to many locations where his work assignments did not match his Air Force Specialty Code.

In reflecting on his military service Davis said, "I owed my country and I served my country...but my country doesn't owe me anything."

After a mere 17 months as an elected Montrose County Commissioner Davis is hesitant to say why he is being targeted by other veterans and his military service record tarnished.

"There is a faction who didn't want me to get elected and they want to bring me down. I think this situation started when we [commissioners] moved the Veteran's Service Officer (VSO) out of the Warrior Resource Center (WRC) to the County's south campus."

During the BOCC meeting there was inference that Davis had not served in Vietnam. The reality is that many service personnel were in-country in Vietnam without having orders go to Vietnam. Case in point: In order to receive health benefits

related to exposure to Agent Orange thousands of veterans continue to struggle to find documentation to prove they were in Vietnam. For example, flying classified missions do not reflect on a serviceman's record that his airplane landed and refueled in Vietnam.

Veteran Bill Ramsey, who recalled seeing people shot and burned in Vietnam, tried to justify his attack on Davis by saying, "That's why we have the sensitivity we have." The hypocrisy of any Vietnam veteran disparaging another veteran is startling.

Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) Commander Whit Bailey said he had heard things about Davis that weren't good, "If you are a veteran, come and join [VFW]." Interestingly the motto of the VFW is "Veterans helping veterans."

Retired Marine Bill Bennett had a "dramatic talk prepared" for the meeting which included name calling. Seeming to take command of the veterans in the room he said, "Anyone else have anything to say to this nitwit?"

In the past the Montrose community has been extremely generous and supportive of veterans and their organizations — Warrior Resource Center, VFW, DAV, the American Legion, and the Wounded Warrior program.

However, to see a handful of veterans devouring their own in a public venue for their own political agenda is a poor reflection on all veterans.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BRADLEY W. ZAPORSKI NAMED CEO/GENERAL MANAGER OF SMPA

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Bradley W. Zaporski has been selected by the Board of Directors as the new Chief Executive Officer and General Manager (CEO/GM) for San Miguel Power Association (SMPA), Nucla, CO. The SMPA Board of Directors has named Brad Zaporski, as its next CEO/GM. He begins his new duties on June 6, 2016. The CEO, appointed by the Board of Directors, serves as the top executive of SMPA and reports to a 7 member board of directors representing specific districts within its vast service territory in south-western Colorado.

"I'm truly humbled for the trust the board members have placed in me and pleased to be given the opportunity to serve as the next CEO. I look forward to continuing to work with the dedicated team of directors and employees that serve the member-owners. There are many challenges ahead for the electric utility industry and particularly for electric distribution cooperatives and together we will continue to work for the benefit of our members in all that we do," he replied."

Zaporski replaces Jim Link who has served as interim CEO since the retirement of the former CEO Kevin Ritter last fall. Jim Link has served with distinction for 20 years as SMPA's general counsel and will continue in that role.

"The board selected Zaporski following a nationwide search conducted over many months. The board takes its fiduciary responsibility very seriously and interviewed numerous highly qualified candidates – ultimately selecting Zaporski. I am very proud of the commitment from the full board in doing its due diligence on

behalf of the membership," said President Felicelli.

Zaporski is committed to the electric cooperative business model and its principles and is dedicated to serving the membership. He has served on numerous boards and committees representing the cooperative and is highly respected for his contributions to the electric cooperative program in Colorado.

His experience and educational background have prepared him well for his new role as CEO. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, WI; a Masters of Applied Science in Energy Policy from the University of Denver, CO, and is a graduate of the NRECA Management Intern Program.

During his career, he has served in a leadership role in various professional associations and community service organizations in the SMPA service territory.

He enjoys volunteering and states: "I could not be happier among the beautiful landscapes and wonderful people of our service territory. It has been a pleasure to work with the people of SMPA and I am truly honored to serve SMPA as its new General Manager."

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 14,000 meters and supports local communities with \$300,000 annually in property taxes and \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates. SMPA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DON VAREY JOINS COUNTY AS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR



Don Varey. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE—Montrose County announces Don Varey as the newest member of the county leadership team as the Information Technology (IT)

Director. Varey comes to Montrose Coun-

ty with over 30 years of experience in IT, 15 of which have been in an IT leadership role. "Don is a great addition to our team," said Assistant County Manager Dave Laursen. "He brings a wealth of IT knowledge and experience to the County." Varey will oversee both the Information Technology Division and the Geographic Information System Department. He will be looking at advancing the capabilities the division offers County staff, Elected Officials, departments and programs. Varey succeeds former IT Director EJ Trujillo who left to pursue another position. Prior to joining the county,

Varey served in the IT program at Great-West Financial in Greenwood Village, Colorado for 22 years with his last position being that of Vice President of IT. Before that he was employed at Hughes Aircraft in Colorado and California. "I am excited to be here at Montrose County and equally excited to be a part of the Montrose community. My wife and I are very much looking forward to becoming active citizens of Montrose," said Varey. Varey and his wife, Diana, have been married for 36 years and have two adult children—a daughter who lives in Littleton and a son who lives in Boston.

GET INSIDE MONTROSE COUNTY WITH THE SHERIFF & CORONER ON JUNE 15!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Montrose County Sheriff's Office and the Coroner's Office of Medical Investigations provide critical services to our community. The public is invited to join Sheriff Rick Dunlap and Coroner Dr. Thomas Canfield, M.D., on June 15 at 5:30 p.m., for Inside Montrose County featuring an in-depth look at these offices.

"The presentation will provide an overview of my office as well as an update on our recent search and rescue capabilities," said Sheriff Dunlap. "I encourage the pub-

lic to reserve a spot in advance as there will also be a tour of the jail. The jail is a key public safety component in Montrose County and many don't know what goes into running a 100-plus bed jail."

"Many people may not be aware that our Coroner, Dr. Canfield, has saved the county thousands of dollars because of his decades of experience as a pathologist and medical examiner," said Patricia Blackwelder, an Investigator with the Coroner's Office. "Inside Montrose County offers the public a chance to learn about more than just cause and manner of

death—our entire team operates with compassion and the public in mind."

A tour of the jail is also available to a limited number of individuals—advanced reservation is required and space is limited. The program will begin at 5:30 p.m., and is expected to last 1.5 hours. Light refreshments will be served. To RSVP for the event, please email pr@montrosecounty.net or call [970-249-7755](tel:970-249-7755). For media reservations, contact Katie Yergensen at kyergensen@montrosecounty.net or [970-252-4505](tel:970-252-4505).

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT OFFICE OFFERS SUPPORT FOR NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--Montrose County is pleased to offer a new Non-Custodial Parent Services Program. The program is intended to serve non-custodial parents struggling to meet their child support obligations by engaging them in positive contact with the Child Support Office and by offering coaching and case management services that connect them to employment and parenting supports. Program services are coordinated by Jon Merritt, a former non-custodial parent.

Parents contacting the program may receive individual coaching, employment and/or parenting support, connection to parenting resources, and assistance with related systems navigation.

With these new services, staff will identify and support individuals who have difficulty making consistent payments or who are in danger of falling behind on payments, and connect them to resources or services that will enhance their ability to continue to financially support their children.

Non-custodial parents who have an active child support case being administered through the Montrose Child Support Office may participate in coaching services. Interested parents should contact the Montrose Child Support Services office at [970-252-4200](tel:970-252-4200) and select the phone option for the Non-Custodial Parent Coach. The Coach is also available for walk-in Child Support questions most Fridays from 9am – Noon, on the Second Floor at the Montrose Justice Center Courts Building.

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE INCORRECT MAIL BALLOT STYLES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-- The Montrose County Elections Office would like to make the public aware that approximately 32 primary voter ballots were inaccurately issued to registered voters.

These voters possibly received ballot envelopes with the incorrect ballot style (ie. in lieu of a Democratic, a Republican ballot was received and vice versa). Initial inquiries with the printing vendor indicate a technical error with the vendor's software programming.

"I sincerely apologize for the error--

the elections team is working with the printer to ensure this mistake does not happen in the future," said Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes. "Please check your ballot prior to voting to verify that it is the correct style--either Republican or Democrat."

At this time, elections team members are working to contact the 32 affected individuals to notify them of the error. Also, the staff is taking additional steps to ensure the integrity of the election by establishing an alert if an inaccurate ballot style is received. The Clerk and Recorder's Office is

also working with the Secretary of State's Office and adhering to policy and procedure to correct this error.

The elector will be notified (if he or she is not yet aware), and the elections team will assist them with a corrected ballot.

If you have received an incorrect ballot and have not yet been contacted by a member of the elections staff, please call [970-249-3362](tel:970-249-3362), ext. 31, or visit the Elections Office at 320 South 1st Street, Montrose, CO 81401, or the Clerk and Recorder's Nucla Annex at 300 Main Street, Nucla, CO 81424.

HONORABLE MENTION

To my fellow Americans, for uniting in support of our nation's promise of life, liberty, pursuit of happiness, and freedom from tyranny. Freedom is not free...and educated voting is a civic responsibility...

To all who fought for our nation, in all wars, of all generations...including my father and Chicago Sun Times editor Cecil Neth (WWII and Korea), who always taught me to question authority, and that journalism has a role in a free society...

...And to those who understand that journalism is not a popularity contest or a power trip, but a profession that demands adherence to professional standards and ethics, not just opportunities for male bonding, influence, and profit.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SOLARIZE DELTA COUNTY SOLAR COCKTAIL HOUR WILL BE JUNE 29 @ CB'S TAVERN IN DELTA!

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Solarize Delta County Team will host a Solar Cocktail Hour at CB's Tavern in Delta on Wednesday, June 29, 2016 from 5 to 7 pm. This social event is a great way to meet the installers from Empowered Energy Systems and volunteer program coordinators of Solar Energy International as well as Delta County Economic Development to learn how you can "go solar" and make your own clean and local energy. Short presentations about the program will be held at 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm to discuss the process and the tiered rebate structure that increases savings as more neighbors sign contracts to install PV systems.

Whether the motivation is energy independence, reducing carbon footprint, or

plain economic sense, more residents and businesses in Delta County are flipping the switch to produce their own affordable, solar energy, thanks to Solarize Delta County. A brand new 25 kW commercial system now sits atop the roof of ProSpace Interiors in Delta.

The system is sized to produce more than 100 percent of the businesses yearly power consumption.

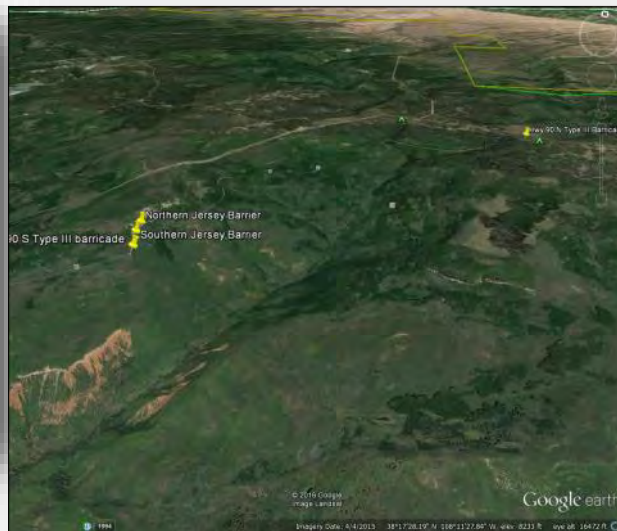
The federal tax credit of 30 percent, combined with annual deductions for commercial clients (MACRS), made the investment a "no-brainer" said ProSpace Interiors, and Delta County Economic Development Inc., Vice President Tom Huerkamp. The added incentive of Solarize tiered rebates only sweetened the deal. "It just makes economic sense to do this"

Huerkamp continued, "and then there is the community reason to do it." Solarize Delta County is an effort led by Solar Energy International (SEI) to increase the accessibility and affordability of solar energy for all Delta County residents. With the support of the Delta County Economic Development (DCED), Solarize Delta County seeks to raise local awareness of solar, lower the cost of solar electric (PV) systems, and significantly ramp up adoption of PV throughout Delta County. At the event you will be able to register for a free remote site assessment. The deadline date to sign up for this free assessment is July 15, 2016. Additional information can be found at www.solarenergy.org/solarize-delta-county/ or by calling SEI program coordinators at 970-527-7657 x 213.

ROAD CLOSURE ON THE UNCOMPAHGRE PLATEAU



Highway 90 Slide Area. Courtesy photo.



Locations of barriers. Courtesy map.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – Montrose County and the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests have physically closed portions of 90 Road, National Forest System Road #540 (NFSR) on the Uncompahgre Plateau. Barriers have been installed below and above the portions of the road that are slumping/sliding for health and safety purposes.

These barriers also affect travel from the Divide Road (NFSR #402) onto the upper

reach of 90 Road.

Approximately five miles of road are closed to all public travel, including ATVs and full-sized vehicles. Physical road barriers and signage are placed in locations that provide an opportunity to turn around full-sized vehicles.

The slide/slump area was first reported on May 26. A large area of loose, muddy rock and roadway has slumped and is still moving, due to precipitation and melting snow.

Extensive work to repair the road will be needed before the roadway can be re-opened. There are no estimates of when this will occur.

According to Norwood District Ranger Matt Zumstein, "Montrose County did a great job of getting the physical barriers and signage installed to protect the public and keep people out of the slide area." He went on

to state, "it's pretty significant damage and the slide is still unstable and moving." Alternate routes that are available include the Delta-Nucla Road (NFSR 503); the Sanborn Park Road (NFSR 530) to Dave Wood Road (NFSR510); and the Hauser Road (NFSR603).

No additional information is available at this time. The slide area will remain closed until further notice.

MIRROR IMAGES...CLEAN, GREEN AND BEAUTIFUL?



The photos on this page were taken last week, within the City of Montrose. Thank you to Paul Janzen for the recycle center photos. Among other things, conditions there appear to pose a fire hazard. And times have certainly changed since former MPD Chief Gary Meacham insisted on immediate removal of graffiti as part of responsible community policing and as evidence of a community that takes pride in its public spaces.



FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Join us for a patriotic program in Centennial Plaza,
Montrose (next to City Hall on S. 1st Street)
Presented by Alpine Bank, Volunteers of America and The Montrose Daily Press

11:30 AM TO NOON PROGRAM

NOON TO 1:00 PM FREE LUNCH
(HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS)

Color Guard by VFW Post 784

National Anthem – vocal by Collin Huffer

Flag Day Proclamation by Montrose Mayor,
Rex Swanson

Vietnam War Commemorative Flag Presentation
- Daughters of the American Revolution

Special Guest Speaker - Stephen Alcorn

Musical Guest – Beth Williams and David Snider

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WILDERNESS ON WHEELS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS!

Special to the Mirror

KENOSHA PASS-They say the traditional 30th anniversary gift is pearls. Unlike gemstones, pearls are beautiful and luminous from the start (no polishing required). This year, Wilderness on Wheels (WOW) is celebrating their 30th season! Come see what makes this a precious pearl of Colorado.

Nestled at the base of Kenosha Pass, WOW provides access to nature for people of all disabilities, their families, and friends. Hiking, camping, and fishing in the great outdoors that otherwise would be difficult to access for people with physical limitations (wheelchair, walker, scooters, stroller, etc.) is available. At WOW the wilderness is not only accessible, but dedicated solely to ensure everyone can participate!

The 20-acre property includes a meandering boardwalk that allows you to hike up to 9200 feet through national forest full of blue spruce and aspen trees; catch sights of wildlife like blue jays and deer; and breathe in ample fresh air. The stocked fishing pond and camping huts are fully wheelchair accessible. It is truly a gorgeous slice of Colorado's wilderness.

WOW is a nonprofit funded entirely by donations and volunteers. No other facility exists like this in North America. Speaking of volunteers, the day-to-day operations of WOW are overseen by Barb (although her disability and age have slowed her down) and her husband Bill Cramer. After paralytic polio as a child Barb uses a wheelchair, but it did not stop her from being highly athletic. She became a multi gold medal athlete at the Paralympic games in the 70's and even wrote her own book based on overcoming physical disabilities and following your dreams, no matter what. Today the couple enjoys spending time with their three grown sons, seven grandkids, and one great grand baby.

Come help us make the 30th anniversary season the best one yet! Plan a day trip to enjoy the beautiful mountain scenery. Call us to reserve a camping hut, tent space, or cabin to spend a night under the stars. Grab your tackle box and make fish tales to remember. We're open Memorial Day through October, 7 days a week.

Visit us at wildernessonwheels.org or call 303-403-1110 for more information!

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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

SUMMER STORY TIME AT BACKSTREET BAGEL-All story lovers are welcome to our summer story time (recommended for ages 3-8). Thursday Mornings from 10:30-11 a.m. on the Backstreet Patio (or by the fireplace on stormy days) 127 N. Townsend Ave. Expert storytellers and certified teachers entertain your kiddos with a story while you relax and have a little grown-up time.

THIRD FRIDAYS--SILVERTON SUMMER CONCERT SERIES--3rd Fridays of June, July, August & September from 5-8 p.m. in Memorial Park- 1600 Greene Street, Silverton, CO. Admission is Free. Featuring: Great Southwest Colorado bands: June 17-Six Dollar String Band; July 15 Dave Mensch; Aug. 19-The High Rollers; Sept. 16-Hello Dollface. Local vendors serving food & selling local goods. Beer Garden with Local Brews by Avalanche Brewing Company & Bottom Shelf Brewery*.

MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE FOR CHILDREN: JUNE-A musical version of "The Velveteen Rabbit", based on the 1922 classic tale by Margery Williams, will be presented by Magic Circle Players' Theatre for Children. Evening performances are scheduled for June 10, 17, 18, at 7 pm and matinees on June 11, 12, and 18, at 2 pm. For information visit the website at www.magiccircleplayers.com or contact Magic Circle Theatre at 970-249-7838. The theatre is located at 420 S. 12th St., Montrose.

RIDGWAY CONCERT SERIES 2016-July 7, 14, 21, 28-9th Annual Free Summer Concert Series

Hartwell Park, Ridgway, Thursdays in July, 6pm 'til Dark, July 7, 14, 21, 28 Free Music featuring World-Class Bands! Family Friendly, Children's Activities, Food Vendors, Local Beer, Margaritas & WineLate Night After-Show at the Sherbino Theater, Live Broadcast on KVNf.

PAONIA'S PICKIN' IN THE PARK 2016-Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25 Paonia's 9th Annual Free Summer Concert Series, Paonia Town Park, Paonia, Thursday Evenings in August, 6pm 'til Dark. Dates are August 4, 11, 18, 25 ~ 2016 Free Live Music, National Touring Acts, Family Friendly, Children's ActivitiesLocal Food, Local Beer & Local Wine, Broadcast Live on KVNf!www.pickingproductions.com.

FRIDAYS-TRUE GRIT WALKING TOURS-Arrive 10:45 a.m. at the Ridgway Visitors Center, 150 Racecourse Rd. Tour ends at noon. \$10 (11 and under free). Reservations strongly recommended. Or schedule your own tour for 6 or more people. 970-626-5181.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE @ THE GALLERY • MUSIC BY YOUTH, Second Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery in Sampler Square.

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

FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC-LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, Montrose County Courthouse (Leslie German self-help center) at 1200 North Grand, Noon to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

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

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.

SNOWSHADOW GYM-Zumba classes with Maria Gonzalez week nights 5:30 to 7:30; Swing dance with Kevin Mears Mondays 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. 535 S. First St. Snowshadowgymnastics@yahoo.com.

MONTHLY-

June 12-The Montrose County Historical Museum (21 N. Rio Grande Ave) invites history enthusiasts to join us for the "Sunday History Series" on June 12 from 3 pm to 5 pm. This month we will be hosting six local historical authors and one special guest. The authors will be showing their newest accomplishment along with their past books. The authors will be Steve Baker, Greta Hemstrom, Elaine Hale Jones, Carol Patterson, Jack Rairden, and Judy Buffington Sammons. The special guest will be Raymond Tyler, the brother of Muriel Marshall (the late local Historian). Please join us for this reception, it is free and open to the public. For more information call [970-249-2085](tel:970-249-2085).

June 12-Ridgway Amateur Sculpture Contest, 1 to 3 p.m. at Ridgway Town Hall. Adult and youth categories. Visit www.weehawkenarts.org to register or call 970-318-0150.

June 13-22-There will be a Yogini Circus Stilt camp six-day Stilt Build & Walk Workshop for kids (and their adult) seven and up in Ridgway June 13th-15th & June 20-22nd from 6 to 7:30 PM. The Build will be in the Cimarron Coffee Parking lot, Ridgway - Walk in Ridgway town park. Cost is \$75 per participant, and participants must pre-register by calling (970) 765-4627 or emailing heather@yoginircircus.com. Registration deadline June 10. Maximum 10 walkers. Participants must attend all six sessions.

June 13-Citizens concerned about climate change are meeting Monday, June 13 at 6:30 in Centennial Rm. This is behind Montrose City Hall, off Centennial Plaza. Citizens' Climate Lobby is a national non-partisan group influencing legislators in this important election year. Public is invited to attend. More information at www.CitizensClimateLobby.org.

June 13-An evening of Stargazing, Montrose Summer Reading Program at Cerise Park, with Black Canyon Astronomical Society. 8 to 10 p.m.

June 15-Acoustic duo Mandolin Orange and International Bluegrass Music Association's 2014 Entertainers of the Year, Balsam Range will grace the stage in Mountain Village's Sunset Plaza for the Seventh Annual FirstGrass Concert June 15. As part of the 43 Annual Telluride Bluegrass Festival, this free show runs from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and is made possible by the Town of Mountain Village and Planet Bluegrass.

June 15-Inside Montrose County class: MCSO and Jail. Jail tour available on a limited basis. RSVP to 970-252-4505.

June 16-DMEA Annual Meeting at Friendship Hall, 4:30 to 8 p.m.

June 18--Starting at 4 pm the Montrose County Historical Museum will be hosting the Cemetery Tour of Grandview Cemetery. Come learn about the history behind burial traditions, along with the stories of our earliest community members in the oldest part of the cemetery. Space is limited, so please RSVP at 249-2085. There is a donation of \$10 per person.

June 20-24-Rosemont Baptist Church at 1598 E Niagara Rd offers "Submerged," vacation Bible school from 9 a.m. to Noon for children from age four through 6th grade. A Women's "VBS" Bible Study will also be available for any woman who would like to attend. For more information or to register visit at www.rosemontbaptist.org/summer2016 or register in person or by phone at (970)249-4887. Office hours are Tues-Thurs 11:30 am-4 pm.

June 20--10am to 11am, Introducing TAI CHI CHIC a 7 week program, Fee \$50. Learn 19 movements that do not require any level of fitness. Anyone can learn these balancing, energizing and flexibility enhancing movements. www.montroserec.com or call 2497705 to reserve a spot.

June 20-Montrose Senior Center, 1 p.m. "Harrowing Adventure Stories" with Roy Cano.

June 21-The Venezuelan Youth Orchestra is a musical social institution that promotes social action through music. Made up of music students from poor socio-economic backgrounds, this unique musical institution has served as an inspiration for the creation of similar orchestras across the world. Dr. Gisela Flanigan will be giving this fascinating and instructive presentation on social action through music on June 21, 2016, at 6:15 p.m. in the Community Room of the Mesa County Central Library at 5th and Grand Ave.

June 21-Montrose Senior Center \$3 dollar Lunch and Learn...Lunch only reservation 252-7797, Lunch at noon and program at 1 o'clock. "Taking the DIS out of Disability" with Edith Johnson, PhD, JPC. Learn the four phases of adjustment to limitations that will increase your functioning abilities.

June 22-23---Attend at Centennial Plaza (433 S First Street) in Downtown Montrose at 6 p.m. June 23 for a free performance by the 101st Army Band of the Colorado National Guard. The 101st Army Band is a unit of the Colorado National Guard. The band will also perform at the Montrose Pavilion on June 22 at 7 p.m.

June 24-26-Cast and Blast: Men, ages 18-14, who are interested in learning how to fish and hunt are invited to a weekend "Cast and Blast" sponsored by Colorado Parks and Wildlife, June 24-26. The weekend event will be held at the beautiful Lone Cone-Jim Olterman State Wildlife Area located in San Miguel County in southwestern Colorado. Firearms and fishing gear will be provided. Attendees will be selected from applications submitted to the Montrose Service Center of Colorado Parks and Wildlife at 2300 South Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401. Applications can be obtained by calling 970-252-6000 or by e-mail at darlene.trainor@state.co.us. A \$40 refundable deposit is required.

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4th Wed: Valley Manor Care Center

5th Wed: Community Options Inc.

(Note: 5th Wed dates are: March 30, June 29, Aug 31, Nov 30, 2016)

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Montrose, CO 81402

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Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com



From top left, Delta's mini golf course in Confluence Park is a summer fun destination...top right, another top summer attraction is the Star Drive Inn Theater on South Niagara in Montrose...below left, Gail Marvel snapped this photo of Pomona Elementary School just after a cloudburst Saturday night.

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