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FRESH NEWS FOR BUSY PEOPLE...WEEKLY ON MONDAYS!

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 195 Nov. 14 2016

'LET'S LET THE MARKET DECIDE' STAKEHOLDERS MEET, DISCUSS FLIGHTS ALLIANCE FUNDING

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-When it comes to air travel, Montrose and Telluride have a symbiotic relationship; each relies on the other, yet capturing tourist dollars remains a decades-old source of controversy between the two communities. The Special City Council Meeting held on Nov. 10, 2016 was a chance to clear the air, do a reset and push for a more informed partnership between the City of Montrose and the Colorado Flights Alliance (CFA) moving forward.

The goal of CFA is to attract and retain air service through risk mitigation partnerships (cities, realtors, private business, individuals, etc.). Seventy-five percent of CFA funding guarantees seats with airline carriers and 25 percent goes to advertising and



Colorado Flights Alliance (CFA) representatives Dirk Depagter, David Reed, Michael Martelon, Dan Jansen and CFA Chief Operating Officer Matthew Skinner met with Montrose City Council and City Manager Bill Bell. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Continued on pg 4

COUNTY TREASURER CANCELS LIENS ON VALLEY LAWN



Montrose County has cancelled past tax liens on the Valley Lawn Cemetery, above. The taxes were deemed uncollectible. Taxes owed had totaled \$90,367.33. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to cancel past liens for taxes owed against the Valley Lawn Cemetery at the regular BOCC meeting of Nov. 7. The taxes were deemed uncollectible, Montrose County Treasurer and Public Trustee Rosemary Murphy said. "No transfer of the articles of purchase has taken place." Taxes owed had totaled \$90,367.33. "I want to thank you," BOCC Chair Glen Davis told Murphy. "It's not to the benefit of the County to repossess and try to sell a cemetery. So thank you for cleaning this up."

"Maybe this will give folks an opportunity to start anew," Commissioner David White said. The only leverage that a taxing entity really has is repossession and sale of a property at a tax sale, which is not appropriate in the case of a cemetery, Montrose

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Succeeds!*

*Special Districts look at
URA Impacts!*

*Local stories,
Local photos!*

*Towne Centre
Ribbon Cutting!*

*RE-1J Schools Honor
Local Veterans!*

LIBRARY, OTHER SPECIAL DISTRICTS TO CONSIDER IMPACT OF URA



(L to R) MRLD Trustees Ed Hagins, Caroline Evans, Tim Conner, Emily Schneider, Anne Gulliksen (chair), Dave Segal, Pam Baer and Executive Director Paul Paladino. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Summary report on the Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) Board of Trustees meeting, Nov. 7, 2016. All board members were present.

Friends of the Library: Report tabled until the next meeting.

Librarian's report – Executive Director Paul Paladino.

The MRLD board was invited to attend a Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) work session for information on the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) that is being proposed by the city of Montrose. Paladino does not have his arms fully wrapped around how the URA will affect the library. However, it appears that because of a recent law that was passed, the city needs the support of special districts (school, fire, library) before they can establish a URA.

On a different topic, the medical cost for insurance coverage to library employ-

ees will rise 15 1/2 percent. Executive Director Paul Paladino said, "We cut health care costs when we went to a larger group [insurer], but they had four or five larger claims [raising our costs]."

Board member Caroline Evans questioned the E-Rate billing and Paladino said that he should have billed it in July or August, rather than October.

The search for an administrative assistant has been narrowed from five to two candidates. Paladino said, "We've got it down to two and we're checking references right now. We should have a decision by the end of the week."

The board has a strong interest in the results of the school district's ballot issue 3A. The data gleaned from this and past elections will help determine if the board should go to the voters in 2017 for a mill levy increase.

Branches and Facilities- Anne Gulliksen

A final summary report will be submitted

to the board in December.

Personnel Policy – Ed Hagins

Report will be held until the executive session.

Finance – Emily Schneider

Schneider said, "The budget is pretty straightforward. We have a good idea of our revenue and we'll vote on the budget next month."

PR & Outreach – Caroline Evans

Evans submitted a formal request to Friends of the Library to purchase T-shirts for promotional purposes; total cost \$488. Evans said, "The shirts are for staff and volunteers. We hope they will invite awareness of the library. [With] sixty-one people in the community getting around and showing our pride." The shirts will promote the libraries in Montrose, Naturita and Paradox. If the Friends of the Library deny the funding request the cost of the T-shirts will be absorbed by the library. The second item brought forward by Evans was for the board to think about the 2017 ballot issue and to get a strategy planning report done by the end of the year. Schneider said, "We need to define our message. What are our talking points that will go out into the community?"

Libraries of Montrose County Foundation Report – Paul Paladino

No report given.

Ratification of Resolution in Support of Ballot Measure 3A. Support ratified unanimously.

Old Business:

Board Chair Anne Gulliksen noted that schools often get the most credit for teaching children to read. However, community libraries are often unrecognized for the substantial role they play.

Executive Session – Evaluation of Executive Director Paul Paladino.



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THE
MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

COUNTY TREASURER CANCELS LIENS ON VALLEY LAWN From pg 1

County Assessor Brad Hughes explained later.

"Hopefully now, the new owners of the cemetery will be able to pay the taxes starting in 2016," he said, noting that property taxes for the mortuary facility

attached to the cemetery are current.

"The cemetery is a private, for-profit business, presumably with grave sites to sell and value. But it also comes with expenses and obligations to maintain.

"It's kind of a unique property."

The *Montrose Daily Press* reported in April of 2015 that Grand Junction attorney Joseph Coleman had secured a public trustee deed for the century-old cemetery, which is maintained by the Rose Funeral Home at 505 South Second Street.

SIGN UP OR FACE FINE: CONNECT FOR HEALTH OPEN ENROLLMENT

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-It's that time of year again! Open enrollment begins in November for Colorado Connect for Health, and the local team wants you to know the options that are open to you.

"There are a lot of good deals available," Connect for Health staffer Alicia Plantz said. "If you are on a plan, all plans end on Dec. 31. You must renew, or choose a new plan for 2017. The great news is, though rates are up, assistance is up as well," she said. "We are seeing a reduction in premiums for next year, and it is really positive that assistance went up more than the premiums did."

The only choice for carriers in our region is Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, she said.

"There are 14 plans in our region," Plantz said. "You can look over the benefits, and make a decision after looking at them all."

Because all plans will terminate at the end of December, those who choose to keep their current plan must sign up for it by Dec. 15.

"New plans begin on Jan. 1, so long as you secure one by Jan. 15." The open enrollment period is the only time that you can sign up for a new plan, unless you have a life-changing event such as a divorce. And those who do not have a plan in place at tax time will once again face a

fine, Plantz said.

"The fine for not having insurance is the same as it was last year," she said. "You could see a fine of up to 2.5 percent of your income."

Those who have questions or wish to obtain an insurance quote are encouraged to call the free, in-person assistance sites in Montrose and Delta. "Just give us a call to see what is available for 2017 in our plans; ask questions, get educated, and know what is available to you so you are not missing out." Connect for Health's Montrose assistance site can be reached at 970-252-0660. In Hotchkiss, the phone number is 970-872-2233.

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STAKEHOLDERS MEET, DISCUSS FLIGHTS ALLIANCE FUNDING

From page 1

marketing.

Stakeholders appear to be on the same page in securing flights coming into Montrose County Airport. However, a difference of opinion arises when it comes to marketing. City Manager Bill Bell said, "In the last 18 months we hear seats are filled so you don't need to subsidize. We don't see any marketing for Montrose. So where does our money go...does it go to market Telluride and Mountain Village?"

CFA Chief Operating Officer Matthew Skinner said, "We've never had a specific conversation about advertising Montrose. We are open to a discussion on how we parlay this [into the program]." Mayor Rex Swanson supported Bell, "If Montrose isn't getting the advertising, what are we getting? We want Montrose mentioned."

Mayor of Mountain Village and CFA vice-chair Dan Jansen said, "The lions share [of funding] goes into flights... When a flight gets self-sustaining the funds go to another flight."

During the meeting a lack of communication, data analysis and perception stood out as glaring issues. City Manager Bell said he learned about a change of direction for CFA in the newspaper, "If we [stakeholders] are going to shift directions we all need to know. When you see it in the headline it's bothering." Countering Bell's comment CFA chair Dirk Depagter said, "We need to be honest in this discussion...If Rob [Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph] had been at our meetings he would have heard the discussion. I wel-

come your comment that we need more interaction. I strongly encourage the council to have someone on the board to convey the information." Councilwoman Judy Ann Files will be the Montrose representative.

Data analysis appears subjective and Bell said, "We say we agree, but the perception isn't always the same. Three years ago you [CFA] presented Data Analytics. We took that info, talked about Montrose being the hub and then the media reports that the Telluride airport supports boosting their airport." Jansen said, "Those are small planes. There is a small segment [of people] that just wants to land and be there [Telluride]. There is a business segment and we feel local pressure to fill these little segments."

At the heart of the controversy is the tourist dollar when it leaves the airport terminal. The City of Montrose wants tourists to stay in their hotels and be shuttled to the ski areas. However, Telluride Tourism Board President and CEO Michael Martelon contended his research showed that in some cases once you add in the cost of shuttles (\$40) and three hours travel daily it is more cost effective for visitors to stay in Telluride hotels than in Montrose. "It's less to stay in Telluride." Dubious, Bell asked to see Martelon's data. Dan Jansen said, "Let's let the market decide."

At times the secondary economic impact, such as Telluride residents shopping and using professional services (dentists) in

Montrose, was interjected into the discussion. Councilman Dave Bowman said, "We also need to look at the money being spent when people buy groceries [here]." It was determined the need for a study that they could all agree on and the importance of contracting with a national company to do said study.

Jansen said, "We need to all own the numbers (data) of the study." Bell said "We need to trust the numbers that come out." Montrose County Director of Aviation Lloyd Arnold said, "A joint study that puts it in black and white." The study is estimated to cost \$50,000 - \$65,000.

In the 2016 budget the city earmarked \$100,000 for beautification projects at the airport; however, the county turned down the funds. The city council then chose to divide those funds, giving \$50,000 to the Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) to promote heads in beds and the remaining \$50,000 went to the office of the city manager to use for air service endeavors. Funds under \$50,000 do not require council approval and can be used at the city manager's discretion. It is unclear how much of the \$50,000 held in the city manager's office will go toward the study.

Skinner alluded to a second year-round market and the possibility of low cost fares to Denver; however, he requested the media withhold reporting until he provided specifics to stakeholders and prepared a press release.

A press release is expected within the week.

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THE MIRROR ALWAYS SATISFIES

CITY MANAGER BLASTS COUNTY IN EMAIL FOR 'MEETING BEHIND OUR BACKS' ON PLANNED IMPACT OF URA TO SPECIAL DISTRICTS

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-One item on the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Work Session agenda for Nov. 8, 2016 was an Urban Renewal Authority (URA). The topic is before the entire community as the City of Montrose pursues a URA to help build infrastructure needed for the proposed Mayfly Outdoors riverfront property development.

Existing special Districts (library, fire department, school district, etc.) were invited to last week's work session in order to receive information on an URA and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) – the financing method used for redevelopment and community improvement projects.

County Government Affairs and Natural Resources Director Jon Waschbusch, who has years of previous experience in the planning department, led the discussion. Speaking generically, property taxes in a URA will be frozen and revenues from property tax in the designated area, which would normally have gone to Special Districts, will instead go to the URA for a period of 25 years.

From the county's perspective and that of such entities as the fire department, there will be a significant number of additional calls for service, but no revenue. Waschbusch said, "We're not saying it's good or bad, but [asking] how the TIF will work, how the creation of the authority is structured...so that everyone is not caught off guard."

There are two scenarios for URA board structure: 1) a 13-member board that consists of one county representative, one school board representative and one representative from the remaining combined special districts. Ten seats will be filled by the City of Montrose for a total of 13 members. 2) The city appoints themselves as the governing authority and there will be three voices from the non-municipal group.

Special Districts each have the ability to negotiate the percentage of the TIF they keep and the percentage that will go to the URA. The developer and his attorney will be meeting separately with the City Council and the BOCC on Nov. 14th and with the Special Districts on Nov. 15th. While the developer has an ambitious timeline and would like to pull building permits by the first of the year, the Special Districts are just now trying to wrap their heads around the impact to their respective organizations. The meetings are billed as negotiating the TIF, but Waschbusch said, "It seems premature when there are a lot of balls in the air."

County Commissioner Glen Davis made it clear, "We are making no recommendations. The question for everyone here is where do we want to be with a percentage of the TIF." Through the TIF the property taxpayer and special districts will shoulder the burden of building the infrastructure. County Assessor Brad Hughes said, "The library is looking at a mill levy override (2017), but that won't be applicable to them."

Commissioner Davis referenced California and Chicago as no longer supporting their URA's, and Commissioner David White noted that some towns in Colorado have forced the establishment of a URA to go before voters for approval.

City Manager Bill Bell took exception to the county holding a meeting with Special District entities and in a string of emails he took County Manager Ken Norris to task. Bell said, "Is there a reason you and the County held a meeting with the special districts today on our City Urban Renewal Authority project and did not invite the City or Mayfly to attend....this is especially disheartening since you all knew that we had the very same meeting already scheduled with us and actual "experts" in the field of URA formation and TIF creation next Monday and Tuesday. It sounds like



City Manager Bill Bell accused County officials of not understanding Tax Increment Financing in a string of emails. Mirror file photo.

no one at your meeting was able to answer any of the questions about our project....we probably could have if we were invited to attend. I don't think anyone on your staff has ever created a TIF or URA before....do you have someone with this experience I don't know about?"

Norris responded the county was trying to understand URA's so they could move forward more quickly, to which Bell said, "That did not address the issue as to why you held a meeting behind our backs related to our project with every taxing entity except us and the property owners within the URA district.

"When is the county going to operate as a professional government organization and when is your team going to start working under the ICMA code of ethics? That would eliminate this type of activity from occurring on a regular basis. As a colleague, you can't honestly tell me that you are proud of what your leaders have done over the past few years."

Norris acknowledged there was a difference of opinion.

The city council has made it known that they will not meet with the current BOCC, but rather will wait until Commissioners-elect Caddy and Rash are sworn in to start communication.

KANSAS WOMAN RUNNING FOR LIFE: PROJECT IF LIFE

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Anna Hoduski is a 23 year old woman with a passion, a purpose and a plan. Through an initiative she started, Project If Life, she is running 3,000 miles across the United States to bring awareness to the Pro-Life movement and spark conversations about abortion (a hotly debated topic if there ever was one). "I want to bring attention to the movement, but there is often no open door to talk with people about it," Anna explained. "But if you are doing a run of some kind, people will ask you 'why are you doing it?' and that gives you an open door."

Her interest in the Pro-Life movement began as a child and continued into college. "I became passionate about the Pro-Life movement in fifth grade when my teacher taught me that life begins at conception," she explained. "I've always been passionate about it, but I had no idea how to get plugged in to help. As a sophomore in college, I felt led by God to do a run across the US. I like running and I did a half marathon as a junior. I ended up deciding to wait until I graduated college before doing it and we spent the next two years planning it out."

Anna started her run on July 23, 2016, with no money, no vehicle and a small team to go with her, including her brother Nicholas (who works as a co-runner and trainer), her sister Sarah-Marie Hoduski as their Web Manager and her friend Megan Maier as Project Manager.

They have covered 800 miles so far, starting at the Kansas/Missouri border (where Anna and her family are from) and heading to Los Angeles.

Anna runs 15 miles a day at least, then taking note of where she stops once they are done for the day.

The next morning, she starts at the exact same spot and continues her trek. Thursdays and Sundays are used to rest up and speak at churches. She also does speaking engagements at schools and other organizations throughout the week. Once they arrive in Los Angeles, they'll take a break

for a couple weeks and start back up in Kansas heading to Washington D.C.

Anna's favorite part in doing her run so far has been seeing people helping out in their community. "When I'm done speaking, I see people realize how big a deal it [abortion] is and how it needs to change," she said. "But I don't leave them helpless, I work to put the hope back in their heart. People will get excited and want to get involved, but they don't know how to turn their passion into action. That's where they can help at pregnancy centers, whether through donations or even as being client advocates."

One of the goals of what Anna is doing is to encourage people to connect with their local pregnancy centers. "They are the boots on the ground, day in and day out fighting for kids and their families," she said.

"They see the decisions that parents make about their babies every day. To help them is the most effective, practical way to get involved [with the Pro-Life movement]."

Her reason for being so passionate about pregnancy centers stems from her high school and college years volunteering at various organizations that helped young mothers and their babies. "When I was going to college in Pensacola, Florida, I was riding my bike past a pregnancy center thinking, 'what could I do to help? I'm busy studying, I'm working my way through college and I've never been a mom,'" she said.

"My friends and I went in and asked them what their needs were and they had actually just lost their cleaning lady, so we were able to help that way. It was the perfect timing for us and it was a way for us to make a small, yet tangible difference in the Pro-Life movement."

While stopping in Montrose, Anna and her team were able to speak at a couple churches and connect with people here, inspiring some to take action in new ways. "A gentleman came up to me and said, 'how can a guy get involved?'" Anna ex-



Anna Hoduski is a 23 year old with a passion, a purpose and a plan. Courtesy photo.

plained. "I told him that there is a great need for support for upcoming fathers as mentors. I love seeing the change of heart, I can see it in people's eyes."

If anyone would like to directly support Anna and her team financially on their run, donations start at \$20 a mile. Of course, spreading the word about their initiative is appreciated and, if you're the praying type, prayer is always welcome.

But what Anna really wants to leave people with as she runs on from city to city is that it is so easy to get involved, not only in the pro-life movement but in helping new families.

"...if you just save one life in your lifetime, that is a miracle," she said. "Laws need to change ... but you can do your part in your community, whether it be donating diapers or volunteering."

"People think that they have to do a big run like this to make a difference and I say, 'no, God called me to do the run. God can use you in a different way, no matter how big or small.'"

For more information and to learn how you can support Anna and her team, visit Projectif.life or search @Projectiflife on social media.

If you want to help families locally, call the Life Choices Family Resource Center at 249-4302.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN WEST END

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—At approximately 3:45 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, a Montrose County Sheriff's Deputy was injured in an officer-involved shooting in the west end of Montrose County. The deputy is being treated at St. Mary's Hospital for non-life threatening injuries and is in stable condition. At this time, the incident is under investigation and further details will be released when they become available. UPDATE 12:02 AM 11/12/2016 The suspect in the officer-involved shooting died at the scene. The deputy involved will undergo surgery the morning of the 12th to remove bullet fragments from his hand. At this time, the incident is being investigated by the Montrose County Sheriff's Office, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, and the Seventh Judicial District's Critical Incident Team. The Montrose County Sheriff's Office will release more information as it becomes available.

SCARRY OUT AS MHS FOOTBALL COACH

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE — Montrose High School head football coach Jim Scarry resigned Tuesday, a spokesperson within the athletic department confirmed. According to MHS, Scarry will remain on staff as an assistant under new head coach Brett Mertens. Montrose finished 5-5 in Class 4A this season, overall, Scarry was 11-9 after taking over from Todd Casebier. The Indians did win their final three games of the season.

PILE BURNING PLANNED OVER THE WINTER MONTHS

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—Fire officials for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests plan to begin pile burning over the next few months as snow, staffing and weather conditions permit. Pile burning could continue through March 2017 across the Forests. These piles are the result of vegetative treatments that were completed over the past field season or longer.


Firefighters will ignite piles to burn slash and other debris and continue to monitor the burning for safety and the effectiveness of removing project debris and excess fuels. Many of the easily accessible piles have had fuelwood removed by woodcutters, leaving slash and debris to be burned.

The most important factor to consider when planning prescribed burning is to provide for safety...that of the firefighters, the public and property. Fire managers have developed prescribed fire plans and obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for each of the planned burns. Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information see <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

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CITY COUNCIL TO ASK CONGRESS TO ADDRESS MAINTENANCE AT NATIONAL PARKS



Council will discuss the designation of official posting places on Jan. 17, 2017.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Four new staff members will be introduced at the [Montrose City Council work session](#) on Monday, Nov. 14. Black Canyon Golf Course Superintendent Adam Conway joins the City, along with part-time Maintenance Staffer Dominic Lovato; Parks & Special Projects Division Worker Mason Blair; and part-time Guest Services Assistant Hannah Bass. Items up for discussion include an overview of the Colorado Outdoors project; an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield grant application; and a supplemental budget and mill levy resolution for the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Included in the [packet are reports](#) from Project 7 and City Youth Council.

Future discussion topics include Planning Commission Applicant interviews on Dec. 5; and a Supplemental Budget Ordinance, DDA Mill Levy Resolution, Colorado Outdoors Annexation No. 1 Hearing, Annexations of four City-owned properties, a liquor license hearing for Pitchfork Tavern, and revisions to the Municipal Code for alcoholic beverages will be on Dec. 6. On Jan. 3, 2017, Council will discuss the designation of official posting places, and on Jan. 17 Youth Council will report to City Council.

At the regular City Council meeting of Nov. 15, Council will issue a Hospice Month Proclamation with photo opportunity, and conduct Eagle Head Cane Presentations. They will also hear a report from the Montrose Office of Business & Tourism (OBT) with a social media update and introduction of the Montrose Brand Channel.

Following approval of the 2017 City Budget, Council will consider Resolution 2016-23, encouraging Congress to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Parks. Council will also consider awarding an \$85,533 bid for Visitor Guide printing to CPC Solutions of Grand Junction.

Following staff reports, Council will adjourn.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL TO MEET

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-Friendship Force International provides opportunities to explore new cultures by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of Western Colorado's regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m. Special presentation: Learn about the September exchange to Moscow and St Petersburg Russia Exchange that was by the Western Colorado FF club.

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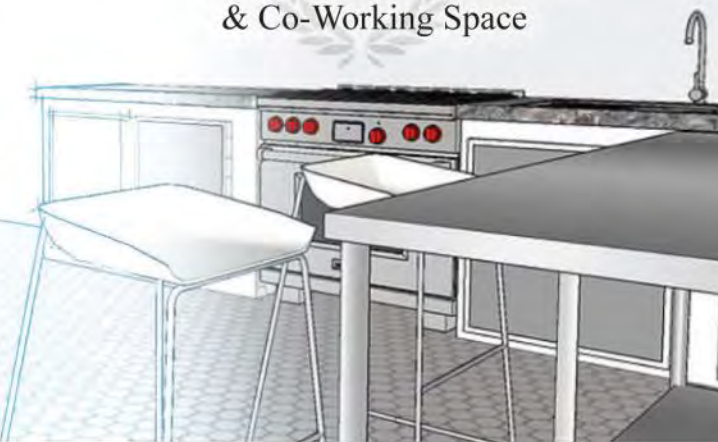
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATE GIS DAY WITH MONTROSE COUNTY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Maps, parcel lines, emergency functions, and data make up the daily to-do list of a Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician at Montrose County. GIS provides significant benefits to emergency services, property records, economic development, road data, planning, crime mapping, and more. The public is invited to learn more about GIS and celebrate GIS Day with Montrose County's GIS open house on Nov. 16th from 2-4 p.m.

"GIS is an important function of county operations," said GIS Manager Lisa Goetsch. "We are excited to showcase the many functions of GIS and show the public the free GIS tools they have at their dis-

posal through the county's website."

Earlier this month, the Board of County Commissioners officially proclaimed Nov. 16 GIS Day. GIS Day is a global event that first occurred in 1999 during Geography Awareness Week. Geography Awareness Week was established in 1987, U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed legislation that established the third week in November as Geography Awareness Week with the purpose to promote geographic education in schools and among the public. GIS Day is held on the Wednesday of Geography Awareness Week and seeks to encourage GIS users and vendors to open their doors to schools, businesses, and the general public to showcase real-world applications

of this important technology.

In recognition of GIS Day, members of the public are encouraged to visit the county GIS Office at 320 South 1st Street, between 2-4 p.m. on November 16, 2016, to learn more about GIS and how it is used to benefit the community members of Montrose County. There will be a free drawing and attendees will have the opportunity to have an 8.5 by 11 inch high-resolution color map of their property printed for free. The GIS office open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and the public is always welcome to stop by during office hours with questions or assistance. For more information or questions, please call [970-252-4502](tel:970-252-4502).

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COLUMBINE FATE DELIVERED IN TAX INCREASE



Montrose County election worker Barb Weber works with voters at Friendship Hall on Election night. Photo by William B. Woody. @wwodyco.



Montrose School Superintendent Steve Schiell awaits 3A results on Nov. 8 with other supporters of replacing Columbine. Photo by William B. Woody. @wwodyco.

By William B. Woody
Digital Content Producer

MONTROSE — It was in no way a landslide.

However Ballot initiative 3A did pass, and the Montrose County School District RE-1J has secured the funds needed to rebuild Columbine Middle School, through a combination of state grant funds and the first tax increase for local education in 14 years.

By 1,795 votes, the 56-year-old middle school mocked and nicknamed “Crumbling Columbine” is history. The vote: 10,618 in favor, 8,823 against or 55 percent to 45 percent.

For years the rebuilding of Columbine was deemed critical by RE-1J while the projected cost to do so grew and grew.

The projected price tag now, \$33.7 million. Earlier this year, the district secured a \$12.4 million Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant.

The ensuing property tax increase approved Nov. 8 will help cover the remaining cost of \$21.3 million. The bond has an expiration date of 20 years.

The 3A initiative is the second largest school bond to pass this century. The last school bond to pass was in 2002.

If there was ever a time to rebuild Columbine, it was this year. The BEST funds would have been awarded to another district the following day if 3A had failed.

For Christina Files, co-chair of the committee, Keep Improving District Schools (KIDS) — a volunteer group tasked with promoting 3A — and other fellow supporters: it was now or never.

“I think we did a pretty good job reaching people in multiple different ways. The catalyst was the BEST grant. I was really happy to get this much support from community organizations and individual support.

“We’ve been through 30 years with this school falling apart. It feels like, for the near term and current needs at Columbine, ... to that extent it feels like now or never,” Files said.

For local educators, years of waiting and efforts to secure state funds have finally paid off.

Teachers will no longer need to stuff clothes in the buildings’ windows in the winter, and students will no longer see weeds growing from cracks in the floor.

The building’s heating and cooling systems are barely functional, and falls short in other areas like handicapped access and

security cameras.

Since the creation of School District Re-1J in 1962 — when Columbine was just two-years-old — the district has successfully passed just four of its 13 bond attempts.

The bond in 2002 was a \$23-million dollar package which funded the 12-classroom expansion at Montrose High School, the \$5.1 million construction of Johnson Elementary School, the six-classroom addition at Cottonwood Elementary School and various renovations at Olathe, Middle and High Schools.

Using that money in various ways throughout the district was credited for the bond’s passage.

In the history of the RE-1J, voters have now approved roughly \$60 million for new construction and building maintenance. This amount still lags behind most other districts in the state.

For homeowners, each \$100,000 in assessed valuation will increase by \$1.65 per month, just under \$20 per year.

Commercial property owners will see a \$5.99 per-month bump in their taxes.

Construction of a new school could begin as early as spring.

Follow William Woody

Twitter & Instagram: @wwodyco

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SNOW SHADOW GYMNASTS QUALIFY FOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS USA GYMNASTICS MILE HIGH SALUTE INVITATIONAL

*By Coach Bruce Kirk, Snowshadow Gym
Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Hannah Sekscenski, a student of Montrose High School and Diana Coronado a student of Columbine Elementary School competed at the USA Gymnastics Mile High Salute Invitational competition held in Wheat Ridge, Colorado on Saturday Nov. 12, 2016.

Coach Kirk, Commented, "Our new 2016 Level 3 team has emerged again with well-favored accomplishments.

Two of two, Snow Shadow Gymnastics

Summer High Altitude Cross-Training campers and students compete as USAG gymnasts for their first time ever before returning home to Montrose, Colorado placing respectfully on all 4 events as USAG gymnasts.

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here at Snow Shadow and completing the requirements needed to be recognized as true competitors have anchored their position to attend the 2016 Colorado USAG Women's Jr. Olympics State Championships," hosted by Premier Gymnastics of Love land, Colorado Dec. 10th and 11th, 2016.

Watch for follow up of 2016 USA Gymnastics State Championships

For more information about classes contact: snowshadowgymnastics@yahoo or visit: snowshadowgymnastics.com

The Mirror:

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BROWN DEMANDS PUBLIC VOTE ON ARENA, ROAD & BRIDGE 'PALACE,' MONTROSE COUNTY DECLARES NOV. 16 GIS DAY, UPDATES DOG ORDINANCE



At left, citizens Roger Brown, at far left, and Phillip Booker listen as Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold speaks at the BOCC meeting on Nov. 7. Above, Lisa Goetsch speaks to the BOCC about Geographic Information Systems Day, Nov. 16.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners adopted a proclamation in support of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day in Montrose County at the Nov. 7 BOCC meeting.

Wednesday, Nov. 16 is GIS Day, said Lisa Goetsch of the County's GIS department. "Please visit our office from 2 to 4 p.m. to learn more about GIS and how it is used for the benefit of the citizens of Montrose County," she said.

All three commissioners commented before unanimously voting to adopt the proclamation.

"This is a long overdue opportunity to celebrate this thing," Commissioner Ron Henderson said.

"Kudos to you and your staff for all you do," Commissioner David White said.

"Good job!" said BOCC Chair Glen Davis.

County resident Phillip Booker addressed the BOCC during the time allotted for public comment, to ask the County to reconsider winter maintenance agreements that do not serve Paradox Trail. "There are 34 families who live up there," he said. "A year ago, we plowed the hill. This year, there are a couple of signs." Mentioning President Elect Donald Trump, "There are things that are broke here too," Booker said. He also praised County staff for working with landowners during the process of opening the Old Paradox Road. "You don't know how lucky you are," he said. "You have a really great staff...we

didn't always agree on everything, but this was a textbook case on how business should run."

Citizen Gadfly Roger Brown also spoke during the time allotted for public comment, asking Commissioners to remove two items from the 2017 budget and put them up for public vote.

"The Arena project and the Road and Bridge Palace should be brought to a vote," Brown said. "It would have been easily done for the people to vote on tomorrow (Nov. 8). I am a financial conservative, and I don't care if it costs the County \$20 million for an election..." Brown also questioned why one Off-Airport Ground Transportation item was placed on the Consent Agenda while one was listed under General Business & Administrative items. Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold explained that one was a new contract which had not previously been discussed.

County resident Todd Stewart thanked Commissioners for reworking the animal control ordinance to make it more specific. "Thank you for working on the dog ordinance thing. I hope we can continue to do so; anytime you have livestock issues, come to us."

Commissioners removed old tax liens from the Valley Lawn Cemetery (see related story), and County Attorney Teresa Williams provided an update on changes to the Ordinance for Control of Dogs and Pet Animals.

Charles McMurdy of Olathe spoke. "I came here to ream you all out, but I was told by the Undersheriff it seems like a good document now. You need to get it in the paper some way before something like this goes on. When you put in a junk ordinance last spring I didn't read about it until it was all over. I know it's not a newspaper, but get it in there before you do something like this.

Before is a lot better."

In other business, the BOCC adopted the 2017 Holiday schedule as presented by Human Resources Director Corrinne Shearer. Roger Brown took exception to a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the Town of Nucla for building plan review and inspection services.

County Planning & Development Director Steve White said that the West End is currently without a building inspector or someone to review plans. "They asked us to help out and do this." County staff are already on the West End so there would be no travel time, White said.

Brown questioned the financial impact to the rest of the County. "I understand the thrust of an MOU, but I am concerned we are suspending treatment people on the East side should get.

"It seems inequitable to me."

"We're just trying to help them like we help Olathe and Maher," Davis said.

To see the full agenda and [meeting in video, click here.](#)

TOWNE CENTRE CELEBRATES WITH RIBBON CUTTING



Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE—On Monday, Nov. 7, representatives of the Montrose Chamber of Commerce Redcoats, local government officials and community members gathered to celebrate the opening of the new Towne Centre Shopping Center at South Fifth Street and Townsend Avenue. Tenants of the new development, which brings urban renewal to a blighted block in the Downtown area, will include Jimmy John's sandwiches and Coffee Trader II.



WOLF CREEK PASS OVERLOOK TO CLOSE FOR THE WINTER SEASON

Special to the Mirror

WOLF CREEK PASS—The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has announced that the Wolf Creek Pass overlook will close for the winter season. The overlook is located on US Highway 160 about seven miles west of the pass summit and 16 miles east of Pagosa Springs (mile point 161). The public will not be allowed to enter the overlook beginning Wednesday, Nov. 8 with the closure continuing through the spring of 2017.

CDOT typically closes the overlook in late fall or early winter. During this scheduled closure, a maintenance crew will take the opportunity to make improvements at the overlook area.

CDOT maintenance foreman George Hudran said, "The overlook is used by many travelers to stop and take in the scenic views of the valley looking south toward Pagosa. Before we get a heavy snowfall we will remove the old chain-link fence surrounding the overlook and will install a new, sturdier steel rail fencing to enhance this popular lookout point."



"My dad was a doctor here, my grandmother was a wartime nurse, I'm a nurse and my daughter's a nurse. I work here because I want to be proud of where I work."

Tina Wilson, LPN
Certified Lactation Consultant
MMH Employee for 38 years

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7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT D.A.'S OFFICE FIGHTS BROAD, SOCIETAL ISSUES WITH LIMITED LOCAL DOLLARS

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL—If the chain of command for the Seventh Judicial District District Attorney's Office seems confusing to a layperson, that's probably because it can seem complex even to those who work within the system; though governed by the state, funding is expected to come from local sources.

"My job is to prosecute criminal violations of state law in state courts, in front of state judges," Seventh Judicial District DA Dan Hotsenpiller said. "The system is defined and driven by the state.

"But the laws require the county to fund it, and the County also builds the Court-house."

Still, "We are not a county department," said Hotsenpiller, who as an elected official oversees the day to day operations of the office. "We serve six counties—Montrose is no more important than the rest."

Hotsenpiller said he is grateful for the support of officials in the counties that the Seventh Judicial District serves (Montrose, Delta, Ouray, San Miguel, Hinsdale and Gunnison). "There is no mechanism in state statute for how to reach budget agreement," he said, "or on how to resolve disputes. I am lucky to have such great support from the counties; we meet annually to talk about issues."

Though the Seventh Judicial District covers a broad geographical territory, "We do not have the economies of scale here," Hotsenpiller said, adding that it costs more to provide part-time services in a rural region than in more populated areas. "We do not have the volume that would allow us to achieve economies of scale; we have seen numerous programs here get started that just can't be sustained."

Potentially useful programs such as pre-trial services could be mandated by the state, without funding attached, he noted.

"I actually support pre-trial services; (offenders) get out of jail but are monitored and tested. They have to check in, sometimes more than once a day, and they are plugged into services."

Programs are monitored, "And it connects our decisions to the actions of the offender—if they can be out in the community, they are fine. But the legislature doesn't fund it because they don't have to," Hotsenpiller said. "There is an imbalance between urban and rural areas in our state and counties with respect to criminal justice funding.

"Large urban jurisdictions already have pre-trial services programs in place."

While many locals question why accused criminals seem to be right back out on the streets after being charged with a crime, Hotsenpiller points out that the District Attorney's Office does not set bond in criminal cases,

"The judges sentence them, I don't," he said. "Often, we are arguing for higher bonds than are being approved." Also, the Colorado legislature has been moving in the direction of reducing bonds in criminal cases, or not imposing them at all, he said. The toxic combination of lowered or non-existent bonds and the lack of a local pre-trial services program can impact county and local services, Hotsenpiller said. "They end up with additional charges while they are out, they go back to jail, and we are not even addressing the offender's conduct.

"Maybe if we had pre-trial services here, we wouldn't need a new jail."

Even keeping the D.A.'s office staffed can pose challenges, and requires finding professionals who really want to live here, he added. And often, talented individuals move on to positions of greater responsibility.

"Keri Yoder was my assistant district attorney until 2016; now she is a district judge."

When it comes to criminal cases, the Seventh Judicial District D.A.'s Office is not isolated by its rural location, but deals with broad, societal issues such as drug use and domestic violence. Attorneys make a point to consider aggravating circumstances and mitigating factors, and work hard to be fair to all parties, Hotsenpiller said.



Seventh Judicial District District Attorney Dan Hotsenpiller and staffer Sherry McKenzie. Mirror staff photo.

"We try to identify both aggravators (for example, a sexual assault inflicted on a victim by someone in a position of trust) or mitigating factors," Hotsenpiller said.

"Any time a victim is in a situation where there is a power imbalance, we believe that is an aggravator, and we bring it up.

"Our job is to follow the evidence, and the law," he said. "That is truly what we do; there is no discussion of gender or ethnicity at all."

One group of people does receive some special consideration, however. "We believe in the importance of looking at kids, and being aware of how they are affected," Hotsenpiller said. "So many people are in the adult system, children can suffer collateral exposure to trauma."

Nationwide, domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness, according to the non-profit [Safe Horizons](#). Every year, 3.3 million children witness violence directed toward their mother or female caretaker by a family member, and 40 to 60 percent of men who abuse women also abuse children. 90 to 95 percent of all victims of domestic violence are female.

"Being in homes where you are exposed to arguments and violence, where you are seeing trauma directed to and around you, really does damage to folks.

"If we can make a difference for kids, we can make a big difference."

The D.A.'s office is now updating its [web site](#) to be more responsive, and community feedback is welcome, he said.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WELCOME HOME ALLIANCE FOR VETERANS EXPANDS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans (WHAFV), formerly known as Welcome Home Montrose, has been evolving and growing since its inception in 2011. What began as a grassroots community initiative to help medically discharged military veterans has grown into an all-inclusive and comprehensive resource for all military veterans and their families across Western Colorado. WHAFV continues to be a first of its kind community resource center for veterans. It is not-for-profit, volunteer-based, donation and small grant funded, reliant on community and business partnerships and is entirely independent of the government.

"As we grew, more and more military veterans came through our doors looking for a safe, devoted and functional resource to help them – and their families - transition into their post-military life. We saw an opportunity to not only help veterans from the most recent war, but all our military veterans regardless of their branch, era, or abilities," said Emily Smith, Executive Director WHAFV. "Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans is a bridge for mili-

tary veterans into their civilian life."

While there are endless ways individuals, businesses and the entire Western Colorado community can get involved; WHAFV recently announced two new awareness and fundraising opportunities: WE GOT YOUR SIX – PLEDGE DRIVE

"We Got Your Six" pledge drive produces a reliable stream of donations throughout the year to help fund its programs, which are always free for military veterans. "We Got Your Six" is a colloquial military phrase meaning "we have your back." A pledge to support local veterans through the We Got Your Six campaign is an easy way to to thank and support local military veterans every day. Join the team and pledge to support the number of veterans that fits your personal giving plan, pledges start at \$6 a month. To pledge or for more information visit www.whafv.org/pledge-drive/

ALMOST SUNRISE – COMMUNITY FILM SCREENING

Alpine Bank has partnered with Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans as part of the bank's Colorado tour of the documentary "Almost Sunrise." The film will screen in Montrose on Nov. 21st at 6pm at

The Montrose Pavilion. "Almost Sunrise" is the story of two young veterans who trek on foot across the country in an attempt to put their brutal combat experience behind them and shine light on issues facing veterans. The film tour benefits veteran's organization around the state.

While the screening is free, Alpine Bank will match donations from the event. For more information please visit www.whafv.org

The new name, Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, the new website www.WHAFV.org and the new logo represent the broader vision and goals for the organization. In June three new board members were appointed to WHAFV's ten-person board.

"We are a working board, not just a governance and yes or no board. This means a lot is required of everyone on our board. We are grateful to have so many people in our community willing to put the time, energy and focus into this organization. Our newest members help to round a diverse and passionate board that will help lead us into the future." Terri Wilcox, WHAFV Board Chair.

Solutions Welcomes Karen Dunn Pritchard, LPC, CHT

Karen Dunn Pritchard, Licensed Professional Counselor, joined Solutions in November and brings a wealth of experience and training to the team. As a Certified Hakomi Therapist (CHT) she uses the body-centered and mindfulness-based approach of the Hakomi Method to help a wide range of clients. She is effective in delivering holistic, innovative, culturally-sensitive and person-centered care. Karen works with adults as well as children and adolescents who are dealing with trauma.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MCSO ON-DUTY PATROL TRUCKS NOW EQUIPPED WITH NARCAN

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) is taking another step in the war against drugs by outfitting on-duty patrol vehicles with Narcan. Narcan, otherwise known as naloxone, can help or even reverse the effects of an opioid or heroin overdose. The training and medication is key to helping deputies to better protect and serve our community and combat the growing heroin use in Montrose County.

"Protecting the public is our first priority," said Undersheriff Adam Murdie. "By

adding both Narcan and automated external defibrillators as a kit for on-duty patrol vehicles, we are elevating our level of preparedness for any situation. Our goal is to help mitigate the devastating effects of opioid abuse."

Over the past few months, deputies received training on the proper administration and use of Narcan. A policy was also adopted at the MCSO to help guide Narcan practices. When responding to a potential overdose situation, deputies will have the ability to deploy a potentially lifesaving dose of the nasal spray. Thus far

in 2016, Montrose County Coroner Dr. Thomas Canfield determined heroin to be the cause of four overdose deaths.

Combined with the use of Deputy K-9 Oxx, the MCSO continues to look at tools and tactics aimed at reducing drug abuse in our county. While Narcan is not a solution to the problem, it is the duty of the MCSO to save lives in hopes that the user may live another day and seek help. The MCSO continues to work with community partners, law enforcement agencies, and first responders to battle drug use in the county.

VETERANS TAKE STEPS TOWARD HEALING IN 'ALMOST SUNRISE' VETERANS' EPIC JOURNEY INSPIRES HOPE AND HEALING AT FREE SCREENINGS ACROSS COLORADO

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-In recognition of Veterans Day on Nov. 11, across Colorado, Alpine Bank is presenting free screenings of the independent film "Almost Sunrise" throughout the month. The screening of the film will take place in Montrose on Monday, Nov. 21 at the Montrose Pavilion. Doors will open at 5:30pm there will be a short reception prior to the film starting at 6:30pm. We have selected a partnership with Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans (WHAfV) and all donations collected during the event will be matched by Alpine Bank for the benefit of WHAFV.

"We greatly appreciate everything that Alpine Bank and Allison Nadel are doing to bring more awareness to our community of the struggles that many veterans face. Being a community initiative, it is only through our partnerships, incredible volunteers, and community supporters that we are able to find success," says Emily Smith, Executive Director of Welcome Home Alliance For Veterans, "The offer of matching all donations made at the showing will allow the local support to reach

even further, thank you just isn't enough."

"Almost Sunrise" tells the inspiring story of two young men, Tom Voss and Anthony Anderson, who, in an attempt to put their haunting combat experiences behind them; embark on an extraordinary journey—a 2,700-mile trek on foot across America.

While the film exposes some of the brutality of war, it doesn't dwell there. It's ultimately a story of hope and potential solutions. Most importantly, the film reveals the promise of holistic practices for healing. Where the stereotypes of "the broken veteran" or "homecoming hero" leave off, the film continues onward, offering an unprecedented portrait of those who return from war rich, complex, far more hopeful. "Almost Sunrise" allows us to connect with a universal human aspiration for happiness and through Tom and Anthony's genuine search for it, be reminded of our common soaring possibilities.

The suicide statistics for our returning veterans are staggering—22 U.S. veterans take their own lives each day—which means we lose more soldiers to suicide

than to combat. "Almost Sunrise" is a timely and groundbreaking look at what could be a missing piece of the puzzle—the true nature of the psychological wounds of returning soldiers known as "moral injury," and the undeniable potential power of meditation and nature therapy in helping veterans to reclaim their lives.

"Almost Sunrise" helps to shine a light on serious issues facing our veterans," said Allison Nadel, Alpine Bank regional marketing director. "We felt this film tour was an opportunity to share this important message of hope and healing with our communities."

While this film is unrated, it does deal with issues of violence, war, mental health, trauma, suicide and addiction; there are also instances of mild cursing. Parents and educators should use their discretion if considering accompanying children 14 or under.

Alpine Bank will sponsor free showings of this film throughout Colorado during the month of November. Please visit alpinebank.com/veteransday2016 for a complete schedule and show times.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK DONATES TO MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Alpine Bank recently presented a check for \$2,500 to John W. Nelson, President of Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. The funds will assist in implementing and promoting the non-profit's new web-based P3Tips anonymous reporting system. The new communications tool has already brought about the arrest of several dangerous felons. Nelson states that Alpine Bank's continuing support is a significant contribution to the program's increasing success. (Photo from Left to Right: Dan Kapustka, Management Trainee, Tyler Dahl, Senior Vice President, John W Nelson, and Jeremy Russell, Banking Officer.)



5TH ANNUAL WESTERN COLORADO FOOD & FARM FORUM TO BE JAN. 20-21


Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Please join us for the 5th Annual Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum: Healthy Land, Food, People at the Montrose County Fairgrounds on Jan. 20 and the Montrose Pavilion on Jan. 21, 2017. The Food and Farm Forum has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops. The conference is for anyone with an interest in the future of agriculture, including: ranchers, farmers, gardeners, students, and ag professionals. Whether you're looking to improve or innovate on your existing practices, the forum has myriad resources and networking opportunities.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OWEN PARKER OF MONTROSE HIRED AS AN ADMISSION AMBASSADOR AT FORT LEWIS COLLEGE

Special to the Mirror

DURANGO-- Owen Parker, of Montrose, CO is an Admission Ambassador for Fort Lewis College for the 2016-17 academic year. Parker's current major is Engineering.

Admission ambassadors play a key role in the Office of Admission's recruitment efforts by professionally and authentically representing Fort Lewis College to prospective students, their parents and family, the high school and community college guidance community, as well as visitors to the Durango area. Ambassadors are chosen through an application and interview process and are selected based on their campus involvement, academic success (3.0 gpa or higher), enthusiasm for Fort Lewis College and outgoing personality. Fort Lewis College is the Southwest's crossroads of education and adventure.

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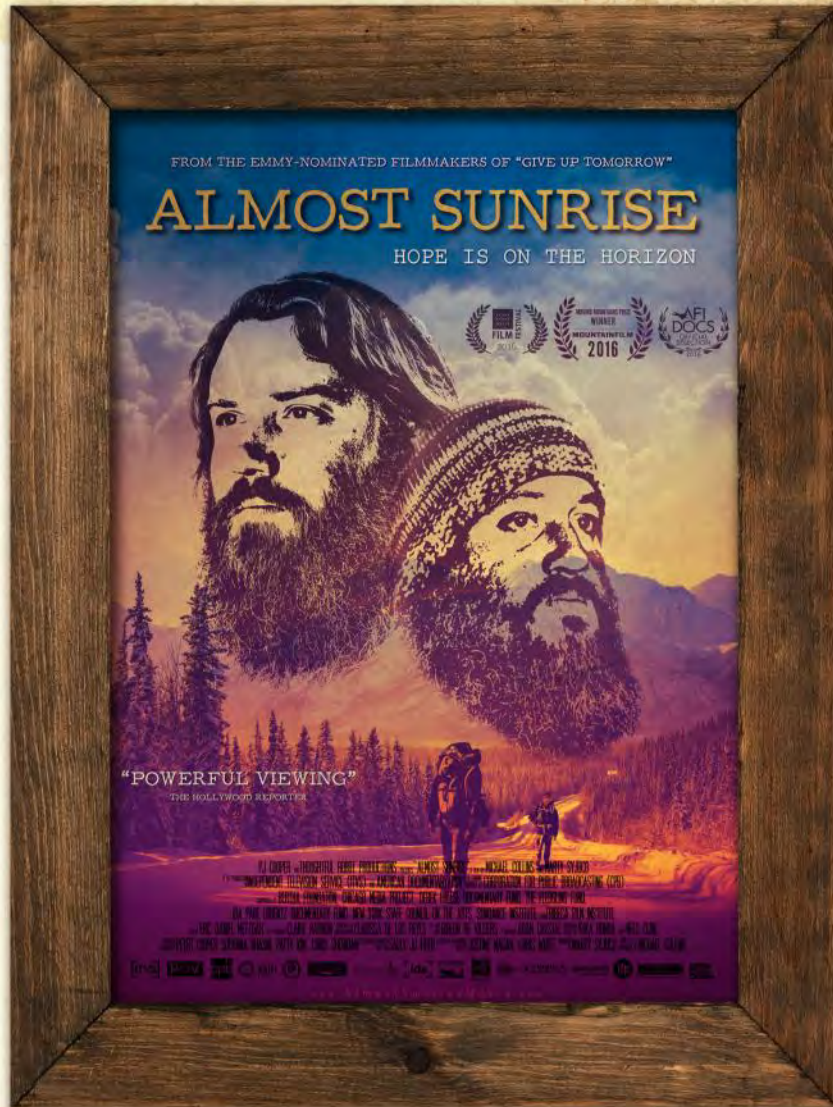
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November 21, 2016

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HOLIDAY MONTROSE BUCKS OFFER STARTS MONDAY, NOV. 21

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) wants to help you celebrate the holidays with some extra cash. Pick up an extra \$20 to spend in town when you buy \$100 in Montrose Bucks starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 21, at the Downtown Visitor Center — while supplies last.

Montrose Bucks occasionally go “on sale” for special promotions like this annual holiday promotion. Bucks purchased during special promotions are available in \$100 increments, for which customers receive \$120 in Montrose Bucks, a 20% return on investment, and help pump money into the local economy. Bucks allotted for these promotions are available while supplies last.

“Last year, our supply of promotional

Montrose Bucks sold out in record time,” said OBT Guest Services Coordinator Jennifer Loshaw. “That tends to happen when you’re handing out free money, so we are encouraging people to get in line early this year!”

“Bucks are always available for purchase on a one-to-one basis, which helps keep money local year-round,” explained OBT Program Coordinator Stacey Ryan. “Bucks are available for purchase at the Downtown Visitor Center and are great for gifts and employee recognition programs any time of the year — and especially during the holiday season.”

Montrose Bucks can be described as “Montrose currency” because they can only be redeemed at Montrose establishments. Montrose Bucks are an incentive to shop local and help keep retail dollars

circulating in our community, which supports local businesses. They are accepted like cash by most Montrose businesses.

Holiday Promotion Rules and Procedures Promotion starts at 10 a.m. Monday, November 21 — while supplies last.

Payment by cash only.

Limit \$200 purchase per person in \$100 increments.

Must be present to purchase.

Adults 18 and older are eligible to purchase.

Bucks purchased during this promotion must be used by December 31. Expired checks will not be re-issued.

Montrose Bucks are not redeemable for cash.

For more information and to order non-promotional Montrose Bucks year-round, visit CityofMontrose.org/Bucks.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY OF MONTROSE SEEKS CANDIDATES TO FILL PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose is accepting applications from citizens interested in serving on the City Planning Commission. Two vacancies exist with terms which will expire on January 1, 2021.

The Planning Commission evaluates matters related to planning and community development. Members of the Planning Commission serve at the pleasure of City Council and are appointed to 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. Applications are available at City Hall (433 S. First Street), on the City of Montrose website at CityofMontrose.org, or by calling (970) 240-1422. Applications and letters of interest must be submitted to the City Clerk by 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 28.

MONTROSE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J RECEIVES \$50k ECO GRANT FROM 3M

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Montrose County School District was awarded \$50,000 from 3M for an Eco Grant. In 2012, 3M established the Eco Grants to support programs in conservation and environmental education in nature centers and environmental learning centers in or near 3M communities. Since that time, 3M gives has awarded more than \$1.5 Million to support 37 projects nationwide.

Environmental education connects to our primary funding priority of education – especially in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines. Past Eco Grant awards have included a statewide outdoor watershed experience for seventh grade students in three school districts, a student-driven comparative analysis of urban and suburban ecosystems, an ecological study of a river basin through Great Blue Herons outfitted with GPS devices, and the development of a series of planned educational modules that illustrate the environmental value of watersheds, storm water, soils, native plants and pollinators.

As our nation moves toward STEM as a primary focus for schools, MCSD has begun researching the recipe for success. Through this research, the district has begun to focus on partnering with community groups, industry experts, and other organizations to inform instruction and problem-based learning (PBL) tasks.

PBL will be the platform of this project's delivery. Through this model, teachers guide students in a process of solving real world problems, tied to Colorado Academic Standards (CAS).

Teachers from Columbine, Centennial, Olathe Middle, and Peak Virtual Academy will engage in a problem-based learning experience that aims to mitigate invasive plant species in the Montrose community. Non-native plants can be found in yards, along roadsides and in business lots across the country for landscaping and erosion control.

These invasive plants can often take the place of native species, which lessens the food source for native animals and takes much more water to sustain itself. The project is meant to provide strategies for

water and land conservation through educating Montrose youth and community members about the problems associated with invasive species. The primary outcome of this project will be that students develop and implement a solutions and proposals for a resource management plan to encourage the mitigation of invasive species in Montrose and Olathe, Colorado.

Teachers and district personnel will be building a collaboration plan over the next few weeks.

They will be making community connections with businesses, environmental agencies, and governmental entities to support the development of this project. Teachers will use industry experts to demonstrate the problems that invasive species present. Once they have developed proposal for mitigating these plants, students will later present to a panel of experts.

If you are interested in being part of this experience, please contact Jessica Beller, Director of Instructional Services for Montrose County School District.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE TO MEET IN LAMAR NOV. 17



The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will receive briefings on a variety of topics, including financial sustainability and the reissue and refund policy of big-game licenses at its November meeting in Lamar. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

LAMAR--The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will receive briefings on a variety of topics, including financial sustainability and the reissue and refund policy of big-game licenses at its November meeting in Lamar.

The meeting is slated to begin at 8 a.m. on Nov. 17 and adjourn at 11 a.m. on Nov. 18, at the CPW Lamar office, 2500 S. Main

Street.

Commissioners will receive an update regarding CPW's finances and will also be presented with a summary of sportsmen responses to potential fee increases of resident hunting and fishing licenses. Public comments were collected last summer at 18 "Funding the Future" meetings and online on the CPW website. Additional informational updates to the Commission

include the big-game license refund and reissue policy, the overlap of archery and muzzleloader seasons, and an overview of the Colorado SHIFT principles.

Action items include the approval of the Big-Game Auction and Raffle Program, Corral Bluffs Natural Area Designation and the Chancellor Ranch Bighorn Sheep Access Program. The Commission will also consider citizen petitions regarding the use of pin-site verifiers on bows and consider a request to modify the start date of the moose archery seasons for the remainder of the 2015-2019 big-game season structure. A complete agenda for this meeting can be found on the [CPW website](#). The commission meets regularly and travels to communities around the state to facilitate public participation. Anyone can listen to commission meetings through the CPW [website](#). This opportunity keeps constituents informed about the development of regulations and how the commission works with Parks and Wildlife staff to manage the parks, wildlife and outdoor recreation programs administered by the agency. Find out more about the commission at [the CPW website](#). The December commission meeting will take place in Fort Collins.


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To make our solid-color, recycled polyester fleece styles, plastic bottles are collected, melted down and spun into fiber. This reduces our reliance on petroleum products and keeps discarded bottles out of landfills. There are 18 bottles in each Boys' Retro-X Jacket and 13 in a single Girls' Re-Tool Snap-T Pullover.



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2016
Firkin Fest West
Beer Fest

Firkin Fest West at the Sherbino in Ridgway

Saturday, November 19th

Event runs from 4:00pm-7:00pm

604 Clinton Street, Ridgway, CO

\$35 at the door/\$30 in advance

www.sherbino.org 970.318-0892 info@sherbinotheater.com

Breweries from Western Colorado gather to share a cask of something special made to be poured from a traditional Firkin Cask. This style of beer is called real ale, and if you have never tried one you are in for a treat. Each brewery will make a special cask, some with inventive ingredients, others in a more traditional English Style.

Featuring Beers from 12 Breweries & 12 Firkins and a cool tasting glass too!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SENIOR COMMUNITY MEALS ASSEMBLES BLIZZARD BOXES TO DELIVER TO HOMEBOUND

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Senior CommUnity Meals, a program of Volunteers of America, is assembling emergency "blizzard boxes" to distribute to their homebound older adult clients beginning late November. The emergency food boxes will contain enough food for five meals in the event a storm hits the Montrose, Delta and San Miguel Counties service areas.

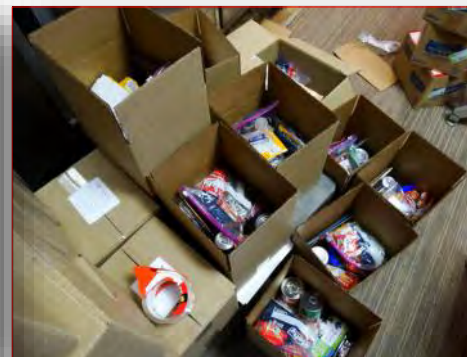
"Every year we have provided these boxes during the harsh winter months in the event we were not able to deliver or otherwise provide meals at the meal sites due to severe weather conditions," said Al Shonk, Senior CommUnity Meals director. "The boxes serve as a reassurance to our home bound clients that they will not go hungry in a storm." Non-perishable items like individual cans of chili, spaghetti, ravioli, tuna, fruit cups, juice boxes, packs of peanuts, sunflower seeds and crackers are some of the items included the boxes.

Shonk said there is a simple process to qualify for the program. "Individuals can qualify for the boxes if they are age sixty or older and are part of the Meals on Wheels program, through Volunteers of America—Senior Community Meals."

During the application process, VOA or options counselors at Region 10 conduct an assessment in the home or over the



Al Shonk, Senior CommUnity Meals director and Della Darnall, SCM office manager prepare boxes for delivery (last year). Courtesy photo.



phone to determine if the individual qualifies for home delivered meals.

"There are several factors we asses for. Some people that are home bound but need assistance with shopping or getting to the grocery store may still qualify," Shonk said.

Over the past year, approximately 75,000 hot and frozen meals have been provided through Senior CommUnity Meals to the senior citizens of Delta, Montrose and San Miguel Counties.

"We do this to show our homebound older adults how much we care about them. This project has received numerous donations from very generous businesses and individuals in our area over past years. We are extremely grateful for their

support and could not do this without them," Shonk said. The program serves lunches at seven community meal sites from Olathe to Paonia to Norwood and Nucla and delivers meals to seniors' homes utilizing a network of staff and volunteers covering approximately 4,600 square miles. Senior CommUnity Meals (SCM) is principally funded by the Region 10 Area Agency on Aging.

For more information on Senior CommUnity Meals or to make a donation to support the blizzard boxes project, visit www.seniorcommunitymeals.org and click the red donate button at the top of the page or call 970-835-2670. Donations can be mailed to SCM, 11407 Hwy 65, Eckert, Colorado 81418.



Struggling to care for a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's?

**Dementia Care – Validation Support Group
Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month
2:00 – 3:00 pm**

Bring your loved one and activities will be provided while we meet.

Our group is open to anyone wanting to learn more about dementia or Alzheimer's disease, caregivers taking care of a loved one at home, or friends and family members who want to lend extra help from time to time.

Valley Manor Care Center Memory Care Community

1401 South Cascade Ave., Montrose

Led by Brandi Garcia
Certified Dementia Care Validation Instructor

970-249-9634 or 970-275-6115

Email: bgarcia@voa.org

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MIRROR IMAGES...SCHOOLS CELEBRATE VETERAN'S DAY



Centennial Middle School Principal Joe Simo welcomes community members to the school's 21st Annual Veteran's Day Celebration on Nov. 10. Mirror staff photo.



U.S. Army E-4 Specialist John Wickham was the keynote speaker—and an alumni of Centennial Middle School and Montrose High School. Mirror staff photo.



Above, the MHS NJROTC presents the colors at Centennial Middle School Thursday. Mirror staff photo.



Photos at bottom left and immediately above: MONTROSE—On Nov. 10, 2016 Johnson Elementary held their first Veterans Day assemblies. Music teacher Tracy Reinhard sang the national anthem, while colors were presented by local Cub Scouts Marshall Harvie and Dakota Ouzts who are fifth graders at Johnson. The song 'Thank You Soldiers' was performed by all third, fourth and fifth grade students in unison. Third-grade teachers DebrahDay Hensley and Andrew Steck read the book America's White Table by Margot Theis Raven. The folding of the American flag was presented by Jennifer Burris, United States Navy Petty Officer second-class, who also serves as the Johnson PTC Vice President, along with DebrahDay Hensley, United States Air Force retired. The assembly concluded with the playing of taps. This new tradition at Johnson elementary was spearheaded by Johnson PTC President, Kate Harvie. Courtesy photos.

ISSUE 71 Nov. 14, 2016

ART & SOL

WEEHAWKEN ROYAL ACTORS PRESENT 'ROCKIN' ALICE'

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-A newly formed troupe, The Weehawken Royal Actors will proudly present an original production of *Rockin' Alice* based on Lewis Carroll's classic tales *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. This adaptation is set to classic rock songs, with fun, witty and entertaining original lyrics. This exciting production features youth from Montrose to Silverton and is directed by local teaching artists Kathleen O'Mara and David Nunn.

Director Kathleen O'Mara designed and developed the *Rockin' Alice* concept 10 years ago and has lead productions on both coasts. Teaching Artist, Producer and Director of Performing Arts since 1992, Kathleen is known for being dedicated to innovative, story-driven staged productions. Kathleen has worked with thousands of students across the nation on hundreds of performance pieces.

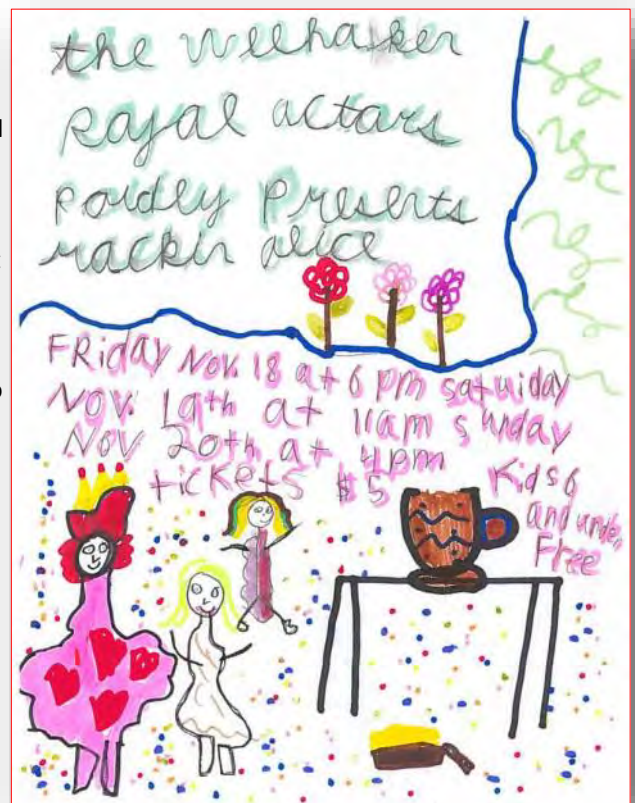
Kathleen is equally comfortable with small or large casts, novice or experienced actors of all ages. Her talent for fast-paced, process-oriented work ties together structure and organizational skills with the freedom of ambitious, thought-provoking projects.

Music Director David Nunn moved to the San Juan Mountains in 2003. He started

playing the guitar 46 years ago and now enjoys playing regularly in Ridgway and Telluride, in a solo act as well as with various local musicians. David also offers lessons to students in the area. He is excited to be a part of the *Rockin' Alice* teaching and directing team and is looking forward to bringing a *Rockin'* show to the Sherbino with this production.

Rockin' Alice features students from Silverton, Ridgway, Ouray and Montrose and will be presented on Friday Nov. 18th at 6 PM, Saturday Nov. 19th at 11 AM and Sunday Nov. 20th at 4 PM. All performances will be at the Sherbino Theater, located at 604 Clinton St. in Ridgway, CO. Tickets are \$5 General Admission. Children 6 and under are Free.

"We would love to see full audiences for these young actors. They have been working so hard with their directors and deserve a rowdy, supportive audience," said Weehawken Executive Director Ashley King.



"This is a great kick-off to Kathleen being in our area and a wonderful opportunity to come check it out and support the kids at the same time."

For more information contact the Weehawken Creative Arts office at (970) 318-0150 or visit www.weehawkenarts.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

OURAY COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM IS NOW CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-The Ouray County Historical Society Museum is now closed for off season. A big thank you to everyone who toured our Museum and joined us in our many educational programs. We look forward to seeing you in 2017! For further inquiries please contact us at 970-325-4576 , Email: ochs@ouraynet.com or visit our website: ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org.

KAFM RADIO ROOM WELCOMES GYPSY JAZZ SOCIAL CLUB



Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The RADIO ROOM Proudly Presents...Gypsy Jazz Social Club, Friday, Dec. 16. At 7:30 pm. Built from guitarist Les Choy's desire to create a string-band based jazz ensemble, GYPSY

JAZZ SOCIAL CLUB draws from a roster of versatile musicians inhabiting Colorado's western slope.

Gypsy Jazz is the accepted moniker for a genre of music that was all but single-handedly developed by Django Reinhardt, a visionary gypsy guitar player of Belgian descent who successfully integrated American jazz, traditional gypsy melodies, popular tunes from the 1920's to modern times, and a respectable selection of original compositions. Mysterious yet strangely familiar, semi-obscure but always swinging, this unique form of music and Gypsy Jazz Social Club are a perfect match. A professional musician since the early

1970s in the West Coast and Rocky Mountain regions, Les Choy "El Chino" has a diverse musical history in a variety of styles, stringed instruments, and percussion. with a particular affinity for the acoustic sound. Currently, Choy is music and band director, guitarist and vocalist with GYPSY JAZZ SOCIAL CLUB, an ensemble he founded in 2010. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door \$12 student with ID and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext. 0 or online at www.kafmradio.org.

The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m.

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info
970.318.0150
weehawkenarts.org



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

INAUGURAL FIRKIN' FEST TAKES PLACE @ THE SHERBINO IN RIDGWAY NOV. 19

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY – The Sherbino Theater, located in historic downtown Ridgway, Colorado announced the first annual Firkin Fest West beer festival to be held inside the theater Saturday Nov. 19, 2016 from 4 PM to 7PM.

The festival was created to raise money for the 1915 historic theater and will feature special cask (firkin) ale produced by 13 local western breweries.

Cask Ale is different from regular beers because the beer is naturally carbonated and conditioned in the cask, or as it is called in Britain, Firkin, and served either from a gravity tap or pumped through a beer engine.

No artificial carbonation is used in the beer, making it smoother with more complex flavors.

“When a brewer makes a cask, it gives him or her the opportunity to experiment with special additions because instead of a whole tank of beer you are only making 11 gallons.” Said Tom Hennessy, owner of Colorado Boy Brewery in Montrose.

“My cask will have what is called Hop Hash, which is the scrapings from rollers carrying hops to a bailing machine from local hop farm Misty Mountain Hops in Olathe. This should be an intensively hoppy beer”.

Chris Fish, Co-Founder of Telluride Brewing adds, “Cask Ale is Old School! A simple and traditional method of producing real ale deliciousness! We as American craft brewers have borrowed so much from the English brewing traditions but the art of producing cask ale is one that many of us rarely practice! A perfect Cask Ale is one of life’s greatest pleasures!”

The casks will be set up in four stations inside the theater to allow people to try the beers and mingle in a warm and comfortable setting rather than queuing up in long lines to get a sample. Cost is \$30 per person until November 13, then \$35 after that. The price includes an English Pub glass to enjoy samples from. Tickets can be purchased at firkinfest-west.ticketleap.com or at the door. The Sherbino will also be partnering up with local shuttle service, Western Slope Rides, in order to provide a safe and friendly option of transportation for the event. For \$10 a person, people can purchase a shuttle ride ticket prior the event by calling, 970.318.0892.

Seats on the shuttle will jump to \$15 if bought the day of the event. The shuttle will run from 3 -4 pm (prior to the start of the event) and again from 6-8 pm.



NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

MUSIC IS SOMETHING WE ALL HAVE IN COMMON

Take any group of people, say 10 or more humans at any given time, and you will find differences of opinion, ideology, and beliefs. The differences increase exponentially the more people you add to a group. Common ground will be more than difficult to find and a consensus on any one single topic will be as fleeting as the wind. This is until you bring up the topic of music. We cannot be naïve and think that a group of people will like the same kind of music that we like, but we can be very confident in knowing that music is something we all have in common and upon which we all can agree. Music is a unifying force like no other thing in the world.

An auditorium of 2,000 people or an arena of 20,000 people is an example of how the masses can come together and be unified through music if only for a very short period of time. The actions that are occurring on stage and the sound that is being produced by the performers takes people out of their regular head space and bottle necks regular thoughts and differences into a stream of being together. This is the power of music and only one example of how music is the universal language. Those within a group listening to music being performed will of course have different opinions about what they heard. It is during a performance where the specific differences are put aside and the focus is on the sound.



People gather at the Berlin Wall for Leonard Bernstein's 1989 Christmas Day concert. Courtesy photo Project Beethoven.

People of all backgrounds and nationalities come together through music in times of great sadness and tragedy as well as great triumph and joy. Madison Square Garden was the venue for the Concert for New York City on Oct. 20, 2001. In the days following the tragic acts of 9/11, musicians of all kinds gathered together to offer messages of hope and peace. On the other side of the emotional spectrum, Christmas Day 1989 offered the Berlin Celebration Concert conducted by Leonard Bernstein that celebrated the fall of the Berlin Wall. Held in the former East Germany, the concert was a celebration of

unification after many years of division.

We do not need to look to huge public concerts to see how music brings people together. Simply think of examples in your own life, times of joy and sorrow, and you will see that music had a constant presence. Small groups of people celebrating a friend who has passed away, a celebration of graduation, promotion, or marriage.

Music is our constant companion and it allows us to get out of our heads when necessary and to calm ourselves and come back into our heads when times and circumstances call for finding peace of mind.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



#montrosemirror

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE!

MIXED MEDIA ARTIST KELLIE DAY TO TEACH AN ART BAR

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Accomplished artist Kellie Day, started painting seriously when she was 40. Her artistic medium is mixed media on canvas. "I love losing myself in collage, and then sketching an image on top, and then painting over that. I take out all my energy with large, cheap paint brushes or rubber squeegees, and move acrylic paint across my many layers," said Day. "I like how my collage always ends up peeking through the painting. You never know what you might find. It could be a sufi poem, or a saucy romance novel." Day has evolved to be an accomplished mixed media artist who is known for her notecards that are sold at Trader Joe's.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16th, students will have a great opportunity to "belly up to

the bar" and learn some mixed media principles at the Weehawken and Sherbino's "Art Bar" event titled, "One of a Kind Notecards". In this class, students will make their own stamps and then use them to create one-of-a-kind mixed media notecard sets. Kellie Day will get you going on creating simple, seasonal stamps that you can use again and again. Combine sweet watercolor washes on blank notecards, and then enjoy using your hand-made stamps to make your own designs. Add a personalized message with alphabet stamps, and then polish off your cards with metallic markers and doodle pens. Students will wrap up their set of four notecards and envelopes with a ribbon and – voila! – the perfect thank you cards or holiday gift sets!

"At Weehawken and Sherbino's ARTbar we strive to provide a positive, creative outlet in a fun and relaxed atmosphere," said Executive Director, Ashley King. "Our hope is to inspire the community to discover their imaginative side and cross the bar into other dimensions of creativity. The classes we offer require no experience, and of course, liquid inspiration will also be available!"

This "Art Bar" event runs from 6:00 until 8 pm at the Sherbino in Ridgway on November 16th. The cost of the workshop is \$35, which includes all supplies and a drink at the bar (beer, wine or non-alcoholic beverages). In order to ensure adequate supplies, students are encouraged to register in advance with Weehawken at 970-318-0150 or

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MIRROR IMAGES...A DOWN HOME COUNTRY BAZAAR!



The Montrose United Methodist Church Down Home Country Bazaar welcomed crowds of shoppers to the annual craft show and sale on Saturday, Nov. 12. Mirror staff photos.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS DAY IS NOV. 17

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-In honor of Children's Grief Awareness Day on Thursday, Nov. 17, HopeWest is encouraging community members across western Colorado to wear blue to demonstrate support for children and teens who have lost someone they love.

"The purpose of Children's Grief Awareness Day is to remember that there are children all around us who have experienced the death of a loved one - children who typically feel very alone in their grief journey," said Joni Beckner, Director of HopeWest Kids, a child and teen grief support program at HopeWest. "The day is an opportunity to let children know they're

not forgotten and we want to support them as they grieve."

According to ChildrensGriefAwarenessDay.com, there are more grieving children than most realize—one out of 20 children will experience the death of a parent before graduating from high school, while one out of every five children will face the death of someone close to them. Many people don't realize it takes most children much longer to deal with their grief than community members expect, and that the amount of inner turmoil, invisible to most, is much more intense than what would be expected.

Below is a list of things community members should know about grief in order to

better support grieving children and teens in the community:

Grief is a natural and normal response to death.

Every person's grief is unique.

Grief is not a disease.

Grief is a lifelong process that changes with time.

Children grieve differently than adults.

Children of different ages grieve differently.

Many adults who had lost a parent when they were young describe the death as the defining moment of their lives.

Grieving children and adults need support. We grieve because we love.

Grieving children and adults don't "just get over it" but they can learn to integrate the death (the absence of the one they love) into their lives.

HopeWest is raising awareness in order to help people learn ways they might help a grieving child they happen to know, now or in the future. For more resources on how to help a grieving child please contact



It's the 42nd Annual **Basement Boutique**

Craft Show and Sale
at the
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Gifts For All Ages**

**Friday - November 25th
8 am till 5 pm**

**Saturday - November 26th
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A Central Checkout for shopping convenience.



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COMMUNITY BAND TO PLAY FREE CONCERT ON DEC. 11

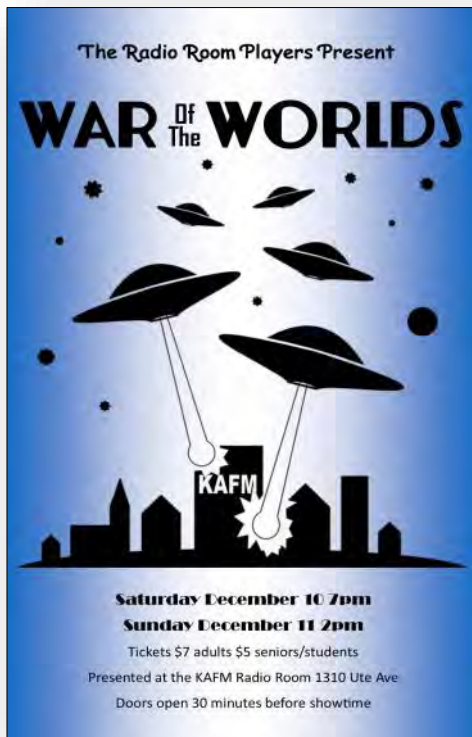


Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Join the Montrose Community Band on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. in the Montrose Pavilion Auditorium for a free Christmas concert. The concert features Christmas favorites and is sure to get you into the holiday spirit. For more information visit www.montroseband.com or call 970-596-1188.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

RADIO ROOM PLAYERS TO PRESENT WAR OF THE WORLDS



Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The Radio Room Players present War Of The Worlds on Saturday, Dec. 10th, 2016 at 7 pm and on Sunday Dec. 11th 2 pm. What began last year as a way to bring theater into the Radio Room with the Radio Room players production of "It's A Wonderful Life," spurred on a desire by KAFM to bring back the storytelling on air that dominated the early radio airwaves. The success of "It's A Wonderful Life" has encouraged KAFM to not only bring more theater into the Radio Room but to air the performance live as it would have been in the heyday of Radio Theater.

Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds" is the most famous radio theater broadcast in history and the Radio Room Players will bring it to life with two performances Saturday Dec. 10th at 7pm and a matinee on Sunday Dec. 11th at 2pm. We will be airing one of the performances live on the air, a treat not only for our listeners but for the live audience as well.

On Halloween morning, 1938, Orson Welles awoke to find himself the most talked about man in America. The night before, Welles and his *Mercury Theatre on the Air* had performed a radio adaptation of H.G. Wells's *The War of the Worlds*, converting the 40-year-old novel into fake news bulletins describing a Martian invasion of New Jersey. Some listeners mistook those bulletins for the real thing, and

their anxious phone calls to police, newspaper offices, and radio stations convinced many journalists that the show had caused nationwide hysteria. By the next morning, the 23-year-old Welles's face and name were on the front pages of newspapers coast-to-coast, along with headlines about the mass panic his CBS broadcast had allegedly inspired. Check in at our website www.kafmradio.org for updates about War of the Worlds and future productions of the KAFM Radio Room Players. Tickets are \$7 for Adults and \$5 for Seniors and Students and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext. 0 or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 30 minutes before show time.

Many Older Adults Need Our Help... *in the most fundamental ways.*

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

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NEW MEXICO NEWS BRIEFS:ARTS & CULTURE

SEE LIVING LEGENDS AND 'UP-AND-COMERS' AT FRANK MORGAN TAOS JAZZ FESTIVAL

Special to Art & Sol

TAOS, NM-Jazz musicians ranging from legendary to "up-and-coming" will be onhand for the second annual Frank Morgan Taos Jazz Festival from Nov. 16 to 19. Performances will be held in venues all around Taos, and tickets are now on sale.

This year's festival will kick off with a free performance by the Reggie Austin/Lorca Hart Trio at the Historic Taos Inn on Wednesday, Nov. 16 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Austin is a jazz pianist from California, and Hart is a drummer from Taos.

The featured event on Thursday, Nov. 17 is perfect for both jazz fans and film buffs. The Oscar-nominated documentary "What Happened, Miss Simone?" will be screened at the Taos Community Auditorium (TCA) at 7p.m. Simone was an iconic jazz vocalist and pianist who is also remembered for her civil rights activism. After the film, Al Shackman, Simone's guitarist, musical director and friend, will be answering questions. Admission is free.

A performance by Bob Dorough will take place at the Arthur Bell Auditorium at the Harwood Museum of Art on Friday, Nov. 18. Tickets are \$25, and can purchased at the door or reserved by calling 575-758-9826. At the age of 92, Bob Dorough is a living legend. In addition to influencing many contemporary jazz musicians, he worked with Miles Davis and many of his songs have become popular jazz standards. Current audiences might know him



The Grace Kelly Quartet closes the festival in style with a performance at Taos Mesa Brewing on Saturday, Nov. 19. Courtesy photo.

best from his musical contributions to the "Schoolhouse Rock" series, including "Conjunction Junction" and "Three is the Magic Number." Dorough will be performing with Al Shackman.

The Grace Kelly Quartet closes the festival in style with a performance at Taos Mesa Brewing on Saturday, Nov. 19. Kelly is a rising star in the alto-sax scene and is a member of the house band on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert." General admission tickets are \$18 and reserved

seating is \$25. Tickets are available at the door and online at

<https://holdmyticket.com/tickets/257999>.

The festival is organized by the Taos Jazz Bebop Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the Town of Taos into a top destination for jazz musicians and fans.

In addition to the annual festival, the Society puts on concerts throughout the year.

For more information, visit taosjazz.org.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY POET LAUREATE SHOWCASED @ TRAVELING GOURDS

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE – Elissa Dickson, San Miguel County's poet laureate, brings her powerful performance chops and strong topical poems to the last-of-the-year Traveling Gourd Tour Dec. 6-8.

Elissa is the adult programs coordinator at the Wilkinson Public Library, a strong contender for what she calls the "radest" library in the universe. Her love for poetry began when she was in college at the University of Michigan and has continued to grow ever since.

In 2016, she was named San Miguel County Poet Laureate for a two-year term, following in the footsteps of Peter Waldor, Ellen Metrick and Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.

In her free time, Elissa enjoys performing and dancing with Telluride Theatre and is also an avid mountain biker, rock and ice climber, whitewater rafter and skier. She thinks nature and ice cream are the coolest. When she grows up, she hopes to be a river otter.

The tour starts in Telluride. Dickson will perform at the Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds Poetry Club monthly first Tuesday meeting Dec. 6th at 6 p.m. The new venue is the Telluride Arts office directly across from the Wilkinson Public Library main entrance on Pacific Ave.

In Telluride, following Club announcements and the featured performances, there will be a short intermission, after which the gourd will be passed around the room to give Club members and attendees a chance to read a poem or two. The gourds circle theme for December is "Bridges." Bring your own work or that of a favored poet to share.

And then following the Telluride Tuesday, the Traveling Gourds tour will take Dickson on Wednesday, Dec. 7th, to Ridgway's Cimarón Books at 1 p.m. and our new venue at La Zona Colona Coffee between Ridgway and Montrose at 5 p.m. that evening.

For the final stop on the tour, Elissa will appear Thursday Dec 8th at the Lithic Bookstore in Fruita at 7 p.m. Lithic Bookstore & Gallery is located at 138 South Park Square #202 in Fruita (Upstairs -- enter through lobby door on the east side of the building on Mesa Street). For info on the Ridgway stop, contact Sara Doehrman at sara-

doehrman@gmail.com or 970-708-4027. For info on the Colona reading, contact Craig Jackman at cj@jackmanoffice.com or 970-249-4214. For more info on the Fruita performance, contact Kyle Harvey or Danny Rosen at (970) 858-3636. Featured poets for January to be announced.



Elissa Dickson, San Miguel County's poet laureate, brings her powerful performance chops and strong topical poems to the last-of-the-year Traveling Gourd Tour Dec. 6-8. Courtesy photo.





The Mirror

CELEBRATING 195 EDITIONS

Sparking Conversations ...

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL, non-profit organization, was founded and introduced to the world at a ceremony held at the White House on March 1, 1977. FFI provides opportunities to explore new cultures by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado's regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m.

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-

Nov. 14-City of Montrose Wayfinding Sign Concepts Plan Open House. Proximity Space, 210 East Main, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Nov. 16-Montrose County GIS Day Open House, 2 to 4 p.m. @ County GIS Office 320 South First Street.

Nov. 16-The Chipeta Archaeology Society presents Mark D Mitchell and Archaeology of the San Juan High Country on Wednesday Nov. 16th at 7pm at United Methodist Church, South 1st and Park Ave, Baldridge Hall, Montrose Colorado. Dr. Mark D. Mitchell, Research Director, Paleocultural Research Group, presents Archaeology of the San Juan High Country.

Nov. 17-At 6:30 p.m. the Citizens' Climate Lobby meets in the Centennial room behind Montrose City Hall. All are welcome, 970-240-9146.

Nov. 17-Montrose Pavilion Senior Center: \$3 Lunch and Learn on Thursday, Nov. 17th. 1 p.m. "Tai Chi Chih," presented by Dan Mohr.

Nov. 17-In honor of Children's Grief Awareness Day on Thursday, Nov. 17. HopeWest is raising awareness in order to help people learn ways they might help a grieving child they happen to know, now or in the future. For more resources on how to help a grieving child please contact HopeWest Kids at (970) 254-5377 or visit HopeWestCO.org.

Nov. 17-The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will receive briefings on a variety of topics, including financial sustainability and the reissue and refund policy of big-game licenses at its November meeting in Lamar. The meeting is slated to begin at 8 a.m. on Nov. 17 and adjourn at 11 a.m. on Nov. 18, at the CPW Lamar office, 2500 S. Main Street. A complete agenda for this meeting can be found on the [CPW website](http://CPWwebsite.org). **Nov. 18-19**-Blue Sage Center Concert Series, 7:30 PM, 226 Grand Avenue, Paonia. Tickets \$10-25 at (970) 527-7243 or online at bluesage.org <<http://bluesage.org>>. A weekend with Blue Sage Concert Series Director Susan Ellinger performing works for solo piano by Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven.

Nov. 17-Friendship Force International provides opportunities to explore new cultures by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado's regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m. Special presentation: Learn about the September exchange to Moscow and St Petersburg Russia Exchange that was by the Western Colorado FF club.

Nov. 18-The 2016 Crab Crack benefiting Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club will be Friday, Nov. 18, from 6 pm - 9 pm @ the Montrose Pavilion Event Center, 1800 Pavilion Drive. Enjoy dinner and live music. Price: \$50 to \$5,000 —\$50 General Admission, private & sponsor tables available. Dinner is followed by a special dessert and dancing to a live band. Unique fundraising opportunities will be available. **TICKETS ON SALE NOW** bcq.org/tickets or (970) 249-5168.

Nov. 19-Blue Gators Band CD Release Party! Turn of the Century Saloon. Doors open at 7 p.m.!

Nov. 21- Thanksgiving stories with Allen Beck, Montrose Pavilion Senior Center, Monday Nov. 21, 1p.m.

Nov. 21-Alpine Bank presents the film, "Almost Sunrise," at the Montrose Pavilion @ 6 p.m. \$10 suggested donation; benefit for Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans.

Nov. 21-The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) wants to help you celebrate the holidays with some extra cash. Pick up an extra \$20 to spend in town when you buy \$100 in Montrose Bucks starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 21, at the Downtown Visitor Center — while supplies last. Payment by cash only. Limit \$200 purchase per person in \$100 increments. Must be present to purchase. Adults 18 and older are eligible to purchase. Bucks purchased during this promotion must be used by Dec. 31. Expired checks will not be re-issued. Montrose Bucks are not redeemable for cash. For more information and to order non-promotional Montrose Bucks year-round, visit CityofMontrose.org/Bucks.

Nov. 24-Montrose Community Dinners Thanksgiving meal Noon to 3 p.m. @ Friendship Hall.

Nov. 25-26-42nd Annual Basement Boutique Craft Show & Sale @ the Montrose Pavilion. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Nov. 26-Garrett Estate Cellars is having an Open House on Saturday Nov. 26, from 11am- 4pm Music, food, specials and wine tasting. Questions and Details call Mitch at 970-901-5919.

Nov. 26-Delta Parade of Lights.

Dec. 1-Holiday Craft Fair at Homestead of Montrose, 1819 Pavilion Drive, 1 to 7 p.m.

Dec. 2-Cobble Creek 5th Annual Watercolor Show. Reception Friday 4pm —7 pm, Saturday December 3rd 10am -3pm. Upstairs at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. 699 Cobble Drive. 249-5645 for more information.

Dec. 7-Volunteers of America Homestead Art Show, 5:30 to 7 p.m. @ Amazing Glaze, 209 East Main Street in Montrose.

Dec. 10-The Radio Room Players present War Of The Worlds on Saturday, Dec. 10th, 2016 at 7 pm and on Sunday Dec. 11th 2 pm. Tickets are \$7 for Adults and \$5 for Seniors and Students and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext. 0 or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 30 minutes before show time.

Dec. 11-Join the Montrose Community Band on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. in the Montrose Pavilion Auditorium for a free Christmas concert. The concert features Christmas favorites and is sure to get you into the holiday spirit. For more information visit www.montroseband.com or call 970-596-1188.

Dec. 28-Ari Hest Holiday Concert @ Healthy Rhythm Gallery, 68 Grand Avenue. 7to 11 p.m.

Jan. 20-21-Please join us for the 5th Annual Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum: Healthy Land, Food, People at the Montrose County Fairgrounds on Jan. 20 and the Montrose Pavilion on Jan. 21, 2017. The Food and Farm Forum has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops.

Jan. 20-22-Telluride Fire Festival, Telluride.

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*Photo by William B. Woody
MONTROSE-At right, Montrose
Board of County Commissioners
District 3 Candidate Roger Rash
makes a phone call on the steps
of the County Courthouse on
Nov. 8. Digital Content Produc-
er William B. Woody kept Mir-
ror readers informed through-
out election night with his ex-
cellent [Live Election Blog](#).*

*For full results of the 2016 Gen-
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