



BY THE TIME IT'S IN PRINT, IT'S HISTORY! FRESH NEWS FOR BUSY PEOPLE...WEEKLY ON MONDAYS!

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 203, Jan. 9 2017

FELONIES UP 11 PERCENT IN MONTROSE, DA SAYS



By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-When Seventh Judicial District District Attorney Dan Hotsenpiller spoke on air with Dan Lynch of Cherry Creek Radio last week, he discussed the progress his office has made toward keeping violent and criminal offenders off the street. Hotsenpiller also shared some disturbing news; "There are a lot more people here, and for whatever reason...they are committing 11 percent more felonies in my county."

Contacted after the broadcast for an interview, Hotsenpiller said that he believes the rise in felonies is not related to one type of crime, but reflects a general increase overall.

"There is a benchmark out there, that a particular prosecutor should handle about 150 felonies a year," he said. "We are now at 358." And

Felonies in Montrose County are up by 11 percent, Seventh Judicial District DA Dan Hotsenpiller said. Mirror file photo.

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DELTA LOCATION MAY BECOME BUSINESS HUB



The former City Market/Chaco location in Delta may be repurposed as a business hub.

By Caitlin Switzer

DELTA-The former City Market/Chaco building at 124 East 6th Street in Delta has been underused for years. On Dec. 28, the Delta County Independent reported that the location may soon become a business hub, if a group of local movers and shakers has its way.

A coalition comprised of Delta County Economic Development (DCED); the Delta County Joint School District; Delta Montrose Technical College; and the City of Delta hopes to purchase the building from the current owner, the Mercy Foundation, and repurpose it as a business hub.

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP - FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

By Gail Marvel

Jesus said, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them" (Matt 18:20 NIV).

MONTROSE-The contemporary worship service for the First Presbyterian Church is not held in the main auditorium, but rather upstairs in the adjacent youth center. Black curtains keep out the sunlight and overhead spotlights, defused by the flat black ceiling and dark stage backdrop with chalk drawings, gave the room a nightclub ambiance. The dimly lit room did not lend itself to greeting visitors...or to reading a Bible with a 10-point font.

For the Nov. 27, 2016 service there were no greeters or bulletin, but the audience was greeted from the stage with the pastor saying, "Welcome to the Connection Service." Of the 75 attendees about one-third were seniors and retirees. The accompaniment for the four-member praise team, which included Pastor Alan Gibson, included a keyboard, drums, and guitar.

A video clip titled "Who am I?" and a short set of praise songs opened the service. An elementary-aged young man in the audience quipped, "That was a short song!" Pastor Gibson sparred back, "You think we should sing it again?"

The children were dismissed for their Kid Connection worship service and Gibson asked that the video be replayed for the benefit of those who were coming in late.

Gibson noted Christmas was coming up fast. However, Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas, was a season of hope and waiting. "But not waiting without hope...it's hopeful waiting. There's not a lot of waiting in advertisements on TV. I encourage you not to get caught up in the culture of waiting for the promise of God to be fulfilled. God waits meticulously and slowly."

The sermon, taken from Philippians 3:12-21, was part of an ongoing series. After a



First Presbyterian Church. Photo by Gail Marvel.

brief review of the previous lesson, the sermon was presented in expository style by going through the text verse by verse.

Gibson gave three points for the audience to remember: 1) Christ Jesus has made us his own and we belong to him. 2) There is never a second of your life when God stops loving you. Even in the meanest day of your life, God doesn't stop loving you. God's love never ceases. 3) We are called to press on.

Drawing a parallel between God's love and the love of a parent for their child Gibson said, "You don't raise children without punishment, without punishment they won't grow [mature]. There are consequences in not trusting God, but he never stops loving you."

In a sidebar Gibson said, "I'm going to rankle Presbyterian thought...God's love is, has been and always will be. God's love doesn't start when we get things right. God has always loved us. And His wrath is set aside through the cross. God was reconciled to the world through the cross. Your part is to believe Him and trust that it is already done."

Contending that not believing the Gospel

makes you an enemy of the cross Gibson said, "People refuse to say they've made a mistake, refuse to apologize, refuse to say I'm sorry. In the Gospel we have the freedom to admit that we are not perfect. Your ability to ignore your sinfulness doesn't mean it's not there. Acknowledging your imperfections is part of believing the Gospel."

Laughter rippled through the audience when the pastor reminisced about his own childhood, "When kids played cops and robbers...I played church." He continued, "I asked the Lord to show me my imperfections, show me how to grow up in You. God has done all the work."

Concluding the service, the pastor said, "My exhortation to you today...Be active in your faith, be aggressive with it, seek out the blessings and you will grow and be blessed."

Contact information:

First Presbyterian Church

1840 E. Niagara

Montrose, CO 81401

Pastor Alan Gibson, 970-249-4732

Worship Service 9 am (contemporary)

10:45 am (blended)



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COMMUNITY SAYS FAREWELL TO MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RON HENDERSON & DAVID WHITE



In brief farewell statements Montrose County Manager Ken Norris complimented and thanked outgoing commissioners White, left, and Henderson, right, for their eight years of service as elected officials. Photos by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—About 50 people attended the Jan. 6 public sendoff for term-limited Montrose County Commissioners Ron Henderson and David White. Well-wishers included elected officials, county staff, community leaders and community activists — even those with whom they have occasionally butted heads.

In brief farewell statements Montrose County Manager Ken Norris compliment-

ed and thanked the outgoing commissioners for their eight years of service as elected officials.

Both commissioners spoke of their accomplishments while in office and their projections for the county's future.

Henderson said, "We've got two new competent commissioners coming onboard and a lot to look forward to...end of story! It's been grand. I've been humbled and proud and had plenty of help

along the way. We have competent staff and employees and some excellent commissioners coming in. I look forward to what they are going to accomplish."

White said, "It's been a true pleasure to serve you, especially the smaller towns in the county (Nucla, Naturita, Redvale, Paradox and Bedrock). It's been my passion to support the county staff and the small towns.

The county went through an economic downturn and we got through it. Wonderful things are happening in our region and people throughout the State are recognizing us; the eyes of the State are looking at us."

As for their political futures, White, who has politics in his DNA, anticipates running for House District 58 in 2018. County Manager Ken Norris quipped, "My prediction is that one of these days we will be looking at the next governor."

Henderson has no political aspirations per se; however, he doesn't discount God opening doors for him to serve. "I enjoy being useful, but I do better if the motives for being political are God's will."

Commissioners-Elect Keith Caddy and Roger Rash will be sworn into office on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 11:45 a.m.

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MONTROSE ELKS LODGE: ELK TRACKS!



Montrose Elks Lodge

MONTROSE-Welcome to Elk Tracks, a periodic update of what is taking place at our local Montrose Elks Lodge, located at 801 So. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401!

Bingo January 10, 2017 6:30 PM - Progressive Game #4 worth \$1,199 has reached a "Must Go" status and will be awarded to the winner of this game! Arrive early for a good seat. Open to the Public.

Hoop Shoot for Youth Ages 8 to 13 – Saturday January 21, 2017 at 10 am

Location: Montrose Elks Lodge Gym

The Elks Hoop Shoot is a free throw contest for **all children** aged 8 to 13. The program is free to all Contestants and provides youth an opportunity to **compete, connect, and succeed** through hard work

and healthy competition. The lessons learned at the Hoop Shoot help kids develop grit.

Winners of this local Hoop Shoot advance through District (Durango), State, and Regional contests to reach the National Finals in April 2017. In the end, the names of National Champions will be permanently inscribed at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame!

There are **six Divisions** based on Contestants age as of April 1, 2017:

Boys, ages 8-9 Girls, ages 8-9
Boys, ages 10-11 Girls, ages 10-11
Boys, ages 12-13 Girls, ages 12-13



Please direct any questions to Jerry Bolis, Hoop Shoot Director, at 970-417-4488.

2017 Health Fair Early Blood Draws

Montrose Pavilion
February 1, 2, 3, & 4
6:30-9:30 a.m.

Additional Locations for Early Blood Draws

January 28th
4H Event Center in Ridgway 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.

January 30th
American Legion Hall in Olathe 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Appointments may be made online for all three locations at
www.MontroseHospital.com
January 15-26

Phone appointments will be taken January 16-17 from
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 1-888-592-6255

12 hour fast required. Drink lots of water!
We will NOT bill your insurance. Checks and cash only.

Blood Tests Offered

- Chemistry & Lipid Profile ~ \$45
(includes iron binding and TSH)
- Hemoglobin A1C ~ \$35
(additional screening for diabetes)
- PSA for Prostate Health ~ \$30
 - CBC ~ \$20
(complete blood count)
- Vitamin D Screening ~ \$40
- Vitamin B-12 ~ \$40
- Male Testosterone ~ \$45

Health Fair 2017 is
Saturday, February 25

The lines are long, so MMH offers early blood draws to make it more convenient for you.

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- David & Gaynelle Mize
- Dawn & Dave Gordon
- The Ridgway Mountain Market



March 5, 2017 Montrose Pavilion
Afternoon Matinee 2:00pm
Evening Performance 6:30pm

Team 8 - James, Chrissy, Leah, Brittany



Chrissy - Executive Director, Maslow Academy/Bright Beginnings

James & Brittany - Teachers, Maslow Academy/Bright Beginnings

Leah - Maslow Academy/Bright Beginnings

Choreographer: Kevin Mears

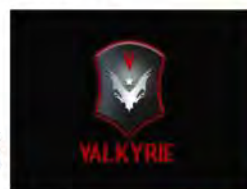
To have your donation or ticket purchase directly support [Maslow Academy/Bright Beginnings](http://MaslowAcademy/BrightBeginnings), call (970) 252-3399.

Dancing for [Maslow Academy/ Bright Beginnings](http://MaslowAcademy/BrightBeginnings)

Maslow Academy of Applied Learning/Bright Beginnings Preschool is an educational partnership of master teachers, involved families and reflective learners who challenge one another to grow through experiential and applied learning. Our school lovingly educates children from six weeks to eleven years old. We offer infant, toddler, preschool and elementary education, in an individualized, developmentally appropriate environment. Our unique educational experience is available to everyone because of grant funded tuition subsidy programs and scholarships.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT!

Montrose Regional Crimestoppers

REGIONAL-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Bureau of Land Management are seeking the help of citizens to locate and apprehend one or more individuals responsible for vandalism to federal property at the Peach Valley Recreational site within the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area.

On or about Nov. 27th, it was observed that someone had spray painted graffiti on the facilities at the Peach Valley site. The Peach Valley Recreation Site is the primary staging area for a number of outstanding trails and riding opportunities. Off-highway vehicle enthusiasts come from all around to ride this area. Delta and Montrose communities especially benefit from these visits. While the facilities damaged by this senseless vandalism are maintained by BLM, they are clearly public and community assets.

MIRROR CLASSIFIED HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR MONTROSE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Montrose Regional Library District Board of Trustees seeks volunteers interested in joining them in representing the community on the Library Board as a Trustee. Direct any questions to Paul Paladino, Director, 249-9656 Or any of our current Trustees. Please send a letter of interest including qualifications by Jan. 10, 2017 to ATTN: Trustee Applicants, Montrose Regional Library District, 320 S. 2nd St., Montrose, CO 81401

Federal law enforcement officers are investigating the crime and are offering a \$500 reward for information leading to an arrest of the person(s) responsible. That reward will be paid anonymously through the Crime Stoppers system if that is the means used to report the identity of the vandals.

Anyone with information about this vandalism can call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500 or use app P3 Tips or [P3 Tips.com](http://P3Tips.com). Crime Stoppers and the Bureau of Land Management want your Information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the caller may receive a cash award. Make your region a safer place to live and work by removing these vandals from our communities.



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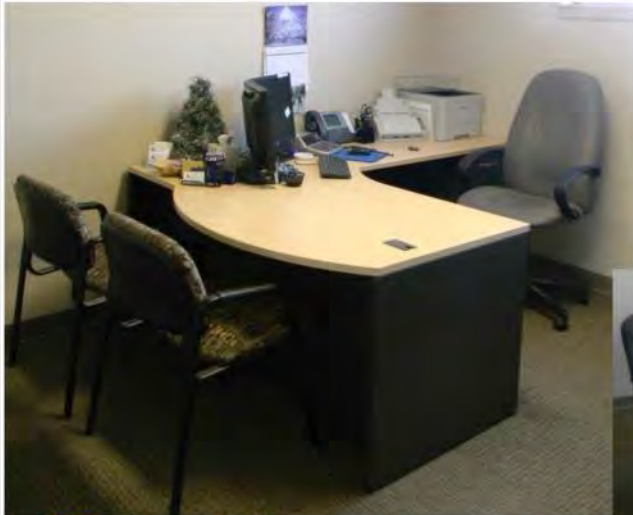
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CRIME STOPPERS**

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DELTA LOCATION MAY BECOME BUSINESS HUB From pg 1

According to the DCI, DCED Vice President Tom Huerkamp discussed the project with Delta City Council last month, explaining that the goal is to create a business incubator with an expanded campus for use by students of the Technical College. In addition to classrooms, the building would house DCED and the local office of Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning. The City of Delta agreed to release \$25,000 in discretionary funds toward the project, to be returned if the deal does not succeed.

So far, "The school district (which will own the building if the deal goes through) is currently in negotiations with the seller," DCED Executive Director Trish Thibodo said, "to see if it can be acquired for a reasonable cost."

"We are very excited about the ideas,

and the potential support for local business."

If the deal is approved, the community will need to rally, she said. Access to grant funding will also be key to the project's ultimate success.

The building's current owner, the Mercy Foundation of Tampa Florida, uses the funds it generates from property sales to help to further its mission of funding microloans to people and communities around the world.

"Our own community needs this," Thibodo said.

"Once it is acquired, we would be ready to roll, applying for funds to do renovations and developing operations," she said. "I think this is really a concept that people can get behind; supporting our businesses, acknowledging our history in

agriculture and energy, and looking at how we can take them into the future as economic drivers."

Best of all, the Delta-Montrose Technical College would now have a physical campus in the heart of Downtown Delta.

"With the ability to move classes from the technical college to Downtown, we can connect our local businesses with the students in the program," Thibodo said, "and better meet the needs of the business community here."

According to its website, [Delta-Montrose Technical College \(DMTC\)](http://www.dmtc.edu) is a public institution governed by the Delta County Joint School District 50-J Board of Education, funded with local, state and federal dollars. DMTC's service area includes Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties.

FELONIES UP 11 PERCENT IN MONTROSE, DA SAYS From pg 1

though the D.A.'s office added a second attorney in September, "We are still behind," Hotsenpiller said.

Factors contributing to the rise in felonies include a lack of jobs, substance abuse, and behavioral health, he said. "We have very good mental health services here, but if you are not on Medicaid, how do you pay?" he said. "And for people with substance abuse issues, often the only way to get help is to get arrested."

"We need both a robust health and human services system, and a healthy criminal justice system," Hotsenpiller said. "We need to build both systems so people who are looking for help and looking for resources can get those before their lives are torn apart and they are committing crimes."

"It would be expensive--but it is expensive now."

The District Attorney's concern is well-placed. For Montrose police, the surge in drug-related crimes comes at a time when the department is struggling to keep officers

on the street. Though the Montrose Police Department has the right equipment, hiring and keeping the right men and women can be a challenge.

"We are trying to hire more officers right now," Montrose Police Commander Gene Lillard said. "Normally we have 40 sworn officers, but we lose some through attrition, some to retirement. One of our officers is moving to Washington State to become a narcotics officer, another is moving to the Board of County Commissioners, and one has taken medical retirement."

Serving the community as a police officer may not come with the high salary available in a more urban area, however, "Montrose is still a great place to live, and being a police officer is a great job," Lillard said. "The pay starts at \$50,000 a year, and there are excellent benefits."

"We need to get more people on the street and protecting our community."

The criminal justice and [law enforcement training academy](#) at the Montrose Delta

Technical College has always been a strong resource when it comes to hiring new officers, Lillard said.

"We have gotten some very good people through that program."

Major issues for local police today include the rising drug crisis, which contributes to the spike in felonies noted by the District Attorney. "The drug issues create a domino effect," Lillard said. "Because methamphetamine users will steal stuff to sell so they can support their habit."

Also problematic is automobile traffic, which has sharply increased in recent years.

"There is a lot of vehicular traffic in Montrose, especially along the South corridor," Lillard said. "I think we have been discovered."

Locals should keep in mind that Montrose was named one of the safest communities in Colorado a year ago, Hotsenpiller said.

"I think it is important to realize that while we have a certain amount of violent crime, it's not more than anyplace else. We have problems, but we are safer than a lot of other places."

"Does that mean we are safe enough?"
"Not at all."

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY OF MONTROSE YOUTH COUNCIL TEEN OPPORTUNITY EXPO



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The City of Montrose Youth Council, in partnership with Western Colorado Workforce Center, is hosting a “Teen Opportunity Expo” (TOE) on Wednesday, February 22, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Montrose High School cafeteria.

Area youth ages 13 to 19 are invited to attend this free event to visit with local business and organization representatives for summer jobs, volunteering, and internships.

Interested local businesses and organizations can obtain more information or reserve booth space by contacting the City of Montrose Youth Council Coordinator Tina Woodrum at [970-240-1415](tel:970-240-1415), or by accessing forms at the following links: CityofMontrose.org/YouthCouncil.

Pictured from left to right: Isabel Haga, Hallie Yergen, Lauren Peterson, and Jenna Holyfield.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT RIBBON CUTTING @ VISION CHARTER ACADEMY!

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Let's Celebrate! Come to the Ribbon Cutting for the new classrooms and new storage shed for Food for Thought! \$25,000 check presentation from State Farm Neighborhood Assist for the Food for Thought program! Flag Pole Dedication by Lee Marts VFW #3571 at 3:15 p.m! Delta Area Chamber of Commerce New Member Ribbon Cutting Ceremony! The community is invited to come help VCA celebrate. Learners will be leading the event, answering questions, and giving tours of the new classrooms. There will be cake and refreshments. Please mark your calendars and invite anyone who supports VCA, voted for Food for Thought, has a heart for kids, and wants to join in our celebration! Tuesday, Jan. 17, 3 p.m., Vision Charter Academy, Delta Campus. 1080 Pioneer Road.



The Center for Mental Health welcomes Jennifer Murdock!

Jen is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner who specializes in psychiatric mental health. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay and then earned her Master of Science degree at Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI. She is board certified with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

Jen has a passion for psychiatric mental health care and recognizes the need for sensitivity, compassion, and understanding that is essential when working with clients across the lifespan. Jen enjoys the outdoors and moved to the Montrose area to take advantage of Colorado's sunny days so she has better opportunities to experience long hikes, disc golfing, biking, rafting, and spending quality time with her partner, new friends, and her dog.

We are very excited to welcome Jen to our team!

970.249.9694

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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COUNTY PROCLAIMS JANUARY CRIMESTOPPERS AWARENESS MONTH, EXTENDS PERMIT FOR PINON RIDGE MILL

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE—At their first meeting of 2017, Montrose County Commissioners proclaimed January 2017 as Crimestoppers Awareness Month and approved \$34,130 for a needs assessment/feasibility study for the detention facility. Commissioners also agreed to extend the expiration date of the Pinon Ridge Mill Facility Special Use Permit, and approved a special use permit for Circle 3 Cowboy Fellowship.

Montrose Regional Crimestoppers President John Nelson read a proclamation, shared statistics from the past year's tips, and took time to recognize Susan Byrne, regional director of communications for the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and a Crimestoppers volunteer.

Nelson presented Byrne with a plaque for her efforts. Montrose Regional Crimestoppers meets on the third Thursday of the month at Christ's Church of the Valley, he said. Commissioners voted unanimously in support of the proclamation that January 2017 is Crimestoppers Awareness Month.

Sheriff Rick Dunlap presented information about the needs assessment/feasibility study for the County's detention. "We have concerns in several areas," Dunlap said.

"We don't know exactly what the needs are, or how to fix the problems we have identified back there." After running a nationwide request for proposals, one response was received, he said. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the \$34,130 needs assessment/feasibility study.

During the hearing on extending by four years the expiration date of the special use permit for the Pinon Ridge Mill Facility, first adopted in 2009, Mill owner George Glazier informed the BOCC that construction cannot proceed until some

licensure litigation is settled and the price of uranium improves.

Glazier noted that in addition to the extension of time, he is now owner of the company rather than a shareholder. In addition, the parent company has changed its name from Energy Fuels Resource Corporation to Pinon Ridge Resources Corporation.

"It's a good thing you're a young man George," Commissioner Ron Henderson said. "Because this thing is getting drawn out."

Dianna Reams of the West End Economic Development Corporation spoke in support of extending the special use permit. "The mill enjoys overwhelming support in our area," Reams said. "It's historic; it's cultural, and we support this entirely."

Once the price of uranium justifies the investment, the only thing needed will be a building permit from the County, Glazier said.

With engineering 60 percent complete, construction of the mill would take one year once the building permit is acquired. Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of extending the expiration date of the special use permit.

A special use permit for Gary Lear's Circle 3 Cowboy Fellowship, to be located on the north side of LaSalle Road ¼ mile West of Highway 50, was also approved unanimously following some discussion.

"We don't do hugging, or bible study events like some churches do," Lear said. "Not that there's anything wrong with that."

"Basically, we hold church one day a week, for now on Sunday evening...we share the Lord with people. And we do things that are culturally relevant to Western Colorado, things like roping, maybe a calf scramble, a Sunday jackpot roping

after church."

The facility would include a riding arena, equestrian training area and bathroom.

Citizen Roger Brown questioned the impact on traffic flow in the area. "Has CDOT weighed in on this?"

County Planning & Development Director Steve White pointed out that, "...someone could put this riding arena in under our current code and be allowed by right."

In other business, the BOCC recognized Montrose Walgreens' pharmacy for support with vaccination clinics.

"We could not provide free flu shots without their help," County Media Relations Director Katie Yergensen said. County Emergency Management Director Don Angell noted, "We provided 701 vaccinations at our last clinic."

Commissioners also approved a Hangar Ground Lease with Philburto Consulting Ltd at Montrose Regional Airport; a \$468,410 contract to replace the current Gold Elite Radio System with a new Motorola MCC 7100 VHF Radio System and DSS Equature NG 911 Recording Suite; an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between San Miguel County Department of Social Services and Montrose County Social Services to provide child support enforcement services; and Resolutions 2017-1 and 2017-2, concerning the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal of Heavy Fleet equipment and vehicles and light vehicles.

Also approved was an easement agreement with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association for a Transmission Line to be located on land owned by Montrose County south of 90 Road in the West End, and made appointments to various County boards and commissions.

For the full meeting agenda, video and minutes, visit Montrosecounty.net.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

5-TERM SAN MIGUEL COMMISSIONER ART GOODTIMES THANKS CITIZENS!

Dear Citizens:

I want to thank the citizens of San Miguel County for giving me the opportunity to be your representative on the Board of County Commissioners for the past 20 years. I am especially grateful for those who elected me to that office five times, although the Green Party I belonged to had only a handful of local members, and to those who have supported me financially and publicly in my campaigns and project.

It has been a special pleasure to serve with such amazing colleagues – Joan May, Amy Levek and the late Elaine Cantor Fischer. I have admired all three of them and they became dear friends.

I also was lucky to work with incredible dedicated staff at the County and I salute them, from our valiant Sheriff's Office to our hard-working Road & Bridge crews to our responsive and responsible County departments and offices.

I am also delighted to be handing the reins of County government off to two excellent new commissioners, Kris Holstrom and Hilary Cooper. I'm convinced they will serve us well and wisely.

Over the past 20 years, we accomplished many unique initiatives, including the High County Zone District, the lifting of Building Codes in the West End and the Ute Reconciliation process that led to Indigenous Peoples Day. We obtained many state and federal grants, partnered with many entities on specific projects, like the San Miguel Power Association's solar array at the Norwood Transfer Station, and weathered a terrible recession with minimal negative impacts.

We have been deeply involved regionally with groups like the Public Land Partnership, on the state level with Colorado Counties, Inc., and on the national level with the National Association of Counties -- where we have influenced public land management,

changed state laws and worked to represent progressive issues on the national stage.

So, once again, let me offer my sincere thanks for this wonderful opportunity to work for the people.

Along with leaving public office, I have moved my personal opinion column of 30+ years *Up Bear Creek* to the Montrosemirror.com, and I will be continuing to work on the Telluride Mushroom Festival, the Talking Gourds Poetry Project, Indigenous Peoples Day and the Prospect Basin Fen Monitoring Project as a boardmember of the Telluride Institute.

Feel free to contact me about those continuing projects at 970-729-0220, shroompa@gmail.com, or come visit me at my Wrights Mesa home at the headwaters of Maverick Draw.

*Gratefully,
Art Goodtimes
Commissioner emeritus*

DRAIN THE SWAMP – MONTROSE COUNTY STYLE!

Dear Editor:

While the "Swamp Draining" begins in Washington D.C. on Friday, January 20th, Tuesday the 10th begins the timetable for ultimately draining the swamp locally.

Last week the State Republican Executive Committee heard a formal Complaint filed back in December against the local Republican Party Chairman, First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair. The results of that Complaint is expected to be released sometime this week. Within 30 days of when I inquired about the Delta County Republican Accountability Committee looking into violations of bylaws pertaining to giving preference to a candidate prior to the Caucus and Primary, after I came out in support of the Indoor Arena and voiced my intention of filling a potential vacancy in the House District 58 seat,

all of a sudden a trumped up charge of my refusal to address the paranoid behavior by the local Party Chairman back in February became grounds for my removal in October, and again in November!

In their haste to have me removed, several key elements were overlooked, By-laws, resulting in my obtaining legal counsel and filing the formal State Party Complaint. Civil litigation is pending the results of the State Executive Committee's findings. Not being an attorney I cannot address all of the Civil aspects, from what I understand, when a person in a position of authority fails to comply with the governing documents of that authority, it is no longer covered by insurance.

So, you may be wondering what started all of this mess. Rumors began circulating this past summer that a disgruntled Coun-

ty Commissioner Candidate, whose wife's position had been eliminated at the County Treasurer's office, intended to retaliate by eliminating county management and replacing them with the local Party Chairman. Reports of the Party Chairman's vehicle spending extended periods of time at the Candidates home prior to the County Caucus have not been confirmed, as of yet.

Regardless of confirmation or not, both incoming County Commissioners have an extremely narrow path to follow before conflict of interest allegations could be leveled. Email documentation, campaign contributions and prior employment will control the extent of the ability of the new County Commissioners engaging in certain subjects.

Richard Harding, Montrose County

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OPINION EDITORIAL: LETTERS

ASHAMED THAT CITY WILL NOT HONOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Dear Editor:

According to the City recycling schedule, the trucks will be gathering recycles on Martin Luther King Day....really? The City of Montrose is working on this National Holiday?....The City is taking Columbus Day off, but working on MLK Day, which commemorates the work of one of America's most significant heroes, a man who attempted to create a more fair, equal Union? Perhaps the decision to not honor MLK on January 16th—four days before President Trump takes office—should be re-considered by the City powers that be.

Marge Morgenstern, Montrose

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ADJUDICATION FOR SEX ASSAULT ON A CHILD – PATTERN OF ABUSE

Seventh Judicial District News Release

MONTROSE-After Court Trial On Wednesday, January 4, 2017, in the Delta District Court, the Honorable Steve Schultz entered an adjudication of a juvenile after a four-day trial.

The court determined that the evidence sustained a finding, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the juvenile committed the crime of Sexual Assault on a Child as a Pattern of Abuse. This crime is classified as a class 3 felony if committed by an adult. There were two charges involved in this juvenile case, and the court found insufficient evidence to adjudicate the juvenile with respect to the second count and dismissed that charge. This was a trial to the court that began December 27, 2016, and lasted through December 30, 2016.

The evidence presented was through the testimony from two child victims, who were able to relate their traumatic experience to the court, as well as from family members, juvenile witnesses, an expert witness, and law enforcement officers. This finding is the result of hard work from the entire Sex Offense Prosecution Team and our partners in law enforcement.

Deputy District Attorney Seth Ryan and Victim Services Specialist Denetta Dunlap earned extra acknowledgement for their long hours of work during Christmas Week. Judge Schultz adjudicated the juvenile as delinquent as a result of the finding. Sentencing is scheduled for April 4, 2017, at 10 a.m. The court can impose probation, or may commit the juvenile to the Division of Youth Corrections. In addition, the juvenile will be required to participate in sex offender treatment and to register as a sex offender.

Cases of this nature involving sex offenses are always challenging and meaningful cases. The District Attorney's Office will continue the work of providing opportunities for victims to come forward and tell their compelling stories of sexual abuse and assault.



WAKE UP...

and smell the ~~coffee~~ NEWS!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SEVENTH ANNUAL SOIL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2/23-24



The 7th Annual Soil Health Conference will be held on February 23 and 24, 2017 at the Delta Center for Performing Arts. Courtesy images.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA— The 7th Annual Soil Health Conference will be held on February 23 and 24, 2017 at the Delta Center for Performing Arts, located at 822 Grand Avenue in Delta. This conference is the premier area educational and networking event designed to educate producers, orchardists, ranchers, government officials, and the broad community about ways to increase organic matter and increase the health of our soils by using cover crop, green manure, grazing, composting, entomology and other sustainable practices. Nationally renowned speakers Jon Lundgren and Keith Berns will highlight

the 2017 conference. The conference will feature a mixture of keynote speakers, 2016 local cover crop data and testing information, as well as breakout sessions. Keynote Speakers Jon Lundgren will present *Managing Pests, the good, the bad, and the ugly*. Keynote Speaker Keith Berns will present *Rebuilding Soil: Rebuild it and they will come*. Each will also be part of several breakout sessions. Local experts Katie Alexander, Jerry Allen and Steve Woodis will discuss the *Local Cover Crop Results*, which will provide details on a number of local producers who utilize cover crops. This year will have additional topic covering multi-species livestock inte-

gration, orchard cover and management, soil health for backyard gardeners as well as a number of other topics.

Soil health is critical to the future of agricultural production. With a contingent of concerned farmers as well as community groups and government officials the soil health conference has been able to take soil health education and implement techniques and specifically adjust them for the local area.

As pressure on agricultural production increases, soil health practices can insure that the agricultural needs are met with sustainable production, quality and economic viability.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO UPDATE SMOKING REGS TO INCLUDE E-CIGARETTES

Special to the Mirror

WASHINGTON — The National Park Service (NPS) has [proposed revisions](#) to the regulations that address smoking in national parks. The proposed revisions would change the regulation that defines smoking to include the use of electronic cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS). The proposed revisions would also allow a superintendent to close an area, building, structure, or facility to smoking, which would include the use of ENDS, when necessary to maintain public health and safety. "Protecting the health and safety of our visitors and employees is one of the most critical duties of the National Park Ser-

vice," said Michael Reynolds, Acting Director of the National Park Service. "It is clear from a recent rule by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and a report by the Surgeon General that electronic cigarettes are a threat to public health, especially to the health of young people."

In May 2016, the FDA [finalized a rule](#) bringing ENDS in line with regulations that have governed tobacco products since 2009. The FDA expressed concerns about ENDS use by youth and stated that in addition to nicotine exposure, there are other chemicals present in ENDS that can cause disease. Also in 2016, the Surgeon General [issued a report](#) emphasizing that ENDS use among youth and young adults

is a public health concern. The proposed revisions to 36 CFR 1.4 and 2.21 align with NPS policy on the use of ENDS which prohibits their use within all facilities and vehicles that are Government owned or leased, and within all national park concessions facilities.

You can read the proposed revisions today in the [Federal Register's reading room](#). They will be published in the Federal Register on Friday. Public comments are welcome for a 60-day period that begins Friday and ends March 7. To comment, please visit www.regulations.gov and search for "RIN 1024-AE30." Then follow the instructions for submitting comments.

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CORAM CHOSEN FOR SD6, CATLIN TO FILL HD58 SEAT



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On January 7, 2017 the Republican Vacancy Committee met at the Dolores Community Center in Dolores, Colorado to select the replacement for State Senator Ellen Roberts, Senate District 6 (SD6), who turned in her resignation effective December 31, 2016.

Colorado House District 58 Representative Don Coram was elected to fill Robert's Senate seat. His resignation from HD58 then became effective, leaving the house seat open. The vacancy committee reconvened in the afternoon to accept nominations to fill the open HD58 seat. Montrose County Water Rights Development Coordinator Marc Catlin was elected to serve as the new HD58 Representative.

At left, State Senator Don Coram; Marc Catlin of Colorado House District 58. Courtesy photos.



Montrose Senior Center
1800 Pavilion Drive

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR
970-252-4884

MEAL RESERVATIONS
970-252-7797

\$3 Lunch & Learn

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED 252-7797
LUNCH @ NOON • PROGRAM @ 1PM

WILLS vs TRUSTS
What Are The Benefits Of A Trust?
How Do Wills Go Through Probate?
Bryce R. Lee, Attorney
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12th • PROGRAM IS FREE TO ATTEND

'CAMP FORGOTTEN'
Civilian Conservation Corps Movie
Produced By Bill Jamerson
MONDAY, JANUARY 16th • PROGRAM IS FREE TO ATTEND

\$5 Lunches
FOUR COURSE LUNCH W/ DESSERT
MONDAY - FRIDAY • ALL AGES WELCOME





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WITH
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Join The Elevate Fiber Adventure!

Elevate Fiber is coming to your neighborhood and we don't want you to miss out! Homes and businesses in the Cobble Creek area — Montrose 721 and Orchard City 104 — will soon have access to the fastest and most reliable internet connection around. Join us for an Elevate Info Night to learn about how you can too!

What's Elevate? How can I get it? Why should I preregister? Where do I sign up? We'll be there to answer all of these questions plus more. Appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks provided. So, stop by for a quick bite and get your questions answered. If you preregister for Elevate at the event you'll be entered to win an awesome prize too.

Elevate Info Night

>> J&S Bakeria

Tuesday, January 10 at 5:30pm - 7:30pm
12840 Hwy 65, Eckert Colorado 81418

>> Cobble Creek Clubhouse

Thursday, January 12 at 5:30pm - 7:30pm
699 Cobble Dr, Montrose, Colorado 81403

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL HELPS HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Mary Rasmusson (left) and Leo Rasmusson (right) bring cheer to hospital patients and employees during the holiday season. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Thankful for the opportunity to serve the community, Montrose Memorial Hospital wanted to help community members by serving various needs over the holiday season.

With the "12 Days of Christmas" campaign, employees donated time, food and essentials to help the community. The totals included:

19 blankets for the homeless

40 hours ringing bells for the Salvation Army

99.65 pounds of pet food and eight blankets for the Animal Shelter

136.5 pounds of food

249 pairs of socks and underwear

The collected donations will be transferred to community organizations for distribution, including Sharing Ministries Food Bank, Montrose Animal Shelter, Montrose United Methodist Church, and local shelters.

"I'm proud of our employees for going above & beyond to fill identified community needs," said Steve Hannah, MHA, CEO of Montrose Memorial Hospital. "This holiday season, we were able to demonstrate 'Friends & Family caring for Friends & Family' inside and outside the hospital

walls in a special way."

About Montrose Memorial Hospital (www.MontroseHospital.com)

Montrose Memorial Hospital is a 501(c)3 nonprofit healthcare system serving Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray, Gunnison, Delta, Hinsdale and San Juan counties. The health system offers a 75-bed hospital and an extensive range of inpatient & outpatient health care services, including cardiology, oncology, minimally invasive surgery, laboratory, medical imaging/radiology, Mountain View Therapy, Level

III Trauma Center, Acute Rehabilitation Unit and the family birthing center. The health system partners with regional providers on joint ventures to meet local healthcare needs, including CareFlight air ambulance service, San Juan Cancer Center and Black Canyon Surgical Center. Montrose Memorial is the second-largest employer in Montrose County, with more than 600 employees and 100 physicians who represent 23 medical specialties. The hospital has received patient satisfaction ratings exceeding 90 percent since 2010.

An advertisement for Lavender Emporium LLC. The background is a soft-focus image of purple lavender flowers. In the center is a white oval logo with a sunburst icon above the text "A Lavender Emporium LLC" in a green, stylized font. Below the logo, in a smaller purple font, is the tagline "A Unique Place for Showcasing Colorado's Craftsmen & Artisans". The main body of the ad is a white rectangular box with a thin green border. Inside, it features text about handcrafted products, the owner's name Tracy Harrison, the address (230 S. 2nd Street • Montrose, CO 81401), the phone number (970-210-8782), an email address (beltzakatua@gmail.com), and a note about retail space for rent. To the right of the box, outside the border, is the text "Open Friday & Saturday from Noon to 6 p.m."

A Lavender Emporium LLC

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.... TRACY HARRISON

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MISSING TELLURIDE-BOUND AIRCRAFT LOCATED: ALL FOUR OCCUPANTS DEAD

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE — A small, private aircraft that departed from Scottsdale (AZ) travelling to Telluride (CO) has been found, crashed, near Payson (AZ) after missing since last Monday. All four occupants, two adults and two children, were found deceased.

San Miguel County Sheriff's Dispatchers received a call at 9:20 pm Monday Jan. 2, in which the reporting party stated she was concerned that her family had not yet arrived Telluride via the private aircraft believed to have departed on Monday morning. The pilot of the Cessna 210 aircraft did not file a flight plan, and the parties had not been heard from.


Sheriff's Deputies contacted the Scottsdale Police Department regarding the overdue aircraft and were dispatched to the Telluride airport but did not find anything. According to a statement issued by the Gila County Sheriff's Office in Payson, AZ, its office was contacted by the Scottsdale Police Department for assistance in locating the missing aircraft. According to the statement, a cell phone was pinged and Deputies, along with the Arizona Department of Public Safety Ranger Helicopter and the Air Force Civil Air Patrol located the downed aircraft north-west of Washington park, north of Payson, Arizona at 5:35 am Tuesday.

The Scottsdale Police Department says the Cessna 210 crashed with four people on board: a 31 year-old woman, her 44 year-old husband and his two daughters (ages 12 and 14) from a previous marriage. The identities of the deceased individuals will be released by the appropriate Arizona agencies once identification is confirmed and notifications have been made. This is an ongoing investigation, and more information is expected to be released by the Gila County Sheriff's Office as it becomes available. San Miguel County Sheriff Bill Masters said, "Our thoughts are with the families of the individuals that perished in this tragic accident."

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Missions in the mountains can be frigid, but the exertion that gets us to the top can often make the body hot. How to battle the constant push-and-pull nature of getting after it? You've heard it time and time again: Layers build the foundation for staying comfortable in the mountains, especially when those layers employ Polartec fleece. From breathable baselayer to versatile mid layers, what lies under the hood works harder so you can work smarter.



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CITY STAFF TO CONSIDER MULTI-YEAR BUDGET PROCESS



On Jan. 3 Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers President John Nelson gave a brief statement to city council following the proclamation marking January 2017 as National Crime Stoppers Awareness Month. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Mayor Rex Swanson began the Jan. 3 City Council meeting by reading a proclamation marking January 2017 as National Crime Stoppers Awareness Month. Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers President John Nelson accepted the proclamation and give a brief statement about the program. "That's why we have regional in our name. We're available for any law enforcement agency." People can report on crimes and remain anonymous by calling 970-249-8500, or using the mobile app P3 Tips and the website P3Tips.com. Nelson said, "This allows citizens to do what they should do in the first place...get the scum off the street!"

Police Chief Tom Chinn formally introduced recently promoted Commander Blaine Hall to the council.

New Hotel and Restaurant Liquor License Application – City Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

Following the public hearing Vine Market Bistro, 347 E. Main Street, was granted a new liquor license.

Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) – Director of Innovation and Citizen Involvement Virgil Turner.

Since 2013 the city and the Montrose Recreational District have had an IGA for shared services. Turner said, "This is the fourth agreement of shared services. It's a great example of how government can work together and save taxpayer funds." The five areas of shared services are: finance, legal, facilities, IT and fleet. The IGA includes a 15 percent discount to the recreation center and the city golf course for staff and employees. Turner said, "This adds to the employee benefits that we can offer to both organizations."

Disposal of City Owned Property – Public Works Director John Harris.

Once a year a list of items from all city departments is compiled of property that is no longer needed. The list includes police evidence seized throughout the year (pocket knives), broken equipment, and equipment being replaced (desks). Harris said, "Revenues go back to the fund that control that asset."

Ordinance 2410 (first reading) – City Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

The ordinance will allow liquor stores to obtain a liquor tasting permit. Although the permit is very restrictive, it is no more restrictive than State regulations. Alcorn

said, "Basically you can have a tasting every Friday and Saturday night." The server for the tasting must be an employee of the establishment.

Northside Park Subdivision Preliminary Plat/Northside Park Subdivision Final Plat – City Planner Garry Baker.

Due to a clerical error the preliminary and final plat had to be rescheduled for the 3.7-acre land acquisition by the county. It is unusual to have a preliminary and final plat on the same agenda. Baker said, "This is in the interest of speeding things up for the county acquisition."

Stargate Subdivision Filing No. 2 Preliminary Plat – City Planner Garry Baker.

The property, 14 lots located east of Bear Creek Subdivision, was slated for development about 10 years ago. However, the depth of the Tri-County waterline did not meet standards at that time. The applicant has addressed the concerns and council voted to approve.

Discussion Items:

The Jan. 2 council work session was cancelled and three items normally slated for the work session were moved to the regular meeting. The items were for discussion only, not for council action.

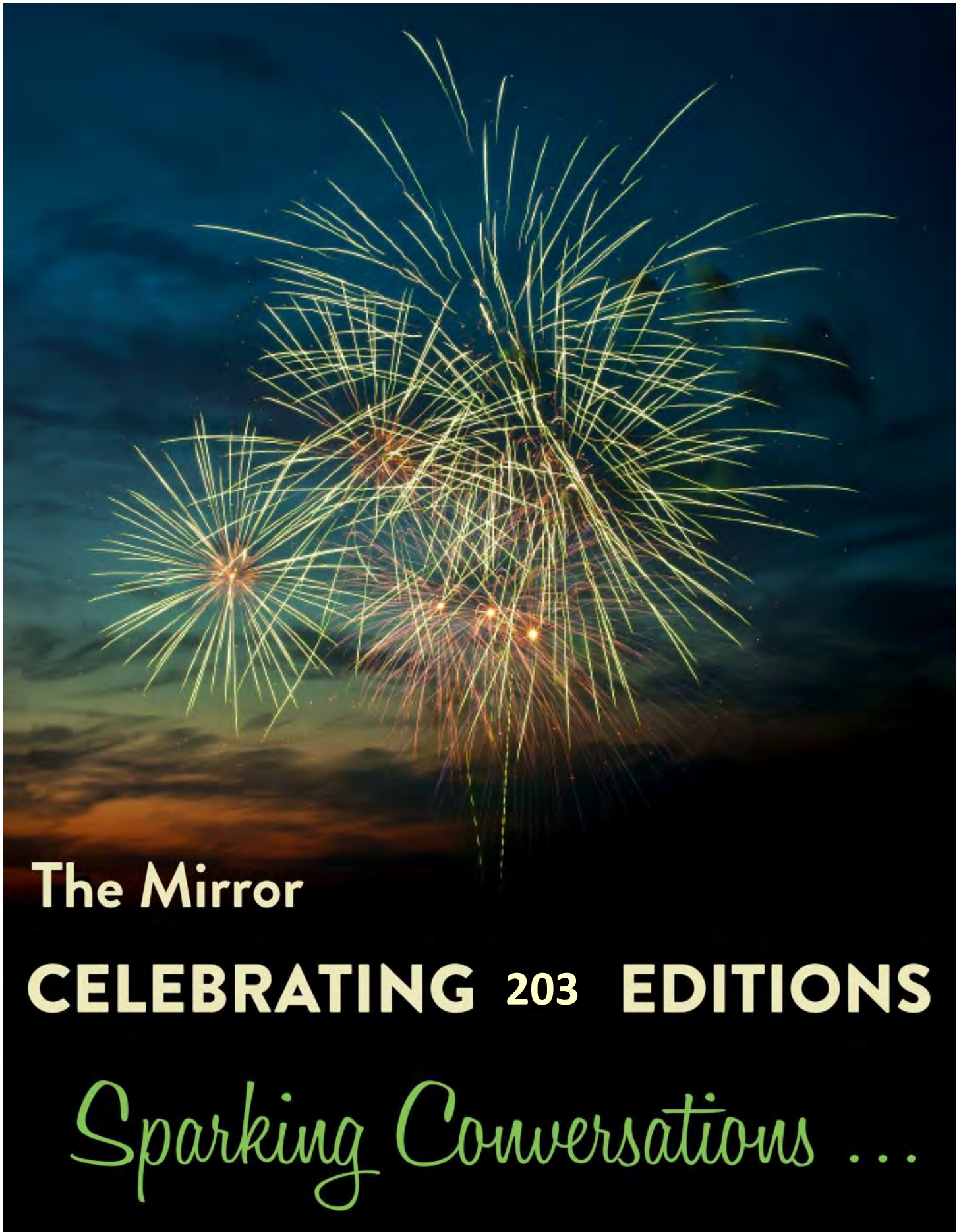
Black Canyon Golf Course Driving Range Net Replacement – Public Works Director John Harris.

The city began operating the golf course in February 2014 and Harris categorized the net replacement as deferred maintenance. "Last season we gave up hope [patching]." The city insurance carrier, CIRSA, cited safety concerns with the current driving range net. The low bid for replacement is \$61,150 and installment should be completed by the beginning of golf season. The item will come before council for approval at the Jan. 17 meeting.

Hillcrest Extension Engineering Design Project – City Engineer Scott Murphy.

This is a design only project (no construction) that calls for the extension of Hillcrest south to East Oak Grove Road. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) resulted in

Continued on page 21



The Mirror

CELEBRATING 203 EDITIONS

Sparking Conversations ...

CITY STAFF TO CONSIDER MULTI-YEAR BUDGET PROCESS From pg 18

six proposals with the low bid from Dowl (formerly Buckhorn Geotech) for \$127,930. The item will come before council for approval at the Jan. 17 meeting.

City resident John Broadbrooks, President of Eagle Nest HOA, spoke to council on behalf of three HOAs in the area — Eagle Nest, Vineyards 1 and 2.

"We do have some concerns. Since East Oak Grove has been improved traffic has increased through residential neighborhoods."

Broadbrooks requested the city look at extending Woodgate.

Miami-Hillcrest Roundabout Design Project - City Engineer Scott Murphy.

This is a design only project (no construction) that calls for a roundabout at Miami and Hillcrest.

Murphy referenced the household survey in which city residents identified traffic flow as a concern. Seven proposals were received and the staff will recommend Felsburg, Holt, & Ullevig for the bid of \$106,291. The item will come before council for approval at the Jan. 17 meeting.

Public Works Director John Harris spoke

to the previous design work sitting on the shelf for 6700 Road, Grand and South Rio Grande Avenue. "We have been working on traffic congestion since 2009. A lot of design work is done and ready if grants are available."

Both the Comprehensive Master Plan (2008) and the recent household survey identified traffic congestion and traffic flow as areas of concern for residents. The city staff prioritized both the Hillcrest roundabouts and extension as areas to decrease traffic congestion.

Or, as Harris described the Hillcrest area as, "low hanging fruit" because the roundabouts and extension are less expensive than the connectivity of 6700 Road. The Hillcrest improvements also serve to showcase the area that is being promoted as the gateway to the city.

Staff Reports, Public Information Officer Report – City Manager Bill Bell.

Earlier in the day Bell and the department heads met and planned out activities for 2017, "Our goal as a staff is to focus on existing programs...analyze what we are currently doing and fine tune what we have going for us rather than having new things. We really want to hear from

residents and want to reach county residents because they also pay city sales tax."

The staff is contemplating a multi-year budget rather than doing a budget one year at a time, which they feel will help with strategic and long range planning. Presenting the timeline for discussing the multi-year budgeting process Bell said, "Finance [department] and staff should have a plan laid out by the end of January."

City council will be included in the discussion in February and citizen input will be solicited toward the end of February, or the first of March.

Absent from the information given was any reference to the need to change the City Charter in order to allow a multi-year budget.

A multi-year budget appeals to the city staff; however, it has the potential to hamstring newly-elected officials by locking them into a budget approved by their predecessors.

Conceivably the person holding the two-year At-Large position might never have the opportunity to weigh in on a budget, thus negating representation for citizens.



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ISSUE 79 Jan. 9, 2017

ART & SOL

PAINTING WINDOWS ON THE WORLD...ARTIST JUNE ESTEP

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-As you go about your day running errands, going to work or picking up your kids from school, you may notice various businesses around Montrose with beautifully painted windows. Whether it be your local car dealership, a Downtown store or even the Montrose Memorial Hospital, June Estep is the creative mind behind many of the painted window artworks dotted around town.

Owner of Estep Decorative Painting (which is 'Just a shade better'), Estep started her painting business in Montrose ten years ago, before that painting windows in Norwood for several years. "I owned a business in Norwood and painted my windows," she explained. "Another merchant asked me to paint their windows and at first I said, 'no, I can't!' But they said, 'yes, you can.' It turned out to be a lot of fun and a lot of work, as you have to concentrate to do a good job in the time that you have to work in."

With a wide range of different businesses in Montrose featuring her paintings (from restaurants to banks, insurance agencies to clothing stores), Estep also does painted windows for a few businesses in Delta, Cedaredge and Grand Junction. In the past she has also done work in Ouray,

Ridgway and even Silverton.

Estep adapts and changes her designs from just being a seasonal image to being specific for a particular business' needs. Her inspiration comes from whatever season we are currently in. "In Colorado, we love the four seasons, we capture them in our heart," she said. "So I put them on a window and people love it."

During the Christmas season, Estep loved pulling ideas from around her. "Montrose was of incredible inspiration to me, with the beautiful red ribbons and greenery," she said. "It made everyone feel like they were living in a painting."

Currently, Estep is busy taking down her Christmas paintings and preparing for the next batch of Winter holidays. "Winter holidays are important," she said. "While I love the colors of Winter, the grays and blues, every now and then you need a pop of color, like red, pink, purple and, for St. Patrick's Day, vibrant green. Color affects how we see [things] and it makes people feel happy."

Some specific features that will be included in her upcoming paintings are different animals such as flamingos, swans and woodland creatures. To bring in more of a Valentine's Day feel, she will incorporate animals in heart shapes, lace and



Window art is based on the seasons and holidays. Courtesy photo June Estep.

flowery hearts. Also balloons, which Estep considers fun to paint, "They are so noticeable and people love seeing balloons, it makes them happy," she said.

As for what her favorite thing is to paint, she said, "If I could only paint one thing and do it well, it would be foliage and flowers. I also like to do paintings to look like chalkboard. That's fun."

Continued next page

PAINTING WINDOWS ON THE WORLD...From previous page

While window painting is a big part of what Estep does, she has also moved into more permanent forms of art. "When people say they want my paintings, I say buy one of my bowls," she said, laughing. "With windows, nothing is permanent, so I started painting glassware, which people can find at Country Flair."

When she starts a job, meeting face to face with people is key for Estep. "It's important to hear what people are saying," she explained. "Sometimes I do quick signage, use the

painting to announce a sale, or they sometimes just give me design control. I use certain elements of the old, vintage look and the new. I just mix it up and have a lot of fun with it."

"I'm real happy when I'm in front of windows painting them," she added. "It's a lot of fun and the sidewalk traffic will stop and talk, sharing what they enjoyed most about the painting. I meet a lot of people who say, 'I know you from here or there.' So I have some sort of following and it's nice."

So when you see Estep out painting windows, stop and say hi. She would love to meet you.

For more information, call Estep at 417-6763.



Artist June Estep mixes old and new elements in her designs for local window paintings. Courtesy photos.



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**Always digging for
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now weekly

Making sure readers don't bury their heads in the sand.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: AG EDUCATION

SUSTAINABLE AG CONFERENCE ATTRACTS LOCAL AND NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKERS

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-As farmers and ranchers seek innovative ways to maintain profitability while providing nutrient dense food, hundreds will converge in Montrose January 20 – 21 for the Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum.

With the goal of improving the sustainable production, consumption and marketing of local food, the conference features locally and nationally known speakers.

Twenty-two workshops are offered in the areas of crops, livestock, specialty crops, marketing and management. "The diversity of topics allows us to showcase best practices in the region, state and nation. This draws a variety of producers to network with throughout the conference. Scholarships for beginning farmers, 4-H and FFA students attract a strong youth contingency that has become a conference hallmark," says organizer Carol Parker.

Well-known local producers provide a wealth of regionally relevant information. Successful organic farmer Steve Ela of Ela Family Farms in Hotchkiss will discuss how to build a marketing program, product list, and market niche. Brendon Rockey of Rockey Farms based in the San Luis Valley

presents, *Carbon to Cash* and demonstrates how creating a healthy soil carbon cycle can result in economic profits. Both from Montrose County, Jim Elder shares his expertise in berry farming and Brandon Creamer of Lazy JB Angus Ranch shares innovative ways to market livestock.

Regional soil health specialist, Rudy Garcia focuses on how to improve irrigated vegetable production in saline soils and Sajun Polsom of Laid Back Ranch in Norwood presents a session on pastured poultry with an update on current regulations. Doug Wiley of Larga Vista Farm near Pueblo provides an overview on maintaining livestock health using alternative practices and Larry Traubel of Cedaredge shares tips on how to start and maintain a viable orchard.

Water law, market trends, grant opportunities and food safety requirements are also topics offered as breakout sessions.

Made legal in 2012 with the passage of Amendment 64, industrial hemp production may be of special interest. Resources being developed by CSU will be presented along with practical advice from western slope producers.

On Friday, Greg Judy, author of *No Risk Ranching* and *Comeback Farms*, hosts a half-day pre-conference workshop on

profitable ranching and mob grazing techniques. On Saturday Judy leads a session on how production increases when more solar energy is harvested using multi-species grazing.

Rodale Institute, the oldest organic research organization in the US, presents a half-day pre-conference workshop, *Maximizing Nutrient Density to Improve Production and Health Outcomes*, led by Andrew Smith, PhD. Smith presents a session Saturday on how vegetable producers can gain a competitive edge and boost crop yields using cover crops and roller crimping technology.

Also Friday, the National Young Farmers Coalition hosts a half-day workshop *Water Boot Camp*.

Topics include the history of Colorado water law, ins and outs of local irrigation administration, policy and funding that impact your irrigation decisions, and what you need to know about irrigation water.

The Valley Food Partnership, CSU Extension, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, National Young Farmers Coalition and Shavano Conservation District organize the conference collaboratively.

For a complete list of topics, scholarship applications or to register visit: foodfarmforum.org or call 249-3935.



The Center for Mental Health welcomes Jennifer Murdock!

Jen is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner who specializes in psychiatric mental health. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay and then earned her Master of Science degree at Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI. She is board certified with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

Jen has a passion for psychiatric mental health care and recognizes the need for sensitivity, compassion, and understanding that is essential when working with clients across the lifespan. Jen enjoys the outdoors and moved to the Montrose area to take advantage of Colorado's sunny days so she has better opportunities to experience long hikes, disc golfing, biking, rafting, and spending quality time with her partner, new friends, and her dog.

We are very excited to welcome Jen to our team!

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: RIDGWAY COHOUSING!

CO-HOUSING EXPERT TO SPEAK AT THE SHERBINO

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-While the idea of cohousing is centuries old, in the last few decades cohousing communities are springing up with greater regularity around the globe. There are now hundreds in the US and several around Colorado with more in the works.

A group of Ridgway residents is looking into the possibility of starting one here and has invited cohousing expert Katie McCamant to speak on the possibilities at the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway on 12 January.

Cohousing, sometimes referred to as intentional housing, involves a number of individuals and families working together to build private homes clustered around a

shared space. The houses may be single or attached town houses, and have the all the amenities of traditional homes. The shared space around the houses usual includes a common house which can include a large shared kitchen and dining area, library, entertainment room, laundry, workshop, extra guest rooms, and whatever other common rooms the group decides. Walkways, open space, garages and gardening areas are also common.

Individual cohousing communities are usually built around shared values and so the particular look of cohousing communities can be quite varied. Individual households have independent incomes and private lives, but neighbors work together to manage the shared community spaces and

plan activities such as shared meals, parties, games, and outings. They can include young couple starting families to retirees, thus needs from child care to elder care can be met by the community as a whole.


McCamant, who has helped start and develop over 50 cohousing communities, will begin her talk at 7:30 and a \$10 coverage donation is asked to support the Sherbino. Her book, written with her husband Chuck Durrett, ***Creating Cohousing: Building Sustainable Communities***, is now in its second printing.

More information about her organization can be found at www.cohousing-solutions.com. For more information about this event call Gail Jensen, 626-5002.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & RECREATION

MATTER OF BALANCE CLASSES: NEXT SESSION BEGINS JAN. 26

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Touch of Care and Region 10's Area Agency on Aging are bringing Matter of Balance classes to older adults throughout Region 10. The Matter of Balance classes are available for a donation only to anyone age 60 and older who is concerned about falling. This program is Evidence-Based, which means it has been proven effective in university studies to reduce the fear of falling. This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage

falls.

Each Matter of Balance class includes eight, two-hour sessions. The next Montrose class begins on Thursday, Jan. 26, at Montrose County Health and Human Services, 1845 South Townsend Avenue, in Montrose, and will be held weekly from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. every Thursday through March 16, 2017.

Registration is required, and classes are limited to the first 12 participants. To register, please contact Touch of Care at

970-249-6080, or Toll Free at 1-866-874-6115. For additional information on these classes, please contact:

Touch of Care
1100 East Main Street
Montrose, CO 81401
www.touchofcarepcp.com
April Martinez or Juli Messenger
970.249.6080

april@touchofcarepcp.com; jmessenger@touchofcarepcp.com or follow us on Facebook.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR WESTERN COLORADO STUDENTS **ALL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WC-CF.ORG**

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION – The Western Colorado Community Foundation (WCCF) is accepting applications for a wide variety of scholarships available to students residing in western Colorado.

A total of 32 different scholarship funds managed by WCCF are available to students through one online application at www.wc-cf.org. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$5,000+ and many are renewable

for up to four years.

Criteria varies from financial need, to GPA scores, to chosen field of study and covers both four year degree programs and vocational institutions.

Deadline for applying is March 1, 2017.

For more information contact Cecile Aday at 970.243.3767.

In 2016, WCCF committed \$722,125 in scholarship awards, paid out over the next four years, to help 95 students from West-

ern Slope counties attend college and pursue their dreams.

The Western Colorado Community Foundation serves seven counties in western Colorado, managing charitable funds for community good.

Currently, the Community Foundation manages 230 charitable funds totaling nearly \$60 million in assets and awards over \$2 million in grants and scholarships annually.

ROSEMONT CHURCH OFFERS AWANA EVERY WEDNESDAY

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Join AWANA EVERY WEDNESDAY @ Rosemont Church 1598 E Niagara Rd Montrose CO. Free Awana Clubs for Pre-school—6th Grade. Every Wednesday beginning Jan. 18, 2017. We will have snacks/meal, certified teachers & tutors. 2:15- 3:30 pm - Homework/Tutoring/Study Time. Middle and High school students are welcome! 3:30- 5: pm - AWANA for Grades Preschool - 6th grade. 5- 5:30 pm - Meal provided for all Awana kids & adults present. Register/more info at 970.249.4887, email: office@rosemontbaptist.org or at www.RosemontBaptist/Awana.

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Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

THE PASSING OF A DEAR FRIEND

GERNOT HEINRICHSORFF

... Life is mysterious, where it takes us and who develops into our friends. Gernot was a dear friend. He and his wife Ava became Colorado surrogates for the grandparents I never had on either side of my family ... His was a wild life. Drafted into the Luftwaffe as a young man, he was forced to fight on the Russian front, and after being wounded managed to make it to American zone, where he was captured and detained (the Russians didn't take many prisoners) ... Released, he became a landscape architect, like his mother – the first woman in Germany to pursue that craft. She lived on the North Sea and managed to save two Jewish boys who came to her youth camp, and stayed throughout the war – hiding as Gernot's "brothers" while he was in the military ... Emigrating to America, he ended up in Colorado Springs and married Ava, the amazing Hungarian-American daughter of celebrated concert violist Ferenc Molnar, who had emigrated himself to the U.S. in 1926 ... Throughout his career Gernot taught courses and workshops in landscape design, wrote articles, and was a popular guest speaker, as well as a working sculptor.

Before the term "xeriscape" existed, he specialized in indigenous materials and water-conserving designs. His projects range from Colorado, Texas, New Mexico and Wyoming to Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand. Besides residential and commercial landscapes they include city and regional parks, national monuments, creative playgrounds, greenways, traffic islands, indoor gardens, campgrounds, schools, churches, and 16 environmental communities. He was a "design-build" landscape architect who designed and installed his own projects, often single-handedly ... As a sculptor he worked primarily in concrete, expressing natural rock



Courtesy photo of Gernot Heinrichsdorff.

formations and water effects inspired by the Colorado Plateau, Grand Canyon's formations, and lava flows. He created inlaid concrete and rock sculptures and panels, fountains, stream beds, decorative walls and "cliffs," artistic garden furniture, and sculptures of exquisite driftwood. Many of his exhibits in garden shows won awards ... In the 1970s Gernot was featured in *Sunset* magazine and listed in *Who's Who in Texas* for his creative playgrounds. In the 1980s and 1990s his gardens were again featured in *Sunset* magazine and several other publications. *Town and Country* listed him as one of America's notable landscape architects. For his many contributions he continued to win awards for his landscapes, including the Horticultural Arts Society's Cannell Award in 1995 ... He is best known to us on the Western Slope as the designer and builder of *Infinite Nature*, the Courtyard of the Science Building at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, for which he was awarded the national Excellence in Landscape Merit Award by the Associated Landscape Contractors of America. In 2001 Gernot was given the Award of Excellence in Xeriscape from the A.L.C.A. for the Boulder Place Demonstration Garden, and a second award for *Infinite Nature* ... He inspired everyone who came in contact with him – co-workers, employees, outré poets like myself. As his wife Ava noted, "Most of his clients became cherished friends who valued Gernot's imagination, humor, wise perspective and generosity." Although I wasn't a client, I valued Gernot for all those same marvelous qualities ... Although he insisted "no funeral, no flowers" in his memory, it will be the man himself that will live on to inspire me in overcoming hardship, respecting nature and in that mysterious process of creative imagining.

THEATER ... My oldest son and I have been having a discussion about theater after watching a frenetic if enthusiastic production of *Peter & the Starcatcher* in Telluride early last month on the postage stamp vaudeville stage at the Sheridan Opera House ... When it comes to critical opinions, I'm a big fan of the Latin dictum, *De*

Gustibus. Which is short for *De gustibus non disputandum est*. That is, "Concerning tastes it is not to be disputed." I've cut short many a preferential insistence of opinion with that simple phrase, and saved hours of useless argumentation ... But my son was not impressed with the show that went too fast, lost too many funny lines, and tried to shoehorn too much into a cramped historic space. And so he sent me a long diatribe from one Javier Marias in the on-line *Threepenny Review* about "Why I Hate Theater." While it appears to have been directed at his local Spanish theater scene in Madrid, its provocative title played big in the context of our discussion ... Here was a reputable critic arguing for the primacy of film, with its polished techniques, over the sloppy, often unbelievable conceits that the stage forces upon an audience. As one who has grown up with film as "the poetry of the age," as one professor insisted in college, I'm not immune to that perspective. After all, it was the avant-garde cinema of the Telluride Film Festival that first brought me to the San Juans ... But as the oldest son of a veteran community theater star out in Silicon Valley, as I explained last week, I've been exposed to some great theater. I had the privilege of serving as usher in New Haven's legendary Shubert Theater back when Jason Robards starred in *A Thousand Clowns*. I've been privileged to catch John Douglas Thompson in *Satchmo at the Waldorf* at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Saw a marvelous rendition of David Adjmi's *Marie Antoinette* at the Edge Theater in Lake-wood this past October (Missy Moore as Marie and Christian Mast as Louis the XVI were both extraordinary).

All of which is to say if you've seen the best professional theater, nothing cinematic can really compare. You are once again thrown into that tribal hearth on a winter night watching a master storyteller weave the air into myth ... Nothing framed and flickering on celluloid can match the surround sound immediacy and intimacy of theater. Or at least that's what I believe. You may not agree. But then "De gustibus," that's okay.

Up Bear Creek from previous page

THE TALKING GOURD

Local Politics

I turn away from those who know
what is right, no matter how
right they are. Or left.

-Danny Rosen
from *Primate Poems* (Lithic Press, 2016)

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

KAFM RADIO PRESENTS GALLERY 88.1: A CELEBRATION OF GRAND VALLEY ART AND COMMUNITY

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-On Jan. 21 & 28, KAFM radio presents Gallery 88.1 –A celebration of Grand Valley art and community. This is a feast for the eyes! Just what you would expect when KAFM Community Radio and the art community meet. KAFM Community Radio hosts the second annual Gallery 88.1 live auction, a celebration of local art and artists, Jan. 21 to Jan. 28, 2017. This year's auction is sponsored by Studio 2138's owners Andre Delgalvis, fine art photographer/author and Susan Delgalvis, painter.

Gallery 88.1 is an event celebrating local art of the Grand Valley starting January 21, 2017 with a Member, Media and Artist mixer from 5 to 8 PM in the KAFM Radio Room. The Artists gather to meet the press and KAFM members where everyone will enjoy appetizers provided by Palisade Café 11.0, wine from Stoney Mesa Winery, beer from Palisade Brewery and champagne while previewing the work of sixty local artists!

This year's event includes over 90 works of art to be auctioned off during the live auction on Jan. 28. The evening begins at 5pm with a champagne reception, wine

from Grande River Vineyards and appetizers from Bin 707. The live auction begins promptly at 7 PM with auctioneer Jill Harbert from Boots and Lace auctioneering. This is an event not to be missed. Not only is it an opportunity to view amazing works of local art, but also to support local artists and KAFM Community Radio with your purchase.

There will be live radio interviews of Artists all during the week of Jan. 21 through Jan. 28 and their art can be previewed on the KAFM website with a link to the artist's home page and their bio. A preview open to the public will be on Friday Jan. 27 from 5 to 7 PM. If you are unable to attend this event absentee ballots are available online at kafmradio.org and at KAFM radio at 1310 Ute Avenue during office hours. Pre-bids can also be made during the week of exhibition. A percentage of the auction proceeds from the art work will go to support KAFM Radio.

"We're so thankful for the support of our local art community," noted Ramona Winkler, the Executive Director of KAFM Community Radio.

"The Gallery 88.1 Live auction will be an

amazing event that allows us to provide 365 days of coverage for our regional art community. Contact Betty Ries at (970)241-8801, extension 0 for more information about the Gallery 88.1 live auction event.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & RECREATION

FISHFUL THINKER TV FILMED UPCOMING SEASON AT COLORADO STATE PARKS



Courtesy photo CPW.

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER - Fishful Thinker TV, a documentary-style show for western anglers, is showcasing Colorado state parks and wildlife areas this season. The show will feature a realistic cross-section of the fishing opportunities available in the state. This season premieres Jan. 7 at 9:30 a.m. MST on the Altitude Sports and Entertainment network.

"Colorado Parks and Wildlife's mission aligns with our goal at Fishful Thinker TV

to educate people about the breadth of public resources and how best to enjoy them," said Chad LaChance, host of Fishful Thinker TV. "I'm excited about this opportunity to further spread the word about Colorado outdoor activities to anglers in Colorado and surrounding states."

Colorado has 42 state parks, 37 of which offer angling opportunities. The upcoming season of Fishful Thinker will feature locations in multiple state wildlife areas and state parks, including South Delaney Buttes State Wildlife Area, Cherry Creek State Park, Lake Pueblo State Park, Navajo State Park, Collier State Wildlife Area, John Martin State Park, Echo Canyon State Wildlife Area, State Forest State Park, Jackson Lake State Park, Stagecoach State Park, Steamboat Lake State Park, Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, North Delaney State Wildlife Area, Two Buttes State Wildlife Area, Lathrop State Park, and Yampa River State Park as well as other Colorado waters.

"We love showing off our state park and look forward to seeing Fishful Thinker TV showcase the angling options we offer," said Jason Trujillo, park manager at Cherry Creek State Park.

In the episode filmed at Cherry Creek State Park, LaChance catches walleye and fillets and cooks it on the spot.

Episodes of Fishful Thinker TV air on the Altitude Sports and Entertainment network every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. MST and will repeat regularly throughout the week. Fishful Thinker TV will also air nationally on the World Fishing Network later in 2017 and it is available to stream through the MyOutdoorTV app.

Entering its sixteenth season, Fishful Thinker TV is for anglers who want to experience what it's like to fish in a variety of public water locations. The show focuses on angler education first and foremost, choosing locations by the best and most diverse fishing opportunities. For more information, visit fishfulthinker.com.

CPW: COYOTES MAY BE MORE TERRITORIAL IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER - If it seems that coyotes are less tolerant of human presence during the months of January and February, there is a biological reason: this is their breeding season. As coyotes pair up to breed, they may be more territorial than usual and defend their space as they carve out a place to have their young. Citizens are well-advised to be aware of their presence and the potential for conflicts with humans in metro and rural areas. "In addition to transferring disease, unfortunately, coyotes can see our pets as a prey source; so pet owners need to be extra diligent about protecting their animals," said Liza Hunholz, area wildlife manager for Denver.

Coyotes are omnivores and eat everything from bird seed to rodents, berries to garbage, and sometimes free-roaming cats and dogs. But Coloradans can share the landscape with these wild neighbors by

following three important tips:

- 1) Don't feed wildlife!
- 2) Protect your pets!
- 3) Haze coyotes when you see them!

CPW recommends that all dog owners take the following precautions:

- Always supervise your pet outside, especially at dawn and dusk.
- Keep your dog on a short leash while recreating, even in areas where off leash is allowed—avoid retractable leashes.
- Do not allow your dog to play or interact with a coyote.
- If possible, pick up your dog when coyotes are visible.
- Avoid potential den sites and thick vegetation.
- If you must leave your dog outside, secure it in a fully enclosed kennel.

In addition, cat owners should recognize that the only way to guarantee your cat's safety is to keep it indoors. Outdoor cats

also face potential death from cars, diseases, foxes, parasites, raccoons, dogs, and birds of prey, such as owls. Although naturally curious, coyotes are usual timid animals and normally run away if confronted. However, more than 25 people have been bitten by coyotes in the Denver metro area since 2007. Coyote attacks on humans are rare and can usually be traced to people feeding them, a nearby den site where a coyote might feel threatened, or another canine or pet in a coyote's presence. If you witness a coyote or coyotes behaving aggressively, please report the incident to a local Colorado Parks and Wildlife office as soon as possible. If you are bitten or scratched by a coyote seek medical attention immediately. For more information on coyotes, go to:

<http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/LivingwithWildlifeCoyote.aspx>.

Be sure to check out the Helpful Links.



NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

FROM SOUND TO EMOTION...MUSICAL ALCHEMY

Something must draw us to music other than simple sounds. An instrument or voice producing a note is acoustics and mechanics. A bow moving across a string, the strike of a mallet against a bell, the vibration of vocal cords, or the air moving through a length of brass or wood. A simple equation of $1+2=3$ that ends with a sound entering our ears...it is at this very point where the meaning of music changes and becomes personal and tangible. Ask someone why he or she likes country music and they may reply, "I like the way Merle Haggard sounds." Great, but this is not enough to explain why a certain kind of music catches our attention and never lets go. The visceral that can be difficult to explain. It is at this junction of explanation where we begin to truly explore what various kinds of music mean to us as individuals. It should come as no surprise that this topic will be explored further using opera, classical music, and chamber music as examples. We will begin with the most intimate and move towards the most lavish and grand.

Chamber music is a conversation between a few close friends in a setting that is quiet and comfortable. It is an exchange of ideas that are agreed upon and that may cause conflict within the small group. The conversation is played out with passion and emotion but always with a level of respect that leaves no one person out of the dialogue. It is the dispersal of thoughts into different directions with only a single silvery spider web of connection remaining and this thread is stretched to its most taut state and yet hangs on with an unseen power. It is the conversation moving in the same direc-

tions when on all participants are in sync and agreeing vociferously on the topic at hand. A conversation between a few friends will have moments of heightened volumes and moments of quiet contemplation. There will be interruptions when one participant simply cannot wait to make a point or to agree or disagree with something that was just stated by another member of the group. An intelligent conversation often comes to its conclusion with a sense of satisfaction and resolution. This is the very essence of chamber music. It is what brings players and listeners back to the conversation over and over again. It speaks to all involved in a way that is best described by the music itself and not through the use of words. Words are in no way sufficient when it comes to this musical conversation.

A symphonic work performed by a large orchestra is our next stop. The tenets of the conversation remain the same but are simply grander in scale and often in length. The participants are greater in number and offer different personalities to the conversation. One person may be heard and singled out, but sections of like-minded people with the same thoughts play against other sections with completely different ideas and goals. Instead of an intimate conversation around a table we are now dealing with voices being heard in mass. The volume is greater and so are the ever so important periods of silence. For those who may be eavesdropping this large conversation will bring to mind visions of everything from quaint pastoral settings to the front lines on the battlefields of war. The conversation is not always clear at first but becomes more clear as the



listener allows himself to become part of the sounds and to let the music do what it does best. Set a scene through sound and bring the listener on board for the journey. This is the essence of classical music.

Opera is a conversation on the grandest scale and is a beautiful assault on the senses. The players are large in number and the conversation is most often based on the unseen background and history of those involved. Family history and drama that has gone on through the ages and has never even at one single point approached anything resembling a resolution. The parts that make up an opera are vital characters in the story and without one the others will fall flat or their impact will be meaningless and without direction. Costumes, a chorus, lighting, stage design, an orchestra, a conductor, a back story, stage direction, the composer, the librettist, and of course the individuals singers who bring the conversation to life through the way of epic storytelling. Murder, lust, sex, incest, intrigue, betrayal, passion, jealousy, illness, magic potions, magic animals, heads on spikes, poverty, wealth, humor, laughter, and madness. This is the conversation of opera, and why people love this art form.

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

JANUARY ONGOING-

AWANA EVERY WEDNESDAY: @ Rosemont Church 1598 E Niagara Rd Montrose CO. FREE Awana Clubs for Preschool—6th Grade. EVERY WEDNESDAY beginning January 18, 2017. We will have snacks/meal, certified teachers & tutors. 2:15- 3:30 pm - Homework/Tutoring/Study Time. Middle and High school students are welcome! 3:30- 5: pm - AWANA for Grades Preschool - 6th grade. 5- 5:30 pm - Meal provided for all Awana kids & adults present. Register/more info at 970.249.4887, email: office@rosemontbaptist.org or at www.RosemontBaptist/Awana.

MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER LUNCH & LEARN: \$3 lunch & Learn, admission to program, is free. Lunch \$5. Programs are Dec. 8 and Dec. 12 @ Noon.

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-

Jan. 9-Groundbreaking Indoor Arena and Events Center (northeast end of Montrose County Fairgrounds) 11 am--luncheon following in the Pioneer Room at the Fairgrounds.

Jan. 10- 11:30 am Montrose County Commissioners-elect Rash and Caddy swearing-in ceremony; followed by a brief BOCC meeting at 12:15 pm and a luncheon in the County Administration Office.

Jan. 10- Alpine Photography Club meets Tuesday, Jan. 10, 7 p.m. @: St. Mary Catholic Church, 1855 St. Mary's Drive, Montrose, St. Paul Room. Presentation: Photography Gadget/Gear Show & Tell. All are welcome to attend.

Jan. 11-The CSU Ag outlook and strategy forum will be held in Montrose at Friendship Hall from 11 am to 2:30 pm and lunch will be provided. **Registration is required** and fees are \$30 online and \$35 by phone. To register online go to <https://2017agoutlook.eventbrite.com> by phone call (970) 522-7207 and ask for Rebecca.

Jan. 11-Learn to Trap: Attend an informational workshop sponsored by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Montrose, 6-8 p.m., Jan. 11. The class will be held at the CPW office in Montrose, 2300 S. Townsend Ave. This is an introductory course for participants to learn the basics of successfully setting cage traps. The class is free but will be limited to 25 people. Registration is required. To register, call the Montrose CPW office at 970-252-6000.

Jan. 11—Citizens' Climate Lobby meets @ 6:30 p.m. Do your part this New Year for Mother Earth to mitigate climate change. Citizens' Climate Lobby is a nonpartisan, national network to influence legislators to pay attention to climate change. Monthly meetings held in Centennial room behind Montrose City Hall, off plaza. Open to all.

Jan. 12-Cohousing expert Katie McCamant, who has helped start and develop over 50 cohousing communities, will begin her talk at 7:30 and a \$10 coverage donation is asked to support the Sherbino. Her book, written with her husband Chuck Durrett, **Creating Cohousing: Building Sustainable Communities**, is now in its second printing. More information about her organization can be found at www.cohousing—solutions.com. For more information about this event call Gail Jensen, 626-5002.

Jan. 13-Connect for Health Walk-in Enrollment. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 121 North Park Avenue, Montrose.

Jan 18-On Wednesday, Jan.18, local archaeologist and author Steven Baker will trace the 1765 Spanish exploring expedition of Diego Rivera through Southwest Colorado, in an illustrated talk on the route of this historic visit across Montrose and Delta county. Drawing from the translated journals of the expedition, he will present the highlights of the trip and Rivera's observations on the archaeology of the area, as well as research into the location of Roubidoux's 1828 trading post on the Gunnison river near present day Delta. The meeting is at 7 p.m. at United Methodist Church, Baldrige Hall, 19 S. Park Street, Montrose. The public is invited (no charge/donation accepted); new members are always welcome.

Jan. 19-An open house and formal presentation on Thursday, Jan. 19, will review the work completed through the Lower Montrose Brownfields Assessment Grant project. The open house will be from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Proximity Space (201 E Main). A formal presentation will be given at 4:15 p.m. with the remaining time designated for public input. For more information, contact Program Coordinator Erica Weeks at (970) 497-8525, or visit the project website at www.cityofmontrose.org/LoMo.

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.

Jan. 21-Hoop Shoot for Youth Ages 8 to 13 – Saturday Jan. 21, 2017 at 10 am @ Montrose Elks Lodge Gym. The Elks Hoop Shoot is a **free throw contest** for all children aged 8 to 13. The program is free to all Contestants and provides youth an opportunity to compete, connect, and succeed through hard work and healthy competition.

Give Back Days

At Mi Mexico Mexican Restaurant

Come enjoy a delicious meal and we'll donate 20% *
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1st Wednesday: The Homestead at Montrose

2nd Wednesday: All Points Transit

3rd Wednesday: Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club

4th Wednesday: Valley Manor Care Center

5th Wednesday: Community Options Inc.

(Note: 5th Wed dates are: Mar. 29, May 31, Aug. 30, Nov 29th, 2017)

*After dining, attach the coupon to the bill
and deposit it in the box labeled
"Give Back Days." 20% of your total
bill will be donated to the
designated charity.*

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NOW DELICIOUSLY
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**Mi Mexico Restaurant
1706 E Main St (Hwy 50)
Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 252-1000
(970) 252-1111 Fax**

*Coupon must be present

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

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Photo by Gail Marvel.

MONTROSE-At the farewell event for outgoing Montrose County Commissioners David White and Ron Henderson on Jan. , Jim Elder, at right, chats with Jacqueline Davis and Lu Anne Tyrrell.



Do you need health insurance for 2017?

Walk-in and get enrolled!

No appointment necessary

Friday, January 13th

9am – 4pm

121 North Park Avenue

*Medicaid Assistance Available

*Se habla Español

Open Enrollment ends January 31st!

970-252-0660

