



THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 222, May 22 2017

GT BUSTIN BRINGS 'SENISIM PASIN' TO MONTROSE



PNG Tribal Foundation Founder Gary Bustin brings the film *Senisim Pasin* to San Juan Cinema in Montrose on May 24. Mirror staff photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The United Nations reports that, "Violence against women and girls is not confined to any particular political or economic system, but it is prevalent in every society in the world. It cuts across boundaries of wealth, race and culture."

Here in Montrose, one man is fighting back on behalf of one culture, and at the same time creating a model for change. Montrose resident and PNG Tribal Foundation Founder Gary Bustin has been instrumental in changing the culture of Papua New Guinea (PNG), where he was raised. On May 24, the beautiful film created as part of an ongoing awareness campaign, *Senisim Pasin*, will screen at San Juan Cinema at 7 p.m. While seats are going fast, additional showings will be added as needed, Bustin said. A question and answer session will follow the movie.

"You do have to have tickets, because we don't

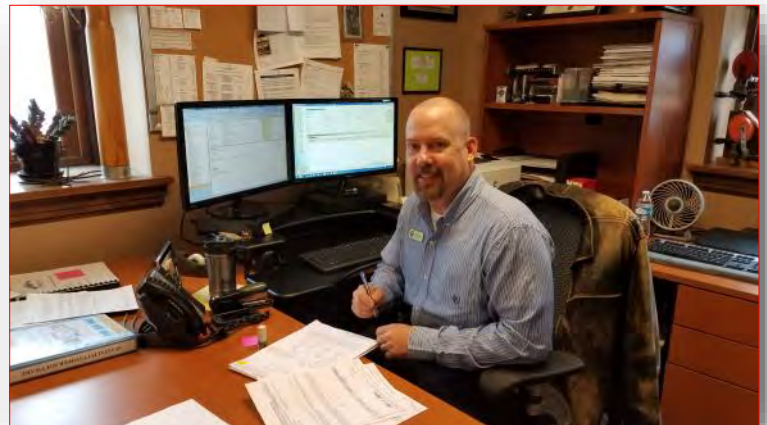
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CLOCK IS TICKING ON PROPERTY TAX APPEALS

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose County taxpayers recently received their 2017 Real Property Notice of Valuation and those who disagree with the valuation have until June 1 to appeal. Appeals cannot be made by phone, but must be made in writing, by email or in person.

Montrose County Assessor Brad Hughes said, "It's starting to pick up. We have almost 200 we're processing now and most of those are residential. Commercial property has not increased as much."



Montrose County Assessor Brad Hughes. Photo by Gail Marvel.

On average it takes about an hour and a half to process an appeal. Hughes said, "This is what we do in June. It is a busy, but short period of time." While some appeals are simple, as in the case of vacant land, a field inspection can be involved and more time consuming. "When we have a field inspection in the West End we try to schedule more than one." The county has four appraisers--five counting the assessor--and determinations on appeals will be sent out to taxpayers by June 30.

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Photos by Jen McClanahan!*](#)

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP: CROSS AND SPURS COWBOY FELLOWSHIP



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-Fellowship is the opportune word for the Cross and Spurs Cowboy Fellowship which has a potluck dinner following each service. On March 26th there were 12 people present and while putting the food on the tables for later in the evening it became obvious that for some folks the spirit was willing, but the flesh was weak. A raspberry filled doughnut, a chocolate frosted long-john and an oatmeal raisin cookie were all consumed even before the service started.

Pastor Terry Hedrick, known simply as Pastor Terry, welcomed attendees and opened the service with a "Yahoo yippy." Frank Vigil played guitar and led the song service which consisted of hymns, praise songs and special music. Vigil not only introduced song selections, but shared personal insight and sermonettes throughout the song service. Leading into the first two songs Vigil said, "Life and death are in

the power of the tongue. This little thing called a tongue blesses and curses." The selections that followed were, "How Excellent is Your Name" and "My Life is in You Lord." Vigil said, "A blessed time is coming soon when everyone is looking for something big and fabulous. When you get to heaven you get a crown of jewels that you get to lay at the feet of Jesus. Your mind isn't yours, your heart isn't yours...they belong to God. You give your all to God — your body, mind, your will. The only thing that will live forever is your spirit and even that belongs to God." The accompanying songs were, "We Shall See the King When He Comes" and "There's Just Something About That Name." Rather than performance, Vigil sings from his heart, "I don't play this very often... because I'm not real good at it. It's called "Revelation Song." In the 1960's it was what was going on in the world and it became popular again in the 1990's. It's a secular song and some of the stuff in it is not really good for the church...but it's the truth." With a booming voice Pastor Terry

minced no words as he jumped into the sermon, "People study end-times and eschatology [the part of theology concerned with death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul]. I simply say, "Folks are you ready?" Not one of us are promised tomorrow...not even our next breath."

Basing the sermon on Jesus' claim to be the Bread of Life the pastor used various passages of Scripture that spoke about bread — feeding the 5,000, Satan's temptation of Jesus in the wilderness with bread, and the showbread in the temple. Terry said, "Any day I'll give Jesus my two fish and five loaves of bread and live on the leftovers."

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God and Terry said, "The will of God is in the Word of God. That's all you need to know...you become what you eat. The will of God is already written down for you."

Referring to those Jews who were still looking for the Messiah Terry said, "They misunderstood who Jesus was. He's going to come again like he did the first time. The reason they didn't recognize him was that they didn't know him." The pastor challenged the audience, "Get lost in His Word. Take time to sit back and just be with Jesus. The book of John is a good place to start, or go to the Old Testament and just see how many places you can see Jesus — creation, the prophets, the lineage. How will we recognize him? By the Word written in our hearts!"

Contact Info:

Cross and Spurs Cowboy Fellowship Meets 6:00 p.m. at Montrose County Fairgrounds

Pioneer Room at Friendship Hall

1001 North 2nd Street

Montrose, CO

Pastor Terry Hedrick 970-778-8516



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Note: Opinion/Editorial letters & Commentary do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Mirror owners or contributors. We do welcome all points of view and encourage contributions. 970-275-0646

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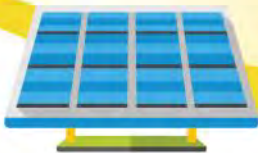
MIRROR LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Official Notice of the
Annual Meeting of the Members of
Delta-Montrose Electric Association

Notice is hereby given of the 2017
Annual Meeting of the Members of
Delta-Montrose Electric Association,
to be held on **Thursday, June 15,**

2017 at the Hotchkiss High School,
438 Bulldog Street, Hotchkiss, Colo-
rado, for the purpose of electing
members to the Board of Directors,
passing upon reports covering the
calendar year 2016, and for trans-
acting such other business as may
properly come before the meeting.
Registration will be held between
4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and the
Business Meeting will begin at 6:30
p.m. The following Board of Director
candidates ran unopposed and, pur-
suant to Association bylaws regard-
ing entirely uncontested elections,
will be deemed to have been elected
at the Annual Meeting: Mark Eckhart
(Region 7), John Gavan (North Re-
gion), and Damon Lockhart (Region
6).



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TREE BRANCH REMOVAL EFFORTS CONTINUE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Street crews are collecting
branches alongside the roadway, follow-
ing the snow storm May 17. This operation
will resume on Monday, May 22. Residents
should place branches alongside the curb
for collection prior to this time.

Contact Ryan Cushenan, Street Division
Superintendent, at (970) 240-1482 with
questions.



MONTROSE ELKS LODGE: ELK TRACKS!



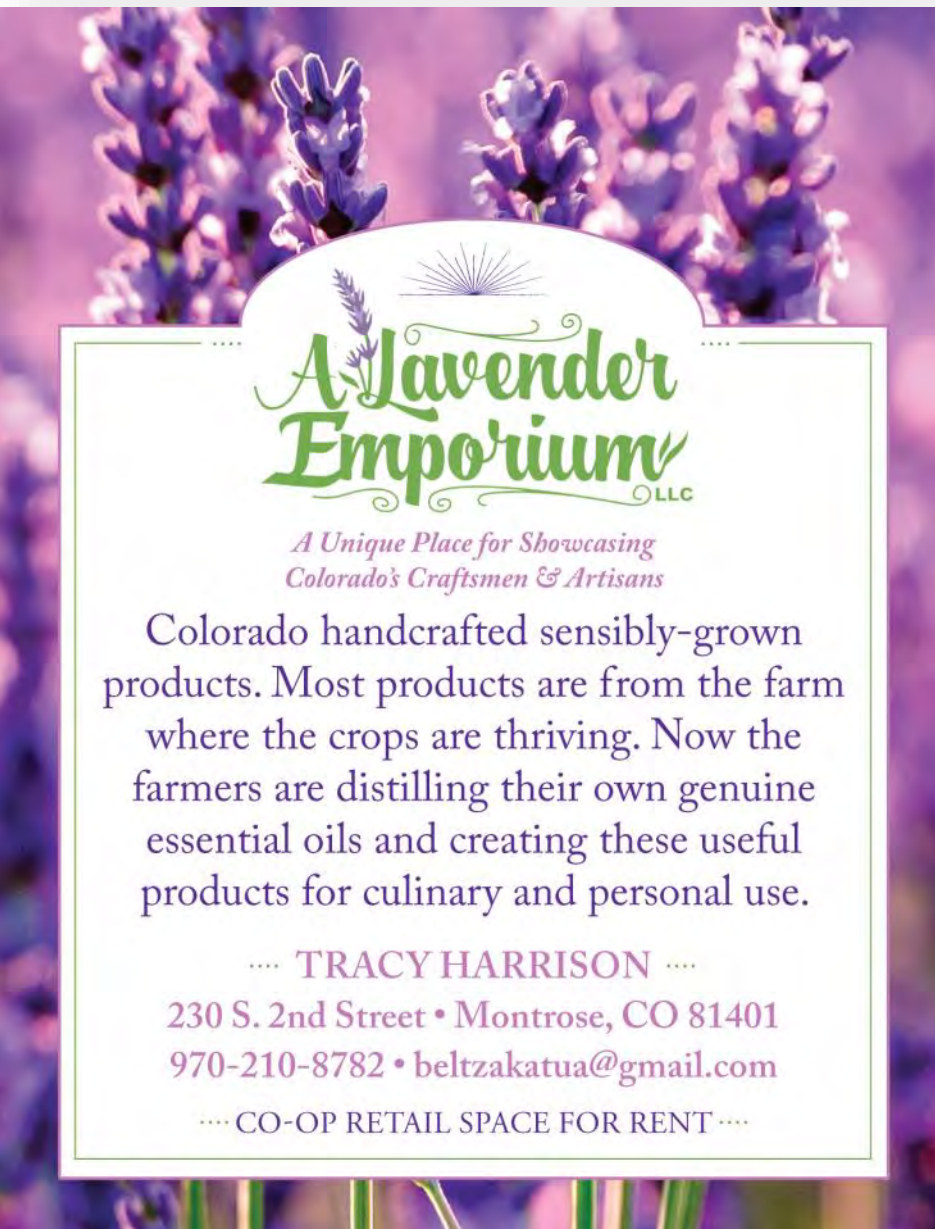
Montrose Elks Lodge

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.

May 16, 2017 After a rainy afternoon the crowd trickled in from a soggy cool day. By the time Early Bird started the hum of conversation was broken by peals of laughter as we got ready to play Bingo. Early Bird paid \$20 for each of the five games. Four Regular Bingo games paid out \$85 each and no one won Progressive Games 2 & 4 so the Consolation prizes paid \$90 each. Everyone was watching their cards closely during Progressive Game 6, when suddenly on the 53rd ball a resounding "Bingo" broke everyone's concentration. *It was verified one lucky person had reached Bingo and won \$4,768 and the whole crowd clapped and cheered the win.* The Consolation prize from Game 6 was applied to the last Game 8 that paid \$315 to one Winner. A great night playing Bingo!

2 "Must Go" Jackpots at Montrose Elks!

On Tuesday May 23rd Progressives Game 2 & 4 have reached "Must Go" status and both will be awarded no matter how many balls/numbers it takes to achieve Bingo. Game 2 is valued at \$500.00 and Game 4 is worth \$1,199.00. Progressive Game 6 will start at \$2,000.00 and must be won in 53 numbers/balls or fewer or the Jackpot posted will be paid. Based on attendance, Game 8 should exceed \$300.00.

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.... CO-OP RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

Three new Gift Card door prizes are now given away at the end of Game 3. Bingo Gift Cards are good for one free Entrée: (Burger, Braut, Hot Dog, Nachos, Fries...), a Popcorn, Soda Pop, and a Candy Bar. This is a prize worth winning!

For the best Bingo game in the area *be sure to visit Montrose Elks Lodge every Tuesday evening* to play Bingo. Doors open at 5 PM & games start at 6:30 PM. It's a wonderful way to spend the evening having fun! (Funds raised are for charity)

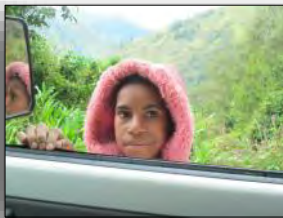
Remember Veterans and their Families

On Saturday May 27th, 2017 Montrose Elks Lodge #1053 will have a **Memorial Day** celebration as a Fund Raiser where **proceeds earned will be donated to local Veterans and their families.** Join us at 2 PM for a picnic (*Menu includes Pulled Pork, Burgers, Brauts and sides*). A Bingo session of 5 games begins at 5 PM and enjoy live music with The Huck Experience from 7 to 11 PM. Drink specials all day and beer \$1.50 per cup. Telluride Transit will be available. A \$10.00 donation is requested.

Music Event July 8, 2017

Dave Stamey in concert at Montrose Elks Lodge with opener Tyller Gummersall on Saturday, July 8, 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 available at Montrose Elks Lodge, Montrose Music, online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2911762 more info call 970-275-4183.

GT BUSTIN BRINGS 'SENISIM PASIN' TO MONTROSE *From pg 1*



Left, SP Hunters, PNG's National Rugby Team sign the Senisim Pasin Pledge and join the campaign. Right, "We do it for the future generations of girls like this."
Courtesy photos PNG Tribal Foundation.

want to oversell," he said. "Just contact our office at 252-7488, or [visit our web-site](#)." Bustin also expressed gratitude to San Juan Cinema for hosting the event.

Senisim Pasin was produced in five weeks for \$300,000, and completed in 2015. "It's the most powerful film," Bustin said. "And it is in the local language—there are subtitles." [Senisim Pasin](#), which means "Change your Ways," focuses on women's contributions to society; on men who used to be abusers but who have changed their ways; and on men who are strong leaders and advocate ending gender-based violence."

The goal is to end gender-based violence in Papua New Guinea, which Bustin still visits five or six times each year, but the awareness campaign is making waves worldwide. "We have been interviewed by the World Bank," Bustin said. "And General Electric chose the PNG Tribal Foundation to unveil and try its new

movie is about to be shown all across Australia. It has been screened at Harvard, in Denver, and in Washington, D.C.

"It's time to show it to the home town crowd."

The PNG Tribal Foundation helped to fund the Womens Arise Movement in PNG in 2013, and to provide strategy that helped the nation pass the Family Protection Act. And PNG's tribal legal counsel consists of attorneys from around the world working to imprison perpetrators of violence against women in Papua New Guinea, where statistics show that seven out of ten women suffer abuse in their lifetimes.

"Seventy percent of men there have now pledged that they will not participate in gender-based violence and will work to end it in their communities," Bustin said. Men who pledge are given a laminated sign with their mark, and a bracelet in the

handheld ultrasound device. Academics love the model we have perfected in New Guinea. The

colors of Papua New Guinea.

The campaign has been promoted with a commercial in PNG that has aired to 3.7 million people, and has been supported by a strong effort to use the legal system to imprison those who do perform acts of gender-based violence.

Reported acts of violence against women have decreased dramatically. "We're big on preventive measures," Bustin said. "Our campaign appeals to good will; our legal counsel speaks to the fear factor. We work with churches, we work with the department of justice. Everybody is on the same page."

The film Senisim Pasin is making reaching people around the world, Bustin said. "It's a powerful tool when combined with our other educational pieces. (Gender-based violence) is learned behavior. It's about not realizing the value of women."

By speaking culturally, the movie side-steps arguments, he added. Still, Bustin remains frustrated by the fact that violence against women persists.

Though instances of violence have greatly dropped since implementation of the awareness campaign, a horrific case involving several women recently took place in one PNG province.

"We have our work cut out for us," Bustin said.

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By PJ Fagen

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Arthur Mendez

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Since then he has been our lead space planner, interior designer and product specifier. Last year Arthur expanded his role and now serves as our outside marketing person for the two counties.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH TO OPEN CLINIC IN RIDGWAY

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-The Center for Mental Health is pleased to announce that it will be opening a clinic in Ridgway during June of 2017. The new clinic will be located at 177 Sherman Street, Suite 103 and will offer mental health and substance use disorder services. Work is currently being completed on the inside to create a pleasing and welcoming space with a planned finish

date in the early part of June.

The clinic will be open five days a week with regularly scheduled hours.

The Center for Mental Health is a community mental health center, organized as a non-profit, with a governing board of directors representative of the communities served. The Center provides comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder care throughout the six counties of

Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel with a team of 147 staff and a budget of just over \$12 million. The Center was organized in 1964 in response to the Community Mental Health Act of 1963 – the last bill that President Kennedy signed before he was assassinated. With this proud heritage, the Center will be, for the first time, part of the Ridgway community.

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Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose is pleased to announce that construction of the Otter Road Bridge Replacement Project is complete and the roadway is open to the public. Contractors finished the project on schedule and approximately \$35,000 under budget. The city would like to express its gratitude to the residents of Montrose for their patience throughout the project. The city would also like to thank Mountain Valley Contracting (general contractor), Stripe-A-Lot, DMEA, and Century Link for making this project successful. Questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer, Scott Murphy at (970) 901-1792 or smurphy@ci.montrose.co.us.

CITY-OWNED GOLF COURSE LOSING \$1 MILLION PER YEAR

'It's a tremendous asset that we need to keep up'

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Winter Marketing Pilot Program – Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph and Josh Freed, Abrams Marketing.

Background: In the fall of 2016 city council approved giving \$50,000 to the Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) for a Winter Marketing Pilot Program. Generally speaking the council wanted to market Montrose and capture tourist dollars passing through Montrose on their way to Telluride.

Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph, who is also the director of OBT, told council the measure for success was 100 reservations (room nights) at one local hotel for the winter ski season.

Josh Freed, Abrams Marketing was paid \$17,500 for marketing and writing a software program to track reservations. Half of the Abrams fee was paid with a state grant and the other half, \$8,750, came from the \$50,000 provided by the City.

Discussion:

Freed and Joseph put a positive spin on the lack of data and dismal number of reservations. Joseph said, "We had some fun outcomes and one disappointing one. Essentially we need to remember it was a pilot program and pilot programs are an opportunity to learn." The basic outcome of the pilot program is that the city now has a functioning software program and 24,000 new contacts.

Freed said, "It took our entire team off guard. The 30-day review was promising. The 60-day review showed a weakness in our plan. Montrose can't make the jump from nothing to centralized reservations like a ski area can."

Councilman Dave Bowman said, "The good news is that only \$8,750 was used." Freed said, "The \$8,750 is cheap money. The program is valid as you go forward to look at a winter program." The remaining \$41,250, which came from the council budget, remains in the general fund.

Councilman David Romero questioned the plan to go after a demographic that is going to Telluride, "Find a niche for people coming here." Councilman Rex Swanson said, "We have outgrown the need for

Telluride. We have hiking, fishing and outdoor activities."

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – City Council and the DDA board.

City Manager Bill Bell met with DDA chair Kirk Hartman and with the exception of three points they agreed on the language of the MOU. The three points

of disagreement were the location of the DDA office, IT (information technology) outreach, and the salary cap of \$25,000 for an administrative position.

Bell and city council strongly favor the DDA being housed in the Proximity Space. The DDA will take a tour of the facility; however, they have concerns about the lack of privacy in the combined working space. In the area of IT, both Bell and Hartman agreed it will take a dedicated person.

Speaking about the proposed salary cap Hartman said, "The board feels it is our money so why should the city dictate how we use it? We are business people. We can manage our own money better. We've never been over budget." The DDA has two funding sources - Tax Increment Financing (TIF), which must be used for capital improvements and property tax which can be used for promotion and administration.

Councilman Dave Bowman said, "The DDA is run by successful businessmen and the \$144,000 should be the DDA's money with no strings attached." Councilman Roy Anderson contended that there have been no real improvements downtown, "I feel like we need a significant change and not keep doing the same thing. I feel strongly that it hasn't worked." Hartman countered, "What do you want us to do...work on the Main Street Program or do capital improvements?"

Swanson wants to see improvements in the organization, "One business in the



Josh Freed, Abrams Marketing, noted that the marketing strategy for the Winter Marketing Pilot Program was hurt by focusing on just one hotel. Photo by Gail Marvel.

district doesn't have a clue what Lance Michaels [former executive director] looks like. The emphasis has been on just a few blocks downtown." Ken Vail, DDA board member, did not fully agree with Swanson and cited the efforts made by the DDA on West Main.

Release of Covenants for Montrose Recreation District – Assistant City Attorney Andrew Boyko.

In 2006 covenants were placed on property at Woodgate and Ogden Road and in 2012 the property was purchased for the recreation center. Boyko said "The agreement has some out-of-date requirements and the resolution is to release the covenants."

Northside Sidewalk Improvements Project Construction Contract – Public Works Director John Harris and City Engineer Scott Murphy.

Originally the Northside Sidewalk Improvements Project fell under the federal Safe Routes to School program. Harris explained that there is considerable paperwork, time and money associated with compliance.

Comparing the Safe Routes to School model to in-house planning Murphy said, "It took 18 months to do sidewalks at Columbine school. It took us three weeks to do the plan for this [north side] project." Harris estimates the city can do the sidewalk improvement project for half the price by following their own process.

Westside Arterial Project Phase II Construction Contract – City Engineer Scott

Continued next page

CITY-OWNED GOLF COURSE LOSING \$1 MILLION PER YEAR

From previous page

Murphy.

There is \$1.2 M remaining in the 2005 transportation bill which funded the Westside Arterial Project from South 1st Street to North 9th Street. If not used, the funds from this original grant must be returned to the federal government. The city, after conferring with CDOT, will utilize these funds for street improvements in the arterial area from South 1st Street to South 3rd Street.

General City Council Discussion

The recent resignation of the golf course

superintendent makes this the fourth turnover in the superintendent position in the last three years.

The staff will put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a management company. Harris said, "It takes \$1.4 M total to run the golf course and we take in about \$400,000 net revenue." The city hopes to have pre-bids on May 24th. However, if there are no acceptable bids the city will start the process to find a new superintendent.

Both Swanson and Bowman shared con-

cerns about areas of brown grass, the irrigation pump and leaks in the water lines. Swanson said, "The Black Canyon Golf Course was going broke [before the city took it over] and there was a lot of deferred maintenance. It's a tremendous asset that we need to keep up." As part of their wellness/benefits package city employees receive an annual Green Pass to the Black Canyon Golf Course. City council members are considered employees and therefore eligible for the same wellness benefit.

The screenshot shows a mobile web browser interface for zobi.mobi/montrose. The page features a grid of 12 category icons: places (house), vehicles (wheel), jobs (person at desk), inside (couch), outside (person on grass), pets (cat and dog), sales (tag), services (wrench and gear), clothing (t-shirt), events (calendar), shout (megaphone), and misc (box). Below these are three utility icons: set location (map pin), create my ad (checkbox), and help (life preserver). At the bottom, there are four location-specific listings in pink boxes: Montrose 3 places, Olathe 1 place, Ouray 1 place, and Telluride 2 places. A detailed listing for Montrose is shown at the bottom of the screen.

Montrose: Fox Hills - 1.5 story 3 bed with office (possible 4th BD). Master on lower level. 2.5 bath. 3-car garage. Custom built with upgrades. Storage shed. 1 acre with irrigation, sprinkler system, and beautiful landscaping. 2527sq ft. \$385,000.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CONCERNED OVER COST OF COUNTY EVENT CENTER PROJECT

Dear Editor:

After a long review of the Event Center timeline and related documents, I would like to share my findings and a couple opinions.

When the Event Center was under consideration last year, RFPs went out to 26 companies. Only 3 responded, two of which were from Denver. Bids ranged from \$13.6 million by Ridgeway to \$30 million plus from the two Denver companies. This great disparity should have raised a red flag, indicating a deficiency in the county's RFP process. In fact, a local contractor who declined to respond, indicated to me the process was flawed because it was too open ended and short on specifics.

The county took the \$13.6 million bid for a 161,000 sf building and whittled it down to \$8.5 million for a stripped down 93,000 sf building, absent many critical components now being added back in. This 63% reduction was obviously for financial reasons and indicative of less than thorough planning from the start.

An astute County staff properly recommended a feasibility study and a business plan before proceeding. That recommendation to assure due diligence was ignored by White, Davis, & Laursen, indicating a determination to build it regardless. I was told by Davis that over 100 years of expertise existed [between White, Davis & Laursen] and they didn't need to spend \$25,000 for a professional feasibility study. As it turns out, that decision was absent full knowledge of the ultimate cost to the taxpayer and the less than encouraging prospects for success.

At that point, the only operational projections developed were a part of the DOLA application, showing a \$1.821 million loss over 10 years. After the decision to move ahead, county staff was essentially shut out of the discussion. What supposedly passed for an in house "feasibility study" to save \$25,000, was a questionable survey of several different arenas

around the country, with little consideration / concern for western slope economies, or potential for success.

The Event Center project was sold to the public in a dog and pony show as a \$40 million economic driver at an \$8.5 million price tag, with \$4 million to be financed, a \$1 million grant, and the balance from the General Fund. Securing financing through Baum for the \$4 million was set for action in December, but was pulled from the agenda by Laursen December 19. Financing was definitely NOT put on hold by the new commissioners as indicated by White and Laursen in a recent Mirror article.

Both incoming commissioners and several citizens requested a hold on the project to review the procurement process as well as the financial impact to taxpayers. Davis stated that it was urgent to move ahead to avoid losing the DOLA grant. The fact is, the DOLA grant would not have expired until the end of March 2017, so it is clear any such urgency was contrived.

The project was approved in December, absent a finance agreement, business operating plan, and a professional feasibility study by a vote of 2-1. Commissioner Henderson was the lone dissenting voice for the taxpayer, because of the total lack of thorough planning.

The greatest responsibility of an elected official is, in my opinion, prudent use of taxpayer dollars. Fortunately for Montrose taxpayers, our two new commissioners are exhibiting their understanding of that fiduciary duty.

Now that what transpired last fall is being closely scrutinized, the economic realities are beginning to reveal that the ultimate cost of the project currently is in excess of \$10.5 million, and that figure does not include any parking lot. The current projections for 10 years show in excess of a \$4.859 million operating loss, with projected debt service costs of over \$430,000 annually. Capital finance activities show over a \$14 million negative impact over 10 years. These projec-

tions seem to portend a dangerously adverse effect on the General Fund in the future.

It is becoming clearly obvious that this project was railroaded through by White and Davis, with Laursen as the cheering section. Moving forward with a project of this magnitude with a conspicuous absence of due diligence, a feasibility study specific to the Western Slope, comprehensive financial projections, and a financing plan belies a betrayal of taxpayer trust.

The DOLA grant of \$1 million in tax dollars was made based on a plan and financial model that now is being shown to be woefully inadequate. With operational losses now projected at \$3.04 million greater than what was proffered in the DOLA application, many are wondering if the grant application was filed under false pretenses.

At the May 2 work session, when it became clear the project had exceeded \$10.5 million

[\$2 million over budget], Davis referred to the 24% cost over run as "spilt milk". Over the last ten years there has been a lot of "spilt milk" on needless FBO and Hospital law suits, leaving the taxpayer holding the bag.

Once more it seems the taxpayer is left to sop up the "spilt milk". In retrospect, given the increased cost and dismal financial projections, it seems spending \$25,000 for a professional feasibility study would have been money well spent on the taxpayer's behalf.

There seems to be no doubt our new commissioners inherited a boondoggle of the highest magnitude, with almost \$20 million tax dollars at risk.

Taxpayers deserve a thorough independent investigation by outside legal counsel to determine if the actions regarding the Event Center are ethics issues involving misuse of public resources, or if they rise to a higher level.

Dee Laird, Montrose

NEW RESIDENTS THANK POLICE FOR RECOVERING STOLEN PROPERTY



The city council agenda for May 16th packed council chambers. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—During the May 16th Montrose City Council meeting two proclamations were issued declaring May as Better Hearing Month and Mental Health Awareness Month.

New residents Pam Akison and Lee Whitney publicly recognized and thanked the Montrose Police Department for their efforts in recovering \$40,000 worth of antiques, art work, furniture and mementos which were stolen from a storage unit.

The clue to solve the theft came with the discovery of Whitney's stolen backpack. Akison said, "We put two and two together, then the police put four and four together." After getting a warrant for a house and finding the plunder, the police spent hours inventorying and returning the stolen property, most of which was recovered.

Call to the Public

Ridgway resident and Montrose business owner Rodney Fitzhugh asked council to consider food service vendors at public venues, such as the ballfields on Sunset Mesa.

Bob Brown thanked the council for their efforts to keep the DDA functional which will allow him to renew fundraising efforts needed to purchase the two large Vic Payne bronze sculptures that are currently

on display downtown. Brown has until April 12, 2018 to raise \$250,000.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – City Manager Bill Bell.

Bell said, "I'm feeling very positive that we are working together and moving forward." Council adjusted the wording in the MOU removing the \$25,000 salary cap for the administrator position, but added that the DDA would strive to keep administrative costs to a minimum. Approved unanimously.

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

Hiro Japanese Steakhouse, 228 E. Main Street, applied for consumption on licensed premises. The new restaurant is scheduled to open June 1, 2017. Approved unanimously.

Amendment to Lease – Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement Virgil Turner. The city owned Banner Road property is located north of Olathe and south of Delta. The original lease required a \$5,000 deposit. However, the lessee has no need for the four water taps, which have now been sealed, and the staff recommends lowering the deposit to \$200. If in the future the lessee wanted the taps unsealed, he would pay the remaining \$4,800 deposit. Approved unanimously.

Ordinance 2418 (second reading) – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

This is a zoning change for property located at Landfill and 6700 Road which allows the owner to replace a home that burned down with manufactured housing. Approved unanimously.

Ordinance 2419 (first reading) - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

This is a zoning change for property located at 2180 E. Main, formally known as Best Appliance. A change to "B-3" General Commercial District would allow for an automotive repair business. Baker said, "This is in compliance with the Master Plan and it has the approval of the Planning Commission." Approved unanimously.

Agenda items 14 – 17 had five action items which included annexations, resolutions and ordinances. Senior Planner Garry Baker gave a combined report for the annexation which was split into two annexations in order to comply with State statutes and requirements for congruity.

Doogan Addition No. 1 Annexation Approved unanimously. Resolution 2017-06 Approved unanimously. Ordinance 2420 (first reading) Approved unanimously. Ordinance 2421 (first reading) Approved unanimously.

Doogan Addition No. 2 Annexation Approved unanimously. Resolution 2017-07 Approved unanimously. Ordinance 2422 (first reading) Approved unanimously. Ordinance 2423 (first reading) Approved unanimously.

Urban Renewal Authority (URA) Lot Line Adjustment – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

This line adjustment not only makes a more buildable area for both Montrose County and Colorado Outdoors, it also formalizes the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) boundary. Approved unanimously.

Urban Renewal Authority Promissory Note (URA) – City Manager Bill Bell

Expenses incurred with the first phase of the URA, which includes legal costs, survey work, and engineering expenses, totals \$353,759.55. This item gives the city the authority to loan the URA the original

Continued next page

NEW RESIDENTS THANK POLICE FOR RECOVERING STOLEN PROPERTY

From previous page

cost which will be repaid to the city with interest at the current prime rate of four percent. Bell said, "This is very good for Montrose." Approved unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Sales, Use and Excise Tax Report - Finance Director Shani Wittenberg.

Total Sales and Use Tax collected for the first three months of 2017 is \$3,604,150, which represents a 3.9 percent increase over 2016.

Retail Enhancement Fund collected for the first three months of 2017 is \$71,784, which represents a 2.3 percent increase over 2016.

First Quarter Budget Review - Finance

Director Shani Wittenberg.

Wittenberg's written report states, "The main operating fund of the city is the General Fund. With 25 percent of the year complete, 21.4 percent of revenues have been collected and 21.8 percent of the budget has been expended. Retail sales tax collections through March are up 2.1 percent over 2016 collections. The City's sales and use tax rate is 3 percent and has not been increased for city purposes since the late 1980's.

On April 1, 2014 voter's approved an additional .3 percent sales and use tax to be collected by the city which will help Montrose Recreation District fund a new

community recreation center on Woodgate Road. Collections for the first three months of 2017 equal \$360,299."

Public Information Officer Report - City Manager Bill Bell.

Baseball season is officially open and thanks to Public Works Department the fields are in good shape.

City Council Comments:

Otter Road Bridge is now open. Ground-breaking for the new Columbine school will be on May 30th. Water issues at the golf course are attributed to the new high pressure water pump which caused leaks. The URA is moving in a positive way and shows that we value our river.

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WEEHAWKEN DANCE

SUMMER MONTROSE SCHEDULE

8 week session
June 5-Aug 4

MONDAYS in Montrose

10:00-10:45 Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5) with Miss Leeann & Miss Pang

10:45-11:30 Pre-Primary Ballet (ages 4-6) with Miss Leeann & Pang

11:30-12:30 Wee Hip Hop with Miss Leeann & Miss Caila

4:00-5:00 Ballet 1/2 with Miss Wendy & Miss Pang

5:00-6:00 Beginning Hip Hop with Miss Caila

6:00-7:00 Tap/Jazz with Miss Caila

7:00-8:00 Tween/Teen Jazz with Miss Caila

TUESDAYS in Montrose
with Miss Natasha

3:15-4:00 Primary Ballet (ages 5-8)

4:00-5:00 Ballet 1/2 (ages 10-11)

5:00-5:45 Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)

5:45-7:00 Ballet 3/4 ballet (ages 12+, includes pointe/pre-pointe)

7:00-8:45 Ballet 4/5 (ages 14+, includes pointe)

WEDNESDAYS in Montrose
w/ Miss Pang, Miss Wendy & Miss Val

5:00-6:00 Ballet 3/4 ballet (ages 12 and up)

6:00-7:45 Ballet 4/5 (ages 14 and up, includes pointe)

7:45-8:45 Advanced Hip Hop Technique & Choreography (ages 13-18)

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SPECIAL HIP HOP WORKSHOPS WITH MISS VAL in Montrose

June 9-11: Pom Poms and Popsicles:
Poms/Jazz Intensive from 5-7 pm in Montrose for ages 9 and up (\$60)

June 16-18: Hot And Humid Hip Hop:
Beginner/Intermediate Hip Hop from 5-7 pm in Montrose for ages 9-12 (\$60)

July 14-16: Fresh Fusion Hip Hop + Jazz:
Intro to Jaz with Hip Hop Flair Intensive in Montrose for ages 9-18 (\$60)

BOCC TO CONVENE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE; REGULAR COUNTY MEETINGS WILL BE MOVED TO WEDNESDAYS AS OF 6/21/17

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners will once again convene a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

Though there was such a committee in the past, it was dissolved around 2011, County Government Affairs Director Jon Waschbusch said.

"The current board of commissioners has revitalized it," he said. "They are looking for nine people with diverse professional backgrounds. They would love to have citizens of all ages, including those who are still in the workforce."

"The point is to provide input, comment on actionable items, and to communicate what you want to see out of your county government."

The Citizens Advisory Committee will meet as needed, and topics could range from the County's event center project to the junk and litter ordinance, to possible uses of funds generated by growth impact fees (now eliminated).

Montrose Board of County Commissioners Chair Keith Caddy called the Citizens Advisory Committee a good addition to the county's communication system.

"My hope for the Citizens Advisory Committee is that they can help the board of county commissioners to make good decisions for the community," Caddy said. "We want to know what people really think."

The committee will also help to guide county officials as they begin updates to the county's strategic plan.

"Things change," Caddy said, "and we want our community to tell us where they think the county should go."

With two capital projects currently underway, the road & bridge facility and event center, Commissioners have chosen to move forward with Option B of four options presented for funding the event center project (**Option B** includes \$4 million in financing, \$1,000,000 in grant funding, and a \$5,569,817 contribution from the County's General Fund toward the \$10.6 million project.)

The BOCC held a conference call Friday May 19 with advisors to discuss financing possibilities for the ongoing projects.

In other news, regular BOCC meetings will be moved from Mondays at 9 a.m. to Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. beginning June 21.

With the change, staff will no longer be required to work Sundays to meet the 24-hour posting requirement. Meeting agendas can now be posted on Tuesday mornings.



Regular meetings of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), above, will take place on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., beginning June 21. Mirror file photo.

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**Join us at the DMEA Annual Meeting of Members
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When: June 15, 2017 | Where: Hotchkiss High School

Schedule:

4:30 p.m. Registration and Voting Open

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Booths and Entertainment

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Free Dinner by Hotchkiss Meats Brats

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Business Meeting

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COMMENTS SOUGHT ON TELLURIDE SKI PROPOSAL FOR MULTIPLE PROJECTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests, Norwood Ranger District is seeking comments on a proposal from the Telluride Ski Resort to implement multiple projects within the developed portion of their Special Use Permit area. All projects are consistent with their 2017 Master Development Plan.

The proposed projects include: a snow-making compressor house, lift upgrades and replacements (Village Express lift, Plunge lift and Sunshine Express lift), a restaurant at the top of Sunshine Express lift, a bathroom facility at the top of the Village Express lift, a canopy tour and mountain bike trails in the vicinity of the Sunshine Express lift.

The proposed projects are intended to address existing constraints at the ski area

and meet the growing demand for multi-season recreation facilities.

To that end, the projects would: improve the overall guest experience, operational efficiencies and skier circulation; accommodate demand for on-mountain restaurants; provide adventure-based multi-season experiences that require little specialized knowledge, skills, equipment, or familiarity with the mountain environment; and improve diversity of mountain biking trails to complement the existing trail network and meet evolving guest expectations.

A Notice of Proposed Action is available for review online at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51392>.

The Notice and supporting documentation is also available for review at the Norwood Ranger District office. Additional

information regarding this action can be obtained from: Scott Spielman at sspielman@fs.fed.us, or (970) 327-4261.

Written comments must be submitted via mail to: Scott Spielman, Project Leader, PO Box 388, Norwood, CO 81423; in person (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays) to: Scott Spielman, Project Leader, 1150 Forest Street, Norwood, CO 81423; by Facsimile to (970) 327-4854; or electronically at comments-rocky-mountain-gmug@fs.fed.us.

The name and mailing address of the person submitting electronic comments must be included. An open house to inform the public of the project and answer questions will be held on **June 5, 2017** at the Wilkinson Public Library (100 W. Pacific Avenue, Telluride, CO 81435) from 5 – 8 pm.

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Aug 12: 9am-5pm & Aug 13: 10am-5pm
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MIRROR IMAGES...



Clockwise from below left, branches fell across Montrose during a spring storm May 17; The MHS Class of 2017 graduated Sunday (OHS held its graduation Saturday); an 8th grader watches the bleachers fill at the Montrose graduation ceremony, and wonders what the next four years will bring.



I am ~~depressed~~.
I am ~~anxious~~.
I am ~~schizophrenic~~.
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DAVE LAURSEN WEARS A NEW HAT

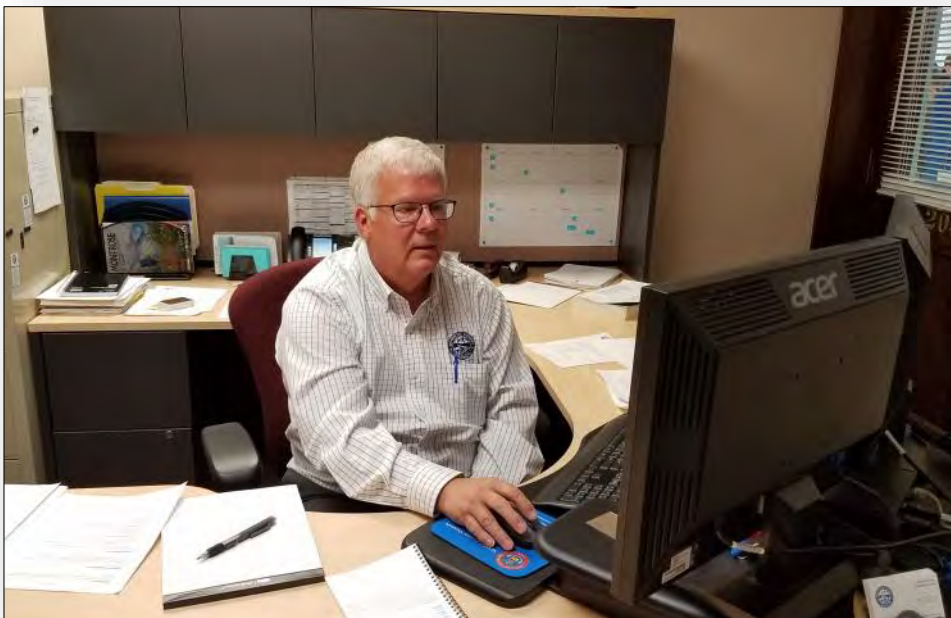
By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-On May 8 Dave Laursen assumed his duty as Chief Deputy Official in the Montrose County Clerk and Recorder's

office. As the former Montrose Assistant County Manager, Laursen has institutional knowledge that allowed him to hit-the-ground-running. "I'm a fresh set of eyes

for the office. My goal is to help Tressa [Montrose County Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes] with administration and put her plans in place. There are places where we can streamline, cross train and make the office run smoother."

Laursen is in the process of interviewing all the staff, "I want to know what we can do for them to make them more successful. Do they need more training, knowledge or a better environment [placement of equipment]? Some people may have talents and abilities that would be useful to us, but we may not know about their skill."



At left, Dave Laursen is the Chief Deputy Official in the Montrose County Clerk & Recorder's office. Photo by Gail Marvel.

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MIRROR IMAGES...PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL



The Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony was held in Centennial Plaza in Montrose on May 17. Photos by Jennifer McClanahan.

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ASK DMEA'S BECKY MASHBURN: "WHY DOESN'T MY NEIGHBORHOOD HAVE ELEVATE FIBER YET?"



Becky Mashburn, DMEA marketing supervisor.
Courtesy photo.

By Becky Mashburn

Marketing Supervisor, Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)

REGIONAL-

That's actually a question we get a lot. "Why did you choose

Paonia and not

Cedaredge?" "Why did you build in Cobble Creek, not Brown Ranch?" "Why not me?" is definitely the #1 question we answer. It really all points back to the crowd sourcing system we are using to track interest. DMEA's territory is divided into 50 different zones.

Each zone is designed to follow a specific feeder—aka power line—because our fiber lines will also follow the power lines.

The zones are not dictated by city or county lines, populations, or subdivisions.

Each zone has what is called a take rate goal. A take rate is the number of people we need to take our service in order to remain financially secure. That's where the preregistration process comes in. People who want our service need to preregister so we know the interest is there. Ultimately, it protects the co-op and its members.

You can actually see this take rate goal in action if you click on the areas tab on join.elevatefiber.com. Each zone has a percentage to its goal and the number of people who need to preregister before construction can begin.

It's important to note that DMEA/Elevate did not choose to build in one area over another. The membership chose, and continues to do so. The zones that meet their preregistration (take rate) goal, get fiber. It will take about five to six years for us to get to each and every zone. I know

it's really frustrating for people to realize that they might not get fiber this year or even next year, let alone they could potentially be last.

For communication and marketing purposes we work really hard to target our marketing efforts so that our money is used most efficiently.

We use the information from join.elevatefiber.com to help us plan things like auto-calls, emails, digital ads, Facebook ads, traditional print, and even door to door activities. Of course, we can't hit each zone all at once—but we are gearing up for a lot of work in Montrose to really get people excited through some major sponsorships, community presentations, and more!

That was probably a very long answer to your question, but we've found that explaining our deployment process to members has been one of our biggest challenges.

ARTISTS' ALPINE HOLIDAY

NOW - JUNE 26, ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN

Artists' Alpine Holiday 57th Annual Juried Art Exhibit

Categories: Oil/Acrylic, Watercolor, Drawing & Printmaking, Pastel, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Photography and a Student Division. All entries will be eligible for Best in Show (\$500) and each category will have awards for first (\$400), second (\$200) and third (\$100) place. Show will be held at Ouray Community Center, July 27 - Aug. 5, 2017. Go to ourayarts.org for more information and to register!

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WIND KNOCKS OUT POWER LINES ALONG HWY 92



Courtesy photo DMEA.

Special to the Mirror
REGIONAL-Approximately 1,158 Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)

members experienced an early evening power outage May 15, 2017, when high winds snapped power poles along Highway 92. Three poles near the intersection of HWY 92 and 1800 Road broke, bringing down the power line serving the area.

The outage began at 6:11 p.m. While power was restored to the majority of members by 7:30 p.m., DMEA linemen worked through the night until all poles were replaced. They were able to restore power to the last members at approximately 1:10 a.m. the next morning. DMEA thanks members for their patience and the emergency response personnel who assisted with traffic when restoration efforts impacted travel.

DMEA also reminds members to always report outages and downed lines by calling 1-877-687-3632. Members are urged to report all outages and not rely on others to call in. Do not report outages by email and social media, as they are not continuously monitored.

Members are also reminded to stay away from all downed power lines and assume they are still live. Never attempt to move a downed line or anything coming into contact with it.

A real-time outage map is available online at <http://www.dmea.com/content/outage-information>. DMEA also works to regularly update their Facebook page www.facebook.com/DeltaMontroseElectricAssociation during large or prolonged outages.

DMEA is a rural electric distribution cooperative, located in Montrose, Colorado.

DMEA was originally founded in 1938, as Delta-Montrose Rural Power Lines Association.

A board of directors from nine districts covering three counties governs the cooperative.

DMEA serves approximately 32,000 residential, commercial and industrial meters, on more than 3,000 miles of cooperative owned distribution line.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SPRING STORM SOCKS POWER SYSTEM WIDESPREAD OUTAGES HIT MEMBERS ACROSS DMEA



Heavy wet snow brought down tree limbs in power lines across DMEA's service territory. Courtesy photo.

By Becky Mashburn, DMEA
REGIONAL-A spring storm rolled in Wednesday, May 17, bringing with it heavy wet snow and widespread outages across Delta-Montrose Electric Association's (DMEA) service territory. Snow began loading the lines and snapping tree branches as early as that evening. It is estimated that approximately 4,500 members from across DMEA's system were

impacted by power interruptions.

Spring storms are notorious for extra wet snow, which proves dangerous for the trees and power lines. When snow lands and collects on leaves and branches it can eventually snap limbs, which can fall into power lines. The wet snow also builds up on power lines.

The weight of the snow can also bring down lines. Additionally, when the snow unloads—or falls—from the power lines a condition called galloping often occurs. When the snow drops off the line, tension is released and the power lines will buck and flap. They have the potential to become entangled or break. DMEA advises this scenario could result in additional outages throughout the day as the snow melts.

Members are encouraged to always report outages and downed lines by calling 1-877-687-3632. In the event you witness an emergency situation such as sparking or fires call DMEA and 911 immediately. Members are urged to report all outages

and not rely on others to call in. Do not report outages by email and social media, as they are not continuously monitored. Members are also reminded to stay away from all downed power lines and assume they are still live. Never attempt to move a downed line or anything coming into contact with it.

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SEPT 30 & OCT 1
CREATIVE NATURE & LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY WITH MICHAEL E. GORDON

www.weehawkenarts.org

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WHAFV EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMILY SMITH TO STEP DOWN



L-R, Richard Godsfil, Governor John Hick-enlooper, Emily and Sheldon Smith. Courtesy image.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- From the start, Emily Smith has served in a leadership role as executive director of the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans (WHAFV) and Warrior

Resource Center.

As of July 15, however, Smith will step down as executive director, though she will continue to serve the organization as a volunteer.

"The last five years creating and growing this organization have been a time of great excitement and satisfaction," Smith wrote in her letter of resignation to the board of directors.

"I have treasured this time and the positive impact that has been made throughout our community and in the individual lives of the veterans and military families we serve...I am extremely grateful for the personal growth and valuable experiences that I have gained during my time with WHAFV.

"Although I am leaving this position, I will continue to be a part of the organization, albeit in a different capacity, as a military spouse and eternally dedicated supporter."

"Emily's passion for veterans and their family and her drive for excellence created the organization we see today," WHAFV Board Chair Terri Wilcox said.

"We appreciate all she has done for our veterans, their families and the community. As she transitions on to a new adventure, it is with great pride that we acknowledge her selfless service. She will be greatly missed."

For more information about the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, visit www.whafv.org or call 970-765-2210.

TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE TO HOLD ELECTION JUNE 27 FOR THREE OPEN TOWN COUNCIL SEATS

Special to the Mirror

MOUNTAIN VILLAGE-The Town of Mountain Village will hold a Regular Municipal Election June 27 to elect three Town Council Members. Ten candidates declared their candidacy for the upcoming election, and are listed on the ballot in this order: Paul Oupadia, Suse Connolly, Marla Meridith, David Schillaci, Jack Gilbride, Angela Pashayan, Natalie Binder, Richard Child, Jonathan Greenspan, and Patrick L. Berry. The order of candidates was determined based on a draw by lot. To learn more about each candidate, visit <http://townofmountainvillage.com/election>.

The three Town Council seats up for election are currently held by councilmembers Cath Jett, Marty McKinley and Michelle Sherry. Jett is termed out after serving two, four-year terms. She first served on Council in 2009 and as mayor pro-tem from July 2013 to June 2015. Councilmember McKinley has decided not to pursue a second term and has served as mayor pro-tem since July 2015. He joined Council in March of 2014 by appointment, filling the seat of former Councilmember Richard Child. Sherry, who is eligible to serve another four-year term, decided not to run for a second term. She was first elected to serve on Council in 2013. The last regular municipal election held in 2015 had one of its biggest turn outs with 13 candidates vying for four open seats.

Once elected, the new Council will convene July 20. "We are excited to see such a large number of candidates apply for Town Council. It shows that people are interested in making a difference in their community," said Administration Director and Town Clerk Jackie Kennefick. The deadline to become a registered elector is Friday, May 26 by 5 p.m. (in person) and Monday, May 29 by 5 p.m. (online). Ballots will be mailed to registered voters between June 5 -12, and may be returned either by mail or in person to Town Hall, located at 455 Mountain Village Blvd., on or before June 27 to be counted. On Election Day, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMEA BOARD CANDIDATES RUN UNOPPOSED, ELECTION CALLED OFF

By Becky Mashburn, DMEA

REGIONAL-Three Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) members completed the necessary steps to be declared official candidates for the co-op's 2017 election. Each candidate is running unopposed in his respective district. As a result, DMEA's Board of Directors unanimously voted to cancel the 2017 election in accordance with the co-op's bylaws. DMEA's bylaws state, "If no contest exists for any board positions to be filled, then at the direction of the board the election may be cancelled." The official candidates are as follows:

District 6: Damon Lockhart

District 7: Mark Eckhart

North Region: John Gavan

The above candidates shall be declared elected at DMEA's Annual Meeting of Members on Thursday, June 15, 2017. In addition, DMEA will not host its traditional candidate forums.

Members will receive a mailing this month with the candidates' statements concerning their objectives for joining the board and official notice of the election cancellation.

"Although, there is no need for an election, members are still encouraged to attend our annual meeting. As co-op members, this is a wonderful opportunity to meet your co-op employees and get to know your board members. We'll provide a review of our activities and accomplishments from the past year. Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate another successful year," said Jasen Bronec, DMEA CEO.

The annual meeting will take place Thursday, June 15, at Hotchkiss High School.

The fun begins at 4:30 pm when the doors open for registration and activities. Co-op employees will serve up a free grilled dinner of Hotchkiss Meats bratwursts and cap off the meal with cupcakes from Sweet Cheeks Cakery. Dinner will be served from 5:00 – 6:30 pm.

"We're focusing on making our annual meeting a time for the community to gather together and celebrate the power of co-op membership. DMEA has done great things throughout its history—all of which is a result of our engaged membership. We'll have something for everyone to enjoy," explained Becky Mashburn, DMEA marketing supervisor.

The activities will include bucket truck rides, safety demonstrations, kids games, and more. Co-op experts will also be on hand help you learn how to manage your energy use, save energy, and lower your bill. Also in the lineup is Elevate Fiber, DMEA's burgeoning fiber internet company. Elevate employees will provide information about home WiFi technology, streaming options, and the benefits of fiber. Plus, attendees can check in on the progress of their community, while celebrating the kickoff of construction in Hotchkiss.

"What better time for us to celebrate our ability to bring gigabit internet to Hotchkiss than during our annual meeting. The community should be proud of their accomplishment. Just like members did when DMEA was founded, they've worked together—cooperatively—to bring in the fastest and most reliable internet in town. We're all experiencing the power of co-op membership," said Mashburn.

The three candidates will be deemed

elected at the start of the business meeting at 6:30 pm. In addition to reports from co-op CEO, Jasen Bronec, and Board President, Bill Patterson, the meeting will include a special appearance by Diane Smith. Smith will speak about the changing nature of work and current tech trends and what they mean for rural America. Smith is an entrepreneur, policy expert, and writer who lives in Whitefish, Mt who believes that rural America has much more to offer than it's often given credit for.

"Our communities are changing and we recognize that DMEA and Elevate have a leading role in helping make sure that change is successful. Diane will provide perspective and guidance for us all as we navigate the growth of broadband and the opportunities that brings. Her message is powerful and inspiring—rural areas are innovative, engaged, and determined," said Bronec.

DMEA members in attendance will receive a free bamboo cutting board, while supplies last, and have the opportunity to win a variety of door prizes. More information about DMEA's annual election can be found online at www.dmea.com or by emailing public.relations@dmea.com.

DMEA is a rural electric distribution cooperative, located in Montrose, Colorado. DMEA was originally founded in 1938, as Delta-Montrose Rural Power Lines Association.

A board of directors from nine districts covering three counties governs the cooperative. DMEA serves approximately 32,000 residential, commercial and industrial meters, on over 3,000 miles of cooperative owned distribution line.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SMPA SEEKS TRI-STATE POLICY CHANGE ON LOCAL GENERATION

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-At its April 25th Board meeting, the San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board of directors agreed to present wholesale power provider, Tri-State Generation and Transmission (Tri-State) with two requests designed to help increase opportunities for local, renewable electric generation projects within the SMPA service territory which includes the area from Silverton to Colona and as far west as the Paradox Valley.

The letter will include two SMPA board resolutions to be approved at the next board meeting on May 23. First, SMPA will echo a recent La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) request that Tri-State increase the allowable amount of member self-generation under the Wholesale Electric Service Contract from 5% to 10%. This would allow LPEA, SMPA and other similarly positioned cooperatives to continue the expansion of so called "distributed generation" facilities under the current contract.

If Tri-State were to deny this request, new facilities on SMPA's grid that push SMPA's local generation beyond 5% of its total load would not be covered under this contract, but that doesn't mean that they

could not come online. A recent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) ruling upheld that distribution cooperatives, like SMPA are required by federal law to connect generation facilities that qualify under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA), but details on how Tri-State might react are still unclear. With SMPA's request that Tri-State increase its contractual limit on local generation, the cooperative may not have to worry about the federal law for a while, allowing time for precedents to be set while the cooperative's local, renewable generation portfolio continues to grow. SMPA Board president, Rube Felicelli recalls that this is not the first time SMPA has made a request of this nature to Tri-State. "We did the same thing several years ago," says Felicelli. "This says to Tri-State that we want to do more, and we want you to raise the cap on local renewables."

The second request will also support the idea of adding renewables to the energy mix, but it will also include a proposition to assist communities hit hard by the recent announcement that Tri-State would be closing the power plant and associated coal mine in Nucla, where SMPA is head-

quartered.

SMPA's request will encourage Tri-State to set the objective of constructing a distributed generation project of a capacity in the 5MW to 30 MW range in the west end of the SMPA service territory. In addition to the economic mitigation for the communities of the West End, there are other factors favoring a potential utility-scale facility in the region. As stated in the request, "The area is rich with potential for utility-scale renewable generation including solar and hydroelectric opportunities; and transmission infrastructure is already in place which may reduce the overall project cost."

With the formal requests of two of its member cooperatives in hand, Tri-State will need to respond. With a service territory that covers significant parts of Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico, Tri-State must balance the desires of a wide variety of interests within its 43 member systems, while ensuring safe, reliable and affordable service to each. It remains to be seen what their response will be, but as the SMPA request will state, "We are certain that this kind of resolution can be found, and we are committed to finding it."



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ISSUE 98 May 22 2017

ART & SOL

STUDENTS ASSIST SAN MIGUEL COUNTY WITH PLANTING AND CHORES @ INNOVATIVE DOWN VALLEY POLLINATOR GARDEN



San Miguel County's new Pollinator Garden has been planted, with the help of volunteers and students from Fort Lewis College in Durango. Courtesy photos San Miguel County.

Special to Art & Sol

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY-San Miguel County has completed the historic first planting at the new Pollinator Garden at the Down Valley Park, with the help of local volunteers and some visiting college students. Like the pollinators themselves, visitors and volunteers will undoubtedly continue

drawn to the beautiful garden space. "The garden encompasses 7500 square feet, and our plan is to create a flower-rich habitat for local butterflies and bees," San Miguel County Parks and Open Space Director Janet Kask said. "We completed Phase 1 of this project last fall, which included having the area tilled and then

to be cultivated with 139 cubic yards of amended top soil. We installed an irrigation system last month and are now ready for planting. This project is funded through the Payment for Ecosystem Services budget of the San Miguel County Open Space Fund."

San Miguel County Commissioner Kris Holstrom visited the Pollinator Garden Wednesday with a group of students from Fort Lewis College in Durango. "It worked

Continued next page

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY PLANTS INNOVATIVE POLLINATOR GARDEN WITH HELP FROM STUDENTS From previous page

perfectly," Holstrom said. "We brought about 13 folks over there. We basically got the entire trailer of plants planted; the students did all the digging, planting and mulching for this first round of assistance. It looks really, really great to have that done."

As students helped with the Pollinator Garden, they learned about the various forms of weed control, and about the pollinators. "We talked about a number of pollinator species, what they look like, and why we are doing the garden," Holstrom said. "They did learn a lot, and many of them made plans to return and observe the garden as it grows and develops."

With special soil that mimics the forest floor, the new garden will provide a demonstration of 12 to 15 different pollinators, including native pollinators such as showy milkweed (to help preserve Monarch butterfly populations); native blue columbines; sulfur buckwheat; echinacea species; native daisies; potentilla species; gentian species; penstemon; Indian Paint Brush; western yarrow; and varieties of asters.

"We are excited to get it done," San Miguel County Vegetation Manager Ron

Mabry said. "The first season will be critical, but once the garden is established I think it's really going to be a great thing."

Local volunteers have been an excellent source of help with garden chores, he added.

The Pollinator Garden Project began when former San Miguel County Commissioner Art Goodtimes invited Scott Hoffman Black of the [Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation](#) to speak in Telluride and Norwood last June, after hearing Black's presentation at the Quivira Coalition annual meeting in Albuquerque. After considering a number of possible pollinator projects, the county decided on a demonstration garden in its Down Valley Park as a first step toward encouraging private pollinator sites all around the county. The project was undertaken with guidance from the Xerxes Society, and San Miguel County received a \$1,000 Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) grant for the effort. The funds were awarded through the income tax check box for Colorado Healthy Landscapes, a program offered through Colorado Weed Management. Said San Miguel County Commissioner Joan May last October



when the grant funds were announced, "It's one more thing the county is trying to do to address climate change on multiple levels. We're trying to think outside the box. As far as I know we are the only county on the Western Slope doing this."



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NEWLY RESTORED SPACE BRINGS COUNTRY FLAIR TO DOWNTOWN

By Liesl Greathouse

With more than 50 vendors spread out over two floors (with an elevator), Country Flair in Downtown Montrose is the ultimate one-stop shop for one-of-a-kind furniture, gifts and home decor.

"We offer antique furniture, vintage items, collectibles, handmade greeting cards, jewelry, art, painted signs—basically everything you can think of except the kitchen sink!" said Sam Dean, one of the lovely ladies who works at the store helping vendors and customers. "The building has been restored to create a nice, comfortable place to come in, shop, and roam around."

The store offers an eclectic mix of items, covering all kinds of styles: rustic, Western, shabby chic, barn-wood, and more. "Things are always changing," Dean explained. "We like to keep things fresh. Some vendors will move their booths around or will be constantly redecorating their space and bringing in new inventory to keep things fresh for visitors."

Opened in August of 2016, word has

spread and the store is almost full with vendors, with only a couple spaces left for rent. "People rent for a six-month contract, and we are getting pretty full which is a good thing," Dean said. "Most of our vendors are from Montrose, but we do have some from places like Gunnison."

Having the store in Downtown Montrose is something Dean believes was a needed type of store on this side of town. "We needed something like this here because otherwise you have to go south of Montrose, to The Boardwalk shops, to find antique stores," she said. "It's nice having this right here on Main Street. Customers come in weekly and it's nice to chat with them. I didn't realize how many people shop Main Street until we opened here. Main Street has come alive these past six months and it's great to see people come around here."

One of Dean's favorite parts of her work is talking with customers, especially tourists stopping by. "I love asking them 'where are you going? Where have you been?' and hearing their stories. Since



Courtesy photo Country Flair Market.

they are traveling, often they can only take a small sack. But even without it blatantly saying 'Colorado', they buy something as a souvenir and when they get it home they'll know where it came from."

For Dean, her favorite items in the store are the antiques. "My house is full of them!" she said. "The furniture that comes in here is real furniture, not particle board. It's fun to try to find out the history of an item, because then you know where it came from, whose it was, and the story of it."

Besides offering home decorating ideas and items, Dean has a bigger hope for the business.

"I want it to be part of the community," she said. "We have people that stop in, sometimes just to chat with us, and now some of those customers have started to recognize other customers, so now they get to know each other. I hope we can help get some more people to come Downtown, to shop here, shop at other stores, have lunch, and just make a day of it. It benefits others, it benefits all of Main Street."

Country Flair is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and is located at 337 E. Main St. in Montrose. The building itself is owned by Zach and Jennifer Prock, and the market is owned by Cece and Roger Brown. For more information, call 765-9322.

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

SEVEN STATEWIDE HISTORY MUSEUMS TO OFFER FREE ADMISSION

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-History Colorado's Community Museums are excited to invite families to experience Colorado's history during the summer. Beginning Memorial Day through Labor Day, seven statewide history museums will offer free admission to kids 18 and under.

From historic homes to adobe forts, each museum tells the history of Colorado's many cultures and prominent figures. This year, the Ute Indian Museum's expanded and renovated museum in Montrose will be joining the museums to offer free admission for kids showcasing their new exhibits beginning June 10.

"Our museums are perfect for kids—using the power of play to teach kids about Colorado history," stated Dawn DiPrince, director of Community Museums. "Our Free for Kids summer free admission offers opportunities for all kids to have access to hands-on educational experiences."

Admission for adults and seniors vary for each location. For information on scheduling tours and programming, please contact 719-583-0453.

What to see:

Byers-Evans House Museum, Denver: Check out the new exhibit opening Memorial Day weekend, *Carrying the Torch of Liberty: Colorado Women's Work in World War I*. The museum is open daily, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. House is on view by guided tour only.

El Pueblo History Museum, Pueblo: Get hands-on and experience tortilla making, adobe making and more in the trading post. Open daily, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center, Fort Garland: Enjoy hands-on history as you tour this historic adobe fort. Open daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fort Vasquez, Platteville: After being

closed for the winter, the site will open Memorial Day weekend with a renovated space and new interpretation. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Healy House Museum and Dexter Cabin, Leadville: Beginning Memorial Day weekend, Healy House Museum and Dexter Cabin will be open daily with guided house tours from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Trinidad History Museum, Trinidad: Explore the gardens, pick your own produce and enjoy your afternoon in front of the hornos. Families can experience hands-on activities and tours of the historic homes of prominent families in Trinidad. The museum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ute Indian Museum, Montrose: The renovated and expanded museum will re-open on June 10 to the public with new exhibits, new gift shop and beautiful architecture and design that reflects Ute culture. Open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & RECREATION

THINGS TO KNOW WHEN RECREATING THIS SUMMER IN THE GUNNISON NATIONAL FOREST

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The Forest Service wants recreationists to know that some changes in dispersed camping rules on the Gunnison National Forest will be in effect this summer. Over the past few years there have been increases in recreation uses throughout our area. It is great to see so many people using their forests! The added numbers do come with a few challenges that require us to step up some management actions. Some challenges we have seen and others have been brought to our attention. These include: Increasing numbers of people and camping impacts resulting in user-created roads and trails; Human and animal waste disposal problems; Campfires left burning; Increased season-long use and concentrated groups of users; Conflicts with our neighbors (noise, disturbance, etc.).

There are some direct impacts to your forests occurring, including permanent loss of vegetation, soil erosion, sanitation issues, riparian impacts, loss of wildlife habitat and user conflicts that necessitate more effective management of dispersed camping.

It is important that the Forest Service be a good neighbor, as well as, to help our citizens who own and use national forest lands to be good neighbors as well.

This summer and continuing into the future, forest crews will be busy: Installing signing and providing information and education to the public and recreationists; Physically closing unacceptable user-created roads and trails; Identifying and signing spur roads and designating dispersed campsites; Assessing areas where dispersed camping can be sustained and impacts mitigated. Closing campsites with unacceptable re-

source impacts; Placing physical barriers to prevent the expansion of existing campsites that remain; Enforcing rules where necessary; Monitoring for effectiveness of management actions and recreation use/impacts.

Two Forest Supervisors Orders will be implemented this summer. The first Order is intended to resolve parking and access issues near the Irwin Lodge. Those who use that area are encouraged to view the Order on the GMUG NFs' website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug> under "Alerts and Notices". The second Order is a temporary closure Order that creates a closure area for dispersed camping in the Tin Cup area (pending post). This location has experienced intense use and needs more active management. Users may be familiar with this change based on a proposal that was scoped last fall. After significant public input, this modified closure was put in place.

Finally, The Gunnison Travel Management Plan decision identified twelve travel corridors where motor vehicles will only be allowed to travel up to 30 feet (about one vehicle length) from designated routes for the purpose of dispersed camping. Implementation will include these corridors:

Washington Gulch- NFSR # 811 (from the forest boundary to Elkton).

Slate River Corridor- NFSR #734 (County Road 734) (from the forest boundary to private land at Pittsburg).

Kebler Pass Corridor- NFSR #826, County Road 12 (from the forest boundary to above Irwin Campground ending at private lands, to the top of Ohio Pass and Kebler Pass, and up the Splains Gulch road). Will propose seasonal closure in 2017.

Cement Creek Corridor- NFSR #740 and #740.2C, D, E (from the forest boundary to Deadman trailhead).

Spring Creek Corridor – NFSR #744 (from the forest boundary to ¼ mile beyond junction of NFSRs #744 and #880).

Taylor Canyon – NFSR #742 (camping only in developed campgrounds from Almont to Rivers End campground).

Taylor River Corridor -From the junction with Cottonwood Pass road (NFSR #742) to Dorchester campground

Quartz Creek Corridor- NFSR #765 (from the forest boundary past Pitkin to Hall Gulch road junction).

Middle Quartz Creek- NFSR #767 (from the junction with NFSR #765 to Middle Quartz Creek campground).

Long Branch- NFSR #780 (from the forest boundary to Baldy Lake and Long Branch trailheads).

Needle Creek Reservoir Corridor- NFSR #781 (from the forest boundary to the upper end of Needle Creek Reservoir).

Recreationists are reminded to use "Leave No Trace" practices as they enjoy the Forests. These include: camping at least 100 feet from water bodies; cooking and storing food for safety from bear and other wildlife; using restroom facilities and/or burying human and animal waste at least 6-inches deep; and ensuring that campfires are not left unattended and are fully-out so that they are cool to the human touch. The key objective of these changes is to ensure that everyone who uses their National Forest can do so in a sustainable manner and have a great time doing so. We look forward to continuing to work with our neighbors, recreationists and the greater community of users to continue offering world class opportunities in our beautiful area.

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UP...**

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & TRAVEL

\$279 AIR & ROOM: MONTROSE TO LAUGHLIN/BULLHEAD CITY AIRPORT

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE- From June 4 – 8, you can fly from Montrose, Colorado, to the Laughlin/Bullhead City Airport (IFP) with an air and room package at the affordable price of just \$279! Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort Hotel & Casino in Laughlin, NV is the place to stay and play, with 1,404 rooms, a 740-space RV Park with full hook-ups, over 1,200 slot, video poker and keno machines, 35 live table games, two nightclubs, and Bingo Paradise. The Riverside Resort also features a 34-lane bowling center, 6-Plex Cinema, U.S.S. Riverside boat tours along the Colorado River, 2 classic car museums, entertainment in Don's Celebrity Theatre, laser tag, and seven restaurants from buffet to gourmet. The Riverside Air Program is the most recent and impactful addition to the extensive list of amenities, as it allows guests to be connected with nationwide flying. To book your stay, call 800-227-3849 or visit RiversideResort.com.

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During the BOCC Meeting on 5/15/17,
Resolution No. 21-2017 was approved.



Per the Resolution, BOCC Meetings will now be held on the

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Start Time: 9:30am

This change goes into effect for the second meeting of June, which
is **June 21st, 2017**. A full schedule can be found on the Montrose
County website www.montrosecounty.net

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & EDUCATION

FORTUNA TIERRA CLUB PRESENTS 8 SCHOLARSHIPS



Henry Benasutti, Alexis Lindley, Jordan Pugh, Emma Gould, Lydia Leafstrand, Jonathan Zaugg, Emma Copp and Parker Northey. Fortuna Tierra Club presented eight scholarships at the Ridgway Secondary School's

Parker Northey, and the Richard Shotwell Memorial Scholarship was given to Henry Benasutti. Six additional, \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to Emma Copp, Emma Gould, Lydia Leafstrand, Alexis Lindley, Jordan Pugh, and Jonathan Zaugg. Fortuna Tierra is grateful for the Ridgway community's generous support of their fundraising activities that make the annual scholarships possible.

This year's only fundraiser will be the 5k/10k Log Hill Hustle to be held September 16. On-line registration is currently available.

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-2017 FTC Scholarship Winners:

Senior Night May 15. The Shelly Bennett Memorial Scholarship was awarded to

DELTA COUNTY ROCK, GEM & MINERAL SHOW

June 3-The Delta County Rock, Gem and Mineral Show will be held on June 3, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heddles Recreation Center, 530 Gunnison River Drive, Delta, Colorado. This event is free to the public, and children and adults of all ages are welcome. Come and enjoy the Annual Rock Show.

John Billings, together with Weehawken Creative Arts present

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RIDE THE ROCKIES, RURAL PHILANTHROPY DAYS COMING TO MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— On Thursday, June 15, from 11 am - 9 pm, locals are encouraged to join in on a day of fun featuring live music, food, and drink downtown. Main Street will serve as entertainment headquarters as the community offers up western hospitality — Montrose style — to a number of special visitors.

For the tenth time in the event's 32 year history, Montrose will host an overnight stop for Ride the Rockies (RTR) on Thursday, June 15. The annual event takes approximately 2,000 bike riders on a week-long tour of Colorado's Rocky Mountains, accompanied by more than 500 event staff and family members. Many event participants will also lodge in Montrose

on Wednesday, June 14, the day before the festivities kick off.

Besides many city departments, other organizations like the MHS NJROTC, Sheriff's Posse, and Montrose Recycles Committee are contributing to the event's success.

From Wednesday, June 14, to Friday, June 16, Montrose will host the San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) for the first time since 2001, welcoming approximately 375 guests to town. RPD attendees will include decision-makers from leading statewide, non-profit funding organizations, like the Anschutz Family Foundation, Great Outdoors Colorado/GOCO, Department of Local Affairs/DOLA, Coors Foundation, Boetcher Foundation, El Pomar Foundation, the Colorado Trust, and many more.

"Everyone involved comes together to exchange thoughts and ideas to contribute toward enhancing the quality of life in our communities and the region,"

said local RPD Event Coordinator Susan Bony, who, along with a sizeable local organizing committee, has been working for nearly a year to bring the event to Montrose. "After the conference is done for the day, all our attendees are encouraged to hop on a shuttle and enjoy the block party downtown on the 15th."

Numerous shuttles will run from 11 am – 10 pm on Thursday to ensure that both sets of visitors can get to where they want to go throughout the main corridors of town, be it the downtown entertainment venue, a restaurant or shop, or back to where they are lodging.

A Wednesday shuttle will also be provided to RTR from 3 – 9 pm for those stay-

ing in town the night before.

Coming downtown to enjoy the day is a wonderful way for Montrose to show community hospitality and become acquainted with interesting people from across the U.S. "We hope that locals will warmly welcome these visitors and help provide a memorable experience," Ryan said. "We want them to come back for more."

For more information about RTR, visit the event website at RideTheRockies.com. Go to VisitMontrose.com/RTR or call [970-240-1402](tel:970-240-1402) for local event and vendor information. Vendor applications are due Wednesday, May 31, 2017.

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NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

FROM BOLERO TO THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

Originally conceived as a ballet for the dancer Ida Rubinstein and twenty male dancers, Maurice Ravel's *Bolero* is not best known as a concert piece. Often described as one very long crescendo (gradually getting louder), the piece starts peacefully with a soft rhythm coming from a snare drum. A flute soon introduces the melody that floats hauntingly above the rhythm of the drum. This ostinato (a continually repeated musical phrase) will never cease to give up its relentless pattern under the distant end of the composition. The initial melody is built on by other instruments as soloists from each section of the orchestra take a turn at the solo line. The listener reaches the six-minute mark and is now aware of things getting progressively louder and a sense of tension and excitement fills the air. For those who have not heard this piece before, you may be thinking to yourself that something at some point must soon branch out in a direction that has yet to be determined. Much to the delight of the listener, it is clear that *Bolero* is a multi-layered dessert that has as its foundation something very delicate, precise, yet somehow enduring and powerful. When the 9:34 mark is reached the tension is increased as the soloists briefly stop and the percussion increases in force before a new wave of the solo melodic line is reintroduced.

Punctuations come from the orchestra, as if something is trying to punch through the sound of the music to be released from the bonds of tension created by the orchestra. An impending conclusion is only felt at approximately 12:40 when the volume and tension have reached a point of edge-of-your-seat finality. At this point the entire orchestra is tearing away at the melodic line and attempting to outdo itself in volume and expressivity. The ending comes at 14:39 with a cataclysmic and crashing rush of notes, a pile of effort and musical genius on the floor of the concert stage.

It would be negligent to fail to mention a few more things about this very famous work for the orchestral repertoire. In per-

formance, the initial snare drum soloist often must be relieved from his relentless duties about halfway through the piece as the repetition of the snare drum line can be ridiculously tiresome. This transition from player to player must be done efficiently and with absolute precision, as any break in this beat and tempo will bring the piece to a conclusion that must at all costs be avoided. With a long, slow buildup, this piece is famous for not only its catchy and exciting tempo, but also as perhaps the best piece in all of classical literature during which to have sex. This is not a musical selection that you want to "make love" to, but a piece that is carnal and is a musical representation of our basic human instincts. If "making love" is where you want to be then I can suggest the 2nd movement of the *Piano Concerto No. 21* by W.A. Mozart. Whereas *Bolero* is a wild rampant episode during spring break, the Mozart concerto is for those who feel that a Hallmark card is the epitome of romance.

These articles often refer to pop culture, television, and the movies as places where music is often heard in the forefront and more often in the background. Some have said that they have never heard any of "that music" in anything they have seen. This is simply a big fat lie if you are older than five. The music may not be recognized but it is definitely there and supporting and adding to the storyline of various forms of entertainment. For our purposes we will highlight a few examples from the world of movies.

The movie *Philadelphia* starring Tom Hanks was known for many things including its soundtrack. Highlights from this intense and sad film were the arias *La mamma morta* from the opera *Andrea Chenier* and from *Adriana Lecouvreur* the lesser known aria *Ecco, respire appena.... Io son l'umile ancella*. Turning now to a subject that is a bit lighter and less emotional, we look at the movie *Guarding Tess* from 1994, starring Shirley MacLaine and Nicolas Cage. The duet *Ich gehe, doch rate ich dir* from *The Abduction from the Seraglio* by W.A. Mozart offers a simple warning to

stay away from a certain woman and a warning to not let women have their own way (gasp!). A simple accompaniment from the orchestra lets the focus fall on the two males voices that push things along nicely in a somewhat comical and light fashion. A simple and somehow catchy duet that does not offer much in the way of a melody that will stick in your ear. Some of the most beautiful music from opera can be found within the soundtrack of films where opera is least expected and where the plot of the movie speaks more to a soundtrack by a grunge band from the early 90's that it does to opera. The movie *Jennifer 8* from 1992 is one such example. The operatic piece featured in this film is one of the most beautiful and haunting in all of opera. The voices are simply the chorus humming in unison and the sun breaks over the horizon in Nagasaki, Japan in the early 1900's. The *Humming Chorus* from the opera *Madama Butterfly* by Giacomo Puccini is really ridiculously beautiful. If you listen to no other selections outlined in these articles, take a few minutes and listen to this piece. Droning on about what it sounds like will never come close to listening to an actual performance.

Let us finish with an aria and a movie that are likely known to everybody who lays their eyes on this publication. The aria and how it is often used are combined into one scene in the movie *Mrs. Doubtfire* starring Robin Williams. One of the early scenes shows our main character doing voice work for a cartoon.

The character on screen is singing *Largo al Factotum* from the Rossini opera *The Barber of Seville*. It is in the world of cartoons where this lively, funny, and extremely difficult aria is often heard. A jack-of-all-trades, the Barber is bragging how he can do anything and fixes any problem presented in front of him.

The only opera cliché that is bigger than "Figaro Figaro Figaro!" is the idea of a large woman with giant brass bra and sporting a Viking helmet belting at the top of her lungs.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & EDUCATION

RECIPIENTS OF THE GAYLE CLARKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Carla Hernandez Chacon, Olathe High School, and Mariah Trujillo, Montrose High School, have been chosen as the 2017 recipients of the Gayle Clarke Memorial Scholarship. Carla received a \$1200 award and Mariah received a \$500 award as the runner-up. The Gayle Clarke Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Gayle Clarke by the Jane Jefferson Democratic Club, the Montrose County Democratic Party, and the family of Gayle Clarke. Gayle was known for her exceptional character, integrity, hard work, and ardent belief in giving back to the community by volunteering. She was a lifelong Democrat and was instrumental to the Democratic Party and the Jane Jeffersons. She had a passion for knowledge and education and had a strong belief in the standards of the democratic process. She was a leader, organizer, mediator, mentor, and friend to all. The annual scholarship was established to reward and encourage graduating seniors in Montrose County to demonstrate their democratic ideals and active involvement in their community and school. Pictured above right, (L-R) Connie Pittenger, Chair of MCDP; Carla Hernandez Chacon; Cathy Williams, daughter of Gayle Clarke; Luz Chacon, mother. Pictured above left, (L-R) Gene and Wanda Wagner, grandparents; E.J. and Melissa Trujillo, parents; Mariah Trujillo; Cathy Williams, daughter of Gayle Clarke; Connie Pittenger, Chair of MCDP.




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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MT. VILLAGE LAUNCHES ENVIRONMENTAL INCENTIVES

Special to Art & Sol

MOUNTAIN VILLAGE-Coinciding with this year's Mountainfilm Festival theme, "The New Normal", the Town of Mountain Village is announcing a handful of environmental incentives for residents. The New Normal focuses on how communities can work together to combat climate change, making seemingly small changes that collectively add up to have a larger impact on the environment.

"Mountain Village has long been a proponent of creating a greener community, and this is most evident by our free pedestrian Gondola, which has been providing a greener method of transportation for the community for more than 20 years," said Bill Kight, director of marketing and business development for the Town of Mountain Village. "These new resident incentives speak to the importance of coming together as a community to address the larger issue of climate change. This really is the "New Normal" for us as a society, and we want to reward our residents for reducing their carbon footprint and working to affect climate change."

Mountain Village Resident Incentives

The resident incentives focus on solar energy, energy efficiency, water conservation and forest health, and the Town is investing more than \$120,000 in providing these incentives to its residents.

Solar Energy – This incentive program offers a rebate of \$.40 per watt for power generated by the sun on participating

Mountain Village homes and businesses. **Energy Efficiency** – The Heat Trace Incentive Program offers a free heat trace system controller to each participant. These will improve the efficiency of heat trace systems commonly applied on roofs and gutters, and controls can result in residents saving between 30 and 50 percent of electricity costs per winter.

Water Conservation – When it comes to water, the Town asks that you use what you need, and will also pay for the entire cost of an EPA WaterSense certified smart irrigation control system with weather-sensing capability for a lawn or garden. **Forest Health** – Climate change directly impacts wildfire risk, as forests are becoming drier and there is an increased chance of fire. When residents create defensible space on their property to reduce that risk, the Town will reimburse residents up to \$5,000.

"As a community, it is important to educate and reward our residents for doing the right thing rather than regulating them into compliance, and our incentive programs do just that," continued Kight. "Additionally, we are a firm believer of practicing what we preach to our residents and invite them to join our efforts to reduce our community's impact on the environment through these incentive programs."

According to Mountainfilm Festival David Holbrooke, "Mountainfilm's New Normal initiative is designed to lower the Telluride

region's carbon footprint so we are really gratified that Mountain Village is taking real and substantive action to combat climate change." In addition to residential environmental incentives, people can also address the New Normal simply by taking the Gondola, as part of the Green Gondola Project also launching during Mountainfilm.

Green Gondola Project

The Gondola has long been a mainstay of the Mountain Village and Telluride communities, providing a greener and energy efficient transportation option for roughly 2.61 million passenger rides per year. Electricity used to operate the Gondola comes from on-site solar energy and wind power purchased through from the San Miguel Power Association and prevents an estimated 45,000 tons of carbon dioxide in vehicle emissions from entering the environment annually. The Green Gondola Project is funded in part by donations by the community and visitors. To help combat the New Normal, check out donation boxes at Gondola stations in Telluride and Mountain Village.

Additional facts and information on the incentives programs can be found at <http://townofmountainvillage.com/green-living/> and for more information on the Green Gondola Project or to donate online, visit <https://townofmountainvillage.com/green-gondola-project>



*All Gave
Some...*



*Some Gave
All...*

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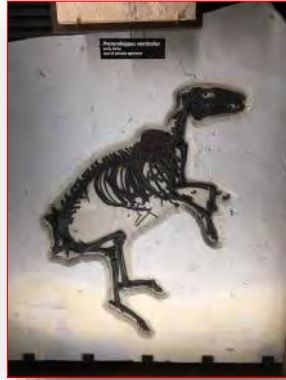
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Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

ON THE ROAD AGAIN



Art Goodtimes and Rio Coyotl at Fossil Butte National Monument in Wyoming. (courtesy photo).



Center, Fossil horse found at Fossil Butte National Monument in Wyoming (photo by Rio Coyotl); at right, Soda Springs Geyser in Idaho (photo by Art Goodtimes).



GRADUATION ... 'Twas a gathering of the Friedberg & Goodtimes & Sante & Hollinbeck & Willow & Fan & Coyotl & Oshá & Thorneycroft clan up in Walla Walla this past weekend to see Sara Mae graduate from Whitman College ... What was it that most impressed her about this liberal arts college where she got a degree in geology? "The people and the teachers," she said without hesitation. "I've met some of the most amazing folks attending school up here."

ROAD TRIPPING ... My oldest son and I drove up from Norwood. We took three days, exploring blue highways instead of bombing up the Interstate. He just turned 30, is on the path of recovery from a lingering illness and it was great having that much time together for an adventure.

WYOMING ... We caught a spring storm on the way north via Mack. Plans to camp out in Flaming Gorge evaporated as snow flurries began dropping out of the clouds ... Hungry, we stopped for a quick bite at Crazy Ate Café Steakhouse in Mountain View. Since I grew up in Mountain View, California, it was fun visiting Mountain View, Wyoming. The restaurant name was a bit off-putting. Flip names rarely suggest choice cuisine. But my son is a modern young man. He doesn't rely on intuition when eating out (like his Pops, which usually results in uneven results). He checks Yelp. Crazy Ate had good reviews, and it was true. A good meal. A lovely waitress who was genuinely friendly. Score one for technology, and rural Wyoming food ... We kept hoping the storm would let up as

we traveled northwest, but no luck. So we settled on a cheap hotel room in Evanston. Yelp saved us from a bad one, and we hit on the Vagabond Hotel. Inexpensive. Clean. Nothing fancy, but a lovely restful night. It saved us from waking to below freezing weather ... Serendipity led us to Serendipity – a downtown Evanston bookstore, antique shop and coffeehouse with great organic offerings, no tips (since a sign says they pay a living wage and tips aren't necessary) and the tastiest breakfast sandwich I'd ever had.

FOSSIL BUTTE... National monuments are in the news. The current administration seems intent in preventing the preservation legacy of past presidents. Checking our maps, we got intrigued with the Fossil Butte National Monument in Wyoming. We'd never heard of it, so we detoured up to visit it. What a gem. We learned about the geology of the area, an ancient lake that preserved a treasure trove of fossils from prehistoric animals and plants. The visitor center was a crash course in paleontology. We could have spend a couple days there, but even a couple hours was a great learning. The ranger was incredibly helpful, and knowledgeable. And it was free. Definitely a site I want to revisit.

GEYSER ... Another serendipity awaited us in Idaho, at the town of Soda Springs. We saw a sign that said "Geyser," so we followed the arrow, and as we pulled up to a large travertine circle, a giant geyser shot up a hundred feet or so into the air. Turns

out the Oregon Trail town had been the site of hundreds of springs. In the '30s, they tried to drill into the formation to create a hot springs pool, and hit a geyser of water. The Interior Department eventually asked that they cap the geyser, because it seemed to be affecting the geysers in Yellowstone. So it became a "captive geyser," allowed to spout off on the hour for a few minutes. We had hit it right on the button ... Turns out the area had its own Steamboat Springs, just like Colorado. Local historian Tony Varilone said that

pioneers heard the rumbling and roaring from the spring as soon as they entered Bear Lake Valley. And just like in Colorado, the springs were destroyed. In the Idaho case, they built Alexander Reservoir over the top of it. Although there is a video online of the old spring when the reservoir was at an historic low -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3A7cqy4MQk>

LOST WALLET ... Traveling, of course, isn't all fun and games. I managed to misplace my wallet twice – engendering a couple sessions of extreme angst. Both times it turned up – once wedged under the car seat, the second time fallen in a crack beside the seat. Traveling can be a time of relaxed pleasure, with bouts of intense worry. Hard to stay alert when you're having fun. But it's one of the paradoxes of being on the road.

POCATELLO ... Taking luxuriously deserted back roads up to the home of Idaho State University, we used Yelp to find an appropriately well-reviewed sandwich shop, only to end up eating next door at Pocatello Co-op Natural Foods Market & Farm Table Café. The food was good, locally sourced and the co-op energy consistent with our politics of cooperation and right living ... Yelp may not be the only way to find good food and lodging, but it sure seemed to help us on this trip.

MORE TO COME ... Next week for more road tales.

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

THE TALKING GOURD

I will not be reduced to false clarity or
deductive explanations of a leaf, falling.

There was a bobcat. To protect my rodents, I scared it off.
Then came a squall of hail so fierce it pockmarked my house.

My Erasmus is dragging.

What I can't change
changes me.

Time has a twin, but doesn't speak of it.

I am overcome by reason,
overwhelmed by song.

The field is good for daisies
and daisies for the field.

The world wept wooden tears
but it was already too late.

The degree of incongruence determines
everything.

Wednesday night is like all the other nights --
Too far from dawn
To be taken seriously

*-the late Jack Mueller
Log Hill Village*

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**There will be no issue of the
Montrose Mirror on May 29, 2017
(Memorial Day.)**

**We resume publishing on June 5
...thanks for reading!**

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

NOW - JUNE 26, ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN

Artists' Alpine Holiday 57th Annual Juried Art Exhibit

Categories: Oil/Acrylic, Watercolor, Drawing & Printmaking, Pastel, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Photography and a Student Division. All entries will be eligible for Best in Show (\$500) and each category will have awards for first (\$400), second (\$200) and third (\$100) place. Show will be held at Ouray Community Center, July 27 - Aug. 5, 2017. Go to ourayarts.org for more information and to register!

OURAY MUSEUM-The Ouray County Historical Society Museum is now Open. Further inquiries please contact 970-325-4576 ,

Email: ochs@ouraynet.com or visit our website: ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org.

MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER LUNCH & LEARN: \$3 lunch & Learn, admission to program, is free. Lunch \$5.

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 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.

MONTHLY-

May 22-Montrose Genealogy Center will hold the regular monthly brown bag meeting on Monday, May 22 at 12 noon at the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans Warrior Resource Center (11 South Park Ave). Celebrate your ancestors' burial grounds. Bring a device to access the internet. Join us as we acknowledge and discover information left by our ancestors on their gravestones. May 22-Montrose Genealogy Center will hold the regular monthly brown bag meeting on Monday, May 22 at 12 noon at the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans Warrior Resource Center (11 South Park Ave). Celebrate your ancestors' burial grounds. Bring a device to access the internet. Join us as we acknowledge and discover information left by our ancestors on their gravestones.

May 27-Montrose Elks Lodge Veterans' Picnic, 801 South Hillcrest from 2 to 5 p.m., Bingo 5 to 6 p.m. \$10 donation. All funds go to the families of local veterans.

May 28-Back by popular demand, internationally acclaimed acoustic guitarist Trace Bundy performs on Saturday May 27 and Sunday May 28, 7:30 p.m., at the Wright Opera House in Ouray. The upcoming concert is sponsored by the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild with underwriting from Elderado Financial in Montrose. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students 16 and under, and may be purchased online at ocpag.org or at the door. The Wright Opera House is located at 472 Main Street in Ouray.

June 3-The Delta County Rock, Gem and Mineral Show will be held on June 3, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heddles Recreation Center, 530 Gunnison River Drive, Delta, Colorado. This event is free to the public, and children and adults of all ages are welcome. Come and enjoy the Annual Rock Show.

June 5-8-Mountain Skywalkers Stiltwalking workshop in Ridgway from Noon to 3 p.m. If you already have stilts, bring them! If you do not, a pair will be provided for you to use. If you would like your own stilts at the end of this class, you can buy a pair from Miss Heather. Each stilt walker will be well prepared to sharpen their skills in Yogini circus camp for our annual performance and have the opportunity to stilt in the July 4th parade.

June 10-Ties that Bind will be shown at Gallery De La Luz, 128 Palmer St., during the month June, with an artists reception and opening on Saturday, June 10, 4-8 p.m. For information: AnnMBarker@hotmail.com.

June 10-Barn Dance & BBQ, 5:30 @ Antler Ridge, benefit for Warrior Resource Center. Live music by Narrow Gauge, catered by Camp Robber, cash bar. For tickets visit www.whafv.org.

June 10-Ute Indian Museum Re-opening Celebration, Saturday, June 10, 10 am - 3 pm.

June 12-15-Mountain Skywalkers Stiltwalking workshop in Ridgway from Noon to 3 p.m. If you already have stilts, bring them! If you do not, a pair will be provided for you to use. If you would like your own stilts at the end of this class, you can buy a pair from Miss Heather. Each stilt walker will be well prepared to sharpen their skills in Yogini circus camp for our annual performance and have the opportunity to stilt in the July 4th parade.

June 13-Ignite Montrose is Tuesday June 13 at 7:30 pm at Canyon Creek Bed and Breakfast (820 East Main, Montrose). Stop in for an entertaining evening of fast-paced presentations (five minutes with 20 slides) from community members sharing their passions. You won't be bored – visit Ignite Montrose on facebook to find out more.

June 14-17-The 2017 San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days Event will be in Montrose, CO June 14-16, 2017 - learn more at www.sanjuanrpd.org . For Scholarships Available: Apply by April 7th! For Early Registration at \$125 rate: April 3 - 28th. For Regular Registration at \$150 rate: April 29 - May 31st.

June 24-The Wesley hand bell Ringers of Christ United Methodist church, Salt Lake City Utah Directed by Katie Lay will be coming to perform June 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Montrose United Methodist Church. This is a free concert, donations accepted.

June 25-Free Concert:Montrose Community Band Free Patriotic Concert: Strike Up the Band. Come and enjoy the music of America. Sunday, June 25th, 7 p.m., Montrose Pavilion. www.montroseband.com.

July 4-Montrose Fourth of July Celebration Downtown.

July 8-Dave Stamey in concert at Montrose Elks Lodge with opener Tyller Gummarsall on Saturday, July 8, 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 available at Montrose Elks Lodge, Montrose Music, online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2911762 more info call [970-275-4183](tel:970-275-4183).

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

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At left, Partners Mentoring held a bicycle clinic for kids Saturday (courtesy photo); above, Jennifer McClanahan shot this photo at the Peace Officers' Memorial in Centennial Plaza on Wednesday, May 17.



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Michele Gad is a **Certified DelGiacco Neuro Art Therapist**, who assists individuals with cognitive or mental health challenges to live life as fully and independently as possible. She developed **FAME** in 2010 to better assist her clients. Sessions are specifically designed to meet client's individual needs, goals, abilities, and level of commitment...and have fun!