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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Going to the meetings, bringing you the news...The Montrose Mirror, weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 278 June 25 2018

BOCC AUTHORIZES 100 PERCENT OF SECURE LOCAL SCHOOLS FUNDING TO RE-1J; APPROVES TASTING ROOM PERMIT FOR WINERY



Montrose County has authorized 100 percent of Secure Local Schools funding to Montrose County RE-1J schools. Pictured above is the RE-1J Adult Education Center.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-There were no comments from the public, and no changes to the agenda at the regular meeting of the Montrose County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) on June 20.

Prior to the meeting, BOCC Chair Keith Caddy took time to wish a happy birthday to County resident Nancy Medlock, who regularly attends BOCC meetings. "Happy Birthday...we won't sing happy birthday, I promise," Caddy said, and welcomed Montrose City Councilor Doug Glaspell to the meeting, "Thanks Doug for showing up, we appreciate it."

Consent Agenda items were unanimously approved.

Item D-5 under General Business (authorizing staff to

[Continued pg 16](#)

CITY TEMPORARILY BANS SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS; COUNCIL ACCEPTS DDA PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-In order to allow councilmembers and city administration to attend the Colorado Municipal League (CML) annual conference, this regular council meeting, which normally would have been held on Tuesday, was re-scheduled for Monday, June 18.

Council meetings are video recorded and citizens can watch meetings via live-stream on the city website or view them at a later date. However, Mayor Roy Anderson announced there were technical difficulties on June 18 and the meeting could not be viewed in real time.

Consent agenda item B (Fireworks Display Permit) moved to the regular agenda - City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo

Call for Public Comment – Participants are given three-minutes to speak. Council does not respond to citizens' comments.

Jim Haugsness, on behalf of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), thanked the council for their partnership on the project to build housing for kids who, because of their age, are

[Continued pg 8](#)



Assistant City Manager/Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) Director Rob Joseph ends his employment with the City of Montrose June 28th. Joseph has no immediate plans, but will remain in the area. Photo by Gail Marvel.

in this
issue

[Gail Marvel's
Answering the Call Series!](#)

[Art Goodtimes
Up Bear Creek!](#)

[DDA Drafts Guidelines
for TIF Requests!](#)

[Sleep In Heavenly
Peace-Montrose!](#)

[Reader photos:
Deb Reimann!](#)

ANSWERING THE CALL: MPD PATROL OFFICER NICHOLAS GEHM

By Gail Marvel

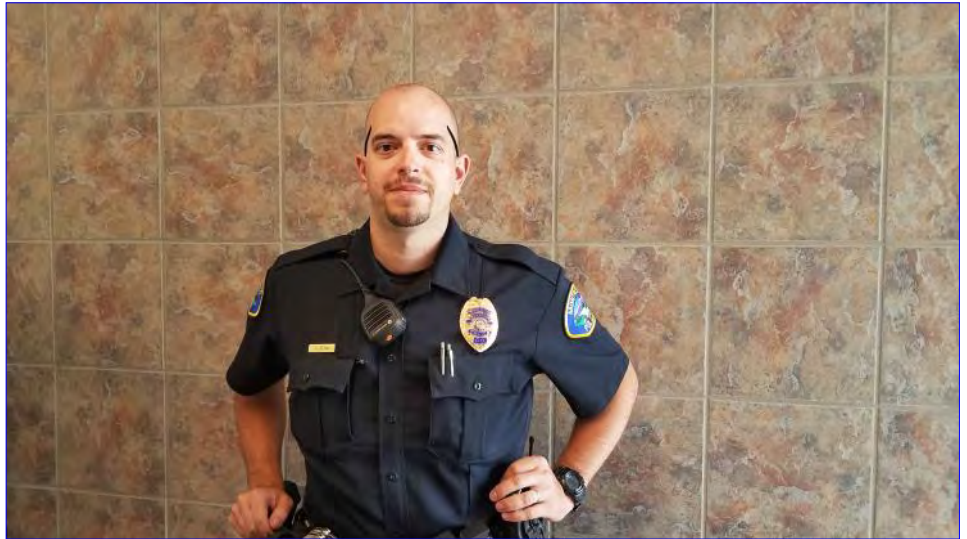
MONTROSE-Nicholas Gehm moved from Arlington, Texas to Montrose in 2014 and opened Heavenly's Frozen Yogurt, "I moved here to start a business with a friend, but that was just an excuse to get to Colorado. We knew we'd only do it for a few years [2 ½ years]."

Gehm was attracted to law enforcement in part because of family members, "I have a lot of family involved in law enforcement. My dad was in the Denver PD and I had an uncle, aunt and cousin in some aspects of law enforcement. I liked the idea of impacting people by the decisions I make every day."

The Montrose Police Department (MPD) sponsored Gehm for the Police Academy in August 2017, "I like to joke that the hardest part of the academy was the physical training. The paperwork was hard... and learning how to use your discretion. We spent weeks studying the criminal code and learning how to apply it appropriately. A lot of police work is not black and white. You need to apply a lot of discretion." Gehm used writing a citation as an example, "Do you write a ticket, or do you write a warning? Discretion a particular skill."

Gehm graduated from the academy and joined MPD in December 2017. At the time of this interview he had just passed his PTO (Police Training Officer ride-along), "On Sunday [March 18th] I'll be on my own and be assigned a vehicle."

As a new officer, stressors are different from that of more seasoned officers, "For me just having someone next to me all the time to critique me was stressful. In most cases the training officers have a specialty. Having them there was beneficial, but



MPD Patrol Officer Nicholas Gehm. Photo by Gail Marvel.

stressful because you don't want to disappoint them. You want to make sure you're doing everything correctly and yet you are just learning the basics of the job. Experience gives you the ability to make better decisions, but when you don't have the experience...it's stressful."

Gehm enjoys all aspects of his job, but to date the most enjoyable part is, "Getting to know the training officers. You spend 12-hour shifts together. I respect all of them already. There are several phases of training and you build comradery with the training officers. You also share the experience with the other new hires in training."

Police officers see people at their best and their worst. Gehm said, "There are some tragic circumstances we get into. It's never enjoyable to see people struggling. I went into this job to help people improve things, but that means you have to help them through some junk."

A skill set Gehm uses in his position is

customer service, "I have a lot of work experience in customer service and it involves communication. Even if I have a different point of view, I can talk to people and help them come up with a resolution." Gehm has yet to use CPR, "I've been involved with a few calls that were life threatening, so I've been there, but not directly responsible."

When off duty Gehm likes to relax by reading books, taking walks and going to the park with his family. The Gehms have five children, ages 12 years to three months.

"My wife is a stay-at-home mom who does a great job."

Nationally there has been some negative sentiment toward police officers.

Gehm's message to Montrose citizens, "Speaking as a new officer I haven't found a single officer, old or new, who doesn't want to help and serve the people in the community."



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GMUG WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY FOREST SUPERVISOR

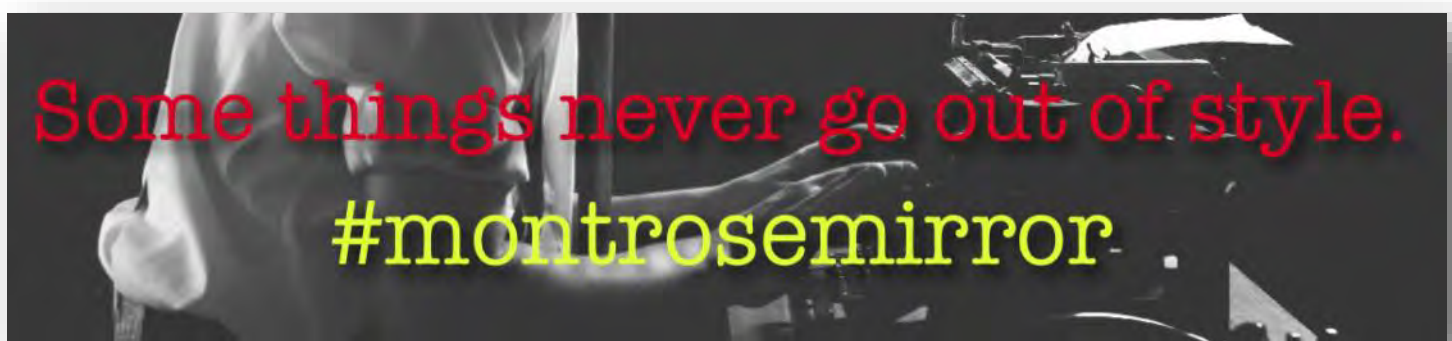
Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests welcome the arrival of Chad Stewart as the new Deputy Forest Supervisor. Stewart reported to the GMUG on May 13, he replaces Russ Bacon who left to assume the role of Forest Supervisor of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest.

"I look forward to working with the diverse communities and issues that are part of the GMUG National Forests" said Chad "I am also excited to explore the local area and everything it has to offer"

Chad is transferring to the GMUG from the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest where he served as the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears District Ranger in Steamboat Springs since 2013. He has over 20 years of experience in public land management starting as a seasonal wildland firefighter and moving on to become a Hotshot, Fire Ecologist, Fire Management Officer and Timber and Fire Staff Officer. Chad holds several degrees including a B.S. in Biology from the University of Oregon, an M.S. in Forest Ecology from the University of Minnesota, and a Masters of Business Administration from Touro University.

Chad is moving to the GMUG with his wife Amy, their daughter Kacy and son Dathan. Their family pursuits include camping, geocaching, biking, skiing, fishing and travelling.





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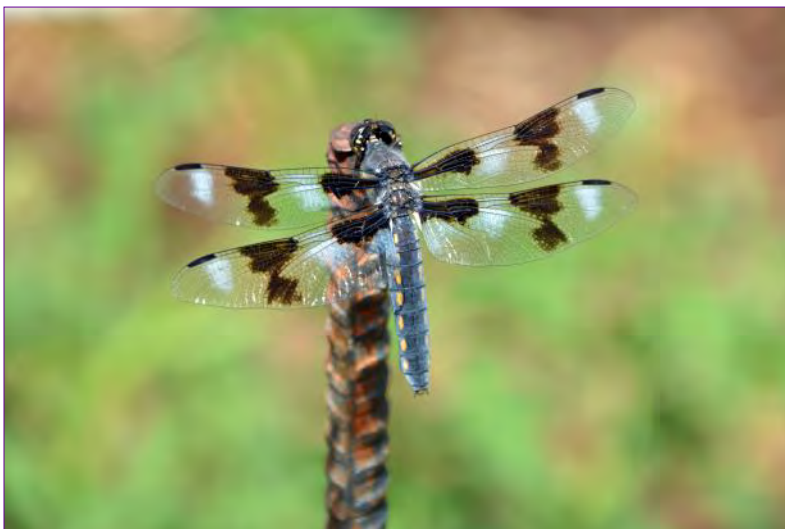
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MIRROR IMAGES: READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT



Deb Reimann of Montrose captured these garden images of (clockwise from below left) gailardia, a dragonfly, lavender.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF RESPONSIBLE FOR WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING, SEARCH & RESCUE: VOTE FOR ADAM MURDIE

Dear Editor:

I have known Gene Lillard for more than 40 years and have known Adam Murdie over 20 years. I have been around the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department since 1975. I like Mr. Lillard as a man, but there are so many differences in the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department and what the Sheriff is required to do. Adam Murdie started up from the bottom in the Sheriff's Department and has worked his way up to the Under Sheriff so he knows what it is all about. If there is a fire in the unincorporated area of the county the Sheriff's responsibility is to deal with it. It's his job to do search and rescue for anyone lost or overdue in the county. There are many other items on the list of things the Sheriff is required to do that is state or federal law that police departments are not required to do.

I am voting for Adam Murdie and I am asking for you to vote for him too.

Charles McMurdy, Olathe



Roger Lord
575-649-8503



Burton Bullington
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Rich Porter
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM GUNNISON FIELD OFFICE SHIFTS TO STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON— On Monday, June 25, 2018, Stage 2 fire restrictions will expand on Bureau of Land Management lands in the Gunnison Field Office to include the lands within Gunnison County, along with the existing Stage 2 restrictions in San Juan County surrounding Silverton, Colorado. The following acts are prohibited under Stage 2 Fire Restrictions on BLM lands:

Building, maintaining, attending or using an OPEN FLAME, including fire,

campfire, stove fire, charcoal grills and barbecues, coal and wood burning stoves, and *devices (stoves, grills or lanterns) using liquid fuel* such as white gas or kerosene.

Exception: Operating a stove, lantern, or other device using pressurized gas canisters (isobutene or propane) equipped with a valve that allows the operator to immediately turn the flame on and off. SMOKING.

Exception: Within an enclosed vehicle,

trailer or building.

WELDING or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.

Using an EXPLOSIVE. This includes but is not limited to fuses or blasting caps, fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, and tracers or incendiary ammunition.

Operating a CHAINSAW without an approved spark arresting device, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (8 oz. capacity by weight or larger and kept with the operator) and a round point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available for use, or *outside of the restricted hours of 5am – 1pm.*

All TARGET SHOOTING – To include discharging a FIREARM, air rifle, or gas gun. Possessing or using a MOTOR VEHICLE OFF ESTABLISHED ROADS, motorized trails or established parking areas, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the vehicle.

Except for parking overnight in developed campgrounds and trailheads.

The use of fireworks, flares, or other incendiary devices, including exploding targets, are always prohibited on federal lands.

Exemptions to the Stage 2 Fire Restrictions include authorized activities of any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting effort in the performance of an official duty. Additionally, holders of valid BLM permits, leases and authorizations are allowed to conduct approved activities, but are advised to take extra precautions to prevent fire starts. The BLM continuously monitors the conditions throughout the area and will modify the restrictions as needed.

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MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS: EMPLOYMENT

CLASSIFIED / EMPLOYMENT ADS FOR THE WEEK OF 6/25/18:

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Hiring **2ND SHIFT SANITATION - EQUIPMENT/MACHINERY CLEANER**. Duties include: scrape & mop floors, disassemble machines, clean parts, reassemble machines, load conveyor dish-washer, clean conveyor systems and other duties as assigned. Check website for further detail and/or apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **BOOKKEEPER** for a manufactured home community business in Montrose. Full-time, permanent opportunity. Needs to have experience with QuickBooks, Sage Timberline a plus. Some travel within Montrose required but mileage reimbursed. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **LUMBER STACKERS** physically able to lift up to 50 pounds repetitively in a construction type environment. Hours: 6am - 4pm, Monday – Friday. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

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Hiring an **OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE** to sell telecommunications services/installation. This position will be a mix of phone calls and in person sales; candidate must be independent and motivated. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **GENERAL LABOR WORKERS** for full and part-time job opportunities in Montrose and Gunnison. Hours and length of assignment vary. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.



MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS: EMPLOYMENT

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CITY TEMPORARILY BANS SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS; COUNCIL ACCEPTS DDA PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT From pg 1

transitioning out of foster care. Haugsness said, "CASA helps them with life skills, jobs and we are a sounding board for them to make good decisions."

Resident Dave Stockton noted that originally the proposed sales tax ballot initiative was for additional law enforcement officers and a new facility, "Now it is for public safety. That's a broad topic." Stockton encouraged council to have public forums and address, "Why do we need a sales tax, what are we after? I read that it [sales tax increase] would be in perpetuity. Perpetuity is a long, long time. Maybe it should be 20 years max."

Trisha Bush, representative from the Center for Mental Health, announced there would be an Opioid Response Program held on Tuesday, June 26, from 6-8 p.m. at the library. "This addresses the opioid crisis and educates the community on where they can dispose of meds."

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

Applicant Shanda LaRue requested a liquor license for consumption on premises for Jimmer's, located at 1413 E. Main, the old Red Barn location.

LaRue stated they will drop the word BBQ from their former name and will be known only as Jimmer's. LaRue said, "We will open on July 4th or soon after. We'll have an expanded menu including steaks and fish. We'll close down the other restaurant. It's for sale." [Approved unanimously.](#)

New Arts Liquor License Application - City

Attorney Stephen Alcorn.

Applicant Magic Circle Players, Ltd. requested a liquor license for consumption on premises at Magic Circle Players, 420 S. 12th Street.

Applicant Lisa Rediger said, "What we want is for our performances to be more than a performance, that they will become an event." Magic Circle hopes that serving wine, hard cider and beer before shows and during intermission will draw more millennials. "It will help build relationships and community." Approved unanimously.

Ordinance 2449 (second reading) - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Annexation of the 1890 Homestead Addition. The 1890 Homestead Addition, owned by Matt Miles, is located at 16587 Chipeta Drive. The current use is residential and agriculture, the total size is 35.791 Acres. Council had no questions or discussion on this second reading item. Approved unanimously.

Ordinance 2450 (second reading) - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

Provides for zoning the 1890 Homestead Addition as R-3A (medium density district) and B-4 (neighborhood shopping district). The Planning Commission recommended approval for the zoning. Councilwoman Barbara Bynum asked some generic zoning questions which were answered by Baker. Approved unanimously.

Ordinance 2451 (first reading) – Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement Virgil Turner and Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty.

This Ordinance adds a new Section 4-15 to the Official Code of the City of Montrose for the purpose of codifying provisions regarding historical preservation.

Rosty gave a PowerPoint presentation using three examples of historic preservation projects. She said, "This is not to force owners into preservation, but to help them."

Turner said, "Tax credits are available to owners of the property. This is a voluntary program. Once designated [as a historical site] it stays with the property forever. This is being asked for by developers."

Councilman Doug Glaspell asked about the age requirements. Turner said, "Typically a building is not considered historical until it is 50 years or older, but that is not a hard and fast rule. It can also be designated historical because of the importance of a person or an event." Approved unanimously.

Resolution 2018-15 - City Manager Bill Bell.

This Resolution temporarily bans the sale and use of fireworks within the City of Montrose.

Earlier, neither the city nor the Fire Department had concerns about the sale and use of fireworks within the city of Montrose. Bell said, "After talking to neighboring jurisdictions we've reconsidered. People are concerned about the fire danger." Mayor Anderson said, "I think there was a lot of citizen concern so this is a reaction to that."

Fire District Chief Tad Rowan apologized to council for miscommunication in a

Continued next pg

CITY TEMPORARILY BANS SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS; From previous pg

previous press release. Rowan supported the temporary ban, "Our resources can be applied to the public display rather than having to worry about individuals. We issued four permits, but the Fire Marshal contacted the vendors, we withdrew the permits and refunded the fee." Approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda Item B. moved to the regular agenda:

Fireworks Display Permit for the City of Montrose Fireworks on July 4, 2018 - City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo.

Fire Chief Tad Rowan said, "We can safely conduct a fireworks display. We'll mitigate the area and we know the flight path of the fireworks." The Fire Department is not responsible for putting on the event, "We are stand-by services for medical emergencies and spot fires." Approved unanimously.

Resolution 2018-16 - Senior Planner Garry Baker.

This Resolution is for the Plan of Development for the area of land encompassed within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

DDA Executive Director Sonia Dumas said, "This gives a clear definition as to what the DDA represents and how we'll work with other departments." Councilman Dave Bowman complimented Dumas for putting the DDA parameters in writing.

Prior to voting on this item Bowman referenced a story in the *Montrose Mirror*

concerning city council conflicts of interest. Bowman said, "There was a ridiculous accusation that I should not have voted on the Main Street, LLC." Bowman stated that he had no financial connection to the Main Street LLC and that he was a simply a volunteer for KVNF radio station in the past. In an effort to tie the previous situation to the agenda item at hand Bowman said, "I've volunteered for the DDA and I'll continue to volunteer for the DDA. I don't see that as a conflict of interest and I will vote on this tonight." Approved unanimously.

Resolution 2018-17 - No staff presenter assigned.

This is a resolution supporting the City of Grand Junction in pursuing the relocation of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Headquarters from Washington, DC to Grand Junction, CO. Approved unanimously.

Bid Approval Landscaping Services - Facilities Manager Mark Armstrong.

Armstrong said, "Four proposals were reviewed and scored by a committee." Staff recommended awarding a Professional Services Contract for landscaping services to S&E Ward's Landscape Management Inc. at an annual cost of \$67,528. Approved unanimously.

Staff Reports:

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

Financial report is for January – April 2018. Total Collected Sales and Use Tax

\$5,199,811; Montrose Recreation District (0.3%) \$519,294; Retail Enhancement Program \$104,958.

Public Information Report - City Manager Bill Bell.

Bell updated council on the homeless situation and the efforts of various groups coming together to find a solution. Bell has told Lighthouse Ministries that the Brown Center facility, which is owned by the city, cannot be used as a permanent solution, but only as a temporary and emergency shelter. Bell feels the answer to the homeless situation is a housing project, a residential facility, that should be located near Sharing Ministries.

The pedestrian bridge, which was destroyed by fire earlier this spring, will reopen.

City Council Comments:

The rest of the week city council and admin staff will attend the annual CML conference. Bell noted this is his last year as a CML board member.

This was the last city council meeting for Assistant City Manager/Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) Director Rob Joseph. Joseph's employment with the city ends on June 28.

Bell thanked Joseph and acknowledged his contribution to the city over the last several years.

Youth Council Report – Sage Wilber.

The youth council held their end-of-the-year BBQ on June 16. The group continues to work on more community videos.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OLATHE AMERICAN LEGION POST 24 HOLDS CEREMONY FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSABLE FLAGS

Special to the Mirror

OLATHE-The Spiers Dennis American Legion Post 24 in Olathe, Colorado held a ceremony for the disposal of unusable flags at Olathe Veteran' Memorial Park, Saturday, June 16. Members of the Olathe Post of the American Legion were joined by members of the Olathe American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and Legion Riders. The flag disposal ceremony is the approved method for disposing of American flags that have become too worn for use. The ceremony provides a dignified and respectful setting for burning flags that are no longer usable.

Spiers-Dennis American Legion Post 24 was established Aug. 22, 1919, and is named in honor of Pvt. Earl C. Spiers and SM John T. Dennis(USN). The American Legion is a U.S. war veterans organization headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana. It is made up of State, U.S. territory, and

overseas departments, and these are in turn are made up of local posts. The legislative body of The American Legion is a national convention, held annually. The organization was founded on March 15, 1919, at the American Club near Place de la Concorde in Paris, France, by members of the American Expeditionary Forces, and it was chartered on Sept. 16, 1919, by the U.S. Congress.

The organization played the leading role in drafting and passing of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, otherwise known as the "GI Bill." In addition to organizing commemorative events, members provide assistance at VA hospitals and clinics. It is active in issue-oriented U.S. politics. Its primary political activity is lobbying on behalf of interests of veterans and service members, including support for benefits such as pensions and the Veterans Health Administration. The organi-



zation has also historically promoted Americanism.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT

Montrose Regional Crimestoppers

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. and the Montrose Police Dept. are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate the suspect(s) involved in the theft and fraudulent use of credit cards.

A group of stolen credit cards were located near the Mountain Country Café near US 550. Investigation determined that between May 16th and May 25th, two men utilized the stolen credit cards to purchase \$2,364 in merchandise from the Montrose Target store. They were photographed by store surveillance cameras.

Anyone with information about this crime or the identity of the perpetrator(s) or any other crimes, may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500, use the mobile app P3 Tips, or provide information via P3tips.com. Crime Stoppers wants your information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the Tipster may receive a cash award. For additional information, please view our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers. Crime prevention and crime solution are everyone's responsibility.





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CITY COUNCIL HEARS SAVE THE SCULPTURES UPDATE; FILES ASKS IF SCULPTURES CAN BE MOVED 'SOMEPLACE ELSE'

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-City Council Work Sessions are working lunches and open to the public. Generally speaking, no public comments are accepted and no formal actions taken during work sessions. However, council can reach consensus on moving some agenda items forward. Unlike regular city council meetings, work sessions are not video recorded, but an audio CD can be requested and purchased at city hall.

Introduction of new employees:

Police Officer Jeremy Payne, OBT Guest Services Assistant Kyli Rodgers, Police Officer Russell Maranto, Streets Superintendent John Cain, and Utilities Worker Alexander Wall. Animal Shelter Technicians Harry Dunn and Savannah Russell were not in attendance.

Discussion items:

Save the Sculptures Community Fund Raising Update - Committee Member Bob Brown and Deputy City Clerk Carolyn Bellavance.

The "Save the Montrose Sculptures" Committee, a component fund of the Montrose Community Foundation (MCF), is leading a citizen-based effort to raise funds to purchase two monumental scale sculptures by artist Vic Payne — "Bad Decision" and "Where Eagles Dare." The sculptures are currently located on Main Street.



Four of six new city employees were introduced to city council during the June 18 work session. (L to R) Police Officer Jeremy Payne, OBT Guest Services Assistant Kyli Rodgers, Police Officer Russell Maranto, Streets Superintendent John Cain, and Utilities Worker Alexander Wall. Animal Shelter Technicians Harry Dunn and Savannah Russell were not in attendance. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Continued next pg

CITY COUNCIL HEARS SAVE THE SCULPTURES UPDATE

From previous pg

Brown said, "We have not established or demonstrated the feeling in the community. So many people didn't realize that they were on loan, so we need to educate the community. We started a petition program and we're approaching 900 signatures. We've not stopped. I've not come here to tell you we are giving up. We're still going."

The committee has now raised \$104,000; however, they are not going to reach their goal of \$250,000. Brown said, "We are going to end our operation in September." The committee has been given an extension on the loan of the sculptures until April 12, 2019 and Brown proposed a brainstorming session between committee members, city council representatives and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), "To talk about it creatively where this is a win-win."

Bellavance, the city liaison for the committee, also serves with Montrose Public Art eXperience (PAX). Bellavance said, "PAX is in full support of the monumental sculptures in our community. It's hard to measure art tangibly. I think we should consider keeping them. It says that we value the arts in our community."

Councilwoman Judy Ann Files questioned the location of the sculptures, "Could they be moved somewhere else?" Files expressed concern that the sculpture "Bad Decision" gives the impression that Mont-

rose is a cowboy town, "Which we really aren't. We're agricultural, four-seasons and recreational." Brown said, "A lot of people think of agriculture as ranching."

Brown is willing to explore relocating the sculptures; however, he was concerned about the cost associated with moving them. Councilman Dave Bowman volunteered to be the council representative for the brainstorming session.

Colorado Healthcare Foundation Grant Authorization - Grant Coordinator Kendall Cramer.

The City of Montrose has been selected by The Colorado Health Foundation, a Colorado nonprofit, to receive \$89,520 which will provide \$25,000 in matching funds for the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Connect Trail, and \$64,520 for engagement efforts with the Hispanic/Latino Community.

Cramer said, "This is a two-year program to strengthen outreach and engagement for minority groups. A big factor for getting grants now is to focus on minorities. This trail goes through a hispanic neighborhood and we can make sure that all voices are heard."

This item was slated to be on a Consent Agenda; however; Mayor Roy Anderson requested it be moved to the regular agenda so council could talk about it in the public forum.

General City Council discussion:

Files brought up the Montrose County Health & Human Services (HHS) fall Flu Shot Clinic and asked council if they wanted a full presentation at a council meeting. The clinic will be held in October at the Montrose County Event Center.

Council discussed the proposed ban on fireworks and how that relates to fireworks currently being sold in big-box stores. City Manager Bill Bell said, "There are two permits required to sell fireworks. One from the Fire Department and one from the city. The Fire District has revoked the four permits they had given out. If you vote to ban fireworks, that would go into effect and apply to big-box stores."

Mayor Anderson discussed a broadband conference he attended and suggested topics for future work sessions.

Council discussed Vacation Rentals By Owners (VRBO) and a lodging tax. The issue has come up with previous councils. Bell said, "We've been concerned about over regulation in Montrose. There are a lot of issues on enforcement, zoning and staff time."

Staff Comments:

Police Chief Tom Chinn said, "Commander Blaine Hall will be leaving soon for a three-month FBI academy. He will be back the first of October. It's a big deal, it really is."

The pedestrian bridge that was burned is open this week.



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BOCC AUTHORIZES 100 PERCENT OF SECURE LOCAL SCHOOLS FUNDING TO RE-1J; APPROVES TASTING ROOM PERMIT FOR WINERY

From pg 1

pass through 100 percent of eligible Secure Local Schools funding to local school districts including that portion of revenue that might otherwise be retained for Road & Bridge purposes) was heard first, as commissioners awaited a representative from the North Fork Ambulance Health Service District to hear Item D-1.

"Historically we've retained 25 percent of this funding for Road & Bridge purposes," County Government Affairs Director Jon Waschbusch said.

"...this additional distribution combined with the full reauthorization of SRS by Congress puts the number passed on from Montrose County to Montrose County School District this year at \$258,000 which is certainly a good sum to be able to pass on."

"I'd like to ask for twelve and a half percent of the increase for a new baseball field over at the high school," Commissioner Glen Davis said. "Other than that, I am all in favor of it."

Commissioners unanimously approved Item D-5, as well as Item D-2, a budgeted but unplanned purchase of new elections software and equipment.

"I had planned on coming before the board during our regular budget process to do this," Montrose County Clerk & Recorder Tressa Guynes said.

"...We had not planned on implementing this this year...but we don't have a choice. What happened is that during the primary election we were building the election--we build the ballot and then we add the audio portion to it which is called TRANS--and it crashed.

"The audio portion is the ADA part, for the hearing impaired...this is a Federal Election and we are absolutely required to have that."

The Secretary of State's office stepped in to reinstall the old system, only to have it crash again a week later, Guynes said. "Right now we are running on the backup to the backup."

Commissioner Glen Davis said, "This ex-

pense was planned as a budget for next year, it has become a problem and with a Federal Election coming up it was decided to move forward with this at this time."

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash asked the age of the current equipment.

"It was purchased in 2006," Guynes said.

"So we've gotten our money's worth out of it," Rash said.

Guynes noted that Montrose County is the 60th county in Colorado to make the transition to the new Dominion system. Garfield County is transitioning to a Dominion system this year as well.

"All of the other counties are so small that they hand count everything," she said.

Commissioners approved Resolution 35-2018 unanimously, authorizing \$157K to acquire election equipment from Dominion Voting Systems, Inc. to assure compliance with state and federal elections laws. The Colorado Secretary of State will reimburse the County for half of the cost.

Commissioners then reconvened the public hearing on Item D-1, approving the proposed North Fork Ambulance Health Service District Plan.

Kathy Steckel represented North Fork Ambulance Health Service District.

"We have a 1,500 square-mile service area; we serve the northeast corner of Montrose County," she said.

With no public comment, Commissioners closed the hearing and unanimously approved Resolution 36-2018, regarding the service plan.

Also approved were an amended plat for the Stoney Brook Subdivision and quit claim deed to subdivision owners Dallas and Sean Turley, conveying a 2,080 square-foot parcel of county land to the Turley's in exchange for \$4,944 in unbudgeted revenue.

"A shed owned by the Turley's encroaches on County land," Jon Waschbusch explained.

Commissioners also authorized an addendum extending [the On-Airport Rental](#)

[Car Concession agreement](#) with Hertz Corporation by one year, through Aug. 31, 2019; and awarded a Request for Proposals for [Montrose Regional Airport Restaurant Concessions](#) to sole bidder Horsefly Brewing Company LLC.

After a brief public hearing, the BOCC unanimously approved a tasting room permit for local winemakers Rick and Kathy LaNoue for the soon-to-be-built LaNoue Winery at 67255 Trout Road, [Planning and Development item E-1](#).

"We have been making wine as amateurs for years now," Rick LaNoue said. "We have been designing this for years...we are finally at a point where we are ready to build."

With 14 acres in grapes near the Uncompahgre River and one acre near the winery, the LaNoues also hope to expand their acreage, he said.

Kathy LaNoue noted that tasting room hours will evolve, but will likely be Tuesday through Saturday until 5 or 6 p.m.

Upon passage of Resolution 37-2018 allowing the tasting room in association with the winery, "You're in business!" Cadby told the LaNoues.

P&D Item 2, a proposal to lift a plat note for the amended Big Mac Minor subdivision, was continued to July 3 so that commissioners could further review the information; and a [proposal to waive an annexation report](#) for the Town of Olathe was unanimously approved.

Commissioners convened as the Montrose County Board of Health, holding a public hearing and then approving [Resolution 1802](#) to revise and amend the rules governing the inspection and minimum standards for system cleaners of on-site wastewater treatment systems.

Commissioners then convened as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority, and voted to approve the [annual liquor license renewal](#) for the Pleasant Valley Store in Cimarron.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WHAT EFFECT COULD NEARBY WILDFIRES HAVE ON YOUR ELECTRICITY?

San Miguel Power Association

RIDGWAY—Even if you haven't been following the news of the 416 fire or Burro fire to the south of our region, or the fire in Redvale, you've probably noticed the smoky air that's been hanging around over the past few weeks. As of this writing, drought conditions and local winds have prompted Stage II fire restrictions in five of the seven counties that make up the San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) service territory and so far, the maximum containment of any nearby fire is only 35%. These weather conditions raise the potential for power outages to be long-lasting and widespread.

"Under conditions like these, we take extra precautions to reduce the risk of fire when restoring power," says SMPA Manager of Engineering, Bill Riley. "We rely less on our automated and remotely-controlled equipment, and instead require our line crews to be on site when power is restored." This practice reduces the risk

of fire, but it can also extend the duration of a given power outage.

It is also important to know that the system that delivers electricity to our communities is under significant limitations right now. "Because of the fires, a major transmission line from Durango that normally supplies energy to our system may--from time to time--become a load instead of a supply," says Riley. "Combined with the fact that another incoming transmission line is de-energized as it is being rebuilt, our options for re-routing power are very limited."

Transmission lines, like these, deliver power from regional generators to local substations, so interruptions on these lines can affect a greater number of people than interruptions on local power lines. "We're up and running now," assures Riley, "but it's important for our members to know that our potential for long-lasting and widespread outages is higher than normal."

SMPA asks for patience from its members as power outages are addressed, but also asks for vigilance. When a power outage occurs, its cause is not always obvious. In some cases, a phone call from an observant community member can save hours of searching on the part of line crews. If you see something out of the ordinary concerning power lines or equipment:

- 1) Stay clear of the area.
- 2) Call SMPA at 1-877-864-7311 to report the situation.

Additionally, power users should take steps to prepare for extended power outages.

Pack bags of supplies and flashlights with fresh batteries.

If members have their own generators, they should be sure they are in proper working order and that fuel is available.

Get additional tips for outage preparedness at <https://www.ready.gov/power-outages>.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE LAUNCHING RESERVATION-ONLY CAMPING PILOT PROGRAM

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - Six state parks will soon start a pilot program to eliminate the required three-day reservation window for camping.

Instead, these parks will go to a "reservation-only" system where campers can reserve their site 24/7 at cpwshop.com or by calling 1-800-244-5613.

Customers camping at these pilot parks will be able to easily make reservations for campsites 24/7 online or by phone.

They will no longer need to gamble by waiting until they arrive at the park hoping to stay at a first-come, first-served site, only to find that there isn't one avail-

able.

State parks participating in this program are:

[Cheyenne Mountain](#)

[Eleven Mile](#)

[Ridgway](#)

[Staunton](#)

[St. Vrain](#)

[Trinidad Lake](#)

When does it start?

Five of the state parks will begin the pilot program on July 1 and will apply to all campsites in those parks.

Reservation-only camping at Ridgway State Park will start September 15 and only apply to sites in the F and G loops.

What if someone occupies a site they

haven't reserved?

Campers who occupy a reservation-only campsite without a reservation will be subject to a citation. All campers must reserve a campsite prior to occupying the site. This can be done 24/7 at cpwshop.com or by calling 1-800-244-5613.

Camping is available for the first time at Staunton State Park as part of the pilot program.

Staunton State Park will have 25 backcountry campsites open to the public by reservation only beginning July 1, 2018. There are no fire pits or fires allowed. Each campsite offers a 24-by-11 foot pad for a tent, a bear-proof food locker, and a picnic table.

CITY BANS SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS IN CITY LIMITS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Citing critical fire danger and public safety Montrose city councilors voted unanimously on June 18 to temporarily ban both the sale and use of fireworks within the city limits. The ban took effect immediately.





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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES PLANNED

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) is proud to present the annual Fourth of July parade with the guidance and assistance of the Montrose Police Department and the Lions Club. Come join the patriotic celebration through historic downtown scheduled for Wednesday, July 4 at 10 a.m.

All area clubs, churches, organizations, schools, dance and drill teams, and businesses are encouraged to take part in this popular community parade. Registration is required and must be completed by Friday, June 29.

The application includes rules, regulations, street closures, and other event details and can be found at www.cityofmontrose.org/626/Independence-Day. Complete and return the parade entry form to the city's Office of Business and Tourism office at [107 South Cascade Ave](#), open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. You can also contact OBT staff at, 970.497.8558.

The parade route along historic Main Street begins at North Pythian Ave and travels to South Rio Grande Ave.

Parade lineup is first come, first serve, following the Montrose High School NJROTC Color Guard and Montrose High School marching band. Participants are to report to North 9th Street and Nevada Ave no later than 9 a.m. for parade line-up. Livestock entries and line-up will begin at the Montrose County Fairgrounds at the Pythian Ave gate.

The day's celebration will conclude with a city-sponsored fireworks display from Sunset Mesa at dusk. The display can be seen close up in the immediate vicinity of the Baldridge Regional Park Complex (Riverbottom, Sunset Mesa, and Cerise parks).

The fireworks show is subject to change due to increased fire danger throughout the region. As of this week the City's Parks Department, working with the Montrose Fire Protection District, are taking steps to reduce potential fuels around the launch site on Sunset Mesa to ensure the show can proceed.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HIGH MESA TIMBER SALE TO AFFECT TRAFFIC NEAR CIMARRON

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Ouray Ranger District has announced the beginning of logging operations on the High Mesa Timber Sale in the Uncompahgre National Forest's Mountain Division.

The sale is located off Little Cimarron Road (County Road 864A), approximately 20 miles south of Highway 50 near Van

Boxel Creek and Moore Pasture Creek.

Area residents and visitors are encouraged to be mindful of their surroundings due to an increase in heavy equipment and semi-truck traffic between the sale area and Highway 50, and are advised to take extra precautions while in the area, as there are numerous blind turns, switchbacks and narrow spots with little to no shoulder.

The timber sale, which is under the Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline

Management Response (SBEADMR), will improve overall forest health by providing a chance for increased species diversification, improved wildlife habitats and reducing hazardous fuel loading. Operations are expected to last until late September with no hauling on weekends or federal holidays. The Ouray Ranger District and its staff would like to thank the public for their patience and understanding during this period.

MMH CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Larry Dupper, Chief Financial Officer at Montrose Memorial Hospital announced today that he will be retiring from his 43-year career in healthcare on June 30. Larry has been at MMH since January 2017, and prior to joining MMH was the CFO at Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs for 18 years. "This is a wonderful place to live and my wife and I plan to stay in the area and enjoy spending more time with our children and grandchildren," said Larry.

Dupper wishes to express his appreciation to the Board of Directors, staff and physicians at MMH for the welcome he and his wife Pam received. An interim CFO will fill the position until a permanent replacement can be recruited.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

TO MONTROSE VOTERS: A CALL TO ACTION

Editor:

The following words are not meant to be a condemnation of City Council or the Administrative Staff of the city. They are meant to be a call to action by my fellow Montrosians.

I spoke at the June 18th City Council meeting during the public comment portion regarding the Sales Tax increase initiative. I raised my voice on this issue because of the ambiguity surrounding it. Initially it was to be a sales tax increase request to be put forth to the voters in support of law enforcement. Now it is being couched as a public safety support initiative. Our leaders can't seem to come to agreement on the amount they are seeking, it's been anywhere from .3 percent to .75 percent. Keep in mind this is on top of the 7.95 percent aggregate we currently pay. Also, this additional tax revenue/expenditure is on top of the \$6,139,369 allocated in the 2018 city's

budget. The new tax was to be in place for somewhere in the twenty-year range, now it is being proposed to be in perpetuity. That means no fixed end date, your grandchildren and their grandchildren will be paying this tax.

During my speech to Council on the 18th I requested they, along with the City Staff, host a public forum explaining the need for the additional tax. I also asked them to define public safety, the duration of the tax and to finalize the amount being sought. In short, to have an open dialogue with the residents of Montrose. My request to you, Montrose, is to do the same as me. I ask that you contact each City Councilor requesting this public forum take place and that it is done at a time

where people can attend (6 pm). I ask that you don't blindly accept whatever is being put before you. Seek the information needed to be informed.

City Council Contact Information:

Roy Anderson (Mayor) - randerson@ci.montrose.co.us

Dave Bowman (Mayor Pro Tem) - dbowman@ci.montrose.co.us

Barbara Bynum - bbynum@ci.montrose.co.us

Judy Anne Files - jfiles@ci.montrose.co.us

Doug Glaspell - dglaspell@ci.montrose.co.us

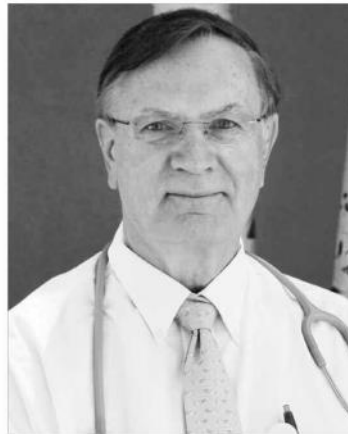
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Dave Stockton, Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY DEDICATES MORE THAN \$282K TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) knows that our local schools are facing significant challenges in regard to facilities and capital improvements, as well as enrollment challenges. As a result, when this year's Secure Rural Schools funding was allocated to the county, the choice was clear—100 percent of the funds would be dedicated to help improve local educational facilities. The BOCC presented a check to one of the recipient school districts—the Montrose County School District—on June 20th. "This was probably the easiest decision of my term," said Chairman of the Board Keith Caddy. "We are proud of our local schools and equally proud to be able to allocate the discretionary portion of this funding to schools serving Montrose County youth." The funds will be distributed to Montrose County School District RE-1J (\$258,833.96), West End School Dis-

trict RE-2 (\$12,536.52), Delta County School District (\$8,498.86), and Norwood School District R-2J (\$2,484.72). The calculation for disbursement of the funds is based on a per pupil count of the school districts serving students within Montrose County. The funding is derived from the Secure Rural Schools Act (SRS Act), a bill that provides funding to rural counties and schools located near national forests across the United States. Counties historically have the option of earmarking a portion of the funds to both local schools and county road and bridge operations; however, the Montrose Board of County Commissioners recognized the challenges facing local schools and dedicated the entire allotment to improving our local education infrastructure. Montrose County School District



Courtesy photo by Erika Story, Montrose County.

Superintendent Stephen Schiell indicated that the funds will go towards improving the entryway security at Oak Grove Elementary and Olathe Elementary schools. "We are tremendously appreciative of the County Commissioners' willingness to adjust their budget in order to improve school security at two of our elementary schools," said Schiell.



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\$2,600,000 | MLS# 741894
Bedrooms: 0 | Bathrooms: 0
188.54 acres



3348 Ivory Court
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$733,000 | MLS# 743482
Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms: 4.00
2,914 sq. ft. on 0.35 acres



19420 Pahgre Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$585,990 | MLS# 745354
Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms: 3.00
3,154 sq. ft. on 5.26 acres



1814 Otter Pond Circle
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$459,990 | MLS# 745648
Bedrooms: 5 | Bathrooms: 5.00
3,891 sq. ft. on 0.4 acres



2218 Fellows
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$399,000 | MLS# 743520
Bedrooms: 5 | Bathrooms: 3.00
3,794 sq. ft. on 0.21 acres



1802 Galaxy Drive
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$249,990 | MLS# 744072
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.00
1,461 sq. ft. on 0.22 acres



64669 W Ranger Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$419,990 | MLS# 744775
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.00
2,565 sq. ft. on 7.77 acres



336 E Main
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$279,990 | MLS# 744894
Bedrooms: 0 | Bathrooms: 0



11375 Bostwick Park Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description
\$449,990 | MLS# 741889
Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms: 4.00
2,498 sq. ft. on 8 acres



Jeff Keehfuss
Broker/Owner
970-209-3825
Jeff@MontroseColorado.com
MontroseColorado.com

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NORWOOD RANGER DISTRICT SEEKS COMMENT ON WILDLIFE HABITAT

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests' Norwood Ranger District is seeking public input on a number of proposed management actions for the South Tabeguache Wildlife Habitat Project. The project aims to restore wildlife habitat through the implementation of the 2002 Uncompahgre National Forest Travel Plan Record of Decision (ROD). The project area will cover National Forest System lands south of Tabeguache Creek to 25 Mesa Road (NFSR 503) and northeast of Ray Trail (NFSR 614) and will include the southern Tabeguache Basin, Glencoe, Pinto Mesa and the Bucktail Trail areas.

"The public's participation in this process is very important to us" said Norwood District Ranger Matt Zumstein "We hope to receive comments that will help us to identify any issues or concerns related to the proposed actions"

Project personnel plans to use a combination of signing, gates, road closures and road decommissioning on non-system and user-created routes to reduce impacts to wildlife, watershed and soils resources in the area. No National Forest Service System roads or trails as identified by the ROD will be closed or decommissioned as part of this project.

According to Zumstein, "Upon completion of the project we will not only be improving wildlife habitat, but will also be helping to restore important watersheds and improving upon the overall recreation experience"

Comments must be received by July 5th, 2018 and be submitted as follows:

Mail or hand delivered to: Norwood Ranger District, Attn: Luke Holguin, 1150 Forest Street, Norwood, CO 81423.

E-mail or Fax: comments-rocky-mountain-gmug-norwood@fs.fed.us, or 970-327-4854



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TACO DEL GNAR MAY EXPAND TO MONTROSE WITH BREWERY COMPONENT, DDA DRAFTS GUIDELINES FOR TIF FUNDING REQUESTS



Longtime board member and former DDA Chair Kirk Hartman was recognized by the DDA board June 19. Pictured left to right, DDA Chair Scott Riba, board member Debbie Blanchard, DDA Manager Sonia Dumas, Hartman,

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-For the past eight years, local business owner Kirk Hartman has volunteered on the board of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). At the DDA meeting of June 19, Hartman stepped down, and was recognized by his fellow board members. "Thank you for your service," DDA Chair Scott Riba said.

"It has been a great roller coaster ride," Hartman said.

Guests at the June meeting included County Assessor Brad Hughes, Bob Brown of Save the Sculptures, Garry Baker of the City of Montrose, and Montrose County Historical Museum Director Sally Johnson.

DDA Chair Scott Riba noted that DDA board member Julie Otto had recently tendered her resignation as well.

DDA Treasurer Dick Frantz provide an update on the DDA's finances; "We have \$159,000 in our fund...our balance is in good shape."

Manager Sonia Dumas reported on the success of the DDA's social media campaign, "We are getting good traction...

visitors are spending on average a minute and a half; we're getting positive engagement, they are not just sitting there."

Dumas discussed ongoing efforts to bring the popular Taco Del Gnar to Montrose, including a brewery.

"The timeline is early next year."

Four DDA board positions are now open or will be open in 2019, she said.

Assessor Brad Hughes presented a brief overview of taxes, including the number of taxing entities in Montrose County (93) and the difference between residential and commercial property tax assessments (including the impacts of the [Gallagher Amendment](#) on the residential assessment rate).

"Commercial property owners, I know you feel that burden," Hughes said.

"Colorado has one of the lowest residential assessment rates in the country, but it is mid to high when it comes to commercial property tax."

New commercial construction best generates increased property tax revenues, Hughes noted, but "We haven't had a lot

of new buildings in the DDA...Taco John's and Dominos are the last two I can recall."

A drop in assessed values must be made up before the DDA can generate revenue from property tax increment funding (TIF). Also, the DDA loses potential revenue when a taxable property is destroyed or goes exempt, Hughes noted. A commercial space that converts to residential units loses taxable value, and "charitable organizations that get tax exemptions erode the tax base," Hughes said. "Someone else has to make it up." By way of example, non-profit Sharing Ministries' recent move to a new facility removed \$650K from the tax rolls, and \$700K worth of real estate purchased by the City of Montrose "doesn't help either."

There are 14 vacant lots in the DDA, but some could be unusable. "What you need to think about are what changes to these properties would create taxable value."

Board members asked a variety of questions, including one on the taxable status of public art.

Guest Garry Baker asked about the impact of parking lots, and said, "Parking kills a Downtown...it's not healthy for a Downtown."

Hughes said that a dirt parking lot would add taxable value if paved and improved.

Frantz asked about the impact of a historic district on "the tax situation."

Hughes said that the restrictions of a historic district might deter some buyers. Improvements to a historic property add value, "But maybe not as much as you think," Hughes said.

Following the Assessor's presentation, Montrose County Historical Museum Director Sally Johnson presented information on opportunities for DDA members to work with the Museum to cross-promote each other.

"I do historic alley tours, and if you have a sticker on your back door that represents your 'brand,' I will give you a free advertisement," Johnson said.

Johnson also noted the continuing popularity of the alley murals, created by Montrose teachers and local teens in 1987. "I wish we could get the kids to come in and

Continued next pg

DDA DRAFTS GUIDELINES FOR TIF FUNDING REQUESTS

From previous pg

paint the alleys again," she said. "So many people talk about those murals."

Johnson also discussed a possible update to the popular but outdated Montrose Walking Tour maps, to highlight Downtown buildings that are listed on the historic registry.

A recent tour of the Townsend House generated 25,000 views online, she said.

Johnson spoke about implementing QR codes to help share information about historical buildings and sites, and welcomed DDA members and local merchants to an open house at the Historical Museum July 11, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Retired gallery owner Bob Brown presented information on the status of the Save the Sculptures campaign, a group working to retain the large Vic Payne bronze sculptures on loan from the owner in Ridgway. "We have collected \$104,000 (of the \$250,000 needed) so far, but that won't get us to the finish line."

Brown asked the DDA to consider sending a representative to a meeting of stakeholders in the next two weeks, "We're hoping for donations, grants, loans...the City has the ability to do that. I am asking you to consider sending someone to the meeting, to see if we can come up with a

win-win solution.

"...if we don't make a deal we're going to give 'em back."

Following the guest presentations, DDA board members discussed progress on the draft guidelines for future TIF funding requests.

Dumas said that she would work with Hughes to target strategies that could improve property tax revenues within DDA boundaries, and would schedule a meeting with City of Montrose Finance Director Shani Wittenberg and City Attorney Stephen Alcorn to further review the DDA's financial picture.

MICHAEL LAWTON

Michael Lawton ©

Traveller



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2018 RIDGWAY RIVERFEST NOT DETERRED BY DROUGHT

By Tanya Ishikawa,
Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership

RIDGWAY-The Uncompahgre River's record-setting low flows are just another reason to celebrate the watershed, river recreation and their value to our community. The Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP), which organizes the Ridgway RiverFest, has decided the show must go on this year with a few changes to accommodate the low flows.

In its eleventh year at Rollans Park in Ridgway, the RiverFest's main event is the Junk of the Unc homemade watercraft competition with the goal of riding the crafts down a short stretch of river with style, ingenuity and speed. Even with low water flows, the Junk will go on at 2 p.m. and competitors will be eligible to win as long as they start and end the race on their crafts.

"If Junk of the Unc competitors have to pick up and walk their crafts down part of the race course, so be it – some call that portaging, getting from one section of sufficient water to another," said UWP Communications Director Tanya Ishikawa. "The historic drought this year really helps us realize the value of water for all its diverse uses. Though it's not optimal for many river recreation activities, the festival is adapting with entertaining alternatives plus we have our usual on-land fun like a great band performance, an inspiring Ute culture presentation and a new interactive art project."

The River Races that usually go downstream all the way to the Ridgway Reservoir will be replaced this year with River Relay Races at 11:30 a.m. This year, racers who bring hard-shell and inflatable kayaks will be paired into teams with stand up paddleboarders and inner tubers to take their turns racing down and back up a new short course on the Uncompahgre River at Rollans Park. The top three teams that finish the fastest will be awarded the coveted RiverFest trophies, designed and created by Ridgway artist Joann Taplin.

Also new at this year's festival, the Safety Rope Bag toss contest at 11 a.m. will give competitors a chance to test their life-saving skills as they throw a safety rope bag to a "celebrity" rescue victim (safely floating in a life jacket) in the middle of

the narrow river channel. The person with the most accurate toss out of three tries, as determined by our guest judge panel, will win a RiverFest award as well. If enough competitors sign up, we'll have a second contest at noon.

Returning after a three-year hiatus, ironically due to high flows that made it unmanageable, the Rubber Ducky Race will give festival goers a chance to win \$100, \$50 and \$25 gift certificates to our River Rat Marketplace, which is what we call our silent auction. Each person who registers will get one free entry, with additional entries costing \$3, and the fastest three dummies to the finish line will win the certificates.

Besides the river activities, the most popular activity at the RiverFest is always the live band performance from 3 to 6 p.m. The 2019 headlining band, Sugar & the Mint from Prescott, Arizona, won't disappoint. The six-piece bluegrass band, comprised of six musicians in their late teens and early 20's, were the first place winners of the Band Contest at the 2017 Telluride Bluegrass Festival and were invited back to perform at the 2018 Bluegrass Festival.

Ute Mountain Ute Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk and her father Norman Lopez will provide a cultural presentation from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Lopez-Whiteskunk advocated for land, air, water and animals from an early age, and spent 10 years in the Information Technology field working for Chief Dull Knife College, the Southern Ute Indian and Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribes of Colorado. She has traveled extensively throughout the nation presenting and sharing the Ute culture through song, dance and presentations. Lopez, her father who will play flute, has

been a student of life and carries great respect for the land, environment and Ute way of life. He was taught to make flutes by his grandfather and uncles from the hearts of the cedar trees, and has played the traditional style, from his heart. The birds and wind inspire his unique sounds.

"I'm so excited to welcome Regina and Norman to this year's RiverFest to carry on the tradition of sharing the native culture of the people who were in this watershed before Colorado was Colorado," Ishikawa said. "We can learn so much from their heritage. Plus, we have many other opportunities around the festival grounds for visitors to learn about the natural resources here. UWP will have scientists showing and telling about water ecology and research, the Ridgway State Park will have rangers sharing information and games, San Miguel Power Association will demonstrate renewable energy equipment, and Trout Unlimited will do fly fishing lessons. There's so much more as well from local brews, margaritas, food by Guru's and Full Tilt Saloon, snow cones by Voyager Youth Program, and more."



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THANK YOU GENE LILLARD FOR RUNNING A DIGNIFIED CAMPAIGN

Dear Editor:

I would like to congratulate Gene Lillard for the dignified way he has handled this campaign. It shows the true character of his self and his supporters. Job well done!

Sharrie Blackwelder, Montrose



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ISSUE 155 June 25, 2018

ART & SOL

BUILDING BEDS, BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Without a comfortable place to sleep, young people start life at a serious disadvantage.

According to [Parents Magazine](#), kids who get a good night's sleep have a reduced risk of injury, heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. Sleep promotes healthy growth, greater attention spans and increased learning ability—and it helps kids develop healthy immune systems.

Here in Montrose, one father is working hard to make sure every child has a safe, comfortable place to sleep. Bill Martindale is the director of Sleep in Heavenly Peace-Montrose, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that works to ensure that “no kid sleeps on the floor in our town.” In that capacity, he solicits [donations](#), obtains lumber and supplies, and coordinates volunteers for “build days.”

On June 2, [Sleep in Heavenly Peace \(SHP\) of Montrose](#) held its first build day; in two hours, 15 volunteers built ten new beds for local children, “from a raw stack of lumber to the finished product,” Martindale said. And with that effort, the local chapter became Colorado’s first active SHP chapter, one of 30 nationwide.

“We deliver beds to children in our community who don’t have them,” he said, “and we set ‘em up with mattresses and sheets too.”



Courtesy photo of the first build day for Sleep in Heavenly Peace-Montrose.

“For most of them, this has been the first bed they have ever had,” Martindale said. “This is something every kid should experience—unparalleled happiness.”

Each bed is designed to stand alone or be stacked as a bunk bed, and costs around \$375 to build.

“They’re really cool looking,” Martindale said. “Our signature “brand” is an actual brand—we take a branding iron and heat it up to brand the beds. It’s awesome.”

It’s not just the kids who benefit, however. According to Martindale, build volunteers learn valuable trade and craft skills while providing critical support to their community. They also network with one another and build relationships.

“One lady had spent her entire career in food service; I showed her how to use a drill press,” Martindale said. “Our volun-



Every bed frame is “branded” by SHP build volunteers. Courtesy photo.

teers go home knowing that they have really helped.”

[Donations](#) to Sleep in Heavenly Peace-Montrose are welcome, whether in the form of cash, labor, bedding or tools. All [donations](#) go directly to the cost of building beds, and are used here in Montrose to help local families.

A father to three boys himself, making time to help others is something Bill Martindale believes in and encourages; “A couple of years ago I gave my nephew a bunk bed,” he said. “And at our first SHP build, he helped me with assembly.”

[Bed requests](#) can be made on the organization’s website at www.shpbeds.org, or by contacting Bill Martindale on Facebook [@SHPMontrose](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

SHERBINO THEATER COMPANY PRESENTS THE LITTLE PRINCE JUNE 28-JULY 1

RIDGWAY-The Sherbino Theatre Company is proud to present an upcoming production of "The Little Prince," based on the book by Antoine De Saint-Exupéry.

This 'Little to Big Production' celebrates young actors sharing the stage with seasoned STC actors. Cast and crew members are from Ridgway, Ouray, Silverton, and Montrose and include James Bingham, Aidan Borgo, Anwen Borgo, Bradley Boykin, Andrew Boykin, Edward Cating, John Clark, Jamie Coulter, Vera Coulter, Anna Countryman, Betsy Countryman, Caroline Countryman, Emma Countryman, Joe Countryman, John Countryman, Lance Fitzgerald, Mony Garriga, Lu Hauger, Melissa Johnson, Cat Lichtenbelt, Finn Lichtenbelt, Martin Pitts, Brenda Ratcliff, Aksel Roberts and Zea Roberts.

Beautifully acted and designed, this pro-

duction of the classic tale will touch your heart; "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly." This beloved play tells the story of a world-weary and disenchanted Aviator whose sputtering plane strands him in the Sahara Desert and a mysterious, regal "little man" who appears and asks him to "Please, sir, draw me a sheep." During their two weeks together in the desert, the Little Prince tells the Aviator about his adventures through the galaxy, and about his strained relationship with a very special flower on his own tiny planet. The Little Prince talks to everyone he meets: a garden of roses, the Snake, and a Fox who wishes to be tamed. From each he gains a unique insight which he shares with the Aviator: "What is essential is invisible to the eye."

Performances are June 28th, June 29th,



June 30th at 7 PM and July 1st at 4 PM. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to curtains.

Tickets are Available Online at www.sherbino.org Advance ticket prices are Reserved: \$20, Adults: \$15, Youth (12 and under) \$8, Students and seniors \$12. Tickets will be available at the door for a slightly higher rate.

For more information, visit sherbino.org or call (970) 318-0150.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: WILDERNESS

COMMUNITY MEETING ABOUT THE ATLAS MILL TAILINGS PROJECT

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Wednesday, July 11, from 7-8:30 p.m. Ouray Community Center, San Juan Room, 320 6th Ave., Ouray, CO 81427. Please join Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety, and Ouray Silver Mines to learn about a proposed multi-stakeholder remediation project at the historic Atlas Mill tailings. Ask questions and give your input on the proposal to ensure the project benefits the whole community. Free and open to the public. For more information, visit uncompahgrewatershed.org/events or email uwpcommunications@gmail.com.

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Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Poetry & mushroom karasses

RABBIT HOLES ... Wendy Videlock of Palisade is arguably one of the more recognized of our Western Slope poets. She publishes in major magazines, like *Poetry* and *Rattle*. She's found critical champions in Sherman Alexie, Dr. David Rothman and many others. Her alcohol ink paintings are celebrated in the Grand Valley and beyond ... This last year she's teamed up with KAFM and the Western Colorado Writers Forum to host a series of monthly "conversations with writers, artists, musicians and other eccentrics," calling it *Rabbit Holes* ... Peter Anderson and Rachel Kellum of Crestone and Laurie James of Salida were June's guests, talking about Buddhism, Quakers and Paganism. And for poetry, is it "first thought, best thought," or does crafting an essential part of poetic practice? All three leaned towards the latter ... Next month it's Alan Wartes and Issa Forrest of Gunnison, along with yours truly, talking about Medicine, Medium and the Radical Middle. Wed., July 18, 7 p.m. at the KAFM Radio Room at 1310 Ute Ave. in Grand Junction.

LITHIC BOOKSTORE ... Danny Rosen and Kyle Harvey are the dynamic duo who host regular events, mostly poetry readings and lectures, at the Lithic Press and Gallery at 138 S Park Square #202 (Upstairs) in Fruita. The Rabbit Holes crew did a fine reading last week at the Lith: Peter Anderson had us rolling in the aisles with his humorous explication of octopi sex lives, Rachel Kellum wove the ancient Bon practice of Tibet into her Buddhist ways, Laurie James shared her hardscrabble Montana upbringing -- father with one eye and a mother with one thumb, and Wendy Videlock ended the evening with a haunting last poem to his wife from Robert King -- a Colorado poetry icon who died last year.

EL GRUPO ... I'm walking a bit ahead of our group on a foray down a thickly-forested trail in the highlands above Valdivia, Chile. Ferns and epiphytes compete with *nothofagus* trees (southern beech)



Above left, *Blue Mycena* mushrooms on wooden bridge near Valdivia, Chile (photo by Art Goodtimes); above right, Wendy Videlock reading poetry in Grand Junction, 2012 (courtesy photo).

for filtered sunshine. People walk very slowly. On the scout for mushrooms ... Our Gary Lincoff Memorial Tour is several days into its first week. The trip is for most of us a planned escapade into various scenic parks and preserves in a faraway place. A vacation with fungi as unifying focus. And in a way you might think of us as myco-volunteers, assisting our Chilean tour host Giuliana Furci of *Fundacion Fungi* in finding, identifying, examining and classifying specimens for her third guidebook of indigenous mushrooms ... As I crossed over a mossy footbridge that jumped a hillside creek, I had a question and waited for mycologist Britt Bunyard, Telluride Mushroom Festival director and editor of *Fungi* magazine, to catch up with me. I showed him something I'd found. And looking down, he suddenly noticed a tiny blue *Mycena* growing out of the bridges' wooden railing where I'd had him stop. The more we looked, the more we found. The bridge was a veritable gold mine of blue *Mycena*. Pretty soon the plank structure was swarming with El Grupo's mushroom aficionados, thick as ladybugs massed on a tree limb. We'd found a large fruiting of a rare one. Yes! ... Vonnegut likes to talk about karass -- a group of loosely affiliated people. That was us. Mycologists -- amateur and professional, a couple pot-hunters (folks who

mostly hunt mushrooms to eat them), and everyone a photographer. Most of us hadn't known each other before the trip. All of us were connected through a love of mushrooms and our friendship with Lincoff, who had just died a couple months before ... But the bonds of connection were tenuous. And we were a very different crowd -- individuals, a few couples, and some tour assistants -- about 30 in all. Some from the East Coast, where Gary led tours and forays, often in Central Park, for the New York Botanic Garden. Some from the Telluride Mushroom Festival, where I'd gotten to know Gary in all kinds of situations for three days a year -- going on 37 years. A woman from Norway. A South African pathologist. A former intelligence agent for the State of Israel. An odd karass for sure ... El Grupo was a strange animal. We all started as familiar strangers with a common passion. But the rigors of travel coalesced us into a unit. And that was fascinating to watch ... Some things we did as a full group, but even meals and forays often led to folks self-selecting into smaller groups. And then for travel, when not on airplanes, we mostly took vans. Four of them. So we found ourselves lumped with van-mates, not always the same ones -- sometimes jockeying to be with folks we enjoyed talking with, especially on long drives (of which there

Continued next pg

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

were several). Along the way we often got separated into cabin groups, or hostel groups, or supplemental lodging groups. All that mix and matching actually strengthened our connections. But it also emphasized our natural affinities. Just like in high school, we sort of fell into certain cliques – smaller groups who hung together as often as they could in the shifting arrangements ... When we didn't end up

seated with our normal cliques, we got to probe the stories of people who we didn't naturally find ourselves attracted to. That was wonderful too – especially as all of the folks on the tour were interesting people in their own right ... Most of my life I've avoided tours. I like to strike out on my own. Explore. Let serendipity take me away. But being part of a guided experience had its benefits I learned. There was

a lot less anxiety in traveling as arrangements had already been made. Same for meals.

And Giuliana knew some wonderful places to eat ... Maybe it was the magic of Gary, who's charm, personality and knowledge had touched us all. But, *mirabile dictu*, I had an amazing time with this guided tour. Something I never would have expected.

THE TALKING GOURD

Uberman's Hubris

Ah, how we've
thought of ourselves
since World War Two

Liberators of
the oppressed. Saviors of
Western Civilization

Heroes & heroines
And how we have to face facts
like tariffs a la Trump

We're big
We're bad
We're bullies

in a world that seems
to be leaning bully
A tilt that could get us



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June 11-14



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WITH SRA. CHRISTI BERRY IN MONTROSE**

June 11-14



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MONTROSE**

June 16



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Begins June 25



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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business & Cultural Events

CURRENT/ONGOING-

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS meeting every 3rd Thursday at 6 p.m. at Friendship Hall in Montrose. All veterans with at least a 10 percent service connected disability are welcome. For more information call [\(970\)964-4375](tel:9709644375).

June 14-DMEA Annual meeting at the Montrose Pavilion, 4:30 to 8 p.m.

ARTISTS' ALPINE HOLIDAY

Now through June 25-Final days to register for the 58th Artists' Alpine Holiday Art Show. Go to www.ourayarts.org for details! (Art does not have to be delivered until July 22 & 23.)

MONTROSE TOASTMASTERS

Meetings every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at Proximity; 210 E Main St, Montrose, CO 81401.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL, non-profit organization, 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.

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

Now - June 25-Final days to register for the 58th Artists' Alpine Holiday Art Show. Go to www.ourayarts.org for details! (Art does not have to be delivered until July 22 & 23.)

June 26-The City of Montrose will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday, June 26, at 2:30 p.m. to celebrate the reopening of the pedestrian bridge over the Uncompahgre River, which had burned in a brush fire earlier this year. The bridge is located about 300-yards off East Oak Grove Road.

June 27-The Ouray County Historical Society offers its perennially popular Geology Field Trip Wednesday, June 27. Participants will view 1.6 billion years of earth's history as seen in the rocks of the Ouray area. Led by local geologists Larry Meckel and Robert Stoufer, the all-day trip will make nine stops along US 550 from Ridgway to Red Mountain Pass. Tour guests will ride in open-air trucks from Colorado West Jeep Rentals. A small bus also will be available. The \$135 fee includes transportation, lunch, beverages, park admission and a guidebook. Admission fees are nonrefundable. For more information or to register for the field trip, please call (970) 325-4576 or e-mail ochs@ouraynet.com. Registration for the trip will remain open until all spaces are filled.

June 28-July 1-Sherbino Theater Company presents "The Little Prince" @ 7 pm (showtime) June 29th @ 7 pm (showtime) June 30th @ 7:00 pm (showtime) July 1st @ 4 pm (showtime) Doors Open 30 minutes prior to showtime. Tickets, available in advance online at www.sherbino.org: Adults: \$15 Youth (12-) \$8 Student (with ID) \$12 Senior (65+) \$12.

June 28-Meet adventure writers Jennifer Pharr Davis and Jane Parnell at the Montrose Regional Library on Thursday, June 28, from 6:30 -8:30pm. Book signings and refreshments will follow the presentations. For more information, please call Tania at 964-2546.

June 30-11th Annual Ridgway RiverFest, Saturday, June 30, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Rollans Park, Ridgway. Enjoy a community watershed celebration with live music, river races, food booths, arts & crafts, beer, margaritas, silent auction, and more. Funds raised support activities of the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. For info: ridgwayriverfest.org

July 1-Area residents and visitors are invited to join us as we celebrate the 31st Annual “Sunday in the Park” at Ridgway’s Hartwell Park on Sunday, July 1. Activities begin at 10 a.m. followed by our traditional outdoor western BBQ with all the trimmings—FREE to all who attend. Please, bring a lawn chair and join us as we enjoy an inspirational message and music followed by a BBQ picnic under 100 year old cottonwoods following the program. Hartwell Park is located in the center of Ridgway on Highway 62. For more information, call (970) 626-5692.

July 4-Independence Day!

July 11-Sherb Talk: Democracy & Social Media with Dr. Ryan Murphy. Doors at 7, Talk at 7:30, entry by donation.

July 11-Atlas Mill Remediation Project Community Meeting, Wednesday, July 11, 7-8:30 p.m. Ouray Community Center, 320 Sixth Ave., Ouray. Come to learn and give us your feedback about a project proposed by Ouray Silver Mines to improve stream water quality around the Atlas Mill up Ouray County Road 361 (Camp Bird Road). For info: <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events/>

July 14-Fourth Annual FUNC Fest @ Riverbottom Park! Fun on the river, music, and more. For more information about the FUNC Fest please contact the OBT at 970.497.8558 or email at: events@visitmontrose.com.

July 18 -“It’s in the Details,” a lecture presented by Black Canyon Quilt Show Judges, will explain the objective standards of workmanship and design used to evaluate quilts in competition. Whether you quilt for fun or competition, information presented will help attendees to produce their very best work. The judges will also announce the winner of the 2018 Black Canyon Quilt Show Best of Show ribbon and explain why the quilt was selected. . Holiday Inn Apex Room, 1391 South Townsend. 6 p.m. Cost: \$5 at the door.

July 20-22-Modernize Your Paintings and Fall in Love with Acrylics with Claudia Hartley. Registration for this class is \$395 and does not include materials.

July 20—22: Black Canyon Quilt Show at the Montrose Pavilion, 1800 Pavilion Dr. Show features: 200 Quilts, Vendors, Scissor Sharpening, Demonstrations, Boutique, Raffle Quilt, Lectures, Appraisals, and Classes. Visit blackcanyonquiltshow.com for more information. Show admission: \$4.

July 20-The History of Climbing in the San Juans with Pete Davis. Presented by Pete Davis, doors will open at 7, talk at 7:30. Entry by donation (suggested \$10).

July 28-Liver Down the River. Saturday, July 28th. Doors @ 7:30pm, Music @ 8 pm. \$10 entry at the door.

July 29-Montrose Altrusa Voice of the San Juan’s competition (Blind auditions are July 29, Magic Circle Theatre) final performances at the Pavilion Sept. 15).

Aug. 4-Olathe Sweet Corn Festival! The Festival is proud to announce that Grammy Nominated Artist Eric Paslay will headline the 27th Annual event! The Olathe Sweet Corn Festival is proudly presented by City Market and Alpine Bank and is a component fund of the Montrose Community Foundation. For more information and online ticket sales please visit www.olathesweetcornfest.com.

Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com www.montrosemirror.com



The sculpture "Bad Decision," by Wyoming artist Vic Payne, is one of two sculptures whose fate is in the hands of Montrose citizens. The Save the Montrose Sculptures Committee, a component fund of the Montrose Community Foundation (MCF), is leading a citizen-based effort to raise funds to purchase the sculptures. Photo by Gail Marvel.



**J-M
PHOTOGRAPHY**
For assignments
& rates please call
**Jennifer
McClanahan @
970-765-2280**