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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 280 July 9 2018

CITY OF MONTROSE ANIMAL SERVICES DWINDLE AS STRAY CAT POPULATION EXPLODES



"Alaina," above, is a spay/neuter release stray cat found as a kitten beneath a Montrose porch. The Montrose Municipal Animal Shelter now refers locals with stray cats to organizations like [Snip-n-Tip cat project](#).

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-If you are like many in-town residents, you may have seen an increase in cats and kittens—under your porch, beneath shrubs, or on another part of your property. Montrose is presently overwhelmed with feral and stray cats, and we are not alone. Earlier this year, the Western Governors' Association included feral and spay/neuter release cats as species 15 in a listing of the [top 25 Terrestrial invasive species in the West](#).

Still, when it comes to dealing with an influx of felines, there are few local resources. The Montrose Animal Shelter announced in the *Montrose Daily Press* on July 5 that it is "at

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'MOST OF OUR CRIME IS RELATED TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL,' CHIEF OF POLICE CHINN ON RECENT MONTROSE CRIME SURGE

Story and photo by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council work sessions are working lunch meetings and open to the public. Generally speaking, public comment is not accepted during work sessions and council does not take official action; however, they often come to consensus on whether to move items forward to a council meeting. Work sessions are not video recorded.

Discussion items:

Holly Park/Riverbottom Drive DOLA Grant Resolution – City Engineer Scott Murphy.

Murphy described this as a joint grant application with the Montrose Recreation District (MRD) and the city for a combined project, "We can't do one without the other." The grant cycle deadline is Aug. 1st and Murphy said, "Our cooperative project looks good."

The MRD will do the Holly Park portion of the project and the city will do Riverbottom Drive, which includes widening the road, sidewalks, parking spaces and piping an irrigation ditch. The city's contribution would be \$750,000. Murphy said, "This [resolution] will allow us to move forward

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Community activists (L to R) Dee Laird, John W. Nelson (Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers) and Jim Haugsness have a vested interest in the proposed Public Safety Sales Tax 2018 ballot initiative. During the July 2, 2018 Montrose City Council Work Session Nelson and Haugsness were invited to join council at the conference table for the roundtable discussion.

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ANSWERING THE CALL: PATROL OFFICER ZACHARY YEE

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Patrol Officer Zachary Yee was born and raised in Aurora, Colorado. A 2012 high school graduate, Yee attended Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Montrose Police Department (MPD) sponsored Yee to the Police Academy and he was hired in December of 2017.

Growing up in Aurora Yee had many friends who were involved in gang activity and he credits his parents for helping him avoid the same fate, "There was a lot of gang presence in middle school and high school." It was actually the social environment Yee grew up in that attracted him to a career in law enforcement, "I saw a lot of my friends going in that direction and I wanted to steer kids away from that type of activity." When asked how those friends now relate to him as a police officer he said, "They're happy for me. They were trying to get out of it, but for a lot of them it was tough. They had good days and bad days."

Yee comes from a very big extended Asian-American family that is concentrated on the front range, "But I love this community. It's very nice and calm, a good change of pace [from the metro area]. The City of Montrose has a lot to offer and I'm excited about the summer amenities."

For Yee the most stressful part of his job has been the geography of the community, "I'm new to the city and I can't really help people if I don't know where I'm going. There are maps in the cars, but obviously if you need to get somewhere quickly it's a challenge."

As a new hire, a training officer accompa-



MPD Patrol Officer Zachary Yee. Photo by Gail Marvel.

nies Yee on patrol as he learns the streets, block names and layout of the community, "It's a city policy that employees can't use cell phones in city vehicles, so the GPS on my cell phone is no help. It's nice having a training officer in the car with me because they step up and at that point they become my on-board GPS!" Building a social connection is the most enjoyable aspect of Yee's job. "I just like talking to people, getting out and knowing their stories. I love listening to people — where they come from, who they are. I'd like to change the general perception some people have of law enforcement and this job affords me the opportunity to get to know more people." And the least enjoyable aspect of the job, "Being so new I can't think of anything that I don't enjoy." When asked to identify a personality trait that helps him in his job Yee said, "I just

come into situations and treat everyone with respect, even people we arrest. Bad people aren't all inherently bad. They may have made a couple of poor life decisions and they don't know how to help themselves out of it. When people see that I respect them, they then respect me."

When he is not working Yee likes to spend time at home with his girlfriend and his dog. He said, "I'm into movies, pop-culture and video games. This summer I'd like to try my hand at gardening. I have a small yard, so it will be a small garden."

Yee praised the Montrose Police Department, "Coming in as an outsider I can see they really care about the community. From the patrol officers, to the records techs — they are thoughtful, organized and they care about the people they help on a daily basis. It has surpassed my expectations."



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 contributions. 970-275-0646
www.montrosemirror.com
editor@montrosemirror.com
 Webmaster PJ Fagen



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COUNTY CLERK RELEASES OFFICIAL PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Lillard wins by slim margin in Sheriff's Race, Hansen wins district 2 BOCC contest over Rob Smith

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes released Official Primary Election results Friday after a hand-count delay. On June 26, Guynes announced that a vendor printing error involving a bar code on the Montrose County Primary Election ballot warranted a hand-count. Since that time, election judges and staff have been working diligently to process ballots under the guidance of the Secretary of State's Office.

"I would like to recognize Secretary of State Wayne Williams and his talented staff for their guidance and assistance through this entire process," said Guynes. "This was a team effort and the election judges and staffers are also deserving of recognition for their long hours and outstanding efforts."

Ballots were counted by a three-person bipartisan team in batches of 25 with ongoing certification by tallying teams. Following that, tallies were marked, double-checked, and finally entered into the system by two individuals and one supervisor. Unofficial results were released Friday June 29th pending the cure process which provides additional time for electors whose ballots were rejected by signature verification, ballot discrepancies, or overseas voters. Earlier this morning, a canvass board met and certified election results.

For the contested local races, official results are as follows:

Sheriff Race

Gene Lillard 3837 Votes

Adam Murdie 3791

Commissioner District 2 Race

Sue Hansen 4448

Rob Smith 2788

Official results are now available online at: <http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CO/>

CITY CONTINUES TO TAX FOOD PURCHASED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION, MUNICIPALITY UNDER FIRE FOR RECKLESS SPENDING

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-With 49.7 percent of Montrose students qualifying for free or reduced school lunches, the information released in the 2018 [Kids Count Data Book](#) portrays a stark reality in a community where even groceries are subject to a City sales tax. Though the unemployment rate in Montrose County is just 3.3 percent, 4.2 percent of kids under the age of 18 are receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

Statistics show that 23.7 percent of Montrose kids under the age of 18 are living below poverty level; of those, 10.9 are classified as living in "extreme" poverty. The percentage of children under age five receiving WIC benefits here is 65.8. As of 2016 (the most recent year for which statistics were available), the median household income in Montrose County was \$43,285, down from \$46,860 in 2015.

The City of Montrose gave \$1,495,146 in support (according to a [Powerpoint presentation](#) on 'public-private partnerships' on the City's web site) to the non-

profit Sharing Ministries Food Bank when it moved to a new location several years ago, but hungry local families might also benefit from a sales tax exemption on food purchased for home consumption, which is presently taxed in the City of Montrose.

One local advocate for a food tax exemption is Terri Leben of Montrose.

"When you talk about affordable housing in a community that continues to increase taxes and has a tax on the food you buy at the grocery store, affordability is out of reach for so many," Leben said. "Where does it end? We elect local folks to be stewards of tax dollars and yet that does not seem to be the case."

Well-documented City of Montrose purchases under the current City Manager include real estate such as a municipal golf course, luxuries like multiple embroidered logo shirts for Council and some staff, and GPS units for golf carts. A recent City grant that gave \$241K to a private developer in the name of "affordable housing" came under fire when it was



As the City of Montrose increasingly comes under fire for reckless spending, citizens are once again questioning the tax on food for home consumption.

learned that the residential rental units created would likely lease for \$1,000 or more per month. Still, there are no plans at the present time to exempt food purchased for home consumption from the sales tax, Mayor Roy Anderson told the *Mirror*. In 2003, Montrose citizens were successful in forcing a special election on a repeal of the food tax, but faced with vocal opposition by city officials and former officials, the effort did not pass.

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ANIMAL SERVICES DWINDLE AS CAT POPULATION EXPLODES

From pg 1

capacity" and that those wishing to drop off stray cats are now being put on a wait list. City of Montrose Animal Services Supervisor Mike Duncan, who did not return calls for this article, told the *Daily Press*, "People ...may have to be resourceful in caring for cats and kittens (until) we can get them in." He did not elaborate on what "resourceful" options might include.

According to the [annual City of Montrose Animal Services report](#) issued in 2011, "The City of Montrose Animal Services welcomes any stray animal from the City or County of Montrose, City of Olathe, Ridgway State Park, and Switzer (sp) State Park. The Animal Shelter takes owner relinquished animals.

"The Animal Shelter also holds animals for rabies or dangerous and nuisance ani-

mals pending a disposition by the Court. We also hold animals whose owners are involved in accidents, are incarcerated by law enforcement, or have an emergency situation that is referred to us by governmental or non-profit agencies. We provide animal rescues and emergency management in cooperation with other regional agencies."

[In 2015](#), the most recent year for which an annual report can be found on the City web site, the following animal services were listed: answering telephones; answering correspondence; Email inquiries; Facebook; Petfinder; greeting the public; cashier; impound stray animals brought to the shelter; adoptions and redemptions.

Today, however, no animal services are listed in the municipal code other than

adoption. A recent citizen inquiry about a continuing stray cat problem resulted in a referral to the non-profit [Snip and Tip Cat project](#), based in Gunnison, which maintains a supply of cat traps for property owners who need to spay or neuter stray cats at their own expense or at one of Snip and Tip's scheduled spay/neuter events.

The City does provide a link to [animal control regulations](#) on its web site, and some information can be gleaned from the [2018 City of Montrose budget](#), though a number of "animal services" line items have been moved to something called a special benefits fund. In addition to Duncan, Montrose Police Commander Gene Lillard and Montrose City Manager Bill Bell did not respond to Mirror requests for comment by press time.



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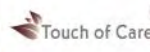
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DAVID MIZE



'MOST OF OUR CRIME IS RELATED TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL'

From pg 1

with the grant application."

Councilwoman Judy Ann Files asked about public input during the open house. Murphy said, "Most were just excited, mostly parks related comments. Because of the mature trees lining the road, the neckdown area by the pond will remain tight."

Councilwoman Barbara Bynum asked about signage and the monument sign to be installed on the corner. Murphy said, "It is part of the scope of the project. It formalizes the entrance to the park." When asked about trails Murphy said, "We're looking at acquiring a couple of slivers of property for trails. We want to keep trails on the south side of the road. It would improve safety."

VALE Grant Resolution – Chief of Police Tom Chinn.

The VALE Grant is funded through certain criminal fines and traffic violations. Chinn said, "We've had this grant for 20 years. It pays 51 percent of the Victim Advocate's salary." When there is a need the Montrose PD Victim Advocate is loaned out to other jurisdictions. Chinn said, "We've helped out Delta, Ouray and Gunnison on various occasions."

City Council discussion regarding the status, necessity and details of a possible Public Safety Sales Tax Initiative (PSST).

Mayor Roy Anderson opened the discussion, "We want to learn about the Public Safety Sales Tax to better understand the whole subject. This is not to make a decision or come to consensus, the goal for today's discussion is just to understand."

Giving background and an overview, City Manager Bill Bell reminded council they were previously approached by the "Crime Stopper group," John W. Nelson and Jim Haugsness at a work session. On June 4, 2018 Haugsness described their participation, "For the last 20 years John and I have been involved in law enforcement. I view our role is to be out there spearheading the public meetings."

Bell said, "John and Jim did a good job of presenting last time. As we plan for more and more growth we can get ahead of the game and be more proactive and not reac-

tive." Bell noted that the city staff has been working behind the scenes with general PR to put information out on social media about the PSST.

Bell reviewed several funding options and recommend a .45 sales tax increase (equates to \$2.75 M a year), or a rounded-up sales tax of .5 (equates to \$2.88 M a year.) Bell said, "We've heard from some constituents who said, 'Just do your needs, not your wants.' Others say, 'Don't cut yourself short.'"

In an abrupt change of direction Bell gave the council the option of postponing the ballot initiative, "If the time is not right and there are other needs there won't be any animosity at all. We can wait. We can do a special election if necessary." City Attorney Stephen Alcorn said, "The city council can call for a Special Election and Resolution at any time." Bell did not elaborate on what other needs might take priority over law enforcement.

Councilman Doug Glaspell and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Bowman asked how Montrose compared to other communities and were told Durango and Montrose are comparable. Durango has 1,000 less population than Montrose, but 13 more police officers. Geographically speaking, the City of Durango has four square miles less to patrol than the City of Montrose.

Montrose Police Sgt. Courtney Jones read a recent email report from Sgt. Larry Witte which documented well over a dozen calls during his shift. The calls included multiple DUI's, disorderly conduct, domestic violence, felony menacing and theft of a firearm from a vehicle. Chief of Police Tom Chinn said, "We see this almost on a daily basis. We had six people on that shift and almost didn't have enough people. Most of our crime is related to drugs and alcohol." In a sidebar conversation following the meeting Chinn reflected on the increase in crime, "When I started my career if we had one auto theft in a year that was a really big deal. Today we're averaging one car theft every two to three days."

The city manager said, "Since 2011 we've increased the PD budget each year. We will add one more officer for the 2019

budget. We've increased the budget for training and equipment trying to get it back up over the last five to six years [recession]." Bell reminded council that the 2016 community household survey revealed the highest priorities for citizens were street improvements and traffic congestion.

A City of Montrose press release put out the day after the work session referenced the survey, "Another area of focus was parks and recreation infrastructure. Respondents said better quality restrooms were a priority for the city. As a result, the city is building a new restroom facility in Riverbottom Park which is projected to be completed by the end of the year." The design and construction contract for the new restroom facility, an amenity to the Whitewater Park, totals \$398,939.75.

Glaspell suggested the money council earmarked for higher education scholarships might be used for scholarships to the Police Academy. Bell said, "That is a council decision." Glaspell also wondered if the city should consider leasing a temporary PD facility rather than building a new one. Bynum felt city council has heard about the need for the PSST; however, the public has not been brought along, "I would advocate for us going down the path of a nine to 12-month process."

Mayor Anderson asked for information on the Montrose Fire Protection District's proposed mill levy increase for the November 2018 ballot. Citizen activist Jim Haugsness said, "The board meets on July 18th and will decide. They will probably go for a revenue-neutral mill levy increase. If they don't get it the [fire] station south of town will close."

Directing his question to Nelson and Haugsness, Mayor Pro Tem Bowman said, "How big is your citizen's committee?" Nelson said, "It's just the two of us right now. No Committee. Crime Stoppers can't get involved in a political issue, but we can be there for information." When it was unclear who would lead a PSST campaign Bynum said, "I think we're getting the campaign ahead of the process. I don't think it's in the right order."

'MOST OF OUR CRIME IS RELATED TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL'

From previous pg

With a deadline of only five weeks to get the initiative on the ballot Bowman said, "We're going to lose if we go out there this November. We need the community to thoroughly understand. Not because the need isn't there. We need an opportunity to educate the community."

Glaspell approached the idea of some type of temporary fix. Haugsness suggested the council revisit the subject of the Montrose County PSST. In the last seven years various city councils have pressured the county to share a percentage of the county PSST with the city.

Mayor Anderson said, "We support the cause, but we need more time to get this right and to get citizen buy in." Chief Chinn reiterated the crime growth in the community, "A lot of people think, it won't happen to me, but I can tell you I was burglarized...It happened to me." Anderson said, "Maybe we fix a few less potholes and get more officers."

Bynum suggested forming a task force of about 25 people, similar to that used by the Rec District and the School District in their tax increase initiatives. Bynum said, "It should be a city effort to get a group together, invite people and provide a framework."

The city attorney will prepare a draft resolution which will be brought back to council at another work session. Alcorn said, "We can slow down the process and bring in stakeholders." Anderson said, "I'm interested in doing it right and I see the need for more time."

General City Council Discussion

Topics included various meetings attended by councilmembers, the ribbon cutting for the reopening of the pedestrian bridge and the upcoming fireworks display.

Staff Comments

The city staff is currently working on the 2019 budget. City Manager Bell said, "We'll look at the PD budget."

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE COMMISSION TO MEET JULY 10 - 11 IN CRESTED BUTTE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER- The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will discuss a citizen petition requesting remote control model watercraft as an aid to fishing, finalizing regulatory changes requested by stakeholders in the falconry community, adopting regulatory changes allowing the launching of paragliders from the Bodo State Wildlife Area, and discussing regulations pertaining to the display of OHV use permits on different vehicle types.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 4 p.m. on July 10 at the Elevation Hotel and Spa, 500 Gothic Road, in Crested Butte. The meeting will reconvene at the same location at 8:30 a.m. on July 11 and will adjourn at 10:30 a.m. A [complete agenda](#) for this meeting can be found on the [CPW website](#).

The next commission meeting will take place Aug. 9 and 10 in Loveland.

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Hiring **Reservationist for local transportation service** in Montrose. Pay is \$13/hour. Answer all questions regarding reservations for our client's companies, from airport pick-ups to scheduling wine tours. Must have great customer service, able to multi-task and be quick with computer skills/placing reservations. 25-40 hours now through September, mid-November to April. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

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

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CONSTRUCTION:

Hiring **General Labor to install new electrical service** to the marina on Blue Mesa Reservoir near Gunnison from July 11 to July 27. The right candidate needs to be prepared to work hard and be ok with working around water. If commuting, we will pay one hour for travel time daily. Must have reliable transportation. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **Truss Builders** who are physically fit, able to lift up to 50 lbs in construction environment. Experience helpful but not required. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **General Construction Laborers in Ouray**. Assignment will last all summer and candidates must be able to commit to the entire time period. Involves a variety of remodel as well as new construction. Skills required vary per job. An overall knowledge and skill level appreciated. Bring your own tools is the best option, larger tools on site. Hours are on site in Ouray 8:30am - 5:00 pm Monday-Friday. Travel Bonus for outside Ouray employees. MUST have valid drivers license. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **Cabinet Installer** in Delta, CO for residential and commercial installation, building and assembling. Must be able to read a tape measure and understand basic carpentry and lift up to 60lbs. Must have a valid driver's license and own tools. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

CLASSIFIED / EMPLOYMENT ADS FOR THE WEEK OF 7/9/18:**CONSTRUCTION:**

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.

GENERAL LABOR/OTHER:

Hiring **Event Staff to assist with set up/break down of stages for local concert/events**. Pays \$11/hour plus discounted tickets available. Dates/times: July 10 from 9-5pm; July 12 from 3-7pm; July 14 from 10:30pm-2am; and July 15 from 9-5pm. Must be flexible, able to follow directions and self-motivated. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **Recycle Sorters/Pickers** for quality control line to hand sort recyclable materials and trash from the recycling stream and remove unacceptable materials. Hours are Monday - Thursday 7am - 3:30pm, and some Fridays depending on work load. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **General Laborers** to stack wood, clean and sweep lumber mill. Must be self-motivated, able to work independently and lift up to 50 lbs. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

Hiring **Maintenance/Landscape Helper** to take care of shopping center landscape and building maintenance. MUST have valid driver license. Check website for further detail and/or apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

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Hiring **General Labor/Helpers to mill, pack and load the grain** in Olathe, CO. Attendance and attention to detail are critical in this position. Looking for someone who can work independently and lift up to 50 lbs. daily. Apply today at www.expresspros.com/montroseco or call 970-249-5202 for more information.

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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.

CLASSIFIED / EMPLOYMENT ADS FOR THE WEEK OF 7/9/18:**PROFESSIONAL****REGIONAL CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER****COLORADO COUNTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (CCOERA)**

As a non-profit retirement association, CCOERA's sole purpose is to provide retirement benefits to employees of Colorado local government employers (counties, municipalities & special districts). We support our member employers by providing one of the most competitive and unique retirement savings programs available to public employees. CCOERA currently has an opening in our headquarters in Littleton, Colorado for a Regional Client Services Manager.

POSITION SUMMARY:

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APPLICANT SUGGESTS DISCRIMINATION CHARGES UNLESS PLAT NOTE IS LIFTED; BOCC TABLES DECISION ON PRECEDENT-SETTING FOURTH LOT UNTIL AUG. 1

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-At the July 3 meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), BOCC Chair Keith Caddy prefaced the brief agenda by noting that he and BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash had been notified by the Chair of the Montrose Republican Party that District 2 Commissioner Glen Davis had resigned. During the invocation, Caddy added a heartfelt prayer for rain.

Olathe resident Charles McMurdy spoke during the time for public comment. "I noticed where you had gave the school district \$280 some thousand dollars," McMurdy said. "And it said in the paper I seen that you usually kept some of that for Road & Bridge. Then I went over to Nucla about a month ago and crossed the mountain...I saw most of the road equipment up on the mountain, from Montrose County. I am sure you get paid by the Forest Service and the BLM for doing that. But in the meantime my road, the 6000 Road, suffers.

"For 56 years I have lived there and I have a mile to go one way toward Montrose on that gravel road, three miles if I go to Delta...that road gets so rough I have to replace all of the rubber grommets on my suspension every year because it just beats 'em out."

"When they've done the mag chloride, which it doesn't look like they've done this year," McMurdy said, "it would get okay for a while, and then it would get those holes in it and go back to beatin'." County resident Robert Lovato also stepped forward to speak, but because his comments were specific to an agenda item, he was asked to wait until that item was heard.

Commissioners unanimously approved Consent Agenda items, as well as two fleet management items under General Business. Presented by Budget Analyst Shannon Castrodale, Resolution 39-2018 concerned the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal of Heavy Fleet equipment and vehicles through advertisement, trade, auction, online auction, or scrap; and the Declaration of Surplus Property Disposal

of Light Fleet vehicles through advertisement, trade, auction, online auction, or scrap. The vehicles will be posted on www.govdeals.com.

Castrodale also presented information on Resolution 40-2018 on behalf of County Engineer Keith Laube, concerning an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Colorado Department of Transportation to enable the acceptance of grant

funds in the amount of \$1,164,000 for construction costs of the Blossom Road Bridge Replacement Project. The County's share of the project construction costs (20 percent) are anticipated to be \$291,000. Resolution 40-2018 was unanimously approved.

"That bridge really needs to be replaced...it's a bad bridge," Caddy commented.

Said Rash, "It's great to see the County leveraging money and getting this larger amount of money from State and Federal funds to improve our structures, they are very important to our community...that frees up more money to take care of issues like Mr. McMurdy's. That's our goal, is to build bridges, put in culverts, and pave and gravel roads so they are in the best possible condition we can get 'em in...hats off to Mr. Laube and his entire staff."

Resolution 40-2018 was unanimously approved.

County Emergency Manager Greg Fisher presented a request for consideration and possible approval of the North Fork Ambulance Association's application for License and Permits for five ambulances to operate in Montrose County, as well as consideration and possible approval of the Paradox Fire Protection District's application



County resident Robert Lovato looks at a subdivision map with BOCC Chair Keith Caddy and Vice Chair Roger Rash.

for License and Permits for two ambulances to operate in Montrose County.

Said Caddy, "I would like to thank all of the volunteers who step up to the plate to serve on these emergency crews to protect our county...you don't know how many lives they save every year."

Two Planning & development items were considered as well, both of them old business.

A public hearing was opened for Item E-1, which involved a resolution to "amend Montrose County Zoning Resolution, Sections 4.E.5; 4.F.5; 4.G.5, and 4.H.5 – site development requirements for the following districts; General Business District, General Commercial District, Light Industrial District, and Heavy Industrial District."

County Planning & Development Director Steve White noted that the Planning Commission periodically reviews the County's Master Plan, "and looks at issues that might come forward, and this is one."

The issue is specific to the County's commercial districts located along Hwy 50 East of the City of Montrose to State Hwy 347, and along Hwy 550 South of the City of Montrose to the county line, he said. Amendments include setbacks for buildings, height restrictions, and a requirement concerning downward directed lighting. Some holiday and special event

BOCC TABLES DECISION ON PRECEDENT-SETTING FOURTH LOT UNTIL AUG. 1

From previous pg

lights will be exempt for a limited time, White said, and one down-directed flag-pole light will be exempt as well.

"The planning commissioner actually discussed this at numerous meetings and public hearings," he said.

"There hasn't been any opposition," White said. "We haven't heard any negative issues about this."

Hwy 550 South business owner Tracy Dodd spoke during the hearing.

"My question is the lights that just glare straight out," Dodd said. "Is there something going to be done about that? Are they shaded, or do they just get to leave them straight out?"

Only new lighting for new construction is covered in the zoning code amendments, White said.

"This will not address existing properties."

"Where I live, I have neighbors who have a warehouse, who have, you would think they were prison lights all around their building," Dodd said. "So they affect everybody all the way around for more than a mile. How do we do something about that...this place is really lit up."

Retrofitting requirements for existing properties is not easy, but can be done, White said.

Caddy asked if new lighting that has been applied to an old building would fall under the regulation.

"it will be applicable to any new light that goes in along the corridor," White said.

Rash asked about the zoning near Dodd's home, and if an amendment could be pursued with the assistance of the planning commission. "...I know there's other issues out there with ag areas where people are putting up row houses...with lights all around them as well."

Resolution 41-2018 passed unanimously.

Item E-2, Amended Big Mac Minor, involved a request to lift a plat note from an existing subdivision.

Staff had recommended denial of the amendment.

"This subdivision was originally created with three lots," White said, "creating three residential lots in an agricultural district...Mr. Lovato purchased one of the

lots, built a home on there, and I believe his son built a home on that property as well...now, as time has gone on, they would like to separate those two houses on existing Lot One."

Every minor subdivision that comes before the county has the plat note, White said. "Otherwise people would be able to skirt...the subdivision regulations by continually coming back and asking for minor subdivisions, because the minimum lot size in Montrose County is one acre."

According to the staff report, "The proposed amendment to lift a plat note is not in the best public interest; Montrose County Subdivision Regulations allow property to be divided as a minor with a limit of three lots. This proposal will create a fourth lot; lifting the plat note could also start a precedent for others to create a fourth lot in a minor subdivision."

The concern is over the precedent being set, White said. "It would affect how we use our regulations and control the subdividing of land."

"What would it take to make it where it was within compliance?" Caddy asked.

"They would have to build a county road," White said.

Applicant Robert Lovato spoke. "My plea is fairly simple...I will give you a brief history on this family. My grandchildren are fifth generation Montrosians. Their great grandfather came in to Montrose in 1887, to help construct the Gunnison Tunnel. For the next 131 years, this family has been contributing to this Montrose County. Great grandfather was one of the first beet farmers in Western Colorado. We have had at least one member out of all four generations passed here that have been war veterans. Present day, I've got a son on the Sheriff's Department. I served on the police department. I've got a daughter-in-law-that's a teacher at Olathe Elementary; I've got a grandson that's a volunteer firefighter in Olathe, and EMT on top of that; I've got a grandson presently in Afghanistan serving a tour.

"...I have personally worked in Montrose County for 50 years," he continued "I have been in the construction business both in residential and commercial...in 1972 I con-

structed the first house in Montrose County that required a building code; since then we have complied with everything. ...I recently worked on the new events center...at the present time I am working at your new Road & Bridge facility north of town."

Lovato spoke of constructing his own home for the past four years. "...I do not owe a penny on my house...it's valued somewhere between \$450K and \$500K. I am 71 years old. At one particular point or another I would like to retire; I've got a half a million dollars in equity in my house, and unless this plat is lifted I cannot realize any of that.

"...I would like for you to consider amending this plat."

Commissioners looked at a map of the subdivision.

"Has the house already been built on the property?" Rash asked. "Were you aware of this issue before you started construction sir?"

"No, not really," Lovato said. "The first time I visited with Mr. White on this particular situation, he informed me there was no way that it could not be done."

"So you proceeded to build your retirement home without...making the proper arrangements for a road into it?" Rash asked.

"We knew that we could construct it, and we had the property," Lovato said. "...There were no conflicts; the building permits were issued without question."

Rash asked why the plat note was of concern.

"At the present time there are two residences on one lot," Lovato said. "So I cannot deed my house without having this separation. Without deeding it, no one will realize any value. It's worth nothing unless I am able to deed."

White confirmed that there are no access issues. "The house is already there, permits have already been issued...dividing the lot has no impact on the road...people are allowed to build two homes on one lot. It's just in this case, for banking purposes and things like that, the bank doesn't like to loan on two homes." County Attorney Marti Whitmore asked

BOCC TABLES DECISION ON PRECEDENT-SETTING FOURTH LOT UNTIL AUG. 1

From previous pg

that lines and pictures drawn on the map during the discussion be marked as exhibits.

Said Rash to Lovato, "I guess my concern, and I have the same concern that our planning commission has about setting precedents for allowing an exemption to our current zoning laws...to me, if we do it once, I'm afraid that other people will come back. It may be a minor issue this time but the next one may not be...we have these rules and regulations on the books for a reason, and if we start making exemptions for them—if we do it for one, we'd be expected to do it for others.

"The other concern is, those zoning laws were pretty plain and clear before you built your house sir," Rash said. "I have a pretty hard time changing them after the fact."

Said Caddy, "I have a concern...it's not so much about doing or not doing it, it sets precedent."

Lovato responded, "I think the precedent has already been set, and that's that we have contributed to this county for 131 years and all we are asking is for just a little in return...because you make a favor-

able decision on this one item does not take away the ability to say no on others."

"That is correct sir," Rash said, "But it also doesn't treat others fairly...every citizen is warranted the same respect...I am very concerned about lifting plat notes, changing precedent on our zoning regulations."

Lovato asked for a period of time before the BOCC made a final decision, "for me to research the number of locations that this exemption has been made already. I know of one already on Oak Grove that was recently done within the last year, two residents on a piece of property considerably smaller than ours...it was allowed there.

"...One of the reasons I am looking for that is that I believe we have an opportunity here to file some discrimination charges both against the county and against Mr. White personally. Not only an age discrimination, but also racial. "My intent is just to survive on the equity I have in my home."

Rash asked White if the situation had occurred before.

Said White, "Where we have allowed lifting of plat notes is when someone has

come forward and performed a two-lot minor...a minor allows no more than three...we have never done one since I have been here, in 12 years, where it has created a fourth lot...that's the difference on this one is that you are going to the fourth lot.

Still, "Everybody has the right to be heard by the board," White said, "and that's why this applicant is standing before you today."

Caddy suggested waiting until the first regular meeting in August to revisit the issue.

Rash agreed, "the other thing that would be beneficial to this, is hopefully the board would be a full board at that time as well, so it wouldn't be two people making that decision."

He denied that discrimination had anything to do with his stance. "...Age, race, any of that stuff does not matter to this board; we really try hard to be fair and equitable to all the folks of Montrose County."

The Amended Big Mac Minor subdivision plat was continued time-date certain until Aug. 1.

US 550 RED MOUNTAIN PASS: CLOSED

Highway to remain closed due to rock slides

Special to the Mirror

SOUTHWEST COLORADO — The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has closed US Highway 550 Red Mountain Pass due to several rock slides. On Sunday evening heavy rains in the high country resulted in flooding and debris flows onto the roadway.

Due to additional incoming inclement weather and crews continuing to work clearing the roadway, US 550 will remain closed until further notice. CDOT Maintenance Patrols and Law Enforcement will ensure all those who may have been recreating in the backcountry are escorted off the highway.

Since last night, crews have been working to clear rock slides, as much as 4 ft. deep, which have occurred due to rains. The debris flows have taken place between MP 88-90, about 2 miles south of Ouray.

STAY INFORMED:

Sign up for project or travel alerts: bit.ly/COalerts

See scheduled lane closures: codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html

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CDOT courtesy image Casey Toole.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM TO HOLD MEET AND GREET OPEN HOUSE SESSIONS WITH NEW SOUTHWEST DISTRICT MANAGER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Bureau of Land Management recently hired Stephanie Connolly as the Southwest District Manager, and the public is invited to network with her during open houses in Durango, Dolores, Grand Junction and Montrose.

"I'm excited to be here and look forward to getting to know our partners and community members while exploring this incredible landscape," said Connolly.

Prior to her arrival, Connolly served as a District Manager with BLM in Wyoming for over nine years. Her experience also includes positions in Idaho, Nevada and Utah. She also served in temporary BLM assignments as the Wyoming Associate State Director, Acting Deputy Assistant Director and Senior Advisor to the BLM Director.

The public is invited to meet Connolly at the following open houses:

July 12, 8-10 a.m., Bureau of Land Management Tres Rios Field Office, 161 Burnett Dr., Unit 4, Durango, CO

July 12, 12-2 p.m., Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center and Museum, 27501 Hwy. 184, Dolores, CO

July 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bureau of Land Management Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Rd., Grand Junction, CO

July 19, 8-10 a.m., Montrose Public Lands Center, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO

The BLM Southwest Colorado District encompasses 2.7 million surface acres in the Grand Junction, Tres Rios and Uncompahgre field offices, and includes 7.3 million acres of public mineral estate.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

HANSEN SURE TO BRING A BREATH OF FRESH AIR TO BOCC

Editor:

After the Presidential election of 2016, we witnessed the first ex President ever, implement a “resistance” movement against a duly elected President. Unfortunately we have seen something very similar take place in local Montrose politics.

When our two new commissioners were seated in January 2017, one of the then most recent ex commissioners, seemingly took it upon himself to become the BOCC watchdog. From day one, no stone seemed to be left unturned to try and discredit our new commissioners, even going so far as recently alleging a “criminal cabal”.

Now, our newest ex commissioner, with the ink barely dry on his resignation, has quickly joined the local “resistance” in print and on the airwaves, with allegations of “illegal meetings” and “improper firings” that cost taxpayers thousands to settle, while touting accomplishments of “the previous board”.

As I recall, the “previous board” had it’s own problems with “illegal meetings” and “improper firings” that cost the taxpayers thousands. Those firings, past and present were drops in a bucket, when compared to the hundreds of thousands wasted on FBO and hospital law suits that the current complainers brought us.

Planning and due diligence for our new Event Center was a slipshod process at best. Only time will tell if the previous board wasted more of our tax dollars. And, there were at least three instances involving use of a County credit card for personal benefit, as I recall.

So, it certainly seems like the “glass house” analogy may apply to those members of the “previous board” who are now complaining.

Montrose is slated for a new commissioner in Sue Hansen, who is sure to bring a needed breath of fresh air to the BOCC.

Dee Laird, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THANKFUL FOR GLEN DAVIS RESIGNATION FROM BOCC

Editor:

A day or two ago I read with great joy Mr. Nelson's Montrose Press LTE. Wonderful! I could not have done better myself! I could not wait to express my overwhelming appreciation to Mr. Glenn Davis, not for his accomplishments during his three and a half years of service, but for his resignation. He quit. He admits he accomplished little. His manners and behavior from the dais seldom missed a chance to denigrate and belittle a citizen or their purpose for speaking. How dare any lowly citizen speak critically of such a denizen of county government in his lair no less?

His glowing support of the Arena project appeared to guarantee a \$40 million dollar annual profit from it. Why? Because he said so, that's why! What a financial genius!

As a taxpayer, businessman and accountant I cannot generate, nor can the county,

the numbers necessary for that to happen. More likely a half million dollars to a million dollars in the red for at least ten years hence and probably longer.

County financial reports in the future will be a testimony in themselves to former commissioner Davis' business abilities on behalf of the taxpayers which in my opinion amounts to deficits that we may not recover from.

But my thanks go out to him for his most gracious departure from the Montrose Board of County Commissioners. Absenting himself, he sounds more like a 'Hillary'. He acts like he was the first and only commissioner who was selected to be the odd-person-out on the three person board. Gary Ellis served six years in that very position and never gave up. So did Mr. Patterson. Mr. Davis' resignation is one of the best things ever to

happen to the Montrose Board of County Commissioners with the worst ever being his election to that august body.

It is truly reprehensible when, as an elected official from the majority party, he could not find enough common ground to get along with his party-mates, his fellow republicans or many citizens. We should recognize that the same constituents who put him into office, voted in his two fellow commissioners two years later and by the vote tally not by accident.

While this Letter to the Editor is all opinion I might suggest reading the work of William James, a renowned psychologist who in essence said that, 'an individual is sane only to the degree that others see him as he sees himself.'

Bon Voyage Glenn Davis, I hope your inner tube does not sink too quickly.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

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Kree Christie

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CDOT HOSTS TELEPHONE TOWN HALL FOCUSING ON SOUTHWEST COLORADO TRANSPORTATION ISSUES JULY 9

Special to the Mirror

DURANGO – The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is hosting a telephone town hall Monday, July 9, for the residents of Alamosa, Archuleta, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Montrose, Rio Grande, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel counties. This call will include a discussion of transportation matters in Southwest Colorado and provide a forum for people to ask questions.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., residents will be called through an automated system and invited to take part in the town hall. After answering the phone, the caller will be automatically connected to the meeting. Anyone who does not receive a call but still wants to participate, can call toll-free, 1-877-229-8493, PIN 112034.

CDOT also is implementing a text-to-register feature for anyone wanting to join the call from a mobile phone. To receive a call on your mobile device to join Monday evening's call, text CDOTSW to 828282.

People who choose to join the conversation can listen in and also express their thoughts to their transportation commissioner and key CDOT personnel on how the Department is addressing transportation needs, important projects, various initiatives and funding in Region 5 which encompasses South Central and Southwest Colorado.

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110 APPLY FOR ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION



(L to R) Campaign aid Kirby MacLaurin and Democratic District 6 Senate Candidate Guinn Unger attended the Montrose City Council meeting on July 3, 2018. A resident of Bayfield, Colorado, Unger will run against incumbent Republican Don Coram for the Colorado District 6 Senate seat. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. During Call for Public Comment, citizens are allowed to address council for three minutes (timed) for non-agenda items that pertain to the community. Council does not respond to comments made during the Call for Public Comment. However, citizens can address council on agenda items when that item is open for discussion. Regular council meetings are video recorded and can be watched via live stream or viewed at a later date on the city website.

Call for Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

Democratic District 6 Senate Candidate Guinn Unger, who planned to participate in the Montrose Fourth of July parade, introduced himself to council.

Adding to Loshaw's promotion of the event, Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Bowman said, "I'm the one who sort of gets the band for the event." Information on the FUNC Fest can be found on social media and through the city website.

Ordinance 2451 (second reading) – 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 noted this item was previously discussed during two work sessions and at the first reading. Rosty said, "The designation is voluntary. This is not a forced participation but may help property owners access federal and state grant funds." Approved unanimously.

Staff Reports

City Manager Bill Bell announced there

FUNC Fest – Guest Services Manager Jennifer Loshaw.

Loshaw reported on planned activities for FUNC Fest. The event will take place at Riverbottom Park on July 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

are vacancies on the Planning Commission and on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board. The deadline for applications is July 26. Applications can be found online, or by calling City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo at 240-1422.

The city has received 110 applications for the Assistant City Manager position. Bell said, "A handful of applications are from locals."

City Engineer Scott Murphy updated the council about the on-going street repairs and maintenance, "In three or four weeks we'll see light at the end of the tunnel." Paving will soon take place in the Urban Renewal Authority (URA). Murphy said, "Most of the utility work is done."

Murphy reported the design work on the Connect Trail project is 70 percent complete and there will be an open house in council chambers on July 18, 6 to 8 p.m. "We'll take feedback and people can ask questions about the trail."

City Council Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Bowman promoted his Summer Music Concert series by touting all the bands he has lined up to perform and said that Montrose will have live music every weekend.

Mayor Roy Anderson complimented the Air Force Band that recently performed at the Pavilion.

Sage Wilber, Student Youth Council Representative, reported on a grant the Youth Council received from the Montrose Recreation District. Initiated by the youth, the grant is for the implementation of "Teen Nights," a project that will begin this fall at the Montrose Community Recreation Center.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK'S NEW DENVER TECH CENTER BRANCH NOW OPEN

Special to the Mirror

DENVER—Alpine Bank's new Denver Tech Center (DTC) location is open for business. DTC is the bank's 39th Colorado location and third Denver branch, joining Cherry Creek and Union Station.

"On behalf of our Denver Tech Center team, we're thrilled to bring Alpine Bank's brand of outstanding customer service to the rapidly-growing, South Metro Denver area," said Charlie Kercheval, president of Alpine Bank Denver Tech Center. "

The DTC location represents the next great site on the Front Range, providing new opportunity for Alpine, as well as convenient banking access for a broad range of new and existing commercial and retail banking clients."

Located at 4949 South Niagara Street--Suite 100 in Denver, this full-service banking branch is open Monday thru Thursday, 8:30am – 5pm, Friday, 8:30am – 6pm and Saturday mornings, 9am to noon.

Free and convenient customer parking is provided in the surface lot directly in front of the bank.

As part of the grand opening, Alpine Bank is proudly celebrating the Bags of Fun program that exists to bring joy to children fighting life-threatening diseases.

Learn more about their extraordinary work from program staff attending the July 28 festivities <https://bagsoffun.org/>.

On Saturday, July 28, from 9am to noon, Alpine Bank DTC will have grand opening events—free and open to the public. Highlights include:

- Free breakfast burritos and tacos while supplies last.
- Face painting for kids.
- Drawing to win chance to catch cash in Alpine's "Money Booth"
- Police show cars on display: Tesla, Low Rider, Corvette & Nova
- Free giveaways, including water bottles, ear buds, piggy banks, snowboards, a cooler and more.
- 4 Broncos & 2 Bruno Mars tickets

COUNTRY CRITTER 4H CLUB RUNS MONDAY NIGHT RODEO CONCESSIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—During Monday rodeo nights at the Montrose County Fairgrounds outdoor arena, Country Critters 4H club will be running concessions.

Come out and support our kids and watch a great show--bull riding, bronc riding, barrel racing, roping, mutton busting, etc. Family Night is Half price night--only \$5 admission. The club will also be collecting donations for the Huerfano County Animal feed drive at the concession.



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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

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS ALERT:

Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. and the Bureau of Land Management are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate the suspect(s) involved in the vandalism of the Potholes area of Escalante Canyon.

Between June 25th and June 29th, vandals spray-painted rocks between the parking area and the swimming holes with more than 50 illustrations, words and abbreviations. This is a crime against the entire public. Information on the vandals may be provided to BLM directly at 970-244-3111.

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.

BOOK SIGNING JULY 14

Special to the Mirror

Montrose- There will be a book signing on Saturday, July 14 with local authors from San Juan Publishing. Check out new history books and more!

Gerald Swanson, *Swanee's Silverton*

Wini Tappan, *A Pilot's View of World War II*

Niki Parsons, *In God's Hands* (her parents' story. father was a Chinese missionary)

Ranch History Books Vol. I and II.

Jane Bennett (represented by me), *Tales of the Bachelor Mine*

Carol McDermott, *Bits and Pieces*

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Two Office Locations:

Montrose: Park Avenue Professional Building
121 N. Park Ave, Montrose

Delta: Senior Community Meals office
350 Stafford Lane., Delta

Call us to arrange an in-home meeting or
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OURAY SILVER MINES SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT ON ATLAS MILL PROJECT

Special to the Mirror

OURAY-The public is invited to learn about and provide input on a proposed project remediating and stabilizing the Atlas Mill and tailings pile above Ouray in the popular recreational area along upper Camp Bird Road. The meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 7-8:30 p.m., at the Ouray Community Center San Juan Room, 320 6th Ave., Ouray, CO 81427, is hosted by Ouray Silver Mines Inc. (OSMI) and potential project partners: Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, U.S. Forest Service, and Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety. This multi-stakeholder project aims to improve water quality in Sneffels Creek, while stabilizing the iconic, historic landmark of Atlas Mill with cooperation from the Ouray County Historical Society. The selected tailings cleanup is primarily on U.S. Forest Service lands, though stream bank stabilization and other project improvements will occur on the mining company's property. The project would consolidate, amend and cover approximately 24,000 cubic yards of tailings on the floodplain as a way of reducing heavy metal drainage into the creek and nearby water sources, and conduct streambank stabilization along the Sneffels Creek channel that abuts the project area.

OSMI, which owns the Revenue-Virginus Mine, is proposing the project through the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) program administered by Colorado Department of Health and Environment. The company received a Notice of Violation in 2016 for exceedances occurring under the mine's previous ownership. OSMI has proposed using the penalty amount of an estimated \$200,000 through the SEP program for the project. The total project cost is expected to exceed \$350,000; however, a new Engineering Estimate/Cost Analysis is being completed by OSMI's consultant, Denver-based Geosyntec, and a draft of this study will be presented at the meeting.

OSMI CEO Brian Briggs said, "Use of the SEP program to clean up and stabilize this historic site is an excellent means of accomplishing a worthwhile goal for all interested stakeholders. Though the SEP funds are not projected to cover the full cost of the project, it is important to point out that OSMI will be legally held by the SEP program to complete the project in its entirety."

To implement the project with SEP funds, a third party must agree to be administer the funds with the purpose of improving the environment or public health. The

Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, an Ouray County nonprofit, completed a limited remediation project on Sneffels Creek below the Atlas Mill last year, and is contemplating becoming the third party. The Colorado Department of Reclamation, Mining and Safety may also collaborate on the project.

The Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership is also proposing that \$100,000 from the Natural Resources Fund held by the state for projects related to the Idarado Mine cleanup be directed toward the project to ensure revegetation of the area, historic preservation and other public benefits are implemented. None of the work will be in areas where the mining company has an active mining permit.

"This is a unique opportunity for a water improvement and environmental enhancement project to be implemented at an abandoned mine in Ouray County, with the collaboration of many local organizations, contractors and individuals. The Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership appreciates Ouray Silver Mines' efforts and supports the development of this proposal," said the nonprofit's communications director, Tanya Ishikawa.

For information about the meeting, go to uncompahgrewatershed.org/events.



Introducing Independent Living at The Homestead at Montrose

If you are over 55 and independent but would like to live in a community offering socialization and peace of mind, schedule a tour of our private one and two bedroom apartments. We're conveniently located across from the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE BOOT STOMP & Caring Friends Fund @ San Juan Cancer Center



Thank You to everyone who supported the Boot Stomp for the Caring Friends Fund at the San Juan Cancer Center. Together we raised over \$15,000 to benefit local cancer patients and their families.

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Rocky Mountain Aggregate ~20 Sleeps West Real Estate

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Tom Barrett ~Lark Jacobsen ~Briann Jacobsen ~Allison Nadel ~Robyn Funk ~Phyllis Wiesner

Sue Hansen ~Mary Snyder

Emcee for the Evening – Phoebe Benziger ~ Auctioneer – Tom Wise

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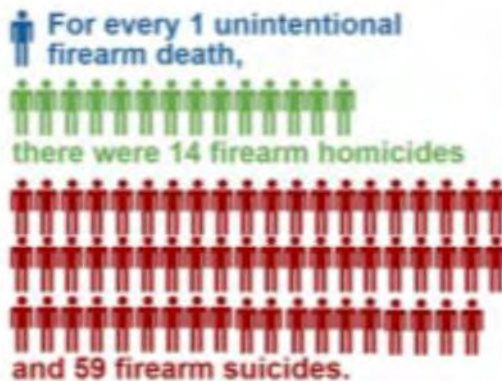
Gateway Canyon Resort ~Welcome Western Colorado, Three Rivers Resort



Newly added 11th Commandment: Consider temporary off-site storage if a family member may be suicidal. Consider temporary off-site storage if a family member is suicidal. When an emotional crisis (like a break-up, job loss, legal trouble) or a major change in someone's behavior (like depression, violence, heavy drinking) causes concern, storing guns outside the home for a while may save a life. Family, friends, as well as some shooting clubs, police departments, or gun shops may be able to store guns for you temporarily.*

*To become fully informed about making a temporary gun transfer, review Colorado gun laws, including C.R.S. §18-12-112, or consult an attorney.

Over the past several years, unintentional firearm deaths in Colorado have averaged less than 10 per year, thanks largely to increased awareness of gun safety. Unfortunately, Colorado still has a tragically high number of suicide deaths by firearms - approximately 480 per year.



The first step to reduce these numbers is to follow the 11 commandments of gun safety. The latest addition addresses suicide prevention. Firearms are the leading method of suicide in Colorado, contributing to about half of all suicides.

If a family member is going through a difficult period (like depression, a relationship break-up, or drug problem), make sure they can't get to your guns. To learn ways to get help for them, call the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK [8255]**.

Find out how you can help, contact:
The Suicide Prevention Taskforce at
970-252-3228 or go to our website at
montrosesuicideprevention.org

Adapted from:



Suicide
Prevention
Taskforce

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REWARD OFFERED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT POTHOLES VANDALS

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION—The BLM is offering a monetary reward for information leading to the identification of those responsible for vandalism in the Potholes Recreation Site in Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. The vandalism consists of more than fifty illustrations, words, and abbreviations spray-painted on rocks between the parking area and the swimming holes. It likely occurred sometime between Monday, June 25 and Friday, June 29.

"The BLM and our neighbors and visitors have an equal responsibility to ensure that

we are all good stewards of our public lands," said Collin Ewing, National Conservation Area Manager. "The Potholes are a popular destination and we encourage all visitors to leave the area in better condition than they found it."

BLM law enforcement is actively investigating the incident and is working to determine the cost and scope of cleanup efforts.

Anyone with information about this vandalism or the identification of suspects should contact BLM law enforcement at 970-244-3111. Vandalism of public lands and natural resources is illegal under fed-



Photo courtesy BLM.

eral law and a conviction can lead to fines up to \$100,000 and one year in jail.

DONATIONS PROVIDE SEEDLING TREES FOR POST-FIRE RESTORATION

Special to the Mirror

DURANGO— With wildfires burning forestland and evacuating residents in locations around the state, many Coloradans want to know what they can do to help. One way to have a positive impact on affected forests and communities is through the replanting of trees, which is the goal of the donor-driven Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund.

Donations made to the Colorado State Forest Service-administered fund are used to provide seedlings for planting in areas impacted by wildfires, floods or other disasters, with an emphasis on areas critical to water protection, wildlife habitat and public benefit. Every \$2 donation to the fund purchases one seedling, at no cost to the landowner. Since the program was established in 2003, program funds have been used to provide more than 122,000

trees.

"When a destructive wildfire hits, the first priority is protecting human life and property," said Mike Lester, state forester and CSFS director. "But for the long-term recovery of our communities and forests, planting trees provides an important means to help stabilize soils, protect water supplies and restore the landscape."

Locations where the fund has been used for replanting efforts in the past decade include the burn scars of the High Park Fire west of Fort Collins; the Waldo Canyon Fire near Colorado Springs; and the Weber Fire near Durango. The loss of trees and other vegetation in those areas led to significant runoff and erosion — resulting in damaged hillsides, polluted waterways, highway closures and road damage.

This year, the CSFS received a donation

to the Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund from the Girl Scouts of Colorado, to provide 7,500 seedling trees to be used for reforestation efforts in Colorado. Those and other seedling trees used in the program are grown at the CSFS nursery in Fort Collins, ensuring that only high-quality trees adapted to local conditions are used for restoration efforts.

"We will forever be grateful for the seedlings we received because of the generosity of people giving to the Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund," said Larimer County landowner James Williams, who lost 35 acres of forest to the High Park Fire in 2012, and was able to begin restoration in 2013 with trees provided by the fund.

To make a donation directly to the Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund, visit <https://advancing.colostate.edu/RestoringColoradosForests>.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

RELIGION MUST REMEMBER WHY IT EXISTS IF IT IS TO SURVIVE

Editor:

In a Nutshell.. If Religion expects to survive, the religious people are gonna have to quit killing it...

Timothy Storrs, Montrose





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FOURTH ANNUAL FUNC FEST MAKES A SPLASH JULY 14

Family Friendly OBT Event Brings Community Together

By Rachel Boschen

MONTROSE-The Fourth Annual Func fest is taking place on July 14 at Riverbottom Park in Montrose, a showcase of the Uncompahgre River that flows through the park. A section of the river was converted to a Water Sports Park in 2015 with a \$259,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (GoCo).

The Func fest is centered around river competitions, open to all skill levels and including things like kayaking, surfing, paddle boarding and followed with a Func-y River Parade--open to the public, but bring your helmet and life jacket if you want to be in the parade.

The Func fest will also have live music from three bands, Neon Sky, Workshy, and Groovement. Libations will be available for purchase and the park will be packed full of a plethora of vendors. Kids can play in the water in the viewing areas, rock bench structures with the water softly washing onto the rocks that provide a perfect viewing area for the competitions and a safe and easy way to cool off in the summer heat.

The annual FUNC fest is a brainchild of the OBT, listed as a sponsored event on the [Visit Montrose website](#). Stay tuned to Montrose Mirror Facebook for video coverage of the competitions, interviews of the OBT members that made the Festival possible, the bands and the people who attend the festival.

The Montrose OBT, Office of Business and Tourism, is in charge of Tourism Promotion in Montrose. "The OBT's mission is to enhance the vitality of existing businesses and promote the raw natural beauty and myriad outdoor recreational opportunities in and around Montrose." One of the ways they raise money for Tourism is through the Tourism promotion fund, created in 1983, for the "purpose of promoting tourism" in Montrose. *City of*



River photos courtesy Rachel Boschen and MountainRose Design.

Montrose website. Hotels pay 0.9 percent in tax to support the Tourism promotion fund, and restaurants also pay into the tax at a 0.8 percent rate.

MOUNTAINROSE
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SUMMER DRINKS AND APPETIZERS @ REMINGTONS...THE PERFECT PAIRING ON A SUMMER NIGHT

Just had to try Remington's the other night, it being Summer and all. Couldn't make it on Friday, when they feature music and fiesta specials. But Remington's at the Bridges Golf Course is special any night or afternoon.

There is a giant, covered patio overlooking the San Juan's and golf course. But a little breezy tonight so we decided on the air-conditioned inside.

Now tonight neither my friend, Michael, nor I were very hungry. We decided to try some drink specials and appetizers to share. Believe me, it was plenty and delicious.

I'd never had a Moscow Mule, but tonight it was the drink special and was served limey and ice cold in a copper mug; very refreshing on a hot summer night. Mike had a bloody Mary which he proclaimed great as well.

Hmmm, so many yummy sounding appetizers, so we chose battered mushrooms with a balsamic aioli sauce (\$8) and coco-

nut shrimp in a sweet Thai chili dipping sauce (\$13). Couldn't have been better or more filling. Tons of mushrooms surrounding dipping sauce. Shrimp, well, it's shrimp, what can I say? Nice big beautiful fried prawns really, coated with coconut and served drizzled with a wonderful sweet sauce.

Apps here run from \$8 - \$14 depending on if it involves seafood or not. Home-made soups and salads come in a side or large size, from \$4-\$16 (for a salmon salad). We really didn't feel the need to order a full dinner after this, but the choices were spectacular.

Not the cheapest in town, but very well worth it, including: Remington's running specials **and a happy hour** from 3pm-6pm: Tuesday: Burger Night starts at \$10, including a draught beer of your choice. Wing Wednesday: 1/2 dozen for \$5 or a dozen for \$10, choose from chef's assortment of sauces each week.

Thursday is weekly fresh fish flown in. Call

Remington's to [learn](#) about the nightly selection.

Fiesta Friday: Latin-themed dishes paired with weekly tequila infused libations.

Saturday Night: [Fresh](#) prime rib served with choice of potato, veggies, and soup or salad, starting at \$20.95.

Sunday- Chef's choice quiche prepared every Sunday and served during brunch from 10am-2pm. Bar menu from 2pm - Close.

Most of the meat specials, such as steaks, run in the \$20 range. Many pasta choices as well, reasonably priced. We didn't see any children dining, but I'm sure they would enjoy their meals.

Now, we did indulge and topped our little meal off with dessert – yummy large cookie propped up with loads of vanilla ice cream and chocolate drizzles, or course.

Remington's Restaurant is located at the Bridges Golf Course, just off Oak Grove and Townsend at 2500 Bridges Circle, Montrose, CO. 81401, (970) 252-1119.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & EDUCATION

DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL MEDIA SHERB TALK ON JULY 11 WITH DR. RYAN MURPHY

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-In the July Sherb Talk, Dr. Ryan Murphy presents "Democracy and Social Media." He says of the talk, "Thomas Jefferson wrote that a 'well informed electorate is necessary to a healthy democracy'. But how do we responsibly inform ourselves in an age of infotainment, tribalism, fake news, meddling foreign powers, and the proliferation of technological platforms that specialize in propagating information designed to shock and infuriate?"

"Join us for a lively, entertaining, and

informative talk on the role of individual citizens in promoting the responsible dissemination of information," invites Murphy. "We will consider the way in which inflammatory news travels faster on social media than informative news based on responsible journalism, and we will discuss the risks this poses to our democracy. We will then discuss how to assess and test the quality of the information we consume and look at ways to evaluate whether it should be passed along."

Ryan Patrick Murphy, PhD (King's College London), studies and teaches in the field

of Social Ethics. He is especially interested in epistemology, the philosophical field that examines how we acquire and test beliefs.

He has been a college professor for ten years, and while he continues to teach internationally, he is presently the Executive Director of Crossroads of the Rockies, an inner-city nonprofit in Denver.

This talk will be presented on Wednesday July 11, doors and bar at 7 p.m., with talk at 7:30 p.m. Entry is by Donation (\$10 suggested donation). For more information, go to sherbino.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BLUES STAR SELWYN BIRCHWOOD TO PERFORM IN MONTROSE

Special to Art & Sol

FLORIDA-Visionary young blues star Selwyn Birchwood, touring in support of his latest Alligator Records release, PICK YOUR POISON, will give a free performance as part of the Montrose Summer Music Series at Black Canyon Golf Course (1350 Birch Street) on Friday, Aug. 3. On PICK YOUR POISON, Birchwood, along with his band-saxophonist Regi Oliver, bassist Huff Wright and drummer Court-

ney "Big Love" Girlie-takes a major step forward, crafting visionary blues for a new generation of forward-looking fans. Showtime is 7 p.m.

Birchwood's high-octane blues-at once deeply rooted, funky and up-to-the-minute-are played with passion and honest emotion. With his band feeding off his drive and exuberance, the striking 6'3" young man with his trademark Afro roams the stage (often barefoot), ripping out



Selwyn Birchwood. Courtesy photo.

memorable guitar licks with ease, his soulful, rocks-and-gravel vocals firing up the crowd. His ability to win over an audience-any audience-is proven night after night on the bandstand.

Since the 2014 release of his Alligator Records debut, DON'T CALL NO AMBULANCE, Birchwood's meteoric rise from playing small Florida clubs to headlining international festival stages is nothing short of phenomenal. The album received the Blues Music Award and Living Blues Critics' Award for Best Debut Album Of 2014, and he won the 2015 Blues Blast Rising Star Award. Selwyn and his band have crisscrossed the U.S. and Europe repeatedly, delivering unforgettable live performances. Rave reviews ran in publications from Rolling Stone to The Wall Street Journal, from The Chicago Tribune to The San Francisco Chronicle.



THE 59TH SEASON OF MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS

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By Ben Hecht & Charles MacArthur

November 2018

Directed by Scott Pollak

Bankrupt, with his career on a downslide, egomaniacal Broadway director Oscar Jaffe boards the Twentieth Century Limited, bound for New York City and encounters his former discovery and ex-chorus girl Lily Garland, now a temperamental Hollywood star. He pulls out all the stops to win back the movie star both professionally and romantically before the train pulls into the station

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JULY 12-13, 2018

Agenda open to the general public from 9 AM- 5 PM.

EMERGING

DINÉ WRITERS' INSTITUTE
CROWNPOINT, NM

JULY 11-15, 2018

Agenda for high school and college students only.

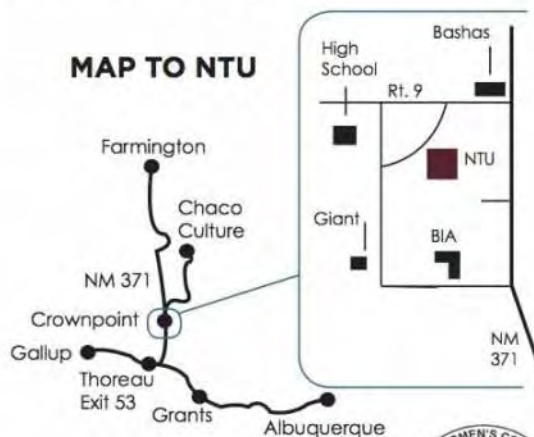
The purpose of the event is to motivate and expose high school and college students and the general public to Navajo authors and publishers. Participants in the event will have the opportunity to improve writing skills, gain exposure to various writing genres and forms, and create an interest in becoming a writer.

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- Laura Tohe
- Esther Belin
- Orlando White
- Jackie Keeler
- Dr. Jennifer Denetdale
- Chili Yazzie
- Charmaine Jackson
- Dr. Shawna Begay
- Rex Lee Jim
- And More!

There will be a reading series every day from 7-9 PM in the NTU Hooghan. Featured writers for the series include: Navajo Nation Poet Laureate Laura Tohe, Rex Lee Jim, Jake Skeets, Esther Belin, Orlando White and more.

MAP TO NTU



The 2nd annual Emerging Diné Writers Institute is sponsored by the Navajo Women's Commission and Navajo Technical University. For more information contact lloley@navajotech.edu or begay413@yahoo.com



Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Getting to see my grand-daughter

AURORA ... I'm a little scattered this week. My grand-daughter and her parents are coming to visit from San Francisco. She's just one and a half, and my crazy Cloud Acre home hosts 10,000 accidents waiting to happen. I spent the day doing spring cleaning that didn't get done this spring. Trying to get one room in decent enough shape for visitors. Although, the kitchen has been neglected so long, it's a huge task. I didn't finish, but I'm hoping we spend the first day in their motel room more than my bachelor mess ... My daughter Iris grew up at Cloud Acre, but that was when I was more of a housekeeper, as well as a single parent. And sometimes there were women who braved the fixer-upper that only partially got fixed. They kept it neat, if it never strayed far from funky ... But living alone for several years has taken its toll. Especially as retirement has given me license to focus on all the things I want to do – far more than I'll ever finish in this life. But that's the beauty of choosing poetry as one's calling. Everything matters. And interests multiply, instead of narrowing ... Plus, the drought has upset my cleanup plans. Every day hauling a couple hundred gallons of water to keep my trees and bushes and spud patch alive. It's been almost a full-time job. Now, with a call on the San Miguel, not sure I'll be able to keep everything alive. So, really hoping for rain.

CHILE ... I'm still working my way through the amazing tour we took in April/May. So much to reflect on ... We made it down to Punta Arenas in the early part of our trip. And from there, we drove to the amazing Parque Nacional Torres del Paine. It was a long drive in our four vans. We got up very early, and watched the sun rise over the vast, lightly inhabited southern stretch of Chile ... Traveling with van-mates was great fun. We got to tell stories and catch up on each other's lives – most of us being total strangers. I loved hearing the amazing stories of Dr. Denis Benjamin, a South African pathologist who immigrated to the States. He called himself a curmudgeon, and indeed he had a very informed view contrary to the views held by most of us.



Lake at Torres del Paine (photo by Denis Benjamin); poster by Rafael Jesús González.



But he was very gentlemanly, and kind in his devastating critiques. I thought of him more as a contrarian. Curmudgeons can be mean. Denis was never mean. Just opinionated. With lots of hard-to-ignore information at his fingertips, and marvelous stories of his work in China building hospitals ... I found myself really enjoying Gerry McDonald and his wife Carol. They both were mushroomers from upstate New York. She works as CFO of a hospital in Albany. And he's your all-around New England mountain man. Both my kind of people ... When we finally got to Paine (pronounced Pie-nay, in Spanish), we saw condors, guanaco, icebergs in the lakes. There were mushrooms, but this excursion was more about the scenery than foraging. And we planted a medallion from the Telluride Mushroom Festival and had a little ceremony for Gary Lincoff in the park. His presence was like a guardian angel, watching over us (and laughing, as Gary often did) ... However, it was on the way back that we had our only scare of the trip. The last van got a flat tire in the parking lot at the park headquarters. A fourth van seemed to be behind us as we all pulled out, but a couple hours on dirt roads, when we stopped to check, we realized it wasn't our van. And we had no cell service. Basically, we didn't know what happened. Should we go back to look? Should we head to the nearest town? Of course, everyone had a different idea of what to do, as we sat parked in the dark, by the side of a dirt road, being moo'd at

by a herd of disturbed cattle ... In the end, a wise group decision took us to a nearby town. One van went to find them, and did. And we all had a late dinner in an unexpected café (in Chile, eating late is a revered tradition). And the food was even delicious. We got back to Punta Arenas very late. It was our only real snafu. One that ended happily. Thank you, Gary.

ESTHER BELIN ... Diné poet from Durango who read at the Telluride Literary Arts Festival this past May, Belin is featured at a reading with Luci Tapahonso on the opening evening of the second annual Emerging Diné Writers' Institute at Navajo Technical University in Crownpoint July 11th – 15th ... The reading starts at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. It will be held in the Hooghan on campus ... For more info, lloley@navajotech.edu or be-gay413@yahoo.com

WEEKLY QUOTA ... "The gray matter, white matter and networking developments detected by MRI [magnetic resonance imaging] underscore the observation that the most striking feature in teen brain development is the extensive changes that occur. In general, this plasticity decreases throughout adulthood, and yet we humans still retain a level of plasticity far longer than any other species. Protracted maturation and prolonged plasticity allow us to 'keep our options open.' We can thrive everywhere from the frigid North Pole to hot islands on the equator ...

Continued next pg

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Back 10,000 years ago – a blink of an eye in evolutionary terms – we spent much of our time securing food and shelter. Today many of us spend most of our waking hours dealing with words and symbols – which is particularly noteworthy, given that reading is only 5,000 years old.” –Jay N. Giedd, in “The Amazing Teen Brain,” *Scientific American* (June 2015)

THE TALKING GOURD

Es Tan Amable La Luna

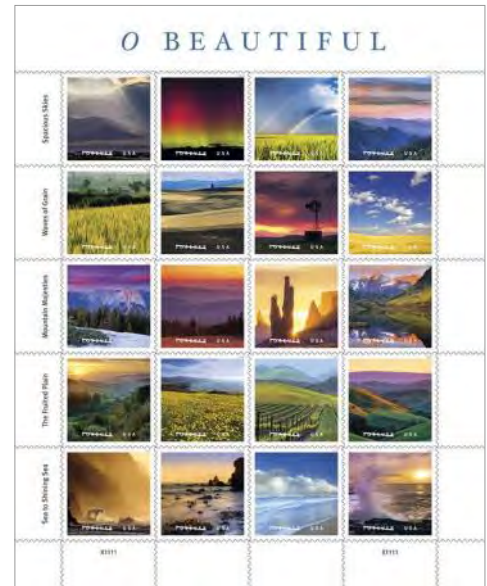
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por las rejas de la cárcel
de niños
para recoger sus sollozos
en su delantal de luz
y llevárselos a sus padres
en cárcel de adultos
y traerles lamentos y bendiciones
de su madres y padres
a los niños.
Es tan amable la luna
que no niega su luz
ni a los malvados traficantes de angustia.
Es tan amable la luna

So Kind Is the Moon

The full moon slips
through the bars of the jail
of the children
to gather their sobs
in her apron of light
& carry them to their parents
in the jail for adults
& bring the laments & blessings
of their mothers & fathers
back to the children.
The moon is so kind
that it does not deny its light
even to the evil dealers in anguish.
So kind is the moon.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE COMMEMORATES AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL



USPS Colorado/Wyoming District Manager Kevin Romero and Colorado Springs Philharmonic Associate Conductor Thomas Wilson. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

COLORADO SPRINGS --With the release of the O Beautiful Forever stamps on July 4 as part of the [Colorado Springs Philharmonic's July 4th Summer Symphony](#), the U.S. Postal Service commemorated the majesty of the United States through 20 captivating images that visually represent one of the nation's most beloved songs, "America the Beautiful."

"As we celebrate America's 242nd birthday, the United States Postal Service shines a spotlight on our country's unpar-

alleled natural beauty with a pane of 20 stamps that corresponds with one of the nation's most beloved songs," said U.S. Postal Service Colorado Wyoming District Manager Kevin Romero.

From Maroon Bells in Colorado to the rugged cliffs of N'pali Coast State Wilderness Park in Hawaii, the *O Beautiful Forever* stamps showcase the country's extraordinary natural beauty.

Each stamp features a photograph that helps illustrate one of five phrases from the song's famous first verse: "Spacious

Skies," "Waves of Grain," "Mountain Majesties," "The Fruited Plain," and "Sea to Shining Sea."

America the Beautiful

First published as a poem on July 4, 1895, "America the Beautiful" was written by poet Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929). Her inspiration for the poem was at the top of Pikes Peak, CO. Eventually, it was set to the music of "Materna," a melody composed by Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903). Considered by many to be the country's unofficial national anthem, the song consists of four verses, each punctuated by the anthemic "America! America!" Today it remains one of the country's most popular patriotic songs.



and smell the ~~coffee~~ NEWS!

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Birds of a Feather

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Emporium

509 E. Main Street
(The Lark & Sparrow Building)

July 14th - Aug 11th : 9am-1pm

LuLaRoe

: Fashions by Lizz M :

colorSTREET

: Fabulous Nails by Sue & Julie :

Silpada Jewelry

: Jewelry by April :

Senegence

: Cosmetics by Ashleigh Allen :

ChrisCross Designs

: Designer Totes by Chris Whittaker :

Vanilla Bear Soap Co.

: Handcrafted Soaps by Nita Janssen :

Linda Nadel Art

: Watercolor Artist :

Plunder Designs

: Jewelry by Monica Huff Ping :

Retro Crafts ReDo

: Vintage Crafting, etc :
Classic Craft & Pattern Books,
Needles, Notions & Yarn
Rubber Stamps, etc

Birds of a Feather

: Starfish Project & Premier Jewelry :

Your Business

: Handcrafted Quality :

Presented by: The Lark & Sparrow LLC and Meek Ranch Inc

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

READERS FOR LIFE TO BENEFIT COLORADO ADULT LITERACY

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER - The Literacy Coalition of Colorado, a non-profit supporting adult literacy projects, is pleased to announce that it will be a beneficiary of READERS FOR LIFE, an author-autographing fundraiser sponsored by the Romance Writers of America. On July 21 from 3 to 5 pm at the downtown Sheraton Hotel, romance readers can meet their favorite authors, buy autographed books, and support adult literacy projects in Colorado.

The free event is tied to the annual Romance Writers of America national conference. Each year, the event raises thousands of dollars to help fund literacy programs on the local and national level.

To date, the event has raised more than

\$1 million for ProLiteracy, the national adult literacy organization, and local literacy organizations. According to ProLiteracy, these funds have supported 28 U.S. literacy programs and Laubach Literacy Canada, have supplied 18,882 adult educational materials to adult learners, and have helped provide training for an estimated 930 tutors annually. In total, at least 40,800 adult learners have been able to gain high school educations, get jobs, and support their families with help from funds raised from the *Readers for Life* autographing.

"There are 36 million adults in the United States who lack basic education and literacy skills. For adult students, literacy is the key to higher learning and a window

to the world," says Kevin Morgan, president and CEO of ProLiteracy. "Over the years, RWA's donations to ProLiteracy have helped break the cycle of poverty, elevate workforce skills, and improve the quality of life for adults worldwide."

More than 300 romance authors, including Sylvia Day, Beverly Jenkins, and Suzanne Brockmann will meet with and sign books for fans at the 2018 Readers for Life Literacy Autographing. One hundred percent of proceeds from book sales benefit ProLiteracy and the Literacy Coalition of Colorado, helping these groups create lifelong readers.

Information about the event and a list of participating authors is available at <http://www.rwa.org/literacy>

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

2018 RADIO DAZE @ KANNAH CREEK'S EDGEWATER BREWERY

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-Come out to Edgewater Brewery (905 Struthers Ave, Grand Junction) on Saturday, Aug. 4 from 1pm-9pm to enjoy 8 hours of live music performed by some of Grand Valley's most popular bands and musicians! Join KAFM supporters, programmers, volunteers and staff for the annual Radio Daze event showcasing local talent.

This year's performers include *Zac Grant Trio*, *Tight Thump*, *Thomasina Russell & Friends*, *Jack & Jill & Family*, *Mashed Potatoes*, *Union of None* and the *Emerson Project*. Attendees will enjoy music from many genres, including acoustic, rock, blues, bluegrass and more!

Kannah Creek will donate 100 percent of proceeds from their specially brewed 300 Watt Ale in support of KAFM Community Radio.

This is a free event. KAFM will be holding a 50/50 raffle with the chance to win up to \$999. Winner need not be present to win.

ENTRIES SOUGHT FOR MONTROSE PLEIN AIR FESTIVAL JULY 17-22

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Montrose Center for the Arts presents an Art Week in Montrose:

"Montrose Plein Air Festival" which will be headquartered at the Ute Indian Museum beginning July 17 – 22. Plein Air Painting is a long-established method of painting outdoors, on location, in the moment. Also featured during the week is a "Quick Draw" and silent auction to be held in conjunction with Farmers Market.

Day one, July 16, begins with a pre-festival plein air outdoor painting workshop featuring Josh Been. Josh is a nationally recognized Artist whose style is described as Impressionistic Realism. Entries are open to enjoy this opportunity to paint along with Josh.

Local and visiting Artists will converge on Tuesday, July 17 for registration and orientation at the Ute Indian Museum.

Paintings will be completed during the next several days "en plein air" within a fifty-mile radius of Montrose.

Exhibit and sale will be held at the end of the week. An invitational reception and opening is scheduled for the evening of July 20. Invitations are by request.

A watercolor demonstration will be offered on July 18 by Frank Francese, also a national Artist. Watch Frank turn a sheet of paper into a brilliantly colored art piece. Open to the public. 4 p.m. July 18. \$10 admission payable on line or at the door.

Quick Draw Artists will begin painting at

10 a.m., July 21 at Farmers Market, Main St. and Uncompahgre.

The public is invited to watch this process in motion. Two quick hours is the allotted time from start to finish. Paintings will be available in a silent auction at 12:30 p.m.

Artist entries are open for this challenge. A great opportunity for curious onlookers and art lovers to watch it happen, submit a bid, win it, and take it home!

Plein Air Exhibit of paintings completed during the week will be open July 21, Saturday 10 – 3 p.m. and July 22, Sunday – 11 – 3 p.m. Entries can be made on line at www.mc4arts.net or by calling 970-249-5645 or 970-901-4204.

Proceeds benefit Montrose Center for the Arts (MCA).



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MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS

see something, say something

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: OUTDOOR RECREATION

GREAT RESERVOIR FISHING ABOUNDS IN SOUTHWEST COLORADO

Special to Art & Sol

DURANGO – Durango resident Samantha Brow is an avid high-country creek angler, but she tried her skills at Groundhog Reservoir in Western Colorado on July 1 and was happy that she did.

“We paddled onto the lake and got into some really big fish, it was a blast,” Brow said.

But you don’t need a boat to fish any of the dozens of reservoirs in southwest Colorado which are stocked throughout the summer. Most reservoirs receive a good supply of rainbow trout and several lakes also offer a menu of warm-water fish.

“We have a big variety of fishing opportunities in this area of Colorado that anglers should check out,” said John Alves, senior aquatic biologist for CPW’s Southwest Region.

CPW wildlife managers are encouraging more anglers to try their luck at reservoirs this year because many of Southwest Colorado’s rivers are flowing low and water temperatures are much higher than normal. Those conditions can be stressful for wild trout. When the water in rivers and streams nudges up above 70 degrees, anglers are asked to stop fishing for the day.

But in reservoirs there is little concern about water temperature, Alves explained. If the water is too warm for fish, they can just go deeper. Also, anglers who catch fish in reservoirs can keep them and enjoy them in a good meal, Alves said.

“A lot of stream anglers practice catch-and-release, but that’s not necessary in many of Colorado’s reservoirs. Often, trout stocked in reservoirs are raised in a hatchery to a ‘catchable’ size. We want people to catch them and eat them.”

While rainbow trout are stocked in most reservoirs in Southwest Colorado there are also unique fishing opportunities. At Blue Mesa Reservoir near Gunnison anglers can pursue kokanee salmon and lake trout. At Crawford State Park you’ll find trout, largemouth bass, perch and the occasional northern pike.



Durango resident Samantha Brow. Courtesy photo CPW.

At Nighthorse Reservoir near Durango anglers are making nice catches of brown trout, rainbow trout and kokanee salmon. Vallecito Reservoir is a great place to escape the heat and provides anglers a smorgasbord of choices. Fish species include: smallmouth bass, walleye, Northern pike, kokanee, brook, brown and rainbow trout.

On the west side of the San Luis Valley, Beaver Creek Reservoir was recently expanded and provides lots of elbow room for anglers. Big Meadows Reservoir is scenic, stocked with rainbow trout and has naturally reproducing brook trout.

West of Montrose, Miramonte Reservoir offers 400-acres of great trout fishing in a beautiful setting below the peaks of the San Juan Mountains. Southeast of Montrose an easy half-mile hike into Clear Lake provides opportunities for brook, cutthroat and tiger trout. Tiger trout are a brook-brown trout cross and these fish have beautiful vermiculated bodies. Also north of Montrose, the Grand Mesa is the place to go for a variety of fishing opportunities. For example, Island Lake is a great place for families while the Granby Reservoirs – popular for off-road adventurers – are teeming with brook, cutthroat, brown and tiger trout.

Anglers who still crave river fishing should plan to fish early in the day when water is cool. Anglers can also hike to streams in the high country where water temperature probably won’t be an issue.

And for those who need a bit more incentive to go fishing, the 4th Annual Ridgeway Smallmouth Bass Tournament runs from July 7-28 at Ridgway State Park. A total of \$5,000 in prizes is being offered and every participant who turns in smallmouth bass has a chance to win \$1,500. Another \$1,500 prize will go to the angler who catches the most smallmouth bass. There is no entry fee to enter the tournament; all you need is a Colorado fishing license. Park entry fee is \$7 per day.

Anglers wanting to explore what Southwest Colorado offers can find more information using CPW’s fishing atlas. Anglers can find the atlas and much more online at CPW’s fishing page. <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Pages/Fishing.aspx> “This will be a good year for anglers to try some new waters throughout the state,” Alves said.

And what did Samantha Brow use to catch 14-inch rainbows at Groundhog Reservoir? Following some good advice from some local Durango fly shops, she used a midge and sinking line.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

KAFM RADIO ROOM WELCOMES GERRY SPEHAR AUG. 2

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-Gerry Spehar will perform at the KAFM Radio Room in Grand Junction Aug. 2. Spehar, born and raised in Grand Junction, received his first guitar at age 13 from his uncle, who he worked for on the family ranch. He started writing songs immediately and practiced like a fiend, absorbed with John Hurt finger style guitar, and drinking in everyone from Haggard to Hendrix.

Gerry lived the late 60s dream, hitchhiking from CU Boulder to home and back, and studying abroad in France where he played all over Europe in train stations and cafes, and living off tips. After returning to Colorado to be with his college sweetheart whom he later married, he formed a duo with his brother George. The Spehar Brothers were a very well-known and popular act of the mountain and Midwest club circuit, where they opened for Boz Scaggs, Ian & Sylvia, John Fahey and others.

While Gerry decided to give up performing in exchange for a lifestyle centered on his family, he never put down his guitar. Thirty years later, he produced two albums in two consecutive years – *I Hold Gravity* in 2017, and *Anger Management* this year. *I Hold Gravity* was a tribute to Sue, his wife and college sweetheart, who passed from cancer after hearing the songs brought to completion in her last days.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and can be purchased by calling 970.241.8801 or online at kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction. Performance is at 7:30p.m., and doors open to the public at 7p.m.



Gerry Spehar will perform at the KAFM Radio Room in Grand Junction Aug. 2. Courtesy photo.

JOIN BLACK CANYON AUDUBON SOCIETY FOR A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY TO UGANDA



Mountain gorilla. Courtesy photo Black Canyon Audubon Society.

in Delta for a photographic trip to Uganda in Africa.

Member Linda Hansen will speak about her adventurous trip to Uganda in 2016. She saw and photographed many species of birds, mammals and reptiles while traveling along the Nile River and throughout this vast country.

Uganda is home to 1062 species of birds and 364 species of mammals which provided this avid photographer with ample subjects.

The focus of her trip was a trek to experience the critically endangered mountain gorilla in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. Mountain gorillas are the world's largest primate and now are restricted to living in only two National Parks.

Listen to the story of her travels, experience the diversity of wild species and learn more about the world we share!

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-Join Black Canyon Audubon at their July monthly meeting on Wednesday July 11, 7 PM at Bill Heddles Recreation Center

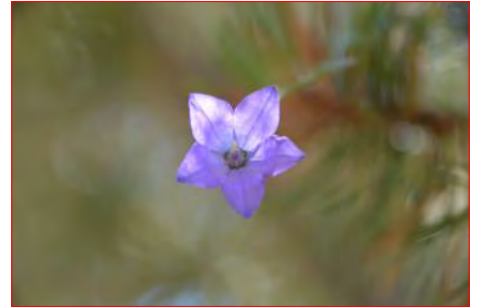
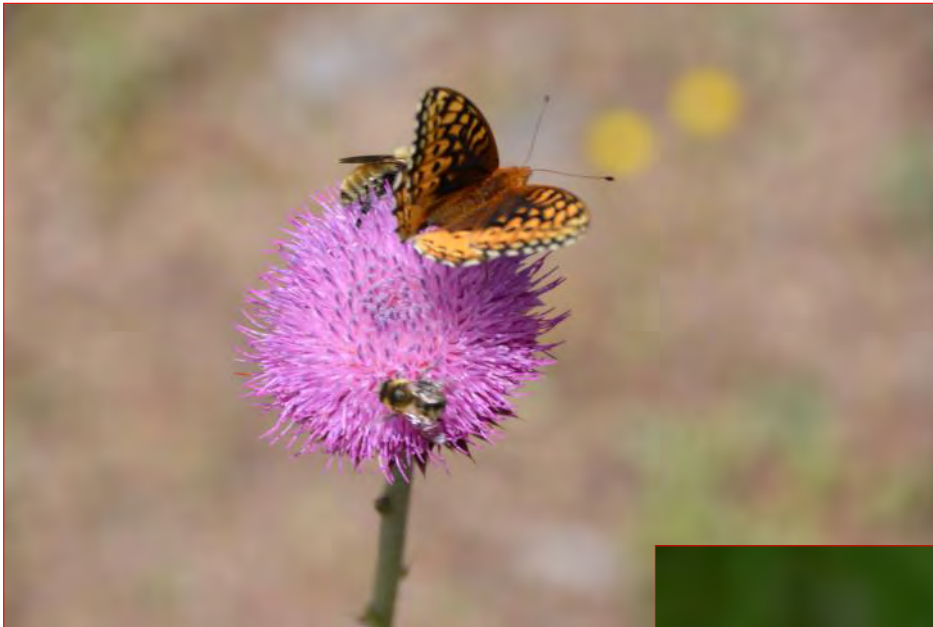
MIRROR IMAGES...MONTROSE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE



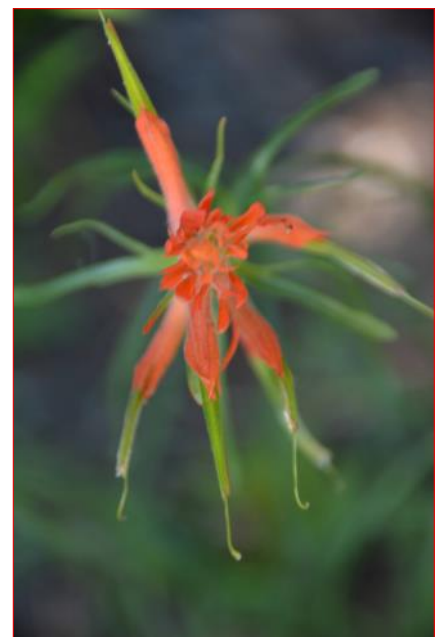
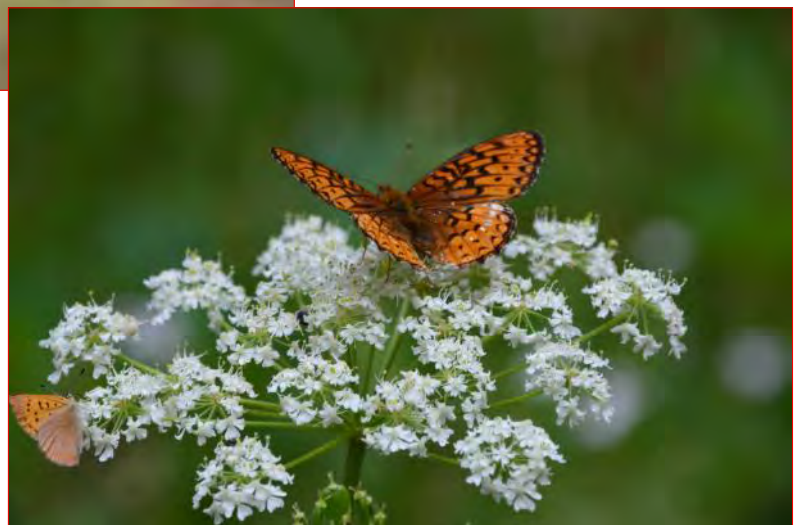
The 2018 Montrose Independence Day Parade drew an appreciative crowd. Clockwise, the MHS Marching Band led the way; beautiful classic queens and bright floats took part in the show; Montrose Police Officer Kaitlyn Danielson welcomes a young parade watcher.



READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Photographer Deb Reimann captured these stunning images of flora and fauna on the Uncompahgre Plateau July 4, and in the Uncompahgre Wilderness July 8.



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Alpine Bank

**Thursday - Sunday
June 28
- July 1**

The Little Prince
June 28th through July 1st
Advance Tickets Available Online at www.sherbino.org

Sherbino Theatre Company's LIVE THEATER Production of
THE LITTLE PRINCE (Appropriate for all ages)
June 28th - June 30th @ 7:00 pm (showtime) (Doors Open 30 minutes prior)
July 1st @ 4 pm (showtime) (Doors Open 30 minutes prior)
Tickets, available in advance online at www.sherbino.org:
Reserved Seats: \$20. Adults: \$15. Youth: \$8. Student \$12. Senior \$12.

**Tuesday
July 3**

LIVE MUSIC: LEFT ON TENTH
Doors @ 7:30. Music around @ 8. \$5 Entry at the Door.

**Saturday
July 7**

OPEN MIC NIGHT
5-9 pm, 2 monitors & 2 mics provided, Entry By Donation

**Tuesday
July 10**

LATIN FEVER STREET SALSA NIGHT
Doors and Salsa Lesson @ 6:30. DANCING begins @ 7. \$8 entry.

**Wednesday
July 11**

**SHERB TALK: DEMOCRACY & SOCIAL MEDIA
WITH DR. RYAN MURPHY**
Doors @ 7 pm. Talk @ 7:30 pm. \$10 Donation Suggested at Door.

**Friday
July 13**

Alpine Bank's FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
Free-Tured Film: A WRINKLE IN TIME
Doors 6:30 pm. Movie @ 7:00pm. FREE! Concessions & Bar Available!

**Saturday & Sunday
July 14-15**

**CHILDREN'S THEATER PERFORMANCES
WILLY WONKA**
Saturday @ 2 pm and 6 pm. Sunday @ 2 pm. By Donation.

**Wednesday
July 18**

SHERB NERDS Trivia Night
Doors and cash bar at 6:30pm. Trivia at 7:00pm. Entry by donation.

**Wednesday
July 25**

SHERB TRAVEL TALKS GLOBETROTTERS
Doors at 6:30pm. Talks at 7:00pm. Entry by Donation

**Saturday
July 28**

LIVER DOWN THE RIVER
Doors @ 7:30 pm. Music @ 8 pm. \$10 at the Door.

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).

MONTROSE TOASTMASTERS

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

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.

MONTROSE COUNTY GOP MEETING

6:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month.

MC-GOP Headquarters at 242 E. Main.

Information: 970-765-7406

MONTROSE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEETING

Noon - third Fridays.

Hampton Inn, [1980 North Townsend Ave.](#)

Information: Dianna 970-249-0724

MONTHLY-

July 10--6:30 p.m. in the Montrose Library meeting room, Citizens' Climate Lobby monthly meeting :Recent DC conference resulted in much influence on Congress legislators. Come support network working to influence attention on environment. Non-partisan, National. All Welcome.

July 10-Alpine Photography Club Meet-up, Tuesday, July 10, 2018, Time: 7 p.m., Meet At: Montrose Botanic Gardens, [1800 Pavilion Dr., Montrose](#). Bring your camera & tripod!

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 12-Meet and greet new BLM SW District Manager, 8-10 a.m., Bureau of Land Management Tres Rios Field Office, 161 Burnett Dr., Unit 4, Durango, CO.

July 12-West Region Wildfire Council meets @ Montrose Public Lands Center, North building conference room, 2465 S. Townsend Ave. 1PM-3PM

July 12-- Meet and greet new BLM SW District Manager, 12-2 p.m., Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center and Museum, 27501 Hwy. 184, Dolores, CO.

July 14- There will be a book signing on Saturday, July 14 with local authors from San Juan Publishing. Check out new history books and more. Gerald Swanson, *Swanee's Silverton*; Wini Tappan, *A Pilot's View of World War II*; Niki Parsons, *In God's Hands* (her parents' story. father was a Chinese missionary); *Ranch History Books* Vol. I and II; Jane Bennett (represented by me), *Tales of the Bachelor Mine*; Carol McDermott, *Bits and Pieces*.

July 14-Butterfly Friendly fundraiser for suicide prevention, Montrose Elks Lodge (801 S. Hillcrest) 6 p.m. to midnight. Prime rib dinner, silent auction, dance to music by Cimarron. For tickets (\$35) call Heather @ 901-1595.

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 14-Celebrate Cedaredge returns July 14th at Cedaredge Town Park. Enjoy the shade, live music and vendors from 9 a.m – 3 p.m. Don't forget to stop by the Community Yard Sale & Flea Market at the Public Works building, also taking place from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Vendor applications for both events are still available by calling 856-3123.

July 16-- Meet and greet new BLM SW District Manager, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bureau of Land Management Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Rd., Grand Junction, CO.

July 16 - Montrose Center for the Arts presents Outdoor (en plein air) Oil Painting Workshop with Josh Been. Ute Indian Museum 9 - 4 p.m. Sign up online at www.mca4arts.net or call 249-5645 or 901-4204.

July 17 - 20 Montrose Center for the Arts Plein Air Festival. Artists will compete in painting within a fifty mile radius of Montrose. Check in, July 17, 8:30 - 10 a.m. Registration open to July 9. Register online at www.mca4arts.net or call 249-5645 or 901-4204. For additional information, call 249-5645 or 901-4204.

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 18 - Montrose Center for the Arts presents Frank Francese watercolor demonstration. Ute Indian Museum 4 p.m. Open to all. Admission payable online at www.mca4arts.net or at the door. For additional information, call 249-5645 or 901-4204.

July 19-- Meet and greet new BLM SW District Manager--8-10 a.m., Montrose Public Lands Center, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO.

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).

Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com www.montrosemirror.com

On Friday, July 6, Dave Bowman's summer music series returned to the Black Canyon Golf Course. Pictured are Drugstore Gypsies.



Photos by Brad Switzer.



**J-M
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