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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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Issue No. 295 Oct. 22 2018

PROPOSED MARIJUANA GROW FACILITY HAS LOG HILL MESA RESIDENTS CONCERNED



By Caitlin Switzer

RIDGWAY- Like many residents of Log Hill Mesa, Kateri Drexler and her family moved to the area years ago for the beauty, peace, and rural nature of the community.

Located in [Ouray County's High Mesa zone](#), Log Hill Mesa allows only low density residential development that does not adversely impact the significant vegetative, wildlife, historic, archaeological and scenic values of the zone. Also encouraged in the High Mesa zone is agriculture; the code states that the intent of the High Mesa Zone is to encourage agricultural production while preserving areas for wildlife migration and habitat.

"We chose to live here because it is so beautiful and rural," Drexler said. "It's remote, and

[Continued pg 32](#)

COUNTY APPROVES REGION 10 GRANT APPLICATION; CLOSING OUT ROAD & BRIDGE FACILITY CONTRACT

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Students from the Vista Charter School government class were among the sizeable crowd at the [regular meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners \(BOCC\)](#)

on Oct. 17. In the absence of BOCC Chair Keith Caddy, BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash welcomed guests to the meeting. "Good morning everyone...Thank you all for being here. Thank you to Charter Vista School, thank you for bringing some students down—it's outstanding that you students come down and learn about your government at the local level."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Speaking during the time for public comment was County resident Wally Smith, who discussed the



Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hansen reaches out to welcome students from the Vista Charter School Government Class to the BOCC meeting on Oct. 17.

[Continued pg 12](#)

in this issue

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

[Art Goodtimes' Up Bear Creek!](#)

[City Council Work Session & Meeting!](#)

[Letters to the Editor; Regional News Briefs!](#)

ANSWERING THE CALL: MPD SGT. MICHELLE BERRY

Sergeant Michelle Berry



HIRED 03-03-05

MPD Sgt. Michelle Berry. Courtesy photo.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose Police Department (MPD) Sgt. Michelle Berry, a 2000 graduate of Delta High School, worked in the field of education (Passage Charter School) for a couple of years before putting herself through the Delta Police Academy.

Attracted to a career in law enforcement, Berry said, "My father and grandfather were in combat and my uncle also served. Service has always been part of my family." Reflecting on her academy experience she said, "The hardest part of the academy was time consumption. The need to balance my daughters and family with study."

Berry, who has been with MPD for 14 years, has worked on major crimes investigations and with the Drug Task Force. She said, "I was promoted to Sgt. a little over a year ago. I'm enjoying that position right now. It's a very rewarding experience and someday I'd love to be a part of

our command staff."

Areas of specialized training include being a Hostage Negotiator for the SWAT Team and the only Drug Recognition Expert for MPD. Berry said, "I have extensive training in advanced roadside [tests] to show and articulate what type of drugs are showing up in the individual when they are driving. Patrol officers do roadside DUI investigations and then if there are additional

signs of impairment they will call me. I do full drug recognition on an individual, blood pressure, pulse, [pupils] reactions to light. On top of a full roadside, I do interviews and can determine what type of drugs they were under when the officer contacted them."

Berry described her expertise in use of the Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST), "I teach officers how to perform alcohol and drug roadside maneuvers specific to driving and what they should look for." Berry has received two CPR Life Saving Awards, "In both instances they survived and they are still alive today."

Berry identified the most stressful part of her job, "Not being able to solve and fix everyone's problem immediately...but being able to assist community members in crisis is rewarding."

The most enjoyable aspect of her job, "The comradery. We work with amazing people. We're a huge family. Even though we are understaffed we have support

from city council and admin, they are the key to our success."

The life of a female officer has family challenges as well, "The most difficult is time away from my family. I have small children and my husband is also in law enforcement [Ouray PD]. We have different schedules and daycare doesn't work because we work more than eight-hour-days and we don't get off at a specific time." Berry is fortunate to have family in the area, "We are blessed with family help. My mother and mother-in-law are very supportive. We could not do it if it weren't for the support of our families." Recently MPD reverted back to 10-hour shifts. Berry said, "But right now we're covering everyone's shifts during hunting season and vacations, so we are still putting in 12 to 13-hour days."

The skill set Berry brings to her job includes the ability to communicate with citizens and those she comes in contact with. She said, "I train other officers and the standard is to treat everyone the way we want to be treated. That's our best practice."

As for interests and activities Berry said, "I love the outdoors. We hunt yearly and both my husband and I have elk tags. That's what we eat. We like rock crawling and have a rock crawling buggy. It looks like a jeep but much bigger. We go on the trails in Moab and on the plateau."

In a message to citizens Berry said, "I want to thank our citizens for being supportive of our agency. The community is encouraging to the officers. When they speak to the officers and get to know them the comradery goes a long way. We can't do our job without them and their support."



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DMEA MEMBERS GIVE A GREEN LIGHT TO CHANGE

Mirror staff report

REGIONAL-Members of Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) have given a green light to major organization changes. In a special ballot question, members were asked to approve amended and restated Articles of Incorporation, allowing the co-op to operate under Article 56, also called the Colorado Cooperative Act. According to DMEA Board Chair Bill Patterson, 2,677 members voted yes on

the ballot question, compared to 1,248 who voted no.

Under Article 56, DMEA has the option of issuing 1,000,000 shares of non-voting preferred stock. If they choose to move forward with equity financing, DMEA, which celebrates its 80th year in 2018, would be the first cooperative in the state to issue private shares of stock. Also under consideration is a buyout of the Cooperative's contract with its current power

supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

"I thank the membership for participating," Patterson said, "and for a 'yes' vote.

"This updates our Articles of Incorporation, and does give us the option of being able to equity finance if we want to buy out of Tri-State. It also allows us more flexibility for large-scale local generation; we can use this kind of financing."





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“GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO GET OUT OF THE WAY OF OUR PROSPERITY”
Congressman Scott Tipton addresses Montrose County Republican Women



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-On Oct. 19, approximately 120 people packed the meeting room at the Hampton Inn for the Montrose County Republican Women's luncheon. Special speaker for the meeting was Congressman Scott Tipton, US Representative for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District.

Tipton said, "We elected an unconventional President and he is making moves that are

unconventional. Unemployment is at a 49-year low and Americans are back to work. Wage growth is now at 3.8 percent in the 3rd Congressional District. You are better custodians of your money than the US government. I don't see government as the solution. Government needs to get out of the way of our prosperity."

Tipton cited a 2016 media report which said America should just accept the "new normal." Tipton said, "But Americans weren't ready to

settle. The American Revolution is an on-going event. Every two years we get to pick the right people to guide the country. This is a team sport. As a candidate you can lose an election all on your own...but you cannot win an election all on your own!"

Tipton noted that leaving a box unchecked on your ballot and failing to vote for a candidate has consequences, "Races can be lost because of under voting."

MURA BOARD APPROVES TIF LOAN, PROMISSORY NOTE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Following a tour and construction update at the Colorado Outdoors project site, the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) convened in City Council chambers on Oct. 15. Not in attendance were board members Brad Hughes and Mark Plantz.

PHASE I PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

City of Montrose Engineer Scott Murphy showed slides of the project and provided a Phase I public infrastructure update. All Phase I core infrastructure is complete, he said. "It's about 40 acres...the gas line, power, water were all undersized.

"All of that is done and sized for full buildout," Murphy said. "Everything came together really well."

Montrose Mayor Roy Anderson asked if the roundabout now connects to the project.

"Yes, the western leg of the roundabout," Murphy said, adding that workers from the [Western Colorado Conservation Corp](#) came to clear out the alignment...we bought 'em all fishing licenses; they had fun."

Murphy reviewed the project schedule, "We expect substantial completion by the

end of October."

Of the first \$6.75M, \$850K is left, Murphy said.

RIVER RESTORATION UPDATE

Murphy also gave an update on efforts to restore the alignment of the River. "The river wants to be more sinuous, and move to the West...currents are taking away the good Cottonwood groves...we're breaking it into three phases...\$2.5 million to get all that done." Guest Joel Evans commented on the restoration of the river. "This fits in with other pieces throughout the City, synergy all throughout City limits...we've got fish habitat upstream, we've got Fishing is Fun downstream."

MARKETING UPDATE

Carbondale's Backbone Media has been chosen to promote the Colorado Outdoors Project. Backbone Partner Greg Williams presented exhaustive information on the 22-year-old company, which represents 50 major outdoor brands. "We're very familiar with marketing destination travel," Williams said, noting that Backbone Media offers expertise in public relations as well as paid media placement.

Mayfly Outdoors provided an update on development and marketing efforts as well.



City of Montrose Engineer Scott Murphy provided an update to the Montrose Urban Renewal board on Oct. 15.

CONSIDERATION OF SITE IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF)

The MURA board approved a TIF Anticipatory Loan in the amount of \$805,937.09 for construction of non-building site improvements to the Mayfly Outdoors Headquarters site.

CONSIDERATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE

The MURA board also approved a Promissory note between Montrose Urban Renewal Authority and the City of Montrose in the amount of \$805,937.09 for expenditures associated with the Mayfly Outdoors headquarters site development project to be repaid through property tax collections.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THANK YOU MONTROSE FOR OUR 'PAY IT FORWARD' LUNCH FUND



Editor:

Thank you to all the volunteers at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center who helped so whole heartedly to create the Alive and Still Kickin' variety show. What an exciting show this was with eight musical acts including Sheryl Clapton, Two Cents and Change along with an exciting performance from keyboard player Tim Veazey, and the ol' familiar songs from the 30's and 40 from Ancient History. There was a women's and a men's choir along with a Magic Circle Theater skit and two ventriloquists.

People at this community center are so full of talent and energy they don't see themselves as being 'Seniors.' 70 years old is now the new 50+ as people who are now 70 and 80 years old created Rock and Roll, they are also the generation that started demonstrations and peaceful protest. They are the generation that thought they could make a difference and help change things. Here in Montrose they continue to look for the ways in which they can contribute to our community. Montrose Memorial Hospital has more than 100 volunteers along with our Library and Heirlooms for Hospice. How generously people give of their time to Christ's Kitchen and Sharing Ministries food bank serving meals. All ages come to our community lunches at the Senior Center and with the success of the Variety Show, we will be offering our lunches again for \$5. Our menus are printed in the *Montrose Daily Press* and the *Senior Scene* paper. Come down and see how much fun and friendship you can find at our center. We also are in need of volunteers on a once a week basis to help around the lunch hour. We now can offer our volunteers a free lunch as well.

Arigato, Gracias, Thank You, Takk, Merci Beaucoup, Todah Rabah, Obrigado, Danke, Mahalo.

There are so many ways the Golden Circle Seniors would like to thank all the sponsors that made the "Pay It Forward" lunch fund a success. To begin, we would like to list them so that our readers can give them thanks as well.

Montrose Memorial Hospital, Montrose Daily Press, Alpine Bank, The Beacon, Montrose Community Foundation, Office Depot, Altrusa, KUBC Radio Station, the

Lions Club, the Elks and the American Legion. Also big thank you's to Touch of Care, Colorado Retirement Services, Colorado Hearing, Rib City Grill, Four Seasons investments, Inter-Mountain Funding, Chipeta Solar Springs Resort, In Design Signs, Columbine Printing and Tiffany's.

We are also so grateful to all the performers who shared all their time and talent with us and made the Variety Show such a successful, entertaining event. See you all next year.

Marilyn Huseby, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE "YES" ON AMENDMENTS Y AND Z! HERE'S WHY:

Editor:

The politicians who represent us are elected by district. District lines are drawn every ten years following the census report. And 2020 approaches... Currently drawing those lines is the responsibility of the legislature, the very folks whose elections depend on the boundary lines!

Amendments Y and Z would place that authority in two independent commissions, obviously important because over the years both of the state's largest political parties have worked to keep them-

selves in the majority. In Colorado, only 1 of our 7 U.S. Congressional (House) districts is competitive, and only 4-5 of our state House and 5-6 of our state Senate districts are competitive---out of a total of 100! By the way, **both our State House and our State Senate voted unanimously to refer these two amendments to the ballot!** Evidently, they understand the situation too!

If Y and Z do not pass in 2018, it's very possible that not until the next census in 2030 could these proposals possibly be

put into effect! **The two biggest hurdles to their passage are apathy and ignorance.** Our ballots are long this year and full of legalese that may turn voters off. Don't let that happen---educate yourself! League is advocating for passage and has information available. Also check out Fair-MapsColorado.com. **The voters should choose their politicians, not the other way around!**

*Nancy Ball, Secretary, League of Women Voters Montrose County
Serving Montrose and Delta counties*

JONES APPARENTLY NOT INDEPENDENT FINANCIALLY

Editor:

The Secretary of State is investigating whether a special interest group is unduly aiding the campaign of Paul Jones, candidate for Colorado House District 59. They have found reason for concern. Unite Colorado is an Independent Expenditure Committee, limited to promoting issues

they care about, but has been shadow-managing Jones's campaign, creating all messaging, video, TV, and social media ads, all mailers, fliers, and buying canvassers' time. They even do robocalls (maybe you've gotten one?) and co-host town halls for Jones.

Jones claims he is "independent," and

has received nothing but this group's endorsement. That is belied by records online, that show that Unite Colorado has spent more than \$133,000 on Jones.

Is that the kind of "Independent" you want? Please support Barbara McLachlan when you vote.

Anne Markward, Durango, CO

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Tom Smith Volunteers of America Regional Palliative and End-of-Life Care Coordinator
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COUNTY APPROVES REGION 10 GRANT APPLICATION *From pg 1*

concrete floor at the new Montrose County Event Center. "I was asked to go look at the event center, and what I found was horrible in the laying of the concrete. And I know that you people are probably gonna be blamed totally, and you didn't sign the contract, somebody else did."

"...When I went into that first area, cracks all over the floor," Smith said. "That's unacceptable. Somebody has fallen down, and it's was not just one person... I was in the construction business, the concrete manufacturing business for 30 years so I know what cement does...it makes you wonder what other things you don't see are not right...What's wrong with government? Somebody has got to take the responsibility and be there when they do things. It's not just on the event center, it's the new shop...you've gotta core sample it...somebody at the County should have been watching this...it should be torn out...we're talking big dollars."

CONSENT AGENDA

With no changes, the [Consent Agenda](#) was unanimously approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE Resolution 60-2018

Presented by Assistant County Attorney Carolyn Clawson, [Resolution 60-2018](#) replaces outdated Resolution 07-1996, which was repealed. Resolution 60-2018 was unanimously adopted.

Resolution 61-2018

Human Resources Director Leslie Quon presented Resolution 61-2018 regarding the [official 2019 Holidays](#) for County employees, which was unanimously approved.

OEDIT grant application for the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning

Greg Jennings of the Finance Department presented information on a grant application to Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT) for

a community development block grant of \$350,000 for the Region 10 Business Loan fund to distribute to business throughout Region 10's six-county territory. The grant program has existed for more than nine years, Jennings said. "It always works quite well, very easy, provides a great benefit to the community and the different counties involved."

Commissioner Sue Hansen said, "It's a great opportunity for our community. I am glad we can be the fiscal agent for Region 10 in this regard."

Said Rash, "I would like to give a big shout out to Region 10 for the work they do...these loans help businesses expand, they help new businesses get started, it's really a wonderful program for our community and we see the results all the time."

Commissioners voted to unanimously approve the Community Development Block Grant application.

Exclusive Right-to-sell listing contract with Doug Phillips and Vicki L. Jones of ReMax Alpine View

Deputy County Manager Jon Waschbusch presented the item, which involves [the sale of property](#) located at 2401 6485 Road. The County issued a solicitation and received five proposals, four of which were responsive, Waschbusch said. Proposals were reviewed by a panel including the County Manager, Assessor, Planning & Development Director and the Deputy County Manager. The list price is \$250,000 with a five percent rate of commission.

Hansen asked why the property is being sold.

"Because the Board of County Commissioners declared it as surplus, Commissioner Hansen," Waschbusch said.

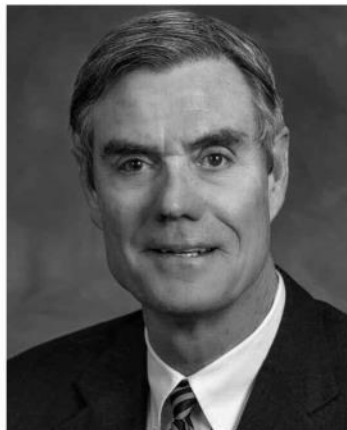
"And it is not the job of the County to own and hold property—to get it back on the tax roles is the ultimate goal," Hansen said.

"We'd like to see it back in public use so it can actually be utilized for future development," Rash said. "...it would be a wonderful place for some sort of residential or commercial development up there...I think it would be ideal. I am excited to see it get back onto the market," Rash said.

The listing contract passed unanimously.

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Continued next page

COUNTY APPROVES REGION 10 GRANT APPLICATION *From previous pg*

Facilities/Maintenance Closeout of Contract

Customer Program Manager Jennifer DelTonto presented the item, which involved BOCC approval of the [contract closeout](#) with Ridgway Valley Enterprises in the final retainage amount of \$402,945.19 for completion of the Road & Bridge Facility Project. "This original contract amount was \$9,142,877; we had \$307,721.26 in change orders that we incurred during the project—part of that was due to some soil remediation," DelTonto said. "So the final amount that will be paid out to Ridgway Valley for the entire project will \$9,450,598.26."

Closeout was advertised four times, she noted. "We have had no claims filed to date."

There is a warranty period of one year with Ridgway Valley Enterprises, she said.

Commissioners voted unanimously to authorize the contract closeout.

Resolution 62-2018

Budget Analyst Shannon Castrodale presented [the resolution](#), which was a declaration of surplus property disposal of heavy fleet and miscellaneous equipment to be disposed of by donation to the Nucla/Naturita Fire Department.

Resolution 62-2018 was approved unanimously.

Resolution 63-2018

Also presented by Castrodale, Resolution

63-2018 concerned the declaration of surplus property disposal of heavy fleet equipment and vehicles through advertisement, trade, auction, online auction or scrap. The resolution concerns Unit 1720, a self-contained sign board that had been placed near the Bull Draw fire on the West End. The unit was pushed off a cliff and down into a ravine, causing catastrophic and irreversible damage to the sign, Castrodale said.

"It's definitely scrap material," Rash said.

"I saw it in the bottom of the ravine," Hansen said.

"It was quite the chore to get it out of

there," Castrodale said.

Resolution 63-2018 passed unanimously.

Fair Board Appointments

Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the [Fair Board appointments](#) of Tyler Wallace and Shawnita Caswell for three-year terms to expire Sept. 1, 2021.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

In other business, Commissioners unanimously approved two Planning & Development items; a proposal by [Bright Sky Minor Subdivision to divide a 6.7 acre parcel into three lots](#); and a proposal by [S and C Minor Subdivision](#) to divide a three-acre parcel into two lots.

**CENTENNIAL MIDDLE
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VETERANS NOV. 9**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Centennial Middle School invites you to celebrate Veterans Day with us. We will be honoring our men and women in uniform both past and present at our annual Veterans Day Assembly. The assembly is Friday, Nov. 9, 2018 at 9 am in the Centennial Middle School Gym at 1100 S. 5th Street in Montrose. Speaker: Steve Baskis. We would be honored to have you there.



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DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PRESENTS 2019 BUDGET TO COUNCIL; COUNCILORS CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR BALLOT ISSUES



DDA Chair Scott Riba, right, and Vice Chair Zander Parker were in attendance to discuss the DDA's budget for 2019.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Lunch was delivered later than usual to the Montrose City Council Work Session of Monday, Oct. 15, generating a sudden influx of City staff and causing Mayor Roy Anderson to briefly pause the work session for five minutes to allow Council, guests and staff to fill plates.

INTRODUCTION TO NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

Prior to lunch, the meeting began with the introductions of new employees, including Street Division Worker Eric Beaver, formerly of San Diego, California; Street Division Team Leader Sean McLaughlin, formerly of Fairbanks, Alaska; Utility Division Worker Hayden Lane, formerly of Oklahoma ("five or six years ago"); and Assistant City Ann Morgenthaler, who joined the City at the end of August. "Thank you and welcome to all of you," Mayor Roy Anderson said.

PLANNING COMMISSION INTERVIEW

Planning Commission Applicant Jan Chastain told Council that she retired to Montrose after a career in health care. "I love

Montrose, and the progress the City is making," she said. "This town, it's got big plans. I can't see it do anything but good things...any time there is growth, I want to be part of that."

Councilor Doug Glaspell, who has served on the Planning Commission, shared insight into the work of a planning commissioner.

Mayor Anderson thanked Chastain for her application, "If you can make the meetings regularly, no problem. We really appreciate your application."

Chastain's appointment will be voted on during the City Council meeting of Nov. 6.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) budget

DDA Chair Scott Riba and Vice Chair Zander Parker were in attendance to discuss the DDA's budget for 2019. Riba said that the DDA board met in a special meeting to discuss the budget for 2019, "I felt it was important that everybody on the board had input into it." 2018 has been a transition year for the organization, he said, noting the shift from a full-time executive director to a part-time manager.

Parker, a CPA by profession, discussed the budget expenditures in detail and said, "Last but not least...we assume budgeted revenues are roughly the same for 2019 as they were last year."

Councilor Dave Bowman asked about the revenue, "At this point you have half a budget...we need to see the revenue side...we couldn't even deal with this until we have both sides."

Parker said that the information provided was based on that provided to the DDA by the City. "I was told by the City the revenues would be the same," he said, adding that the DDA had been directed to provide the City with next year's operating budget. "I'm not sure how the City has the fund set up."

Bowman shifted gears, referring to the [Save the Sculptures](#) effort that is raising money to buy the large Vic Payne bronzes from the current owner. "Do you have money in the fund to give to the statues?" Parker said that funds are allocated for the sculptures, and that he would revise the budget format to show revenues. Councilor Judy Ann Files asked about salaries. "I was on the MACT (the former Montrose Association of Commerce & Tourism) board...when City Council chose to do away with MACT, they also stated we would need to hold salaries to 27 or 28 percent...and yet when I look at yours, projecting \$50,000 next year and a bonus, that's a lot more than 28 percent."

Parker said that the budget was based on keeping the manager's compensation consistent. "That's a lot of money," Bynum said. "How many hours does your manager work?"

Parker noted that the manager "is extremely efficient at what she does." "She's a bundle of energy," Bynum said. "She puts a lot of effort into our community; she was a real find for us," Parker said. Said Riba, "I have been on the DDA board for a year, and was never made aware of guidelines for this type of position...if there are these sorts of guidelines we would appreciate knowing about them."

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PRESENTS 2019 BUDGET TO COUNCIL; COUNCILORS CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR BALLOT ISSUES From previous pg

Following more brief discussion of the DDA manager's salary and benefits, lunch arrived.

Animal Control Municipal Code Revisions

This matter was tabled.

Discussion of upcoming ballot initiatives

A discussion of local Referendum 7A was held at a previous work session; City Attorney Stephen Alcorn focused on Colorado's proposed [Amendment 74](#), calling the measure, "Great for attorneys, not great for taxpayers." He noted that if the amendment were in place during a recent S.W.A.T. operation involving a gunman at Holiday Inn Express, "Holiday Inn could have asked us for compensation when we kicked people out."

Decisions would no longer be based on the health, safety and welfare of citizens but on how much health, welfare and safety we can afford, he said.

Files said that she felt strong about "really hitting this hard," and suggested running Council's resolution in the news media.

Mayor Anderson said, "We need to inform citizens that this will have a big impact on local government."

"As long as we don't pay for it," Councilor Bowman said. "There's an assumption that the media will put it in for free. 'I think we are out of line if we pay for it,'" Bowman said. Referendum 7A was also briefly discussed.

"I think it's an important item," Glaspell said.

"It's important for us to support this because it is going to have a direct effect on the City."

"I disagree," Files said. "It affects the residents, but it does not affect the City as a government entity."

Staffer Virgil Turner informed Council that if Referendum 7A does not pass, the local fire marshall position could "go away" and plan review duties would go to the State. Bowman said that the City does not exist without citizens; "We're not some separate entity. We need to help support our citizens."

Bynum expressed concern that the City would be weighing in on a campaign issue. "Is that a role we should be taking?"

Councilors discussed past City resolutions in support of the Rec Center vote and Columbine School.

"I want people to know that if they move here they will have good fire protection," Anderson said.

"Let's put it on the agenda for tonight and everybody can think about it."

Lift Station Elimination Sewer Line Project

City Engineer Scott Murphy presented an update.

"We put it out for bid and we had four bidders," he said, adding that the low bid (\$558,374.91) from Mountain Valley Contracting was lower than anticipated. The project involves a new sewer trunk line, he said, and will improve the problem of sewage odors in some parts of town.

"I think this is the stuff of local government," Bynum said. "People just want to be able to flush their toilets and have them work."

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION Rescheduling of Jan. 1, 2019 City Council meeting

The regular work session and council meeting set for Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, 2019 were rescheduled to Jan. 14 and 15, 2019.

Comments

Bynum talked about hearing Matt Skinner of Colorado Flights Alliance speak at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli.

Files complimented Parks staffer John Malloy; "Ralph and I went up to Buckhorn...it looks absolutely beautiful up



The Montrose City Council and staff consider work session items over boxed lunches from Jimmy Johns at City Council Chambers on Oct. 15.

there. There's no trash. City crews are doing a good job up there."

Council discussed how to thank Connie Pittenger for her work on the housing authority, and the need to learn more about the issue of vape use.

Bynum encouraged Councilors to attend the Oct. 31 forum at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli to hear a presentation on vape use.

"Come to the Heidi's Forum."

City Manager Bell reminded Council that the City will present to Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) in Denver in support of the Holly Park project on Nov. 7. Clerk Lisa Del Piccolo said that the City has received 18 applications for its Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee.

Files asked for an update on the state of the City and County dispatch centers. Said Bell, "The two sides are working well together. We will move forward with one dispatch center, which was one of our goals all along." Assistant City Attorney Andrew Boyko said that the Montrose Regional Dispatch Center, which had experienced "critical staffing needs" was being shut down Nov. 1. Said Attorney Stephen Alcorn, "I am really proud of both entities. A lot of the technical difficulties are being worked out." Still, "Avoid calling 911 on Nov. 1," he joked.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS SUPPORT 7A

Editor:

The decreasing Residential Assessment Rate (RAR) is creating critical reductions in special district revenues across the state. This is particularly true for the Montrose Fire Protection District. 7A asks Montrose county residents to approve a mill levy adjustment that will provide the District the same amount of revenue lost by the decreased RAR, it is a revenue "neutral" tax impact. The proposed mill adjustment equates to about \$3.09 per year on a home valued at \$100,000.

Without this revenue the Fire Protection District will be facing significant negative consequences on the District's ability to provide service at current levels and will be unable to respond to community growth and increasing call volumes. The District currently can handle 3-4 incidents at a time (a not uncommon scenario) but without 7A two minor incidents or one major incident would deplete District resources. Engine and ambulance staffing would be decreased, response times will increase, critical mutual aid could be eliminated, Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating will likely increase resulting in increased insurance costs.

Our community currently enjoys excellent service from our firefighters and paramedics. As emergency physicians we recognize their commitment and value to our community. We recognize what important services they provide, every minute of every day. We know how good they really are and know what a loss this could mean for the community. We are asking you to support 7A and support our firefighters and paramedics.

Please vote yes on 7A.

Doug Borgo, M.D.

Matt Cotham, M.D.

Dave Dreitlein, M.D.

Julie Query, M.D.

Blake Walker, M.D.

Avery Mackenzie, M.D.



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PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICE PROTECTS TAXPAYERS, SAVES MONEY

Trans Care's Allen Hughes calls special ambulance districts 'predatory'



Left, Trans Care CEO Allen Hughes shows items left from the company's division closures; above, the level of service the company provided to the 2018 Olathe Sweet Corn Festival.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—As the only privately-owned ambulance service west of Denver, Trans Care Ambulance provides a needed service—filling gaps for the region's 911 districts—at a reasonable rate by managing costs as well as care.

Trans Care Ambulance has operated in Montrose since 2008. “We were brought in to help save the citizens money,” Trans Care CEO Allen Hughes said. “Our people are better trained, and we provide a higher level of service and allow the Montrose Fire Protection District to focus on fighting fires.”

“We save thousands in staffing costs,” he said, “allowing the 911 systems to stay within their geopolitical boundaries. We save the citizens within our service area tens of thousands of dollars each year, and we give back to our community and promote it.”

Still, despite seeing its highest division call volume ever in 2017, Trans Care is now feeling the heat created by taxpayer-funded special districts. As a private business, Trans Care is structured traditionally, with a boss and employees.

“We survive off of user fees,” Hughes said. “We recently had to shut down our Rifle Division because the fire department there was spending over \$1,000,000 to compete with us.” Hughes called the expansion of special district-funded ambulance services “predatory.”

Just three months ago Trans Care employed nine full-time staffers; now there are no full-time staff, and the company's divisions are selling off property.

“Our call volume has dropped 30 percent,” he said, “And we have gone from 30 people on staff to three people.”

Hughes first became an EMT in 1981, and has been a paramedic II since 1985. He holds an Associate Degree in Fire Science, a Bachelor's in Organizational Development, and a Master's in Management. In addition to experience as a firefighter—both paid and volunteer—and a paramedic, Hughes has worked for the State of Colorado, where he wrote the mass casualty response plan. He has also served on the board of the Western Regional Emergency Medical Services Council (WRETAC) where he worked with Grant Writer Robyn Funk to build a seatbelt coalition to promote child safety. “We also developed a regional assessment system,” Hughes said. “Now it is being used by the State in areas that are struggling to maintain emergency medical services.”

An example of Trans Care's mission is the medical standby service provided to community events, such as the Olathe Sweet Corn Festival, he said. At first, Trans Care turned down the job this summer, telling organizers to contact their local provider.

“Their budget was \$800,” Hughes said. “But the Olathe Fire Protection District offered to cover four hours with one ambulance and two people for \$1,250, and they wouldn't budge. So we conferenced, and decided we could spare a few hours.

“For \$800, we sent three vehicles and six people for 12 hours,” Hughes said. “We met their budget requirements and went above and beyond—our staff loves to work those events.”

“We do this work because we love people,” Trans Care staffer Deb Scoggins said.

Though special ambulance districts are now operating in Delta County and Olathe, the mission of those districts is to respond to 911 emergencies, not to provide inter-facility transport, Hughes said. Still, a letter to constituents dated May 29, 2018 from Olathe EMS Chief Scott Fitzgerald states, “...we recently received our new ambulance from a state awarded grant. It is in service at this time. Also, we are going to start helping the local hospitals with inter-facility transfers with the cooperation of the Delta County Ambulance District.” A three hour from Montrose Memorial Hospital to St. Mary's Hospital is best served by a private ambulance service, Hughes said. “Imagine how many 911 calls we could have in that time.”

The new Olathe Ambulance cost the taxpayers \$232,000, noted Scoggins.

“The most I have ever spent on an ambulance was \$28,000,” said Hughes, who purchases ambulances that have been previously used.

He noted that it is also [illegal under the Fair Labor Standards Act \(FLSA\)](#) for someone to volunteer for an organization that also pays them.

“A special district might pay a ‘volunteer’ \$50 for a four or five-hour trip; we would pay \$200 or more.”

A systems-based approach to ambulance service better serves the people of the community, he added. “A systems-based approach to moving patients allows the 911 districts to stay within their geopolitical area,” Hughes said.



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FROM THE MONTROSE DOWNTOWN MONTHLY UPDATE: DDA MANAGER SONIA DUMAS MOVES ON

When Opportunity Knocks

This month I would like to thank the DDA board for the opportunity to serve and immerse myself in the Montrose Downtown community.

It's humbling the positive feedback I've received from the community on the work we have collectively accomplished in the past 12 months on a part-time basis versus the previous 7 years.

It's proof that with a proper strategy, limited hurdles, a realistic budget, and the right partnerships...positive change can happen.

I've learned from first-class executives the principles to successfully running a project, an organization, or impacting a community are the same: **Assess. Simplify. Do.**

Before the military proceeds with a course of action, a Sitrep is conducted. A situational report of what's going on, who the players are (both allies and foe), what resources are available, what's the goal of the mission, etc.

Assessing realities is the first step in understanding how close or disconnected one is from the end goal. The fine line is not getting trapped in analysis paralysis.

Next is to *simplify*. This is by far the hardest part. Knowing how to cut the unnecessary, the frivolous, economic-draining versus economic-sustaining, and time-wasting activities in exchange for investing in people/places/things that maximize and expand value takes diplomatic tact, boldness, and foresight concurrently (not for the faint of heart or those looking for external validation).

Lastly, *do*. Millions on human hours are wasted every year on valueless-meetings and resolution-less emails that, like the hamster on a wheel, generates a lot of activity...going nowhere. Leaders know when to stop talking, stop brainstorming, stop taking surveys and move forward with action. Indecision can kill progress faster than limited resources.

What many of you may (or may not know) is when I started working with the DDA I inherited, well....not much.

No centralized contact list, no marketing strategy, no way to consistently communicate with the district or community, strained relationships, an outdated plan of development and no guide-book on how to steer this ship.

All the necessary ingredients to concoct a miracle or fail miserably!

I love a good challenge and in my entire career, there's not a single project I've failed to get back on track. (It's my unapolgetic super-power! A costume is still being designed).

Fortunately, as a self-motivated strategist the hurdles faced did not deter me from the task at hand -

Positioning the DDA for communal engagement, mutually beneficial partnerships, strategic direction, high visibility and kick-starting the engine of momentum.

I am grateful that the DDA board and business community have given me ample space to utilize my expertise to make lasting changes in the perception and functionality of the DDA. The insights, history, and protocols learned were extremely valuable towards our collective goal. Thank you! Thank you!

Over the past year, I've enjoyed using my expertise to diplomatically impact the following:

- The approval of the new and feasible Plan of Development and Facade Grant Program (along with all of the meetings to make it happen...thanks to the City, City Council and consultants that worked with us).
- Stepping-stone collaborations with the City, County, OBT, Region 10, and Chamber of Commerce.
- Directing the overhaul Montrose Downtown website.
- Authoring two monthly articles for the Montrose Daily Press and a monthly e-newsletter.
- Implementation of a social media campaign that engages the community visually. 39% of our followers are between age 25-44 and 33% are 45+. A good sign that we're attracting a mature crowd that wants to be informed about what's going

on downtown.

- Curate articles of relevance about downtown businesses and community leaders that impact downtown through our Culture & Community Blog.

- Advertising for, but not limited to: Halloween Events for Kids & Adults, Acoustic Tuesday, Movie Saturdays, Dinner/Magic/Movie, Oktoberfest, Farmer's Market, Y-Bar Hitch, Montrose County Historical Museum, and other downtown-centric events.

- Developing a marketing strategy to stay highly visible in the community with the Montrose Mirror, Beacon, Montrose Daily Press, Cherry Creek Radio, All Points Transit, and the Montrose Regional Airport. By the end of October, we will be highly saturated across the major media outlets in Montrose...all promoting downtown on a consistent basis.

I believe in the statement to "always leave things in better condition than you found it". **Done!**

This past year's activities can be summarized as:

- *Defining the objectives of the DDA.*
- *Providing grant opportunities for downtown to enhance its storefronts.*
- *Showing the community the relevance and importance of downtown.*
- *Highlighting the diversity of businesses operating.*
- *Capturing moments that engage the community and keep Montrose Downtown top of mind.*
- *Collaborating with various organizations on a level that's in-line with the DDA objectives.*

These key activities are the foundational elements required to move the DDA in a long-term sustainable direction.

Now that the Phase 1 foundation is set, Phase 2 should be about getting the DDA's "hands in the soil" with the unglamorous, but necessary, tasks related to -

1. Capital improvements that foster real economic stimulation.
2. Understanding from property/business owners how the DDA can further help with advocacy for the district;

MONTROSE DOWNTOWN: DDA MANAGER SONIA DUMAS MOVES ON **From previous pg**

As for Phase 2...this is a baton I must **graciously pass on to the next DDA leader**. Why? Nothing negative I promise.

Since success begets more success...The DDA has had a successful year and I would like to see it *exponentially increase* with my replacement.

In today's market, your reputation and your ability to deliver results are the new unique selling points.

My reputation and experience in successfully repositioning projects and organizations through branding, marketing, and project management have presented me with an opportunity too delicious to pass up! (I have a "sweet-tooth" for luxury projects, multi-million dollar budgets, and organized-chaos).

The DDA is in a positive space and I am honored to have had the opportunity to add value.

I will continue to serve until November 30th, plenty of time to find the next leader of this dynamic organization. Check out the City of Montrose website for more information on the job position.

All the best,

Sonia Dumas

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

HOW CAN A CITY WITH AN AIRPORT HAVE NO TAXI?

Editor:

Just moved here and flew out of MTJ for first time. Then, looked for a taxi. Wow, what a disappointment. How can a city with an airport have no taxi? So, signed up for Uber. That was a waste of time, 'No Drivers Available'. Guess I should have gone out of Denver, it was \$400 cheaper, \$500 cheaper adding on parking here, it would have more than paid for gas and parking going out of DIA!
Douglas Crawford, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE FOR INCUMBENT GLEN GALLEGOS, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOARD OF REGENTS

Dear Editor:

This year the voters in our area will be choosing between three candidates for the University of Colorado Board of Regents. There should be no question that incumbent Glen Gallegos should be our choice. He is a proven leader in education, business and life. Most importantly Regent Gallegos has been the most vocal and successful voice for the University in promoting programs that benefit the Western Slope.

My first-hand observation of Regent Gallegos comes in my role as Board President of Western Colorado Area Health Education Center (AHEC) for 13 counties here in Western Colorado. His support for AHEC here and throughout the State is without parallel in any of the six regions of the State.

I urge everyone to check out his resume at glengallegosforregent.com and then do us all a favor and vote for Glen Gallegos to continue to be our Regent.

Thomas H. Huerkamp

Western Colorado AHEC



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959 sq. ft. on 43.09 acres | Year Built: 2008

\$379,000

MLS# 749101

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Western Colorado Properties



3331 Ivory Court
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$849,990 | MLS# 747203
Bedrooms: 6 | Bathrooms: 5.00
5,774 sq. ft. on 0.33 acres



20959 6840 Rd
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$2,350,000 | MLS# 749050
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 5.00
4,585 sq. ft. on 6 acres



11385 Bostwick Park Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$2,200,000 | MLS# 748651
Bedrooms: 0 | Bathrooms: 0
188.54 acres



59387 Lone Eagle
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$579,000 | MLS# 749691
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 3.00
2,791 sq. ft. on 1.7 acres



1329 Animas Street
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$182,990 | MLS# 750132
Bedrooms: 2 | Bathrooms: 2.00
1,072 sq. ft.



4225 Waterfall Drive
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$49,990 | MLS# 748657
Bedrooms: 0 | Bathrooms: 0
0.69 acres



61928 Jay Jay
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$316,990 | MLS# 749552
Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms: 4.00
2,320 sq. ft. on 6.07 acres



11375 Bostwick Park Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$449,990 | MLS# 741889
Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms: 4.00
2,498 sq. ft. on 8 acres



11385 Bostwick Park Road
Montrose, CO
Area Description

\$1,200,000 | MLS# 748649
Bedrooms: 0 | Bathrooms: 0
161 acres



Jeff Keehfuss
Broker/Owner
970-209-3825
Jeff@MontroseColorado.com
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BYNUM ASKS TO TABLE 3.2 LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR STINKER STORES

City Attorney says that store is just 500 feet from Montrose High School; “If nothing else, our West Slope kids are good at fences.”



Councilor Dave Bowman listens to City Attorney Stephen Alcorn discuss a 3.2 liquor license application for Stinker Stores.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-City Council chambers were packed at the start of the [regular meeting](#) on Tuesday, Oct. 16, but only one citizen remained by the time the lengthy meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30 p.m.

Citizen Modene Gaulke led the pledge of allegiance, and Montrose County Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee Chair ZillaMay Brown gifted Council with a plaque honoring the site of Montrose County's first jail. "I warn you in advance it's heavy," Brown told Mayor Roy Anderson as she presented him with the bronze plaque.

Council approved a [proclamation](#) in support of National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments on non-agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council unanimously approved the minutes of the Oct. 2 regular meeting.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Council appointed applicants Ian Atha; John Elo; Jon Horn; Amanda Lloyd; Michael J. Prouty; Robert S. Stollsteimer; and Scott Stryker to the City of Montrose Historic Preservation Commission.

"I think we have some great candidates," Councilor Barbara Bynum said. "I want to

thank them for making time for this important committee."

[NEW 3.2 BEER LICENSE APPLICATION](#)

Representatives from Stinker Stores appeared before Council seeking a new 3.2 beer license for the store at 1103 South Townsend Avenue, which has historically had a liquor license under pre-

vious ownership, has had no alcohol violations, and which is run by the same manager who has run the store for three years and worked there for six. Still, City Attorney Stephen Alcorn closely questioned the applicants. Noting that there is a convenience store with a liquor license on the opposite side of Townsend, "Why do we need one on the other side of the street?" Alcorn asked. "This is the most disorganized packet I have had in my five years of being here.

"If you can't get your packet together properly I am really concerned about your ability to follow detailed law."

Stinker retail territory manager Jessica Murphy reminded Alcorn that neither the store or company has had a liquor violation. "We just want convenience for our customers."

Alcorn said that the shop is just 500 feet from a local school.

"If nothing else, our West Slope kids are good at fences," Alcorn said.

Anderson asked whether a clerk could be bribed. "I'm one of your clerks...a high schooler hands me a \$20 bill. How would you ever know I was doing that?"

Store Manager Kathrine Cooper said, "I have five cameras pointed at the register. There's no way for sneaky shenanigans to happen."

Stinker Stores General Manager Jerry Nichols said that Stinker runs 106 loca-

tions in Colorado and in Idaho. Employees are required to undergo training and are educated to know the difference between a real driver's license and a forgery.

Anderson opened a hearing, and upon receiving no comment from the public, closed it again.

Councilor Glaspell moved to approve the liquor license application; Councilor Dave Bowman seconded it.

Bynum said, "This is the first time staff has expressed concern to me over a liquor license. I would like more time to look at the packet myself. Can I make a whole different motion?"

Alcorn advised her that Glaspell's motion was on the floor.

Anderson asked about rejecting Glaspell's motion, but Glaspell instead revised his motion to table the liquor license application until Nov. 20 to allow Bynum time to review the entire packet. "We have been in business 18 years and have no violations at any of our locations," Nichols said.

REVISED ORDINANCE 2410-SECOND READING

Council approved without comment Revised Ordinance 2410, opting into Colorado State Statute 12-47-301 allowing liquor tasting permits.

ORDINANCE 2457-SECOND READING

Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2410 on second reading, which was explored in detail prior to first reading Oct. 2. Still, staffer Virgil Turner reviewed the Franchise Agreement prior to the vote. Youth Council Representative Jenna Holyfield asked about any changes made to the ordinance between first and second readings. Turner discussed FCC standards, "We think we're working with a local company that is going to provide great customer service."

Mayor Anderson said that no changes can be made to an Ordinance between first and second readings.

ORDINANCE 2458-FIRST READING

Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2458 on first reading, authorizing the disposal of real property, in this case a parcel located on North Cascade near the

BYNUM ASKS TO TABLE 3.2 LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR STINKER STORES

From previous pg

the intersection of Hwy 50 and the San Juan Bypass. "This is a piece of property the City has no use for," Turner said. "An appraisal has been ordered; we will have it before this comes up for second reading."

ORDINANCE 2459-FIRST READING

Also unanimously approved was Ordinance 2459 on first reading, amending the zoning of the parcel referenced in Ordinance 2458 from Public District to General Commercial District, which City Planner Garry Baker said was required for disposal.

ORDINANCE 2460-FIRST READING

Ordinance 2460 rezones a portion of Tract 2, John D. Exemption, from R-3 Medium Density to B-2A, Regional Commercial District. The entire parcel includes 46 acres South of Hwy 550 and half a mile East of Hillcrest Avenue, Baker said, and the B2A portion encompasses 31.28 acres. "There will be additional review at the subdivision stage," he added.

Applicant Greg Moberg of Moberg Land Group represented the owner of the property.

"My client is very interested in re-developing this property," Moberg said. "This is the first step."

Ordinance 2460 was unanimously approved on first reading.

COLORADO OUTDOORS AMENDED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Planner Garry Baker presented information on the amended development plan, which requests certain deviations from City zoning and subdivision design standards.

The original development plan was approved in November of 2017, Baker said. Allowed deviations encompass public street right-of-way narrowing with detached sidewalks; parking calculations; a mixed-use of commercial, residential and industrial; the river corridor will be dedicated to the City, making Uncompahgre River Buffer Zone standards inapplicable; lot sizes and industrial setbacks are slightly smaller than in Zoning standards; and uplighting of signs is allowed so long as it meets City dark skies standards.



City staffers and Youth Council Rep Jenn Holyfield listen during the regular meeting of Oct.16.

"Pretty much every type of use is allowed on this project," Baker said. "We think it is going to work very well together."

Bynum asked whether amending a plan of development is common. "I am trying to understand what an amended development plan really is."

Baker noted that for a project of this scale, amendments are common. "We're just being more specific on the plan than we were last year."

Files reminded staff that lighting is supposed to be directed downward. "You need to watch that."

The Colorado Outdoors Amended Development Plan was unanimously approved.

COLORADO OUTDOORS AMENDED PRELIMINARY PLAT

This was a request to add preliminary platted lots to the general layouts already approved on the Colorado Outdoors Preliminary Plat. Baker said that 26 lots have been added, 41 acres dedicated to the City, and there are public access easements in two places. An obsolete easement will be vacated, and "Infrastructure is nearing completion," he said.

Council unanimously approved the Colorado Outdoors Amended Preliminary Plat.

RESOLUTION 2018-28

Resolution 2018-28 is a resolution in support of a Local Parks & Outdoor Recreation grant application to the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado (CoCo) Trust Fund on behalf of the Montrose Botanic Gardens. The grant will be used to complete the Montrose Botanic Garden Master Plan and associated site plans.

City Grant Coordinator Kendall Cramer noted that there will be one change to the resolution; "The original had an error... \$70,700 is the new total project cost. Ideas for the Master Plan include an experimental garden and an area for children and families, he said.

The City will cover up-front costs of \$53,025. "We will be reimbursed by GoCo; we will enter into a promissory note," Cramer said.

Resolution 2018-28 passed unanimously.

COLORADO COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENT

The City is leasing a room in the Annex building to the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning. Virgil Turner discussed the lease, which will provide a "carrier neutral location" for Region 10's broadband. "This is a great win for the City to have this facility so close to our network."

BYNUM ASKS TO TABLE 3.2 LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR STINKER STORES

From previous pg

Because Mayor Roy Anderson serves on the Region 10 board, he recused himself from the vote, which passed with four votes and one abstention.

6800 WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT CONTRACTS

Council unanimously voted to approve the award of construction and survey/engineering support contracts totaling \$662,606.97 for construction of the 6800 Waterline Replacement Project, previously discussed in the work session of Oct. 15. The City is upsizing the water line between Miami and Sunnyside (along the 6800 Road alignment) from 12" to 24". "It should be done by April of next year," Engineer Scott Murphy said.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Council approved the award of a \$241,100 contract to Browns' Hill Engineering & Controls for the Wastewater Treatment Plant SCADA System improvements. The existing system has functioned well for 20-some years, Utilities Manager David Bries said, but has reached the end of its useful life. The project is scheduled for completion in May of 2019, and is necessary to prevent a catastrophic occurrence, Bries said. "To manually operate the treatment plant with the current staff is really not possible."

RESOLUTIONS 2018-29 AND 2018-30

Resolution 2018-29 voices opposition to State Amendment 74 (which declares that any state or local law or regulation that reduces the fair market value of a private parcel is subject to just compensation) and Resolution 2018-30 voices support for Montrose Fire Protection District's Referendum A (which increases the mill levy for the Montrose Fire Protection District up to 0.429 to produce an income of \$175,048 to regenerate funding currently lost due to the residential assessment rate and provides for an adjustable mill levy thereafter).

Citizen David Stockton urged Council not to take political stands. "...I truly believe that local government should not take a stand on any single ballot issue," he said, noting that such advocacy is best reserved for third-party organizations such as the League of Women Voters. After more discussion and lengthy individual commentary, Council unanimously adopted both resolutions.

Assistant Finance Director Chelsea White presented a Sales, Use & Excise Tax Report. City Manager Bill Bell asked Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler to present an events update. Morgenthaler said that she will be in charge of community events this year, overseeing the events assistant and three staffers. Upcoming

events include the Christmas tree lighting and Santa's Cabin on Nov. 23, starting at 5:30 p.m. Santa's Cabin will remain open throughout December. Small Business Saturday is Nov. 24, and City Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty will be working on Montrose Bucks sales.

Councilor Doug Glaspell asked if the City was planning to assist the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) with the 2018 Halloween Party. "Not officially," Morgenthaler said. "We do have a date for FUNC Fest; it will be Aug. 10."

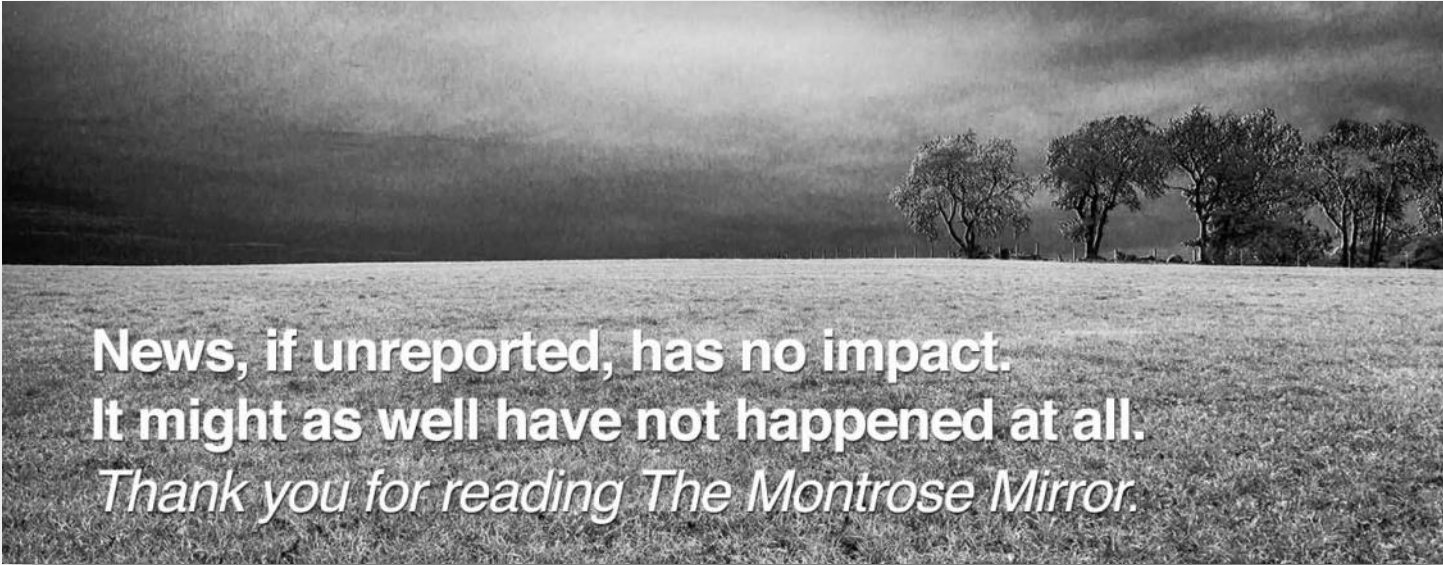
The later date will allow Montrose to capitalize on late season river flows. Also, the FUNC Festival may expand to two days in 2019.

City Engineer Scott Murphy presented an update on road closures; South Hillcrest is paved but needs to be striped. "We expect it to be open a little before Thanksgiving." Improvements to O'Delle should be wrapped up soon, he said.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Files mentioned that she toured the Colorado Outdoors Project site. Bowman said that ballots were mailed, and that citizens should expect to receive them and take time to vote. He said that citizens should educate themselves so they understand the Gallagher Amendment.

Councilor Doug Glaspell made a motion to adjourn.



News, if unreported, has no impact.
It might as well have not happened at all.
Thank you for reading The Montrose Mirror.

LOG HILL MESA RESIDENTS CONCERNED From pg 1

away from City lights and noise.”

Still, that may soon change.

A local marijuana grower has asked Ouray County to allow them to transfer an existing grow license from Weahgatay Road to a 35-acre parcel located at the intersection of County Road 1, County Road 1C, and County Road 22A.

There, applicants have requested permission to build a 14,000 square-foot industrial, indoor commercial grow facility.

Ouray County limits grow licenses to ten, and according to a letter dated Oct. 15 from the Log Hill Community Action Committee, five of those are now concentrated within a six-mile radius on Log Hill. “Nine families own property adjacent to the applicant’s 35-acre parcel, which is geo-

graphically the hub of the neighborhood,” the letter states. “...This area has taken on its share of the burden for all of Ouray County already.”

With 12 HVAC units and increased traffic on County Road 1, neighbors believe that the proposed grow operation will negatively impact not only quality of life but property values.

“It just changes everything,” Drexler said. “The noise, the footprint, and the traffic generated...it will also impact law enforcement.”

She questioned also the need for another marijuana farm in Ouray County. “The market is saturated,” she said. The applicants apparently believe otherwise. One neighbor who registered oppo-

sition to the operation with the County soon received a personal letter from applicant Ben Buescher, stating, “We have taken time to create a mitigation and abatement plan for a myriad of concerns expressed by the neighborhood. Our goal is to work *with* the neighbors to co-exist in harmony. We put together a guide that addresses sound, noise, smell, light, security, and traffic.”

Still, a number of Log Hill residents remain opposed to the grow operation.

“We want to protect the land,” Drexler said.

A hearing concerning the grow operation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 30, at Ouray County’s 4H Event Center in Ridgeway.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WALKWAY CONSTRUCTION CONNECTS PROGRAMS, NEW VOLUNTEER CLUB ***Circle of Love Club Uplifts Residents***



Courtesy photo Homestead @ Montrose.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Homestead at Montrose assisted living celebrated the completion of a new, permanent walkway connecting it to the Volunteers of America Cimarron Village apartments last Friday. The walkway was built to aid residents who live in both communities to have a safe and convenient way to access the buildings to visit friends, attend events at either location, or to participate in their plan of care at the adjacent Senior Community Care PACE day center.

The cement walkway and seating benches with canvas shade canopy, which are situated at the center crossing point, were funded by last year’s annual Homestead at Montrose golf tournament. The land between the buildings was not level and posed potential hazards to those trying to cross it.

Swanson said, “We all appreciate all our sponsors and volunteers that helped us succeed with the walkway project. I want to thank staff who helped make decisions on color and design.”

Ridgway Valley Enterprise moved dirt and poured sidewalk, tress were provided by San Juan Gardens, the benches came from Camelot Gardens, and the awning from Advanced Awning Company. Denise Swanson, resident director at The Homestead at Montrose, led the dedication ceremony recognizing a newly formed group of volunteers called “The Circle of Love Club”. The club members assisted with planning and serving refreshments at the ceremony. The purpose of the club is to do special things for the assisted living

residents throughout the year – thus sharing love and enhancing lives. Circle of Love club members include community members, family members of residents, and staff.

“They all have different reasons for joining the club with one thing in common – having love in their hearts for our elderly and the compassion to show this love to them,” Swanson said. “Anyone with interest can become a member by making an annual or monthly donation commitment.”

The club meets regularly to discuss ways to enhance the lives of the assisted living residents with the funds from the memberships. Flyers with details on the club are available at The Homestead at Montrose. An initial donation of \$50 comes with a logo polo shirt for the donor.

The ceremony came to a close with a prayer and devotion lead by Lisa Barrientos, director of nursing and Volunteers of America commissioned minister. Colorful balloons were released and refreshments were served to those in attendance.

MEDICARE MONDAY

November 7, 2018



Holiday Inn Montrose
1391 S Townsend Ave
Montrose 81401
9:30 am - 11:30 am

or

**Bill Heddles Recreation
Center**
531 Palmer St
Delta 81416
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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**Refreshments will be
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Colorado Gerontological Society
1330 Leyden St, Ste 148
Denver, CO 80220 · 303-333-3482

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- Help with Costs of Part B and Part D
- Comparison Shop for a Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage Plan
- New Medicare Cards

Walgreens pharmacy will be providing flu, pneumonia, whooping cough and shingles immunizations!

Bring your Medicare and Insurance cards.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY NAMES COMMANDER BLAINE HALL CHIEF OF POLICE

Special to the Mirror

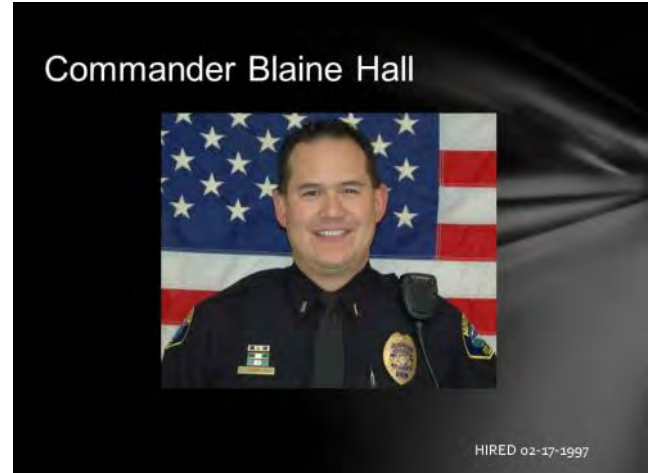
MONTROSE-Commander Blaine Hall will serve as Montrose's next police chief beginning Nov. 2. Hall will replace retiring Police Chief Tom Chinn, who is leaving after 45 years of service to the Montrose community.

Hall has served with the Montrose Police Department for more than 21 years in a variety of capacities such as police officer, sergeant, detective, lieutenant, and most recently, commander.

Hall was chosen to serve as the Montrose Chief of Police after going through an internal promotional and panel interview process with representatives of the City Manager's office, Human Resources, and Legal departments.

Hall commented on his selection by saying, "We have a great organization and I work with some outstanding men and women. I'm excited and ready to lead the Montrose Police Department into the future."

For more city news visit: www.CityOfMontrose.org.



Commander Blaine Hall will become the new Chief of Police in Montrose on Nov. 2. Courtesy photo.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE ALLISON AICHELE FOR LA PLATA COUNTY TREASURER

Editor:

Allison Aichele, unlike Colton Black, has a Bachelor's Degree in accounting, a Master's Degree and a specialized certificate in Treasury Management. She readily admits that there were some errors in the Treasurer's office when she first became Treasurer (as can certainly occur when someone is new on the job, and particularly when she was instituting new computer software in an office that previously used only paper records), but she has learned from those mistakes and no errors have been found in the most recent audits. The Archuleta County Treasurer, a Republican, criticizes Allison for a campaign literature claim that her office has higher internal controls than other County Treasurer offices, but far from being "made up," this was based on a statement of the software provider for both La Plata and Archuleta Counties, Tyler Technology, which wrote the individual code for La Plata County, and has as its clients many other Colorado County Treasurer offices. Allison is far more capable, educated and experienced in the duties of the County Treasurer job, is loved by her staff, and is doing a fantastic job. Why we would want to even consider starting over from scratch with someone who has never held such a position, and who does not have the education or experience for the job, is beyond me. To top it off, Mr. Black has made false claims about Allison that have given me real doubts about his integrity and credibility.

Carol Cure, Durango

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN SEPTEMBER 2018

Colorado Workforce Center

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Employers in Colorado added 5,100 nonfarm payroll jobs from August to September for a total of 2,748,100 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 4,400 and government increased 700. August estimates were revised up to 2,743,000, and the over the month increase from July to August was 4,000 rather than the originally estimated 1,500.

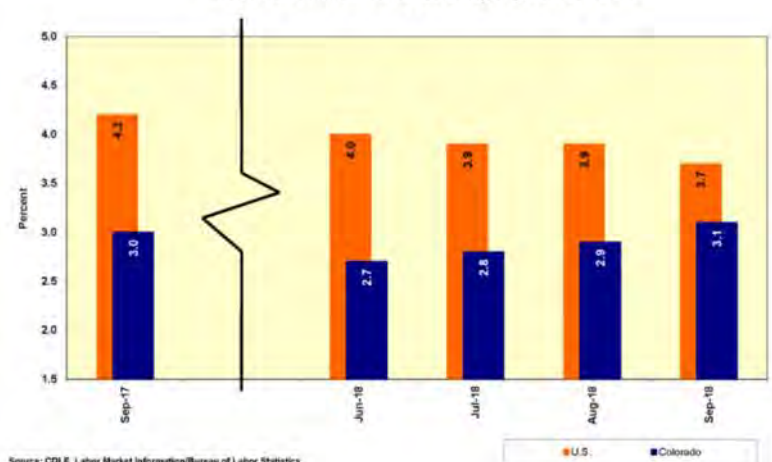
According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate increased two-tenths of a percentage point from August to September to 3.1 percent. The number of people actively participating in the labor force increased 5,300 over the month to 3,096,000 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 1,300 to 3,001,500. The larger increase in the labor force than in total employment caused the number of unemployed to increase 4,000 and the unemployment rate to increase to 3.1 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point in September to 3.7 percent. This is the lowest unemployment rate for the U.S. since it was 3.5 percent in December 1969.

Over the year, the average work-week for all employees on private non-farm payrolls increased from 33.5 to 34.3 hours and average hourly earnings increased from \$27.77 to \$29.40.

The largest over the month private sector job gains were in education and health services, and financial activities. The largest over the month decline was in leisure and hospitality.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 77,200, with an increase of 68,200 in the private sector and an increase of 9,000 in government. The largest private sector job gains were in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and construction. Other ser-

U.S. and Colorado Unemployment Rate



vices declined over the year.

Over the year, the unemployment rate is up one-tenth of a percentage point from 3.0 percent. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 72,300, total employment increased 68,500 and the number of unemployed increased 3,800. The national unemployment rate declined from 4.2 percent in September 2017 to 3.7 percent in September 2018.

SECRETARY OF STATE REMINDS VOTERS OF AVAILABLE TOOLS

Special to the Mirror

DENVER- As Coloradans receive their ballots this week, Secretary of State Wayne Williams wants to remind them of tools available this election season.

Voters are able to register to vote online at www.GoVoteColorado.com. The site also offers the ability to update your information, change party affiliation, check ballot status and find a polling location.

"I'm proud to say that Colorado has the highest percentage of registered voters in the country," Secretary Williams said. "I think it's because we've made it very easy to register and to vote."

Colorado has been named the [safest state to cast a vote](#). There is a paper ballot for every vote cast, post-election audits are conducted, and a variety of exercises that test the security and preparedness of

elections. To learn more about election security measures in Colorado, visit the Secretary of State's [website](#). Another tool that is available is through your smartphone. Simply text "CO" to "2Vote" (28683) and choose from the available prompts: register to vote, look up my info, dates and deadlines, where and how to vote, FAQs and report a voting issue.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

A FEW DOLLARS MORE OR MINUTES MORE IN RESPONSE TIME -THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Editor:

Local Ballot Issue 7A is long, complicated, not easily understood and at first blush, looks like a new tax. Even so, there is no other way to overcome the funding crisis resulting from the unintended consequences of the Gallagher and TABOR Amendments, two Draconian Colorado Constitutional Amendments that are causing monumental financial disasters in virtually every small special district in the state. Many Fire Districts are attempting similar remedies throughout the state, including Telluride. Nearly all small Special Districts, like Rec. Districts, Library Districts, Cemetery Districts and many others are seeing their funding drastically reduced by operation of these two Amendments. Gallaher established the method of determining residential property assessment whereby the Residential Assessment Rate would be adjusted periodically

to maintain the required ratio of payment of property taxes, 55% by commercial property and 45% by residential property. While starting in 1982 at 21%, the multiplier of actual market value of residential real estate has declined to 7.2% and will undoubtedly be reduced even further next year to 6.1%, due to skyrocketing metropolitan housing prices. That may be good news for homeowners but it is disastrous for Special Districts, particularly Fire Protection Districts whose services are essential and critical to the public safety of every community. Look at the YouTube video "Gallagher Fire -MFPD" and similar informative works on the Web for a more complete explanation.

A **YES VOTE** on 7A assures each of us the continuing vital services of the firefighters and first responders who have served us so well since 2006 by regenerating \$175,048 in lost revenue. The cost is \$3.09

per \$100,000 of actual value of residential property within the District. A **NO VOTE** will result in drastically increased response times, reduced ability to respond to multiple simultaneous incidents, termination of the Fire Prevention Dept., termination of Mutual Aid to neighboring areas, termination of wildland cooperative firefighting activities, the closing of Fire Station 2 on US 550 and the probable increase in homeowner insurance rates. This could be a life or death issue if services are reduced or cut back!

The choice is up to each of us in the Montrose Fire Protection District. We will reap the benefits of a YES vote, namely, continued outstanding fire suppression and first responder services or pay a horrible price for the consequences of a NO vote on Ballot Issue 7A.

*John W. Nelson
FOR 7A Committee*

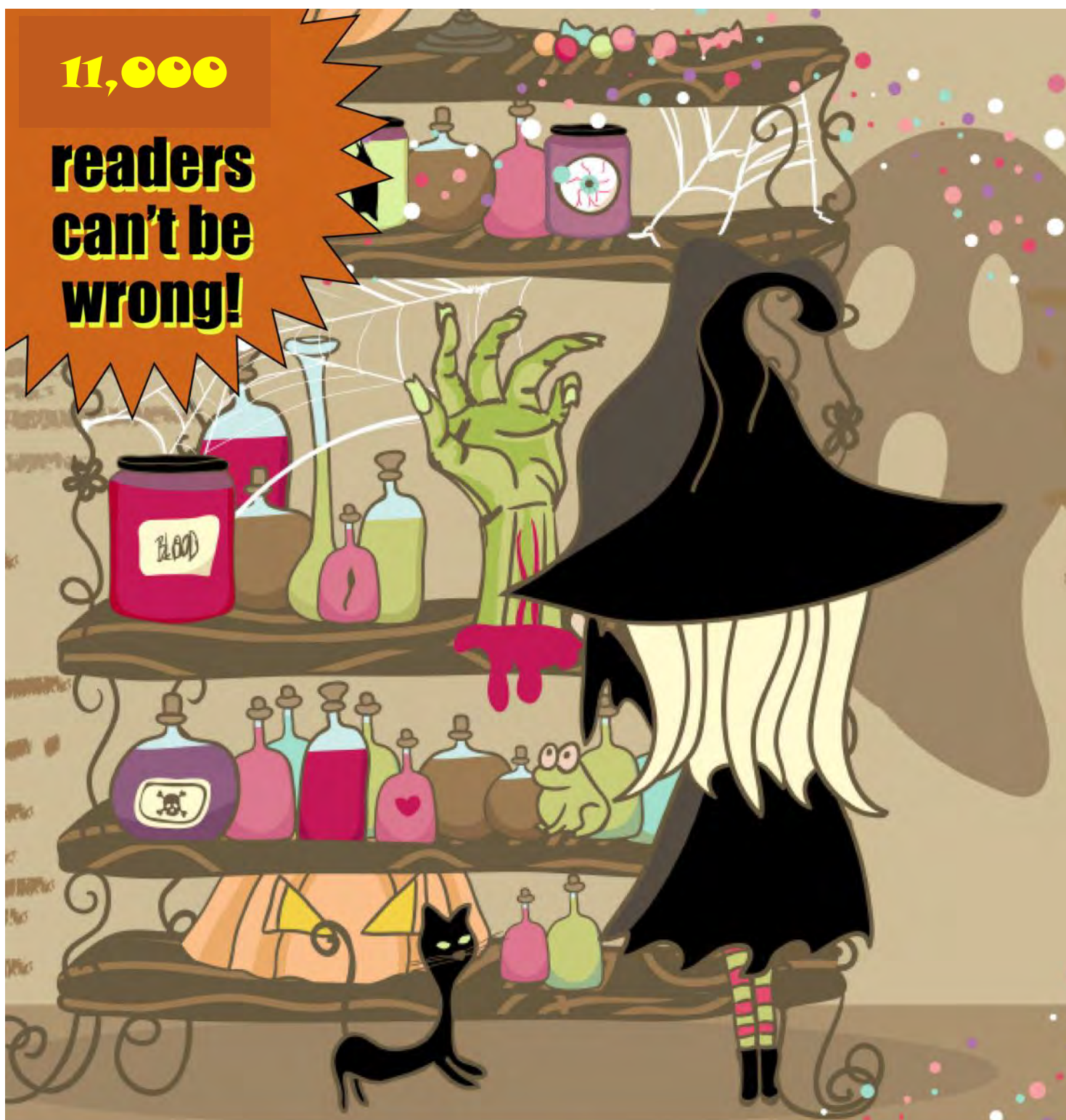
MHS CHOIR WOWS COMMUNITY WITH FALL CONCERT



Mirror staff photo

MONTROSE-MHS Choir Director Jenna Henry, below, and the Men's, Women's, Chamber, High Frequency, and Vocal Effect Choirs performed at the Montrose Pavilion Oct. 15. At left, all choirs combined for the final number.





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News coverage that won't make you scream!

ISSUE 181 Oct. 22, 2018

ART & SOL

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY OPENS REMINE CREEK TRAIL FOR PUBLIC USE



SAN MIGUEL COUNTY- San Miguel County is pleased to announce that the Remine Creek Trail is now open to the public for recreational use, thanks to an easement granted by Genesee Properties, Inc. (San Miguel Valley Corps). The Remine Creek Trail extends from the east-end portion of the Aldasoro Trail south to cross Hwy 145 and continues on to connect with the underpass/bicycle path to Telluride

and the Galloping Goose Trail.

L. L. and William Remine were among the San Miguel Valley's earliest permanent settlers of European descent, recording the first placer claim in the San Miguel Mining District. Today, hikers, bikers, and leashed dogs can find "gold" of their own in the natural beauty, fresh air, and fall colors to be seen along the newly-opened public trail that bears the Remine name.

Said San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners Chair Kris Holstrom, "We're pleased that the Remine Creek Trail from the Airport Road to 145 will be available for hikers and bikers. It's a nice connection that will help keep roads safe and offer a multi-modal alternative with stellar views!"

Opening the trail was a team effort, San Miguel County Parks & Open Space Director Janet Kask said.

"The Remine Creek Trail is a connector trail, and bridges the gap between existing trails," Kask said. "It adds to the county trail system, and the county will operate, manage, and maintain the public regional trail. San Miguel County and Genesee Properties had a great working relationship throughout the entire project and we are thrilled to add a new trail to the county trail system for recreational purposes."

Genesee Properties, Inc. covered the cost of trail design, construction, and all pertinent requirements—including two bridges, signage, fencing, and gates.

Approved uses of the Remine Creek Trail, which crosses private property and an active cow pasture, include hiking, biking, and walking dogs on leash. Not allowed are horseback riding, motorized vehicles, off-trail or overnight uses, camping, hunting, campfires, shooting, or collection of materials. Please remain on the designated trail.

MIRROR IMAGES...CASA PRESENTS A RAY OF HOPE!



CASA of the 7th Judicial District welcomed community members to the Ray of Hope Benefit Oct. 20. Clockwise from top left, guests Allison and Linda Nadel; desserts for the dessert dash; Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hansen was in attendance; CASA volunteer Twyla Righter with well-behaved children; Guest Presenter Nia Wassink; CASA staffers Twila Weiszbrod, Carlton Mason, and Lauren Cook; guests Dale and Maggie Kleeves. Mason announced that CASA has acquired and will remodel the former Jeans Westerner space for a Youth Access Center.





VETERANS DAY

BRUNCH

MONTROSE ELKS LODGE

801 S. Hillcrest, Montrose CO

ALL Veterans are

Welcome

09:00 to Noon

Sunday 11-11-18

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

FORMER ATOMIC WORKERS INVITED TO NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION— All former atomic and uranium workers and their families are invited to attend the National Day of Remembrance Celebration hosted by Nuclear Care Partners, where they will be recognized for their service to the country.

National Day of Remembrance is an honorary holiday to recognize the more than 625,000 men and women who worked in the nuclear weapons development industry, strengthening the country's national defense. In October of 2009 the U.S. Senate passed a resolution establishing October 30th as National Day of Remembrance. Each year, around this honorary day, Nuclear Care Partners hosts events across the country to recognize former atomic and uranium workers for their work and appreciate them for the sacrifices they made to keep the country safe.

The National Day of Remembrance Celebration is free to all former atomic workers and will take place on Tuesday, October 30 at 1 p.m. at Fisher's Lounge located at 625 24 ½ Road in Grand Junction, CO. To RSVP for the event call Nuclear Care Partners at 970-243-8500. "This ceremony is one of the ways we like to say thank you," said John Kelley, Community Outreach Manager at Nuclear Care Partners. "We want former workers to truly feel valued, and we commend them for enhancing our country's security. They sacrificed more than they knew and we are committed to honoring their contributions."



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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: ARTS & EDUCATION

EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS HOSTS NINTH ANNUAL LEADERSHIP SIMULCAST

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Express Employment Professionals is hosting the 2018 Refresh Leadership Simulcast, a nationwide leadership event featuring Secretary of State Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), former President of Adidas North America, Mark King; and Author, Speaker, and Paralympian Josh Sundquist. Back for its ninth year, the Refresh Leadership Simulcast attracts more than 9,000 attendees annually throughout the U.S. and Canada. The event focuses on how leaders can reach the next level, inspire their people and become more effective in their role. King kicks off the event with "Lessons in Leadership: Competing with Creativity."

This innovation expert is the former president of Adidas North America, and challenges leaders to inspire a workforce of creativity and confidence to create things consumers won't believe are possible. The lineup continues with Gen. Powell who served as the Secretary of State from 2001 – 2005 under President George W. Bush.

Drawing from his experience as a leader on the world stage, Powell will illustrate what it takes to be a successful leader, particularly in times of great change and difficult crises. Rounding out the lineup is the dynamic Sundquist. This humorous and inspirational Paralympian is known for his ski racing training motto: 1MT1MT, one more thing, one more time. This phrase refers to what leaders can do to elevate their performance in sales, customer service, quality improvement, leadership and more. Sundquist's goal is for the audience to walk away from his motivational presentation with a fresh perspective on everything they have to be grateful for, resolve to overcome whatever challenges they face, and a commitment to do one more thing, one more time to reach their potential.

"We are proud to present this exciting opportunity for business leaders from throughout our community," said Nina Anderson, Grand Junction and MontroseExpress franchisee. "Each speaker in

this year's distinguished lineup will share their insights and experience on what makes great leaders.

"Express has a strong presence in Western Colorado, and we are pleased to offer the Refresh Leadership Simulcast as a way to give back to the business community."

Business leaders, human resources professionals, chamber of commerce officials and chamber members can register at RefreshLeadership.com/Simulcast.

Events are planned for both Grand Junction and Montrose offices. The event will be simulcast on Wednesday, Oct. 24. In GRAND JUNCTION: Factory | 750 Main Street, Grand Junction. In MONTROSE: Montrose Regional Library | 320 S. 2nd Street, Montrose. For both venues, check in begins at 8:30 a.m. and the simulcast begins at 9 a.m.

There is no cost to attend the simulcast; however, Express is asking for a \$10 donation to benefit either Kiwanis Club of Grand Junction or Welcome Home Montrose.

MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOSTS GHOST TOURS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Museum takes a walk on the Spooky Side with tales of ghost stories. The museum's ghost authority intertwines history and legend on a walk down Montrose's shadowy Main Street and dark alleyways. Armed with flashlights, patrons will hear mysterious tales of the town's eerie history of paranormal activity and perhaps have their own experiences to share afterward! Montrose County Historical Museum is the starting point for the tour which starts at 6 pm and lasts till about 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10/person please RSVP space is limited at 970-249-2085. The special dates are Oct. 26, 27 and 30.

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



MIRROR IMAGES...RIDGWAY STATE PARK!



Special to Art & Sol
RIDGWAY STATE PARK-Two Fridays of fun in September and October for special needs students from Montrose. "My Time for Fishing" brought together students from elementary through post-high school ages. About 100 students total participated. Many, many thanks to our park volunteers (pictured above) L to R: Patty Ray, Keith Krickbaum, and Bill Bond. Organized by park educator, Carrie Krickbaum and Adapted PE teacher, Danielle Musser.

MIRROR IMAGES...RIDGWAY STATE PARK!



Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE-Voyager Youth Program of the town of Ridgway brought some kids to the park on Thursday. They joined archeologist, Holly "Sonny" Shelton and friends to build a wikiup and learn how to throw an atlatl! Volunteers included: "Sonny" from the Dominguez Archeological Group, Brian O'Neil retired archeologist, Cheryl Harrison, retired archeologist and Jo Guill, member of the World Atlatl organization. Timbers were collected from the park and will be reinforced to stand next to the tipi. (At the end of the project a Bald Eagle happened to fly over to add its blessing.) Thanks park manager, Kirstin Copeland, for letting us do this project!



Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Remembering a community leader And honoring a new festival tradition



Chris Pike and Art Goodtimes at Cimarron Bookstore back when Priscilla Peters owned it (photo by Sue Williamson).

CHRIS PIKE ... It caught most of us off-guard when he passed this past spring. He was a respected fellow reporter and a strong environmentalist. I admired his inquisitive mind ... As part of the Ridgway-Ouray Community Council, he invited me to speak at the group's annual spaghetti dinner last winter. I had no idea he was ill. And when he died unexpectedly, I missed his memorial ... So I was shocked in going through my piles of unsorted papers from a too-fast and too dry summer to find a book inscribed with the words, "gift of Chris Pike." It brought his generous spirit to mind again ... And what a perfect book. As the 4th-generation San Franciscan that I am, he'd given me David Talbot's bestseller, *Season of the Witch* (Simon&Schuster, 2012) – a gripping story of San Francisco in the turbulent '60s and '70s when I was one of its hippie counter-culturalists, reading poetry on the streets and joining in its demonstrations and politics ... So, let me reach out and thank Chris. He gifted our



Lito Tejada-Flores (courtesy photo).

regional community with his passion and vision, and I want to remember him again for the positive force he was and still is.

LITO TEJADA-FLORES ... is a dear old friend and co-conspirator in our SageGreenJournal.org project on-line. He attended the first Original Thinkers Festival in Telluride two weeks ago and wrote a lovely review of the event that the Telluride papers weren't able to publish. So he asked to share it with the *Mirror*. It appears below.

ORIGINAL THINKERS 2018 ... I'm no stranger to the magic of a Telluride festival weekend. Since my first *Telluride Film Festival* in 1976, and stretching over 40-odd years, Telluride's festivals have provided an almost endless stream of unforgettable memories. And I am not alone. But two short weeks ago, I was lucky enough to take part in an extraordinary new festival experience, *Original Thinkers 2018* ... I am still processing the images and ideas that this 3-day weekend event threw at me. Still remembering and savoring the surprises and discoveries that *Original Thinkers 2018* offered in abundance. And it isn't too early to sum it up like this: the best Telluride Festival ever, the most innovative, the most stimulating, the most thoughtful and thought-provoking! I'm not kidding. The weekend was structured around ten major programs in the large Mountain Village conference center. Only ten, but

there was no waiting in line, no panic about what one was inevitably going to miss, and no need to miss anything. I can count the multiple turns of this kaleidoscopic festival on my ten fingers ... Presence as answer and antidote to polarization, from the innocence of a 10,000 mile bicycle ride to the easy camaraderie of street ping-pong tables in the middle of the Big Ap-

ple's hustle ... A gritty and witty exploration of wealth as an ultimate addiction, our addiction ... In-depth and very atypical portraits of the deep south, from slavery to today, by two equally atypical women photographer-artists ... A harrowing exposé of the way glyphosate is redrawing the cancer map of our country ... An intimate look at some extreme, and extremely different, cases of overcoming literally overwhelming odds ... An epic and courageous story of a group of veterans trying to use the healing power of poetry, art, and collective solidarity to deal with PTSD ... Behind-the-scenes looks at efforts to reveal and reverse the modern world's war on women, narrated by courageous women journalists ... The surprising tale of horizontal gene transfer between species that is reshaping the story of evolution on earth ... Gripping and occasionally humorous stories about the bravery and risks of truth telling, from Sudan to Nashville ... And in closing, a festival wrap-up program that left us all stunned, and flying high, energized by a series of passionate speakers, calls to get it right, not to look away, and to celebrate all we can celebrate, from the 50th anniversary of a vision of earth from space that should have changed everything but hasn't yet, to a breathtaking dance performance by burn victim and amputee, Prince Amponsah, who personifies the notion not just of overcoming odds but transcending them gloriously ... An evening that brought this

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

ambitious festival full circle. Because original thinkers, and their original thinking, are ultimately a call for original action and authentic responses. A call we all felt, and with luck can keep on responding to ... Finally, I need to mention, and thank, one more original thinker, David Holbrooke, who dreamed up this festival and brought it to life, who was somehow able to morph the lessons of his ten years at the helm of *Mountainfilm* into something even more ambitious, even more challenging, even more exciting. This year's *Original Thinkers* festival is just the beginning of one more open-ended Telluride adventure. Stay tuned, and reserve the first weekend of October 2019 for the next chapter of this amazing story.

WEEKLY QUOTA ... "As water supplies dwindle with climate change and serious conflicts arise with other users, tribes will have major leverage in determining how Western water is allocated." —Jodi Peterson, *High Country News* reporter.

THE TALKING GOURD

Last Dollar

We pass the Last Dollar Saloon--
 alcohol, sweat, grease fumes
 spill out with boisterous talk,
 laughter, guffaws.
 My son can't understand why
 anyone would sit on a stool
 or lean on the bar and do that
 all night long.
 He guffaws.
 I place my hand on his shoulder
 a moment,
 all I am allowed.

-Peter Waldor
 Telluride

**The Mirror:
 many views,
 one newspaper.**



MIRROR IMAGES...BOTANIC GARDENS SCARECROW FEST



The Montrose Botanic Gardens welcomed visitors from across the region to the Annual Scarecrow Festival this past weekend. Scarecrows were created by local artists. The gardens also celebrated the addition of a new shade structure with hot dogs and treats.



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

15 ARTISTS SHOW WORK AT RIDGWAY LIBRARY



Artists, front row l-r: Carmella Wilson, Susan Wing, Judy Hazen, Julia Reid; back row: Janine Gwaltney, Kathy Urso, Loretta Casler, Ed Werner, Paula Marlatt. Not shown: Denise Bush, Barb Kendrick, Barb Parish, Sheelagh Williams, Joyce Withrow, & Claudia Wolff.

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY—For the past 14 years the Ridgway Library has transformed into an art gallery, hosting local artists for exhibitions and sales of their art. Now, fifteen hot artists have fired-up their creative energy in a vibrant show of paintings and conceptual hangings displayed from November 10-January 11, 2019. New works include a diverse array of styles, textures, and mediums from acrylics, pastels, watercolors to 3-D planes. Don't miss this dazzling art display. An opening reception kicks-off the show Saturday, November 10 from 4-7pm. Refreshments will be served and the artists will be there to discuss their works. Call the Ridgway Library for more information, 970-626-5252.

KAFM RADIO ROOM WELCOMES UNION OF NONE

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION—Union of None plays the KAFM Radio Room Nov. 16. Hailing from the western slope of Colorado, Union of None plays all the songs you didn't know you wanted to hear from the 80's to the 2000's to audiences all over Colorado. Wide-ranging vocals and harmonies paired with searing guitar leads and a solid rhythm section have made Union of None one of the top bands in their home market. From night-clubs and bars to local events and regional festivals, Union of None is always a crowd-pleaser and leaves them wanting more.

The band that ultimately became Union of None was started about five years ago by drummer Jeff Steele and several friends. Originally called Bicycle Annie, the band slowly gained a following playing local clubs and events and eventually began branching out, playing higher profile shows in outlying areas like Snowmass, Ouray and Carbondale. Though there were changes in band membership, their success continued offering more and better shows. The band has become a staple of local festivals and events.

In late 2017 the band was forced to make some fundamental lineup changes.

As a result, it was agreed that this was the time to change the name of the band and Union of None was born. While sticking to the fundamentals that made the band so popular to begin with, Union of None will continue to deliver the same great, high-energy covers fans have come to expect but also begin pursuing original music that will allow the expression of the immense creativity and spirit each member of this band embodies.

Tickets are **\$13 in advance**, and \$15 at the door. To purchase tickets, go online at kafmradio.org, or call **970.241.8801** to pay by phone during business hours.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SAN JUAN WEAVERS SHARE FIBERS AND FRIENDSHIP FOR 41 YEARS



Beautiful handwoven scarves are part of an earlier San Juan Weavers Guild Show & Sale. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-It's been 41 years since Western Colorado weavers and spinners started the San Juan Weavers Guild and its annual Show & Sale. Their 41st sale will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, November 17, at the Holiday Inn Express, 1391 S. Townsend Ave. in Montrose (next to Safeway). The public is invited to share in the celebration.

There is no admission charge, and the one-day event will feature demonstrations, exhibits, and hands-on learning for all ages, as well as a huge selection of items for sale for the home and for personal use and gifts.

Normally held the Saturday before Thanksgiving, the Weavers Guild sale is a longtime holiday-season tradition in

Montrose, and experienced shoppers line up before the doors open for the best choices. However, the large inventory ensures that there will be a good selection throughout the day.

Even the organizers don't know exactly which and how many items will be included until the night before. "Inventory is checked in the day before the sale. We are always amazed at the quality and amount of handcrafted items offered, and we work hard to maintain the high standards for which our sale has become known.

This year we're inviting member Sandy Martin to show her beautiful gourds and we'll have baskets from our sister guild in Kenya."

An abundance of household items, in-

cluding towels, napkins, runners, rugs and baskets, will be available. Expect scarves in a vast assortment of fibers, colors, and yarns, along with other personal accessories suitable as gifts for yourself or others. Classy clothing from handwoven fabric or knitted from handspun yarn are often featured, and there are toys for children and pets.

Education is always an important part of the show. Throughout the day, guild members will demonstrate weaving, spinning, and other fiber arts such as felting. Children and adults alike may try their hand at these time-honored crafts, at no charge.

Exhibits are also part of the guild's educational outreach. This year, our members were challenged to create something inspired by the San Juan Mountain Range. We participated in a napkin exchange, in which members each wove six napkins and will exchange five each so everyone has a variety of napkins to be inspired by and to use in their homes.

The San Juan Weavers Guild meets in Montrose the third Saturday of most months during the school year. (The sale replaces the November meeting, and a holiday potluck is scheduled earlier in December.)

An informal spinners' gathering and potluck lunch is held monthly year-round in Delta.

The guild welcomes anyone interested in the fiber arts, at any level of experience. Many monthly meetings feature special programs and sharing sessions, and workshops offer new learning experiences. Educational outreach is included at certain public events, this year these included the Sheep Dog Trials in Hotchkiss in May, and the Montrose Public library in June.

For information, contact Janet Miller; 970.217.1114; j.m.miller18@hotmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & OUTDOORS

COLORADO HUNTERS CAN EXPECT GOOD WATERFOWL HUNTING

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Despite drought conditions throughout Colorado and the surrounding region, Colorado hunters should be able to find good waterfowl hunting opportunities during the 2018-19 seasons. Waterfowl hunting seasons in Colorado extend from September teal and Canada goose seasons to light goose conservation seasons ending in April.

Local waterfowl production in 2018 was likely lower than normal due to the dry conditions across the state, but most ducks and geese in Colorado during the fall and winter hunting seasons are migrants arriving from states to the north and Canada. Each year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducts surveys of waterfowl and their habitats in these primary breeding areas.

In 2018, the total duck breeding population estimate in the surveyed area was 41.2 million birds, 13 percent lower than the 2017 estimate of 47.3 million but 17 percent higher than the long-term average (1955 - 2017). Numbers of the five most harvested ducks in Colorado showed similar patterns.

Mallard

Estimated **mallard** abundance was 9.3 million, 12 percent lower than the 2017 estimate of 10.5 million but 17 percent above the long-term average of 7.9 million.

Green-winged teal

The estimated abundance of **green-winged teal** was 3.0 million, 16 percent below the 2017 estimate of 3.6 million and 42 percent above the long-term average.

Gadwall

Estimated abundance of **gadwall** was 2.9 million, 31 percent below 2017 but 43 percent above the long-term average.

Blue-winged teal

The 2018 estimate for **blue-winged teal** was 6.4 million, 18 percent below the

2017 estimate and 27 percent above the long-term average of 5.1 million.

American wigeon

Abundance estimates for **American wigeon** was 2.8 million were similar to their 2017 estimates and their long-term averages of 2.6 million.

Habitat quality generally declined across the survey area compared to last year, but improved in eastern Montana and the western Dakotas, important areas for ducks migrating through Colorado. Variable habitat conditions across the region likely resulted in average to below-normal breeding success for **Canada geese** that winter in Colorado. For **ackling geese** and **snow and Ross's geese** that occur in Colorado, a late spring thaw on Arctic nesting areas resulted in poor production in 2018. However, populations of these geese remain at relatively high numbers.

Colorado's waterfowl environments are diverse, ranging from shallow wetlands to large reservoirs. Typically the best hunting is available when cold front push birds south from southern Canada, the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming.

Colorado's waterfowl season dates and bag limits for 2018 - 2019 are similar to 2017 - 2018. One exception is that hunters may harvest two pintails per day this season, compared to one per day last season. In addition, the split in the seasons for dark geese in the North Park and South Park/San Luis Valley goose zones have been removed. The season in these zones now runs from September 29 to January 11 with no closed period.

Gammonley suggested hunters get out to areas ahead of time for a successful



Colorado Parks & Wildlife. Courtesy photo.

season. "Conditions and the timing of migration are always changing," Gammonley said. "Take a look around areas where you want to hunt and see local conditions. Even if you always hunt the same area, water, habitat, and patterns of bird use can change every year. Doing some scouting can help you plan your hunt and you may find new areas."

For more information about Colorado's waterfowl seasons and hunting regulations, see the [2018 Colorado Waterfowl brochure](#), available at statewide license agents and parks and wildlife offices or online. Duck and goose hunting in Colorado requires a small-game license and both federal and state waterfowl stamps, available for purchase through CPW's [online system](#). In addition, hunters are required to obtain a [Harvest Information Program \(HIP\) number](#).

Colorado Outdoors Online, in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited, offers a [Waterfowl Resource Guide](#) to help hunters get the most out of their time in the field.

For most waterfowl hunters, finding a place to hunt is often more challenging than the hunt itself. Fortunately, Colorado offers a variety of public land hunting opportunities. [Here is some information and tips on hunting waterfowl on public land.](#)

BINGO NIGHT **MONTROSE ELKS LODGE** **COSTUME PARTY**

OCTOBER 30, 2018 6:30 PM

WIN AWESOME PRIZES



**WEAR YOUR FAVORITE
COSTUME**



**PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD
PLACE FOR BEST COSTUMES**



***COSTUMES NOT REQUIRED
TO JOIN THE BINGO FUN!****



**HAPPY
HOWLOWEEN!**



Save the Date! Upcoming Regional Events

CURRENT/ONGOING-

AMERICAN LEGION POST 24 hosts Bingo every Saturday and Sunday at 7pm, at the Bingo Connection, 2075 East Main Montrose. Its open to the Public. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.. For more info call Tom at 260-8298.

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 Centennial Room, 431 South First in Montrose.

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.](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1980+North+Townsend+Ave,+Montrose,+CO+81401/@38.752,-106.252,15z) Information: Dianna 970-249-0724

MONTHLY-

Oct. 24- Join us for a Motivational Leadership Event Hosted by Express Employment Professionals on Oct. 24 from 9am-11:45am. • Grand Junction | @ FACTORY • Montrose | @ Proximity Space. Enjoy a distinguished and diverse lineup of speakers as they share their insight and experience on what makes great leaders. This is an inspirational learning and networking event you won't want to miss! [Click here to register prior to the event, space is limited!](#)

Oct. 25-Hilltop Community Resources Purple Thursday Open House, 4 to 6 p.m. at 540 South First Street. Wear purple in to show support for those affected by domestic violence. Refreshments will be served.

Oct. 26, 27, 30-The Montrose County Historical Museum takes a walk on the Spooky Side with tales of ghost stories. The museum's ghost authority intertwines history and legend on a walk down Montrose's shadowy Main Street and dark alleyways. Armed with flashlights, patrons will hear mysterious tales of the town's eerie history of paranormal activity and perhaps have their own experiences to share afterward! Montrose County Historical Museum is the starting point for the tour which starts at 6 pm and lasts till about 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10/person please RSVP space is limited at 970-249-2085. The special dates are Oct. 26, 27 and 30.

Oct. 26-Montrose Center for the Arts OPEN HOUSE Preview of new art center space. Friday, October 26, 4 – 7 p.m. For questions, contact Jodine Broscovak 970-249-5645.

Oct. 27-2nd Annual Halloween Costume Horse Show. 2pm at Cimarron Stables in Montrose.

Oct. 28-The Valley Symphony Association (VSA) presents their fall concert, "Masterpieces from 1700 to Today," on Sunday, Oct. 28, 3 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. For information, upcoming concerts, the audition process, and tickets, visit the VSA on Facebook @ValleySymphonyAssociation and at ValleySymphony.net. Tickets are also available in Delta at Clubb's and in Montrose at Montrose Music and the Montrose Pavilion.

Oct. 30-Montrose Elks Lodge Bingo Night, 6:30 p.m. Wear your favorite costume to win a prize, costume not required.

Oct. 31-Halloween Costume Contest for Kids @ The Real Estate Store, 500 East Main Street. 11 a.m. during Downtown trick or treating.

Nov. 1-Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) 2018 Manufacturing Expo. 1 to 5:30 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. Open to the public.

Nov. 2-Montrose Woman's Club Hobby and Craft Bazaar, a fundraising event for local Charities, is held Nov. 2, 10 am – 6 pm and Nov. 3, 9 am – 3 pm at Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds. 100+tables: handcrafted items, antiques, crafts, coins, jewelry, clothing and more. Hourly door prizes, free admission. Vendor spaces: contact Lexy, 970-275-3336.

Nov. 3-The "Real" Arts and Crafts Holiday Event, hosted by Amanda's Original Crafts, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Healthy Rhythm Gallery in Montrose, 68 South Grand Avenue.

Nov. 3-San Juan Healthcare Foundation presents "Go Your Own Way," a benefit concert featuring Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band and Stevie Nicks Illusion at the Montrose Pavilion. Call 970-252-2580 for ticket information. VIP reception @ 5:30 p.m., Doors open at 7 p.m.

Nov. 5-The Montrose Giving Club meets at the Bridges Golf & Country Club of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Open to ALL women who can afford the \$100 donation and a \$10 hospitality fee.

Nov. 5-On Monday Nov. 5, @ 6:30 p.m., Citizens' climate Lobby will hold its monthly meeting in the Montrose Library meeting room at 320 S 1st. After the good attendance at movie Happening: Clean Energy Revolution at 2 Rascals Oct. 9, there is a renewed awareness of ways to mitigate climate change. Come network to influence legislators of nonpartisan ways to help our environment.

Nov. 6-Election Day, The Montrose County Democratic Party is offering free shuttle service to polling places in Montrose on Nov. 6, election day, 7 am to 6:30 pm. This is available for ANYONE needing a ride. If possible, call a day or two ahead. Call 970-688-0757 to arrange a pick-up. If you are eligible, but not registered, you can register at the same time.

Nov. 8-Three Streams, Three Mines & Many Stakeholders: Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018, 6:30-8 p.m., Ouray County 4H Events Center, 22739 US-550, Ridgway, CO 81432. The community is invited to this free, public event for all ages to learn about three water quality projects completed by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership above Ouray in the historic mining district. Slide show and talk by Soil & Water Scientist Ashley Bembenek, with light appetizers and soft drinks. For information, visit uncompahgrewatershed.org/events or call 970-325-3010.

Nov. 9-Centennial Middle School invites you to celebrate Veterans Day with us.

We will be honoring our men and women in uniform both past and present at our annual Veterans Day Assembly. The assembly is Friday, Nov. 9, 2018 at 9 am in the Centennial Middle School Gym at 1100 S. 5th Street in Montrose. Speaker: Steve Baskis.

Nov. 11-Veterans Day Brunch @ Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 South Hillcrest. All veterans are welcome. 9 a.m. to Noon.

Nov. 23-Montrose Christmas tree lighting, Courthouse lawn.

Dec. 1-Montrose Parade of Lights.

Dec. 1-Montrose Elks Lodge Charity Ball, 801 South Hillcrest @ 7 p.m. \$25 couple, \$15 single.

TIPTON HONORS FOUR WITH CONGRESSIONAL AWARDS



By Gail Marvel
MONTROSE-Congressman Scott Tipton, US Representative for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, honored four longtime local heroes Friday at the Montrose County Republican Women's Luncheon at Hampton Inn; Recognized for service were USN Master Chief Petty Officer John Boughton; Ouray County Sheriff Dominic Mattivi; Montrose County Sheriff Rick Dunlap and Delta County Sheriff Fred McKee. The four awards were read into the Congressional Record.



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