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# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 324 May 13 2019

## WITH TRI-PLEX PROJECT BACK ON TRACK, NEW HABITAT DIRECTOR PLANS REVIEW OF FUNDING MECHANISMS



*After delays resulting from the USDA shutdown earlier this year, families are still waiting to move into the Habitat Tri-Plex on South Park Avenue in Montrose, above.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Where some people might want to run and hide, others see a challenge to be faced; among the latter is new Habitat for Humanity of the San Juan's Director Erica Weeks.

Weeks does not deny that she inherited a mess, a high-profile project that lost its funding before completion. The [Montrose Tri-plex on South Park Avenue](#) remains empty and unfinished, and the families who will occupy the units are still waiting for the new homes they were promised.

"The truth is, there was funding that was tied up with the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) when it shut down," Weeks said referring to the government shut down that occurred in December and January. Habitat for Humanity had intended to sell two

[Continued pg 3](#)

## BOCC REGULATES MINING ON LAND NEAR SAN MIGUEL RIVER; SENDS RE-ZONE REQUEST BACK TO PLANNING COMMISSION

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a [special meeting](#) Thursday, May 9. All three commissioners were in attendance; Planning & Development Director Steve White delivered the invocation.

### PUBLIC COMMENT/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no public comments; County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the meeting agenda.

### GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Ordinance 2019-01 was approved unanimously, to regulate mining activities on County-owned land adjoining the San Miguel River. Signage will be placed in the area as soon as possible, Deputy County Manager Jon Waschbusch said.

*Background*-Montrose County owns 85.383 acres of vacant property along a section of the San Miguel River, according to the [Ordinance](#), property that has historic and cultural

[Continued pg 14](#)



*Montrose business owner Jeremy Spencer addressed the BOCC during a public hearing at the special meeting of Thursday, May 9.*

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Up Bear Creek!](#)

[Letters to the Editor,  
Regional news briefs!](#)

[Carole Ann McKelvey's  
Rocky Mountain Cravings!](#)

[Reader photo spotlight  
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## ***NEW HABITAT DIRECTOR PLANS REVIEW OF FUNDING MECHANISMS***

***From pg 1***

homes it owned in Norwood to pay for the tri-plex, she said. "The cash would have provided funds to finish the Park Avenue Project."

Instead, because the home sales were tied to [USDA funding](#), the government shutdown caused a six to nine-month delay in the construction timeline.

Weeks said, "It has been a long road for the families, but they are hanging in there."

One of the Norwood properties has sold since the USDA shutdown ended, and the other is expected to sell in June, she noted. "By the end of the month we will have a funding plan put together. We are on track to have certificates of occupancy and to be moving families into their homes by Fall."

Still, "We are taking a solid look at how things are working," Weeks said. "USDA was a new model we tried, and it was a difficult model to work with. We know not to rely on USDA funding again."

Weeks, who has a strong background as a professional grant writer for municipalities and non-profits, said that she will be talking to board members about the use of different, safer funding mechanisms in future.

"The events that occurred during that period of time were beyond the control of Habitat," she said. "It's unfortunate. But now we need to ask, how do we fix it; how do we move forward?"

"My goal is to get the right plan in motion and get the tri-plex finished up."



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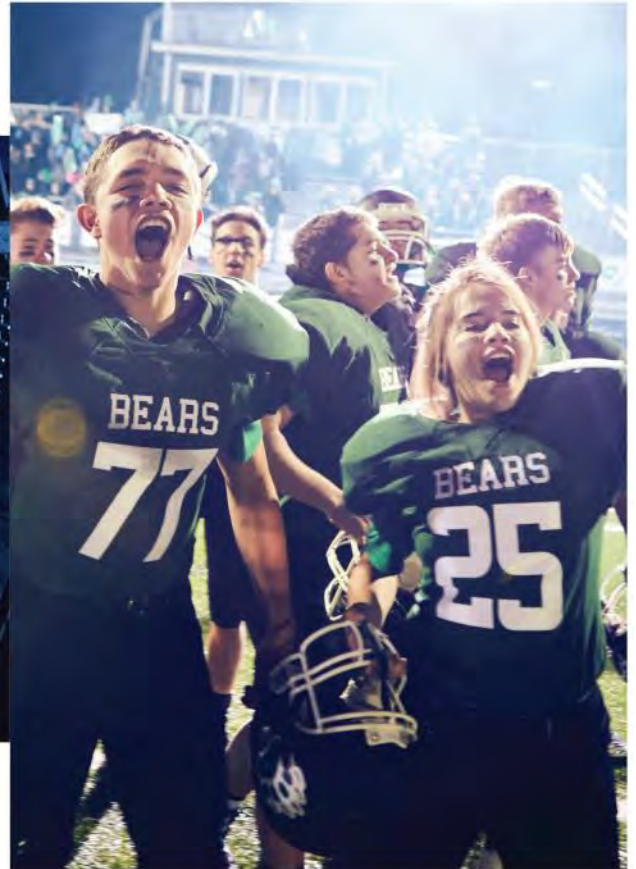
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## CITY APPROVES RE-WRITE OF ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS; MALE POULTRY BANNED



*Montrose City Council and the Montrose Board of County Commissioners proclaimed May 12-18 to be National Police Week in Montrose.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The [May 7 regular meeting](#) of the Montrose City Council began with two proclamations. Mayor Dave Bowman proclaimed May 18, 2019 "Kids to Parks Day." Also, in a dual proclamation with Montrose County Board of Commissioners' Chair Sue Hansen, Bowman proclaimed May 12-18 to be National Police Week in Montrose, with May 15 to be observed as Peace Officers' Memorial Day.

All councilors were in attendance; Youth Councilor Alejandra Tapia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Alcorn addressed Council on behalf of Friends of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison, of which she is executive director. The new organization is initiating its first fundraising project to build tent pads; they are coordinating building plans with park staff, raising funds for the project, and hope to use Youth Corps Volunteers in the summer of 2020 during the building phase, she said.

"Most major national parks have philanthropic partners," Alcorn said. "...This is the modern-day equivalent of collecting pennies and shovels to build the road to the South Rim or preaching from Pulpit Rock on the need to create a park."

The Friends organization was created in 2018, and includes City Grant Writer Kendall Cramer, who is Vice-Chair of the Board, she said.

Alcorn discussed the accomplishments of

the Friends organization to date, adding, "...I would be lying if I said we do not have grand visions that would involve partnership with the City, the grandest of these being a shuttle bus system that could alleviate major overcrowding at the pullouts on the South Rim by delivering visitors from a remote parking lot and around a loop that could include the Montrose Visitor Center, but those conversations are down the road."

There will be a Spring Friend-raiser event at the Ute Indian Museum on May 17 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Alcorn said. "It is our goal to make many more friends with a passion for the Black Canyon of the Gunnison."

Also addressing Council during the time for public comment was City resident Mary Ryan. "The reason I am here today is to ask consideration of putting stop signs in our neighborhood...the speed limit in our neighborhood is 20 miles per hour, most cars go 30 to 50 miles per hour. There are no stop signs between Hermosa Drive and East Oak Grove Road; by the time they do get to that stop sign from East Oak Grove they are going exponentially way too fast for the neighborhood."

With children and elderly residents in the area, speeding traffic poses a danger to citizens, Ryan said.

She also noted a drainage problem, which creates puddling at the southeast corner of Rheims Court and Imogene Avenue. "A year and a half ago I slipped in

that puddle because mud accumulates as well," Ryan said. "I crushed a disc and had to have spinal fusion because of that. I have been to City offices many times asking for some type of relief from the drainage problem."

Since purchasing her home two and half years ago, the driveway has sunk an inch and a half because of water drainage, Ryan said.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Council approved the minutes of the April 16 meeting, with Mayor Bowman abstaining because he was not there. Consent Agenda items, including the rescheduling of the June 18 Council Meeting to 6 p.m. on June 17, passed unanimously.

### LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR BE WELL, LLC

Council considered a new Beer and Wine liquor license application at 2724 N. Townsend Avenue for Be Well LLC, for consumption of beer and wine on the licensed premises. Owner Wendy Campbell answered questions posed by Assistant City Attorney Rachel Allen.

Be Well, LLC is a health and wellness center that carries vitamins, supplements, foods and has a patio out front and coffee shop inside, Campbell said. "We want to offer beer and wine on the Frontage Road...so people can have a glass of wine or a beer on the way home."

Nobody will be overserved, and all patrons will have identification checked,

## ***CITY APPROVES RE-WRITE OF ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS; MALE POULTRY BANNED*** ***From Previous pg***

Campbell said. Plans are to eventually have a food truck on site. Now, a neighboring business will offer cold snacks for purchase.

The application passed unanimously.

### **SECOND READING-ORDINANCE 2472**

Ordinance 2472 was approved on second reading, repealing and replacing Title 4 Chapter 4 dated April 4, 2016 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding Zoning Regulations to clarify language related to short-term rentals.

The Ordinance has been discussed at length in prior work sessions and meetings; City Planner Garry Baker noted, "this makes it clear that short-term rentals are allowed within the City, but also makes it clear that they require a sales tax license."

### **SECOND READING-AMENDED ORDINANCE 2473, ORDINANCES 2474 AND 2475 & AMENDED ORDINANCE 2476**

Also approved on second reading were:  
-Amended Ordinance 2473, repealing and replacing Title 5 Chapter 15 Section 2 (43) and (61) and Title 5 Chapter 15 Section 7 (P) dated Sept. 19, 2017 and Title 5 Chapter 2 dated Nov. 4, 2010 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding sales and use tax and excise tax;  
-Ordinance 2474, for the annexation of the J & L Jones Addition;  
-Ordinance 2475, zoning the J & L Jones Addition as an "RL," Rural Living District; and  
-Amended Ordinance 2476, repealing and replacing Title 5 Chapter 12 Section 6 dated February 17, 2015 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding consumption in parks.

### **ORDINANCE 2477-FIRST READING**

City Attorney Stephen Alcorn said that the animal control regulations underwent a significant re-write. "There wasn't a paragraph we didn't go through," he said.

Mayor Dave Bowman opened a hearing; with no public comment, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Roy Anderson noted the substantial amount of red-lining in the regulations, and asked, "...is there any major new change that prohibits something we used to allow, or that allows something

you couldn't do before relative to pets in our community?"

"Let's talk chickens," Alcorn said, noting that male poultry can be a nuisance and are prohibited. "Males of the poultry species are incompatible within the City limits."

Leaving animals in hot cars remains prohibited but has been reclassified from cruelty to nuisance for enforcement purposes.

Animals are not allowed on athletic fields; dogs in parks must be under effective physical control. Dog licenses are not required, but dogs must have a rabies tag and owner contact information.

Said Councilor Judy Ann Files, "Since I have this big flock of chickens at my house...guess I eat my rooster."

Ordinance 2477 passed unanimously on first reading.

### **KLIPPERT ADDITION**

Council approved Klippert Addition Annexation Nos. One, Two, and Three, as well as Ordinance 2481 on first reading, zoning Klippert Addition Nos. One, Two and Three as a Rural Living District.

### **RESOLUTION 2019-15-CWC GRANT APPLICATION**

Adopted unanimously, Resolution 2019-15 authorizes the filing of the Colorado Water Conservation Board grant application for the Water Supply Reserve Grant Program, authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant contract with the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and authorizing City staff to act on behalf of the grant agreement. If the grant is awarded it will lower the City's contribution to river restoration costs by \$100K.

### **MOVEMO 2019 STREETS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AWARD**

Council unanimously approved award of a construction contract to Mountain Valley Contracting in the amount of \$2,900,000 for completion of the Moving Montrose Forward 2019 Streets Maintenance Project.

The award was discussed previously in work session; "We are continuing the \$5M street maintenance blitz we started last year," City Engineer Scott Murphy said. A full list of projects as well as updates can

be found on the web site, [www.movemo.co](http://www.movemo.co). If funds are available when the listed projects are complete, two "bonus roads" may get overlays, Odelle and Otter Pond, Murphy said.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty said that the 2020 White House Christmas tree will be selected and cut out of the GMUG (Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests). "The Forest Service would like to partner with us for a sendoff party and other community engagement events. We'd like to send the tree to Washington with a lot of Colorado ornaments," Rosty said. "...Pretty exciting for the Montrose community."

The Montrose Visitor Center has an art exhibit, Faces of Montrose, by students from Olathe and Oak Grove elementary schools, she said.

The Montrose Downtown Area Revitalization Team (DART) was designated by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) as a Main Street Community. "...We have done all the work that it takes to form DART, to make it a respected and functioning program, and we have garnered the attention and respect of those on a state level."

Montrose will now receive technical assistance funding and support, and some really cool signs, she said. Also, the recent Block Party was a huge success and created local awareness of the Visitor Center.

"This is really community building and it's terrific," Anderson said.

"That block party was absolutely fantastic," Mayor Bowman said, and thanked staff. Councilor Doug Glaspell said the block party was excellent, as was the 2019 Montrose Cinco de Mayo Festival.

At the request of Mayor Bowman, Youth Councilor Alejandra Tapia provided an updated on the most recent Rock the Rec event. "My understanding is we had another great Rock the Rec Saturday," Bowman said.

"It was great, unfortunately not a lot of people went...it was fun, we had a Hawaiian theme, we did have a couple people go and it was fun," Tapia said.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# CRIME STOPPERS USA HAS NEW SLOGAN, 'SAY IT HERE,' NATIONAL POLICE WEEK IS MAY 12-18

### Editor:

While it sounds like a commercial for the media, SAY IT HERE is actually the new trademarked slogan for Crime Stoppers of the United States, Inc. (CSUSA), the umbrella organization of over 350 local Crime Stoppers programs, including Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. (MRCS). Crime Stoppers International (CSI) is the global counterpart and CSUSA is its primary leader. These programs are assisting law enforcement in solving crime from Montrose to New York City to the Hague. Uber drivers are now participating in 10 major cities. CSUSA is also partnering with Ring Doorbell and is concluding a partnership with IBM to focus on global human and environmental trafficking as well as other crimes. From the smallest communities to the largest cities here and around

the globe, Crime Stoppers programs are solving and preventing crime, utilizing publicity and anonymous reporting with the potential for monetary rewards.

In the Montrose region, anyone with information about a crime or criminal may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500, use the free mobile app P3Tips, or provide information via P3Tips.com. Crime Stoppers wants your information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the Tipster may receive a cash award. Crime prevention and solution are everyone's responsibility. Many area crimes continue to increase despite diligent law enforcement action. For additional information, view Facebook page [www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers](https://www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers).

May 12th -18th is National Police

Week. It is a time to remember those officers who have made the supreme sacrifice and to show appreciation for all law enforcement officers and personnel for their dedication and service to their communities. Each day, they protect all of us, our families and our property. Sadly, they sometimes sacrifice their very lives for us, losing their own in the line of duty.

Wednesday, May 15th at 10 a.m. in Centennial Plaza in Montrose is the Law Enforcement Memorial Service, honoring those who have laid down their lives so that their communities may live in peace and security. I urge everyone to attend.

*John W. Nelson*

*President, Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc.*

*Regional Director, Crime Stoppers USA, Inc.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITY OF MONTROSE ANIMAL SHELTER RECEIVES \$15K PET OVERPOPULATION FUND GRANT TO PROVIDE SERVICES

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose Animal Shelter has received a \$15,000 grant from the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund to help offset the cost of spay and neuter surgery for pets as well as micro-chipping of animals.

The License Plate grant program through the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund (CPOF) uses the revenue generated from the Adopt-A-Shelter Pet license plate to provide funding for the spay, neuter, veterinary care, and micro-chipping of animals that do not yet have a home and are in the care of shelters and rescues throughout Colorado.

"We have been very fortunate to receive a \$15,000 grant from the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund," said Animal Shelter Manager Kari Kishiyama. "This grant will be used to offset the city's cost of spay/neuter surgery for pets adopted from the Animal Shelter."

In 2018, the city's Animal Shelter spayed/neutered approximately 365 animals. During this same period, the shelter had a 92-percent live release rate.

"The Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund is proud to partner with the Montrose Animal Shelter and supports their good work by providing funding for spay and neuter services for animals in their care," said CPOF board member, Jayme Nielson.

"The Montrose Animal Shelter has demonstrated strong working relationships with local veterinarians; collaboration among local, regional and statewide animal welfare agencies; and is a strong community resource. We are confident that these funds will have a positive impact in the region."

For more information about the city's animal services visit: [www.cityofmontrose.org/250/Animal-Services](http://www.cityofmontrose.org/250/Animal-Services)



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

# 2019 SUMMER CWFIMA RETURNS TO MONTROSE

### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—This June, the Upper Arkansas Valley Wildland Fire Foundation returns to Montrose to host nearly 500 emergency responders during the week-long Colorado Wildland Fire & Incident Management Academy (CWFIMA). From June 1 - 7, 2019, the Academy will offer 40 courses and exercises related to all-hazard incident management, wildland fire, and leadership. This nationally-recognized Academy is one of the largest wildland fire and incident management training events in the United States.

Since its inception in 1994, the CWFIMA has worked collaboratively with local, state and national agencies to deliver training to over 30,000 students. This is the fifth time the Academy has been hosted in Montrose; the last Academy in Montrose took place in 2013. Western Colorado is no stranger to wildfires, and students attending the Academy will be gaining invaluable operational and inci-

dent command knowledge and experience just prior to the start of the 2019 summer fire season. "We are excited to be returning to Montrose," said Academy Coordinator Wendy Fischer. "It's a gorgeous area, and the community is so welcoming. It couldn't be a more perfect location."

Expect to see numerous fire agency vehicles and personnel at Columbine Middle School, as well as at local hotels and restaurants. During the week of the Academy, Public Information staff will be available to provide tours and to set up interviews with key academy personnel and attending students.

Twice annually the Academy hosts several hundred emergency management personnel from around the nation and from abroad. In addition to the courses being offered, the Academy also provides opportunities for students to train in specific job functions related to emergency response and the Incident Command System.

"Responding to emergencies, from single

incidents to large-scale disasters, requires cooperation between multiple agencies and individual emergency responders," explained Academy Incident Commander David Carter. "Interagency Training is an essential pillar supporting our cohesive system of fire resources that effectively respond to any size and complexity of incident."

The CWFIMA continues to seek monetary donations to provide local firefighters with free tuition to attend classes. The CWFIMA is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization and has remained committed to providing quality and affordable training. The value of incident management training has been reinforced numerous times during unprecedented wildfire seasons such as 2018. Colorado responders also served throughout many all-hazard responses like hurricanes Harvey and Irma, where the Incident Command System served as the model for both response and recovery.



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CRIME STOPPERS**

*see something, say something*

## ***BOCC REGULATES MINING ON LAND NEAR SAN MIGUEL RIVER From pg 1***

value to the County as the former location of the Town of Uravan. The ordinance also notes that unauthorized mining activities have increased in and around the County-owned property on the San Miguel River, that some types of mining can interfere with the public's ability to enjoy the property; and that some types of mining, or procedures related to mining, can disturb and destabilize a river, and interfere with natural vegetation and wildlife in the area.

The County wishes to preserve the property for the enjoyment of the public.

### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Continued from the meeting of May 1, the BOCC considered a proposal to rezone 13 acres located at 67320 Trout Road from General Agricultural to General Commercial C.

*Background*-Because the area is not located in a node identified for future commercial development in accordance with the County Master Plan, the Planning Commission had recommended denial. White, who had recommended approval, said that a commercial node could be included in a planned update to the master plan.

On May 1 the commissioners had chosen to continue the proposal; in the interim BOCC Chair Sue Hansen and Commissioner Keith Caddy toured the property for review purposes.

At the special meeting of May 9, White said, "Master plans are guides...the Planning Commission uses the plan to guide decision making."

The Planning Commission had concerns over possible strip commercial development along Hwy 550 South, White said. "They felt this was not appropriate for this stretch of highway."

White outlined possible actions that the BOCC could take, including denial; approval in some form; or sending the application back to the Planning Commission.

Commissioners opened a public hearing. "We are just asking for rezoning for our project...we would like to get moving," said Fred Ballard of Del-Mont Consultants, representing the landowner.

Ballard said that the owner of the property has included a no-build easement on the plat for CDOT, in case the Trout Road Intersection is realigned. He expressed

some frustration with the slow pace of approval.

"This site meets everything other than the node...even the Planning Commission was unsure about the node...it looks like a viable location as professionals...Steve White recommended approval.

"We're almost a year down the road from what we had planned," Ballard said.

The [application](#) was originally filed in late summer of 2018; a meeting with the Planning Commission in January was continued. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)'s Access Control Plan for Hwy 550 South has also impacted the proposal, and neighbors have weighed in during the process.

Property Owner Hagle Summers thanked commissioners for holding the special meeting. He noted that the applicants have done everything that has been asked of them.

Still, once [the plat](#) was finished, "We all of a sudden hit a wall," Summers said. "We did a lot of due diligence...we're simply asking for some consideration to see if we can go forward and get something zoned."

Said BOCC Chair Hansen, "I know it has been a long time. Things don't ever move as fast as I think they should move. I appreciate you being willing to adapt.

Montrose County is pro-business, she said. "It's really important that we grow in a way that preserves our beauty, and agriculture is mostly what preserves our beauty...we're seeing such density now that it's a concern to all of us.....we don't want to be behind growth, we want to be ahead of it."

Commissioner Caddy said that he is concerned that the project does not meet the guidelines of the Master Plan, and about the size of the acreage involved.

"I am a firm believer in smart growth," Caddy said. "I believe in business; there are rules and regulations we have to follow."

Hagle's son-in-law Jeremy Spencer also spoke; as owner of the Colorado Fireside, which has considered locating in the proposed commercial zone, "South is where we want to go," Spencer said.

"I am torn on this one," BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said. "...I respect the Planning

Commission immensely; I was part of that commission at one time, and I know how hard they work and how much diligence they put in, how much thought they put in.

"The other side is property rights; does a man have a right or a person have a right to develop their property?" Rash said.

"Because of this node, is that grounds to deny something like this? ...To me, it sounds like we don't want business down there, but we can push it over here, to a poorer side of town or a different side of town...to me that's wrong. I value my property rights very much.

"When a person buys a piece of property and they have a plan, I think that they ought to be afforded that opportunity."

Hansen said that the Master Plan is ten years old. "An awful lot has happened in our community in ten years...part of our heritage is ag."

Ballard pointed out that the acreage in question has not been used for agriculture since 2012. "...I love agriculture, it's my hobby, but it's hard to make a living with it." He added that 23 acres have been set aside to remain in agriculture.

Said Rash, "The other confliction I have on this is fairness; it's already been allowed down there. We have other properties out there that have been approved for business purposes...that's where the growth wants to happen. To me, I don't know that it's fair that because we didn't do our due diligence that this property owner gets penalized."

Caddy responded, "...Where does it stop then? Do we just have a free-for-all down there? We've got to put in guidelines some place, some time."

"We have to be wise about it," Hansen said. After further discussion, Caddy moved that the proposal be denied and sent back to the Planning Commission to re-evaluate the area, and to look at ingress/egress to Hwy 550, the lot size, and the node. The motion passed unanimously. "I would like to see an aggressive plan for what the Planning Commission is going to do about a Master Plan, some scheduling, some dates and moving forward with that discussion," Hansen said. She closed the public hearing; the meeting was adjourned.





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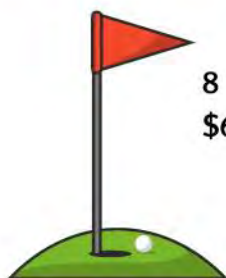
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or call Black Canyon Golf Course at (970) 249-4653**

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BODY OF MISSING JUVENILE RECOVERED MAY 6

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE---The body of Connor Imus, a 17-year-old male of Montrose, was recovered May 6 at the Drop Five Hydroelectric Generation Plant near Pahgre Road and the South Canal. The Montrose County Coroner's Office and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office are investigating the death; the cause and manner of death will be released pending results of the autopsy. The Montrose County Sheriff's Office offers its condolences, and thoughts and prayers to the family and community members during this tragic time.

### FIVE CANDIDATES SEEK SEATS ON DMEA BOARD

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Five candidates are looking to fill the three seats on DMEA's Board of Directors that are up for election this year: District 3, District 4, and South Region.

#### 2019 Candidates

##### **District 3**

Brad Harding – *incumbent running unopposed*

##### **District 4**

Ken Watson - *incumbent*  
David White

##### **South Region**

Jock Fleming  
Ken Otto

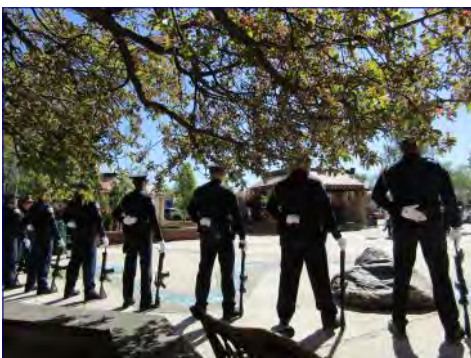
DMEA members will have an opportunity to meet their candidates at the upcoming DMEA Candidate Forums:

**Monday, May 20**, at the **DMEA Montrose Office** (11925 6300 Rd., Montrose), 5:30 – 7:30PM

**Tuesday, May 21** at **Blue Sage Center for the Arts** (228 Grand Ave., Paonia), 5:30 – 7:30PM

The candidate forums will be hosted by the **League of Women Voters** and will give DMEA members time to ask questions, learn about each candidate, and weigh options before voting. Mail-in ballots will be sent to DMEA members in late May. Members can cast their vote by mail by completing and returning their ballots; voting in person at the Annual Meeting; or bringing their completed ballot to either DMEA office and placing it in the secure ballot drop box located in the lobbies.

### 2019 PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL CEREMONY WILL BE MAY 15



*The 2018 Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony. Mirror file photo.*

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The community is invited to attend as officers with the Montrose Police Department and deputies from the Montrose County Sheriff's Office honor

the service and sacrifice of area law enforcement officers and their families at the Montrose Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony held in Centennial Plaza on Wednesday, May 15 at 10 a.m. The service is concurrent with National Police Week, May 12-18. "This ceremony is a testament to the service our men and women in uniform do each and every day in our community," Montrose Police Commander Tim Cox said. "We would like to see as many people as possible come and celebrate the important work law enforcement officers do, not only in Montrose but in the surrounding communities."

"The Montrose County Sheriff's Office is proud to participate in this event," said Montrose County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Ty Cox. "Law enforcement officers and

their families sacrifice each and every day to work to make our community a safer place. It is important to honor their efforts and remember the fallen not only on May 15th but throughout the year."

The Montrose Police Department and Montrose County Sheriff's Office will conduct a 21-gun salute. City of Montrose Mayor Dave Bowman and Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Chair Sue Hansen will read a dual proclamation in support of law enforcement officers. Following a presentation by the Montrose High School Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC), Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall, Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard, and 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney Dan Hotsenpiller will speak.



# Ladies Golf Clinic

-Treat Yourself Tuesday-

The Black Canyon Golf Course is hosting a 6-week clinic for women focusing each week on a different skill. Gather your friends and enjoy appetizers and beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic - included) and maybe pick your game up a notch. Each week, new techniques will be incorporated into your bag of tricks. Come in your comfortable clothes and athletic shoes, but no sandals, we like to keep your toes safe!

We have limited spaces, so give us a call, shoot us an email, or stop in today to reserve your spot!

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\$30 per clinic,  
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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### LEADERSHIP AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE EXPERIENCE ARE REQUISITE FOR DMEA BOARD

*Editor:*

Our DMEA Board of Directors has, over the past year, taken definitive action on the very serious issue of extracting DMEA from an onerous contract executed by a prior board. That board obviously did not do its duty of due diligence when it allowed itself to be hornswoggled into an extremely long term, extraordinarily expensive and unduly restrictive contract with Tri-State.

Whatever the reason or excuse for having done so is irrelevant at this point but the point is that this board, with the members to be elected this week, must deal with the situation. The present board has initiated the required action because they believe that the mathematics and the law of equity is in their (our) favor. That action is underway.

With this election we, the DMEA electorate, need to support that decision to move forward and extricate our DMEA from this contract as quickly, equitably and as economically as possible, post haste! To see this decision through to a favorable conclusion, we need a united

board that has brought this action to a head because of the members convictions, knowledge, experience, leadership and study of the situation.

Every year that DMEA is subject to the present contract, DMEA loses \$15,000,000, that is fifteen million dollars that could be used to foster lower rates, offer attractive commercial rates (to attract businesses) and relief for our less financially advantaged members. A board united in the mission.

Ken Watson is up for re-election. Ken has been a cost accountant in our community for over fifteen years, serving several private companies including Scotts Fly Rods, Gordon Composites and Black Canyon Jet Center. He has a wealth of knowledge that has already and will continue to greatly benefit the DMEA board. Ken knows why our electrical rates need to be brought down and how that can be done.

Having already served a term he knows the tremendous time, travel and energy commitment a DMEA board member must devote to do the job. He has not been

simply a member but has been totally involved to the cause. He has no further political aspirations. Ken just wants to serve our Co-op!

I reviewed a 'Prospective Board Member's Packet' that I 'purloined' from the DMEA office. I know from reading the description of duties and what is expected of a Director that this position is not part time and it is far from regular hours. Ken Watson has already proven that he is up to both the demand and the schedule by his successful service as DMEA director.

Ken is a team player who has fostered withdrawal from the Tri-state contract from the beginning. The experience he has gained from his directorship is invaluable for the continuing litigation. And he will do this while performing the other responsibilities assigned to him.

Education, experience, knowledge, leadership, integrity. He will use these traits to get the job done for us now and to reinforce DMEA's position for the future.

Vote for Ken Watson for a position on the DMEA Board of Directors.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*

### PUBLIC SAFETY, INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE ARE 1ST PRIORITIES

*Editor:*

The purpose of any American city government is to set priorities. Montrose City government included. The first two of those priorities are Public Safety and infrastructure maintenance. Montrose is doing a relatively poor job of both since our police department is underfunded and understaffed and many of our streets are holier than most churches. Per lane mile funding for street maintenance needs to be revisited and our police force needs a large infusion of officers and their support. All citizens benefit from attention to these two functions.

As with all economic development ventures the real question, where the rubber

meets the road, is who benefits for whatever our government does. All of us should benefit from municipal expenditures because all of us are paying for them. In some cases however, the use of tax monies is suspect. To whom does the benefit of the expenditure really accrue? Why are nice to have projects funded before cops and roadways? Especially, as when Mr. Bennett questions, why our city pays for things that come to town naturally, having been brought to Montrose by entrepreneurs that do not ask for subsidies. Why do our town fathers/mothers feel that they know what Montrose needs? Because they were elected or appointed? Many get that impression.

In Montrose we have a golf course that cannot pay its way. An arena that loses a million dollars annually. And Mayfly which has not profited our town one whit for over a million dollars spent on it. We want this hemorrhage of our tax money stopped. We want sound businesses in our town, ones with proven records of making their communities better. Ones with solid histories of success. We want cops to enforce the laws. We want smooth roadways to drive on. We want the leaches, including the people who bring them here, let out to pasture, unemployed, cashiered, fired and the like. Now before they put us further in hock!

*Bill Ramsey, Montrose*

# CITY CONSIDERS INCENTIVES FOR JOB CREATION, HOUSING; BOTANIC GARDENS UPDATES PLANNED

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-One new City employee was introduced at the [City Council Work Session](#) of Monday, May 6. Joining the City as a Planner is Talmadge Richmond. All councilors were in attendance; lunch for Council and staff was catered by Stone House.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Volunteers from the Montrose Botanical Society (MBS) board of directors reported to Council. Present were MBS President Lorraine Shide, Past-President Susan Woody, Vice President Steve Field, and board member Molly Shaver.

Created in 1994, the non-profit is halfway through a 50-year lease on the 4.5-acre property it occupies south of the Montrose Pavilion, Shide said. The gardens are funded solely through memberships, grants, donations, and fund-raising efforts. "The City pays the water bill, which is wonderful."

Shide thanked the City for fixing a recent waterline leak and said that the Garden of Lights event is the Montrose Botanical Society's major annual fundraiser.

The Montrose Botanical Society also provides information and answers to garden-er questions, Field said. As a member of Plant Select, the gardens test plants for hardiness and other attributes.

"Our members are available to answer questions," he said.

Short-term goals for the gardens include the opening of the Valley Garden area June 1, as well as completion of a rose garden, sensory garden, waves of grass area, and stage, Woody said. All will be ADA accessible.

"Ten years ago I was president," Woody said. "I had to leave because my husband took a job in Wyoming...it takes that long for volunteers to produce a garden. We are very proud of what we do there... about \$600,000 has been invested so far."

Shaver spoke about the Jacal-Kallstrom homestead in Cerise Park, among the first in the valley, and the Cerise Park apricot trees. Items from the homestead are currently being stored, "We are hoping for an interpretive garden," Shaver said. "We can demonstrate what was grown back then."

Shide said the MBS is working on a mas-



*Volunteers from the Montrose Botanical Society (MBS) board of directors reported to City Council May 6. Present were MBS President Lorraine Shide, Past-President Susan Woody, Vice President Steve Field, and board member Molly Shaver.*

ter plan for the garden, and there will be a stakeholders' session on Saturday, May 18 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. There will be a Summer Solstice party at the gardens June 21.

With 25 years remaining on the lease, "We need to bring in power and sewer," Woody said. "We really do need a restroom...we are hopeful we can incorporate a building/educational center."

"Over the next 25 years there is lot we would like to see happen," she said, and asked that the Botanical Gardens be included as a line item in the City's budget.

Also reporting to Council was Matt Skinner of **Colorado Flights Alliance** (CFA). The month of March was "gangbusters," Skinner said; new flights are doing very well, including daily service to Newark. San Francisco, Chicago and Dallas are also strong markets, with Chicago flying from now through next April. There are three flights a day to Dallas, "We got a third Denver flight in...Phoenix is back to daily... summer is charging ahead aggressively with solid double digits up in seat capacity," Skinner said. "We're already up 13 percent in bookings and it's still early...the ten days around Bluegrass are jammed up."

"We're really pleased," he said.

Competition includes airports in Aspen and Jackson Hole, he said. Of those flying out of this region, 25-30 percent are locals, he said. "The numbers have stayed consistent as we have grown."

He thanked Council for funding the CFA; "It's great to have you back."

With an additional 1,000 to 3,000 seats comes an increase in risk, Skinner said. CFA maintains reserves equal to 65 percent of annual total risk, he said. "We have been spending aggressively against that reserve...during the last recession, reserves helped us push through."

Skinner discussed development targets and the possibility of being funded through lodging tax. "We would love to get out of the General Fund."

City Manager Bill Bell asked, "If our staff is working on a room tax issue could we partner with you?"

"Absolutely," Skinner said.

Mayor Dave Bowman asked, "...is there anything that can be done about the expense of the Montrose to Denver flight?"

"...We have been filling those flights...we are hesitant to cut rates at all," Skinner said.



## ***CITY CONSIDERS INCENTIVES FOR JOB CREATION, HOUSING***

### ***From previous pg***

Planner II Amy Sharp presented information on the City's **comprehensive plan update**, a complete re-write of the existing plan. The plan involves a 20-year vision with a ten-year focus. Elements include land use, housing, transportation etc., Sharp said. Formal outreach will include a 15 to 20-member advisory committee, a series of community meetings and workshops in English and in Spanish, stakeholder interviews, use of social media, and a dedicated web site. The process is expected to take 18 months. Kickoff meetings will take place June 11 at 5:30 p.m. at Columbine Middle School for English speakers, and June 13 at 6:30 a.m. at Columbine Middle School for Spanish speakers.

Municipal Court Judge Richard Brown provided an annual **Municipal Court report**. There have been 1,704 cases this year. "It's the same old story, you spend 75 percent of your time on 25 percent of the cases," Brown said.

[Annual statistics](#) are included in the work session packet; collections are down due to the so-called [debtors' prison bill](#), passed in 2016, which prohibits courts from issuing bench warrants for "failure to pay" or "failure to appear."

"People know if they don't come back to court nothing is going to happen," Brown said.

Not only monetary compensation is involved; victim restitution can also be affected. "If it's a hardship we can't collect," Brown said. "I have to tell the victims, 'sorry we can't do anything for you.'"

Annual Court collections were \$175,292.89, compared to 209,258.90 in 2016.

City Manager Bill Bell and Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty participated in a discussion of **housing and job creation incentives**.

Mayor Bowman said, "I just got my tax valuation on my home...everybody's property values are up...mine went up 30 percent," he said. "Living on a fixed income, I don't know how much more I can afford. We want to be real careful that we're not

handing out money at a time we are going to the community for more money.

"The number one priority is that we have funds for public safety," Bowman said.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum said, "Incentives are one of the tools we have to promote the kind of economic development we believe will be beneficial."

Councilor Roy Anderson called incentives, "an important tool to bring new companies to the area...I think workforce housing is an important ingredient for the continued economic growth and prosperity of the community."

Councilor Doug Glaspell said, "The term 'Affordable housing' can mean almost anything to almost anyone...I started life in a trailer...my wife and I didn't have a lot of toys; you have to make choices. I think there is affordable housing here for almost anyone."

"I think it's a chronic problem," Anderson said. "I hear that businesses offer jobs to people, but they don't take them because there's no place to live."

Bowman said that he wanted to see what will happen in Montrose's [Opportunity Zone](#). He also suggested incentives targeted toward certain professions. "Teachers, police, first responders, nurses...would it be possible to maybe pay their water and trash bills for a number of years, as a way to subsidize housing without going to developers?"

Glaspell pointed out the high costs of housing development and recalled a recent discussion with River Valley Health Centers, which had requested incentives for creating jobs with salaries that were deemed too low to incentivize by Council. "Are we really supporting the right things?" he asked.

Bell asked if Council wanted to continue incentive programs. "Do we want to get into the business of helping to solve the workforce housing problem...do we think that's our role?"

"I think that incentivizing housing is way more important than subsidizing wages," Bowman said.

Councilor Judy Ann Files said, "The River



***Colorado Flights Alliance's Matt Skinner presented an update to City Council May 6.***

Valley experience brought up the fact that we don't have a fine line...there's a perception in the community that anyone can show up at City Hall if they're going to start a business...that's wrong."

"I am not saying it should be guaranteed, but it's something we can deploy," Bynum said, "for attracting the right business with the right employees to our community."

Anderson pointed to Mayfly Outdoors as an example of a company that benefits the community.

Bell asked whether incentives could be provided to public employees as well as private; 'why do we care if it's a private job or a public job? The money spends the same.'

"It matters," Bowman said. "A job in manufacturing isn't nearly as important as a police officer...we could develop a list...we know our teachers are some of the poorest paid in the State...we could pay their water bills...maybe it's a way to attract and retain the best teachers we possibly can."

"It's a slippery slope," Bynum said. "Giving taxpayer money to another organization...if we had more students our district would be getting more money."

Files asked for an accounting of incentives that have already been given. "It would be helpful to know who we have given incentives to."

Shortly after 1 p.m., Council agreed to continue the discussion at a future work session.

## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### GOV SIGNS LAW TO CLOSE 'SEXTING' LEGAL LOOPHOLE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER-Governor Jared Polis signed into law HB19-1030, legislation which makes it a felony for a 'person of trust' (think teacher, coach, guardian) to send a sexually soliciting message to a 15, 16, or 17-year-old. This law extends the current statute to fill a loophole which was most notably exploited by a teacher in Craig, Colorado last year.

This new legislation will close the legal loophole which has been used to put children at risk.

The law sponsored by Colorado State House Representatives Matt Soper (R – Delta) and Dylan Roberts (D – Eagle), along with State Senators Bob Rankin (R – Carbondale) and Rachel Zenzinger (D – Arvada) marks the end of a painful story which began when a Colorado teacher was charged with and acquitted of 10 felony counts of sexual exploitation of a child.

Jason Foley was the defendant in a trial involving "sexting" with a 15-year-old female student. Submitted into evidence were 30 pages of screenshot text messages, but allegedly pornographic images referred to in the texts were not admitted, because the "SnapChat" application automatically deleted them over time. This left prosecutors in a bind because current law on texts only covers kids under 15.

House Bill 19-1030 will extend protection to children over 15 when unlawful communications are sent from a person in a position of trust. With an outraged community, concerned Superintendent, Dave Ulrich, contacted state representatives to ask for help. "This should have never been allowed to happen, and hopefully, will never happen again," said Rep. Matt Soper who brought the effort in the legislature.

"This bill fills a previously unrecognized gap in law and will help protect our kids,"

said Senator Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale).

The bill had initially been voted down in the Senate Judiciary Committee, only to be resurrected in a seldom used "motion to reconsider". "As a mom to two girls, I want to give families every tool to keep our schools safe," said Senator Rachel Zenzinger, "I knew that if they took a second look the committee would agree."

"We have a responsibility to protect our children from sexual predators. There was a loophole in Colorado law that predators were using to target children without legal liability. I am proud that we have successfully closed that loophole," stated Representative Dylan Roberts (D-Avon).

"Bottom line, an adult, in a position of trust (think quasi-parent), should not be sexting and luring minors for sexual purposes. There are no ifs, ands, or buts, this behavior is not right and should never be tolerated," said Representative Soper.

## WESTERN SLOPE LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION – The Colorado Department of Transportation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving have announced the winners of the 2019 Law Enforcement Champion awards for the western slope of Colorado. These awards focus on efforts to reduce impaired driving and increase the use of seat belts.

The Law Enforcement Champion award winners are:

MADD Hero Award--Western Slope: Trooper Jordan Horan, Colorado State Patrol Troop 5C  
Outstanding Individual Dedication to Impaired Driving Enforcement--Western Slope, Colorado State Patrol: Trooper Ben Carnes, Colorado State Patrol Troop 4A  
Outstanding Individual Dedication to Impaired Driving Enforcement--Western Slope: Sergeant Robb Windham, Carbondale Police Department  
Outstanding Individual Dedication to Im-

paired Driving Enforcement--Western Slope: Deputy Amanda Simon, Mesa County Sheriff's Office  
Outstanding Dedication to Occupant Protection--Mountain, Colorado State Patrol: Corporal Jason Shimp, Colorado State Patrol Troop 4B  
Outstanding Dedication to Occupant Protection--Rural, Colorado State Patrol: Trooper Ramiro Contreras, Colorado State Patrol Troop 5B  
Drug Recognition Expert of the Year--Rural: Master Trooper David Copeland, Colorado State Patrol

"We are ever grateful to the brave men and women in law enforcement who keep our roads and communities safe," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "At CDOT, we are committed to taking a holistic approach to the safety of our system — and part of that is recognizing the service of public safety officials, as well as our responsibility to do whatever we can

to keep them safe on the job."

A law enforcement champion is an individual that shows outstanding support for impaired driving, traffic safety, or occupant protection enforcement. This can be demonstrated by the number of citations written or arrests made during the established enforcement periods throughout the year. It can also be demonstrated by drug recognition expert activity, high visibility enforcement tactics and other related activities.

"So many people will never know the debt that they owe to our law enforcement heroes. Every time they stop a drunk or drugged driver, they potentially save a life," said MADD Colorado State Executive Director Fran Lanzer. "We're fortunate to have so many dedicated men and women protecting our communities."

The awards were presented at an event on May 8 at Redlands Mesa Golf Course in Grand Junction.





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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### IT IS PREMATURE TO DECIDE IF DMEA SHOULD LEAVE TRI-STATE

*Response to "Time to Leave Tri-State" article (Montrose Daily Press, Friday, May 3rd)*

Editor:

It is premature to decide if DMEA should leave Tri-State Generation & Transmission (TSGT).

TSGT is a multi-state non-profit wholesale supplier which means it has responsibilities to maintain the integrity of the fragile electricity grid that serves our country. It must ensure that it has energy reserves to respond to the loss of its own or its members generating units. It must provide generators that can control system voltage and frequency, which prevents system conditions that damage our televisions, computers, appliances, and irrigation pumps. The millions we "send" to our G&T via our contractual obligations to them pays for more than the energy we consume. As TSGT members we are paying our G&T to maintain voltage and frequency to our homes and ensuring that the loss of a generating unit does not result in loss of power to our homes. We also pay TSGT to maintain the high voltage equipment and power lines that provide reliable service to DMEA's power system.

Energy brokers trade energy as a commodity, making money wherever they can. They have no responsibility to our electric system infrastructure so without the costs of ancillary services that utilities must bear, they can offer lower cost energy contracts to attract potential customers. If enough members are pulled away, their competition may fail and they will have a larger group of energy coops looking for a supplier. If that happens, the price of new energy contracts may no longer be attractive.

TSGT costs have risen. TSGT management and its Board of Directors have been resistant to allowing members to self-supply larger quantities of their energy needs. They invested heavily in coal-fired power plants in order to provide long term cheap energy to their members. Ever tightening emission restrictions, fewer coal mines and higher costs of transporting coal to

power plants have driven their costs up. Incentives to build more Eco-friendly generators have resulted in energy surpluses when solar and wind plants are generating, resulting in attractive price offerings on the spot market. When the sun is not fueling solar plants or the wind generators experience a lack of wind or too much wind, traditional sources must be available to "keep the lights on." Energy storage is touted as the answer to helping green energy mitigate loss of "fuel", and while technological gains are being made, they must be economically viable on a large scale and must be safe and reliable. Presently, they are neither. In ten years? Hopefully.

Has TSGT made mistakes? Yes. Should they have made their most recent investments in coal in light of an all out war on coal driving prices up? No. Should they have been adjusting to industry changes and putting more focus on developing clean energy sources, as members such as DMEA have encouraged? Yes. Has the TSGT Board been supportive of some members efforts to add more of their own generation or to opt out of some services they don't need. No. Has TSGT management done enough to control costs internally? Not effectively. TSGT does what it can to purchase lower cost energy and reduce its own generation when market prices are favorable. However, coal-fired generation cannot be started and stopped at will and the cost of a large plant off-line is still significant, which hampers its efforts to supply lower cost energy to its members. Is TSGT the enemy? No. TSGT needs to make changes. Recent efforts by DMEA and other TSGT members are having an impact. TSGT now appears to be willing to entertain changes to their membership structure. New TSGT CEO Duane Highley has stated that as Tri-State transitions to a 21<sup>st</sup> century G&T, they will be member-driven, increasingly flexible, and increasingly clean.

Should DMEA exit its contract with TSGT and seek a new energy supplier? Perhaps. Many factors need to be considered before that decision is made. Presently, TSGT has put a very high price on exiting. DMEA has petitioned the Colorado PUC to assert jurisdiction over a multi-state G&T, and set a more palatable exit fee. The PUC has determined that it has jurisdiction in this manner. TSGT disagrees, since multi-state G&T's are generally regulated by federal entities not individual state PUCs. TSGT filed suit with Adams County, Colorado where they are headquartered. That filing was rejected as the PUC has not yet ruled on the exit fee issue. When they do, TSGT will likely refile its suit. If and when a final fee is determined, DMEA must determine whether payment of the exit fee, coupled with purchasing power from an alternative supplier, will result in a true cost savings. Will there be funds available to finance construction of the additional Eco-friendly generation that DMEA desires? Will DMEA incur additional costs previously born by TSGT? DMEA must then determine its direction beyond the term of the new contract. Will the profit centered energy brokers continue to offer lower prices than a non-profit G&T? Will public power entities like G&T's still exist? No one has the crystal ball to see future energy prices, but a well rounded Board of Directors with a mix of business, technical and legal expertise can work together to choose a path forward.

Energy prices nationwide have increased ten percent over the past decade. Projections predict this trend will continue. DMEA residential members enjoy a rate about 9% under the Colorado average and about 13% under the national average. TSGT has had several rate hikes in the past, but have held prices recently and they state that they do not foresee additional rate hikes for the next five years. DMEA has absorbed these hikes but will likely need a slight rate increase in the



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### ***IT IS PREMATURE TO DECIDE IF DMEA SHOULD LEAVE TRI-STATE*** ***From previous pg***

near future. By the end of the year, we may be paying a little closer to the prices the average Colorado consumer pays. Again, will the cost of leaving Tri-State plus purchasing the same amount of energy elsewhere result in enough savings to construct our own generating resources? Pursuing an alternate energy supplier may ultimately be the best choice, but it is not yet time to decide if DMEA should leave Tri-State. In the meantime, working with the new TSGT CEO and the other members, to facilitate a leaner, cleaner, more agile G&T should continue.

I wish to assist our electric cooperative in continuing to serve our energy needs economically and reliably. DMEA has a great

attorney and a Board with strong business and legal savvy. I believe the DMEA board would be well served by a Director with strong technical expertise and direct experience in modern energy markets that comes from a career in the electrical energy industry.

I have over 37 years' experience in that industry, most of which was with Western Area Power Administration, here in Montrose, Colorado. I am well versed in the design, installation and maintenance of high voltage switchgear, protection and control systems, and metering equipment. During my tenure with Western, I also managed two 24 hour, 7 day/week energy scheduling and trading desks. This func-

tion's responsibilities included scheduling hydroelectric generation to our non-profit customers, and buying and selling energy in the electricity market to supplement their needs.

If I am elected to the DMEA board, I can assure you that I will only cast a vote in favor of changing our energy supplier, if I am convinced that such a move is of long-term benefit to all DMEA members. If you believe my qualifications and commitment to DMEA's members; commercial, agricultural, and residential, will enhance our already superior DMEA board, I would appreciate your vote.

*Kenneth Otto*

*DMEA Candidate for South Region*

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### **EIGHT YEAR SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR AGGRAVATED ROBBERY @ STINKER GAS STATION**

*7TH Judicial District Attorney's Office*

MONTROSE-On Feb. 12, 2109, Defendant Boyd Gleason pled guilty to Aggravated Robbery, a class 3 felony, and to Criminal Extortion, a class 4 felony. The plea agreement provided for a sentence to be determined by the court with a maximum possible prison sentence of ten (10) years.

The offenses in this case occurred on Sept. 11, 2018. Defendant Gleason approached the Stinker Gas Station on South Townsend Avenue in Montrose, Colorado, wearing a mask and pointed a gun at the store clerk who was standing outside on her break. The clerk, Katelyn Atchley, was 21 years old at the time of the robbery. The Defendant told her to go inside the store and demanded all the money from the cash register. He also stole a carton of cigarettes. As he was leaving the gas station, the Defendant pointed the gun at a second victim and took a twenty-dollar bill that she had in her hand. This second vic-

tim was 16 years old at the time of the robbery. The Defendant was apprehended in the vicinity a short time later. Nearby, police recovered the mask, cash, cigarettes and a handgun-style pellet gun.

Mr. Gleason was sentenced on May 6, 2019, by District Court Judge Mary Deganhart. Each victim spoke and the DA's Office argued for the imposition of a 10-year sentence to prison. The Court imposed a total of 8 years in prison with 238 days credit for time served.

The District Attorney expresses profound thanks to the victims for their courage and willingness to tell their story to the Court. We appreciate their willingness to participate in the justice process and to appear in open court to share how this crime and the actions of the Defendant affected them and their families.

Our thanks are also extended to the many Montrose Police Department Officers and Staff who responded to the scene,

followed-up with investigation, assisted the victims, and processed the evidence and case information. Our partners in law enforcement enter crime scenes on a daily basis without knowing the potential for violence and the nature of the offender. They all did a great job in this case.

The District Attorney also acknowledges the dedication and hard work contributed by the prosecution team of Deputy DA Ian Fowler, Victim Services Supervisor Aimee English, and Legal Services Assistant Dawn Schlauger.

Their support, organization, and teamwork contributed to the outcome of this case.

This Office is dedicated to public safety and will continue to prosecute and investigate allegations of criminal activity in support of our strong communities and in our endeavor to provide the highest quality legal services for the citizens of the 7th Judicial District.

## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD AND THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT

Editor:

I was born in Sylvania, Ohio, due west of Toledo on the Michigan border. It was where I spent the first 10 years of my life; what I like to think of as my 'Wonderbread years.' The house next door to us was built in the early 1800's in the old colonial style with tall white columns gracing the entire front of the house. That house was shrouded in mystery in my six-year-old mind and imagination because underneath that house was a train tunnel through which fugitive slaves from the south, in the era leading up to the Civil War, would make their way north to Michigan and eventually to Canada! In time I came to understand that the Underground Railroad was the term used to describe a network of meeting places, secret routes, passageways and safe houses used by slaves in the northern states to escape slave holding states in the south. The house next door to our house was one of those safe houses that helped thousands of slaves escape bondage in the South between 1810 and 1850. It's been estimated that upwards of a 100,000 slaves were aided in their flight through a system of safe houses with the aid of abolitionists who were determined to free as many slaves as possible even though such activity violated state laws and the United States Constitution.

There is some evidence that a system to aid runaways existed prior to the 1800's. George Washington is known to have complained in 1786 that one of his runaway slaves was aided by "a society of Quakers, formed for such purposes." Levi Coffin and his wife Catherine were two such Quakers who aided over 3,000 slaves over a period of years. The eight-room home they owned was used as a safe house before they moved to Cincinnati. Among the slaves they provided shelter for was "Eliza," whose story is the basis for the character of the same name in the abolitionist novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Levi Coffin is credited with being the founder of the Underground Railroad, and it was

his idea and personal example that inspired hundreds of others, like the former occupant of the house next door on the street where I lived as a child.

When Thomas Jefferson penned the words to the Declaration of Independence, including those immortal words "*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...*," it is estimated that there were more than 500,000 slaves in America, about one-fifth of the population in the colonies. Many colonists expressed their hatred of slavery. Jefferson called it a "hideous blot" on America. George Washington, who owned hundreds of slaves, denounced it as "repugnant." James Madison, a Virginia slave owner, condemned it as "evil." How did the framers of the Constitution deal with the issue of slavery? Let's just say it was a contentious issue that involved heated debates on how each state would count its population, how the slave trade should be brought to an end, and what should be done with slaves who escaped to the northern states. Counting a slave as three-fifths of a person, extending the slave trade past 1800, and the fugitive clause were all political compromises that had serious effects on the young nation. It's easy for our generation to stand in judgment on that day and age but the framers of the Constitution were intent on making a new government, and in order to form a "more perfect union" left important questions of equality to the future.

In his campaign for the Senate in 1858 Abraham Lincoln spoke for the Founders' enlightened belief that "nothing stamped with the Divine image and likeness was sent into the world to be trodden on, and degraded, and imbruted by its fellows. They grasped not only the whole race of man then living, but they reached forward and seized upon the farthest posterity. They erected a beacon to guide their children and their children's children, and the countless myriads who should inhabit the earth..."

On December 6, 1865 the Thirteenth Amendment which abolished slavery was ratified by the required number of states. It was the first of the three Reconstruction Amendments adopted following the American Civil War.

America's Declaration of Independence and Constitution continues to be a beacon of guidance in our own day and age. Just as the Thirteenth Amendment was needed to correct the abuse of slavery, so the relentless abuse of an overreaching federal bureaucracy in our time cries out for redress. The Founders believed that the structure of a limited government would provide the greatest protection of liberty. Not only were there to be checks and balances between the branches of the federal government, power was to be delineated between the states and federal government. The later was to exercise only those "few and defined" powers specifically granted in the Constitution, while the states' powers were left "broad and undefined."

Collusion among decision-makers in Washington, D.C. has replaced these checks and balances. The federal judiciary supports Congress and the White House in their ever-escalating attack upon the jurisdiction of the 50 states. We need to realize that the structure of decision-making matters. *Who* decides what the law shall be is even more important than *what* is decided. The protection of liberty requires a strict adherence to the principle that the power of the federal government is limited and enumerated. Washington, D.C., does not believe this principle, as evidenced by an unbroken practice of expanding the boundaries of federal power. The problems are big, but we have a solution as big as the problems. Article V gives us the tool the Founders intended we use to fix the mess in D.C.

Join the grassroots movement to check Federal overreach, restore fiscal responsibility and establish term limits for all elected officials.

"The reflection upon my situation and

*Continued next pg*



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### ***THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD AND THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT*** ***From previous pg***

and that of this army produces many an uneasy hour when all around me are wrapped in sleep. Few people know the predicament we are in."

General George Washington  
January 14, 1776

Respectfully,

Joe Fockler

*Article V Perspectives*

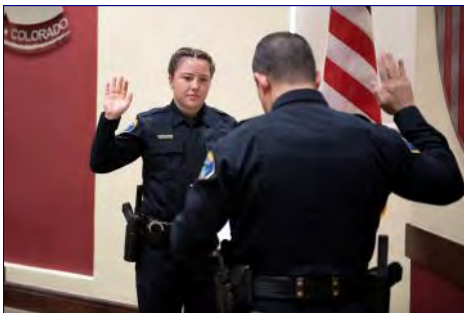
**Colorado Convention of States Action**

To schedule a Convention of States presentation for your group, contact Joe at [jfockler53@gmail.com](mailto:jfockler53@gmail.com)

Sign the Petition! at [https://conventionofstates.com/event\\_petitions](https://conventionofstates.com/event_petitions)

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### THREE NEW OFFICERS JOIN MONTROSE POLICE DEPT.



**Montrose Police Officer Marcina Sarmeinto, above, was one of three new officers sworn in last week. Courtesy photo.**

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE —The Montrose Police Department has sworn in three new police officers. Officers Dakota Shea-Shelley, Mariah Smith, and Marcina Sarmeinto officially began duty with the department last week after completing 16 weeks of peace officer training in Grand Junction.

"We are very excited that we have Dakota, Mariah, and Marcina coming on

board," Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall said. "I commend them for completing the Western Colorado Peace Officers Academy and look forward to their training here at the Montrose Police Department. They will be a great addition to the team."

Shea-Shelley, a native of Loveland, grew up playing with toy police badges as a kid consumed with aspirations of becoming a real officer one day.

"It's a huge deal," Shea-Shelley said following the ceremony. After taking the department oath, his new badge was pinned to his uniform by his grandfather Michael Shea in front of his grandmother Lee.

"It almost doesn't feel real, it feels like a dream," Shea-Shelley said. "I've wanted to do this for a very long time. I've always wanted to help people out. I really like the community policing aspect."

Smith, a native of the Montrose area, had worked for the past two-and-a-half

years with fire and EMS services in Olathe. There, she witnessed both the tough times and the camaraderie between officers that inspired her to join the Montrose Police Department.

Smith had her badge pinned by Olathe Deputy Fire/EMS Chief Scott Fitzgerald.

"It's been a very special day, my family came out, it feels very good that all my hard work for the past 16 weeks has paid off," Smith said. "I finally made it. It's very honorable."

Sarmeinto is a native of Ridgway and has always had an interest in law enforcement and the psychology involved with criminal investigations.

"I think there are a lot of social issues in our country that can be solved with quality policing, and that's something I want to be part of," Sarmeinto said.

Sarmeinto had her badge pinned by her mother Catherine and father Paul.

"It means everything," Sarmeinto said.

Proceeds Benefiting the San Juan Cancer Center and the Caring Friends Fund.  
HELPING LOCAL MONTROSE FOLKS FACING CANCER WITH NON-MEDICAL NEEDS.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### KEN OTTO ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR DMEA'S SOUTH REGION

*By Kenneth Otto*

REGIONAL-My name is Kenneth Otto and I am running for DMEA Board of Director's South Regional District. I hope to represent DMEA members to help ensure that DMEA continues to be an excellent electric cooperative. I believe that my extensive and diverse experience in the electrical utility industry uniquely qualifies me to represent our community on the DMEA board.

I have over 37 years experience in the industry, most of which was with Western Area Power Administration, here in Montrose, Colorado. I am well versed in the design, installation and maintenance of high voltage switchgear, protection and control systems, and metering equipment. This experience is important to ensuring that the DMEA electrical system continues to reliably deliver electricity to us, the DMEA members.

During my tenure with Western, I also managed two 24 hour, 7 day/week energy scheduling and trading desks. This function's responsibilities included scheduling hydroelectric generation to our non-profit customers, and buying and selling energy in the electricity market to supplement their needs.

The issue with Tri-State's increasing wholesale rate threatens DMEA member

rates. My experience in electricity markets can assist DMEA in making fully informed decisions on how to best fulfill our future energy needs. Buying out the Tri-State G&T (TSGT) contract may be the ultimate solution, but all of the costs and consequences of such action must be fully vetted. Until the true cost of exiting the TSGT contract and turning to another supplier is known, the statement that we **must** leave TSGT is premature at best.

TSGT is a non-profit wholesale energy supplier. Other alternative suppliers generally are in the business to make a profit. Pulling members away from their non-profit competition is in their interest. We must ensure that any potential alternate supply contracts truly protect the residential, agricultural and small business members of DMEA as well as benefiting the potential industrial business we may or may not attract to our community. We must ensure that the exit costs are fully recovered in addition to banking funds to mitigate the costs of a new contract after any new, more attractive, contract expires. If I am elected to the DMEA board, I can assure you that I will only cast a vote in favor of changing our energy supplier, if I am convinced that such a move is of long term benefit to all DMEA members.

DMEA is an outstanding organization

that has been nationally recognized as an industry leader with vision for the future.

Over the past year I

have been actively following the activities of DMEA and in the past several months I have been attending Board meetings. I am very impressed by the knowledge, professionalism and dedication of DMEA management and staff, as well as the Board members. DMEA has a great attorney and a Board with strong business and legal savvy. I believe the DMEA board would be well served by a Director with strong technical expertise and direct experience in modern energy markets that comes from a career in the electrical energy industry.

I hope to ensure that our electric cooperative continues to serve our energy needs economically and reliably. If you believe my qualifications and commitment to DMEA's members; commercial, agricultural, and residential, will enhance our already superior DMEA board, I would like your vote.



*Kenneth Otto. Courtesy photo.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### KEN WATSON DECLARES CANDIDACY FOR DMEA DIST. 4



*Ken Watson, courtesy image.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Ken Watson, current Delta Montrose Electrical Association Board (DMEA) Board Director, declares himself a candidate for the June 20 election for the DMEA Board of Directors, District 4.

"DMEA's leaders are working every day to stabilize energy rates for our member owners. Nationally, electricity rates continue to fall, but DMEA is paying more than our neighbors. What's worse is our wholesaler, Tri State's, forecasts show rates rising even higher," Watson says. "I will continue to support DMEA's efforts to

equitably exit our contract with Tri State in order to stabilize energy rates. A reliable, consistent electricity supply doesn't have to come with Tri State's high and unreliable price tag."

Watson currently serves as the DMEA delegate to for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), as Vice Chair for Elevate Internet and on DMEA's Finance Audit and Rates committee. Watson has completed and received certification for the NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director program. Watson was appointed to fill a vacancy on the DMEA

Board in 2018.

A Montrose resident since 1999, Watson is a graduate of Western State Colorado University, Business 1993. Watson split his first several years on the West Slope controlling finances at both Scott Fly Rods and Gordon Composites. Watson joined Black Canyon Jet Center (BCJC) shortly after they were established in 2006. Watson worked in several capacities at BCJC, ending his tenure as General Manager and Equity Partner when the company was sold in 2016.

As a DMEA Director, Watson has gained a solid understanding of how the energy industry is changing. DMEA needs the flexibility of local control to secure lower rates and invest in local energy development and job creation. Watson will continue using his finance and management skills to help DMEA secure a stable, dependable, and affordable energy supply that leverages DMEA's abundant local resources and creates new local jobs.

Ballots arrive by the mail May 20, 2019 and are due back to DMEA by June 20, 2019.

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## TROOPER TIPS: 'IN A PERFECT WORLD'

By Trooper Gary Cutler

**COLORADO**-In my perfect world there will be no more crashes involving injury or death. There will be no more crashes on our roadways, period.

In this perfect world of mine, distracted driving will be a thing of the past. No more will we see people driving while texting. Drivers will not eat while traveling. Drivers will focus more on watching the cars around them, and less on the conversation they are having with passengers.

There will be no more speeding. Drivers will read and obey the speed limit signs. Drivers will give themselves enough time to get to work in the mornings and understand that others will be on the road at the same time also trying to get to work. They also won't be upset when there are construction delays because they have planned for them.

There will be no more following too closely. There will always be enough space between cars so when something causes the vehicle in front to suddenly stop, the vehicles won't hit each other.

Drivers will let others merge into the lane in front of them. The driver merging will always use their turn signal, and not force their way into the lane. They will also always wave a "thank you" to the other driver.

On two lane roads, drivers going slower than the speed limit will occasionally pull over to let traffic pass safely.

Road rage will disappear due to the increase of respect for fellow drivers.

Bad weather will be observed by good driving. Drivers will slow down to speeds appropriate for the conditions. When it rains, hails, or snows, drivers will make sure not to endanger themselves or others by driving carelessly for the conditions and stay home when it is too bad to drive.

Vehicles will have tires that always have enough air pressure, and correct tread depth to help stay on the road because they have been checked at regular intervals throughout the year. Windshield wipers will be new and have the ability to wipe the water off for better visibility. In snow storms, all of the snow on the vehi-

cle will be cleared off prior to leaving the driveway.

Seatbelts will always be used and used correctly. Child safety seats will be new and installed properly.

When unsure, drivers will have them checked out by a professional.

In my perfect world, driving will once again be an enjoyment and a way to get from point "A to B" safely and not something that ends in crashes with property damage, injury, or death.

In my perfect world and this world, this is an attainable goal!

As always, safe travels!



*Trooper Gary Cutler.  
Courtesy photo.*

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# MONTROSE

### Montrose Alumni Reception

June 10 | 5:30-7 p.m.

Remington's at The Bridges

2500 Bridges Circle

Montrose, Colo.

Please RSVP by June 3





## MONTROSE WELCOMES HEAVENLY HARPS CONCERT

### *Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE—On May 19, Montrose welcomes a rare afternoon's entertainment at the Montrose United Methodist Church at 19 South Park Avenue, with the Heavenly Harps Concert. The concert begins with the Strings and Pearls Harp Duo from 3 to 4:30 p.m., followed by the Harps in Motion Ensemble, along with the hand bell choir directed by Kelly Thompson. The Strings and Pearls Harp Duo will play pedal harps as well as the pipe organ during the concert. Proceeds will go to cover traveling expenses for the musicians.

The Strings and Pearls Harp Duo is based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, but they have played in Colorado before. Linda Barton Paul and Vicki L. Smith are harpists; the Sunday afternoon performance will mark the Duo's third visit to the Centennial State.

"We have never had a concert like this in Montrose, to my knowledge," said local harpist and harp teacher Robin Freed, who is helping with outreach for the show. "We have the harp players coming from Oklahoma, we have the hand bell choir, we have the pipe organ, pedal harps, and the folk harp ensemble.

"Please come out and enjoy the show."

Admission is \$10; children under age 12 are free. CD's will be available for purchase after the concert. For more information, call Robin Freed at 970-275-8996.

*Heavenly Harps  
Concert*

Featuring  
*Pearls & Strings  
Harp Duo*

Also  
including  
*Harps in  
Motion Ensemble  
and the Pipe Organ*

Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 3 p.m.  
United Methodist Church  
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\$10 per person at the door.  
*All proceeds go to the Pearls & Strings Harp Duo.*

For more information, call  
Robin Freed at 970-275-8996.



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# WILD FLOWER BISTRO IN FULL BLOOM IN DELTA

By Carole Ann McKelvey

DELTA – It's always a good day to take in the Wild Flower Bistro on Delta's Main Street. This little café never disappoints. My friend, Michael, and I decided to stop by on a recent Sunday afternoon and got there just in time to order from their fresh and different Special's menu. But first, some iced tea please (\$2.50).

Then, much to my horror, I suddenly remembered I'd left my three girls (chickens) outside in Montrose and my scrappy little dog as well. Yikes.

So instead of sitting and enjoying our freshly cooked lunch in the lovely little space, we quickly got it to go and rushed back to Montrose. (Not too rushed, as you know, the Highway Patrol is always on high alert right near Olathe.)

No worries, all was fine, and the girls hadn't even encountered Angel (who isn't an Angel). In the past when the chickens and my little Chihuahua mix rescue have managed to get on the same side of the fence she's ended up herding them around with much bravado and only a few lost feathers. But you just never know.

Today, after managing to herd the girls back into their secure enclosure, Michael and I sat down to enjoy our delicious meal. We were famished after having smelled our lunch all the way back! The Bistro had packaged it up snugly and all was delish and still hot. Michael had ordered a cup of the chicken green chili soup and a Reuben sandwich (\$13.00). He pronounced them both very tasty. Me, I had a cup of the yummy tomato basil soup and a piece of breakfast quiche (\$11). Succulent with artichokes and cheese and a home-made crust.

The Wild Flower Bistro provides fresh, creatively constructed comfort foods that are sure to strike familiarity and invoke memories of home cooked meals. Simplistic in nature, but complex in flavor. The Bistro's chef Gretchen works with local producers as much as possible to provide the highest quality available.

The "mission" of Wild Flower Bistro is to offer a comfortable space with cheerful decor, soft sounds of music, deliciously

conscious food and drink, friendly staff and affordability. Chef Gretchen of the Bistro has been cooking across America since 1980. She's shared her breadth of experience with the Western Slope since 2011.

Although we couldn't stick around for the comfortable space, we still left with a great meal. The Bistro is always a good choice when you're near Delta. Prices are very reasonable for the delicious food. Be prepared, they accept cash, Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover but no checks.

## EVERYDAY MENU:

*Items made fresh and are subject to availability*

*Breakfast Croissant: bacon, sausage or ham, NY white cheddar, fresh farm eggs + side;*

*Classic Yawn: two eggs, house potato crisp, thick cut heritage bacon or link sausage, biscuit;*

*Bistro Benedict: two poached farm eggs, pit ham, potato crisps, lemony hollandaise; Bacado Cheddar Omelet : bacon, avocado, cheddar, sour cream + one side;*

*Griddle Wrap: Chorizo, bacon, sausage, scrambled egg, potato, cheddar, crispy tortilla;*

*Croque Madame: grilled sourdough ham & Swiss, Mornay sauce (gruyere & cream), two*

*Breakfast Street Tacos: three doubled corn tortillas, bacon, sausage, chorizo or spinach scramble, cheese, red & green salsa, cilantro, fresh lime;*

*Breakfast Mac: creamy mac n cheese, fried egg, bacon, sausage or greens;*

*Biscuits & Gravy Bowl: buttermilk biscuits, sausage laden gravy, farm eggs;*

*Cinnamon Custard Croissant French Toast: real maple syrup, Chantilly cream, fresh fruit, Spanish Egg Torta: open-faced omelet, chorizo, potato & Cheddar; Quinoa Veggie Hash: fresh veggie saute of available ingredients, two farm eggs, quinoa, cheese;*

*Huevos Verde: refried black beans,*

*cheese, corn tortillas, fried egg, salsa verde;*

*House Frittata, Strata or Quiche: breakfast casserole, changes often + one side;*

*In addition, there are Daily Specials which change often.*

## *Brunch Sides*

*House Crisp Potato; Bacon or Sausage; Biscuit or Toast; Egg; Avocado*

*Salads, Sandwiches, Paninis, Flatbreads:*

*Bacon & Blue Salad: Greens, red onion, toasted pecans, crumbled blue cheese, fresh tomato, choice of dressing;*

*Organic Grains: red & blonde quinoa, spinach, dried cranberries, carrots, cucumbers, vinaigrette;*

*Bistro Lyonnaise: fresh greens, crispy bacon, potato croutons, poached farm egg, vinaigrette;*

*Greek Salad: gyro meat, kalamata olives, tomato, red onion, cucumber, feta, red wine vinaigrette;*

*Bistro Reuben: (Non-traditional) Certified Angus beef pastrami, V.O. slaw, Swiss, panini'd marbled rye;*

*Portabella Mushroom: roast peppers & onions, provolone cheese;*

*Salt & Pepper Rubbed Roast Beef: French dip, or panini;*

*Old Fashioned Pit Ham 'n Cheese: panini or deli sandwich;*

*Oven Roast Turkey Breast: panini or deli sandwich;*

*Chicken Salad: celery, mayo, onion, tarragon, lemon zest;*

*Cranberry Tuna Salad: dried cranberries, Dijon, mayo, red onion, pickle relish.*

*You can always add on: cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, mayo, mustard (yellow, Dijon, whole grain)*

*Sandwiches: served on an artisan roll with choice of one side*

The Wild Flower Bistro is located at 305 Main Street, Delta, CO 81416; (970) 399-3933. Open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If business is slow you may find them closed at 2:45 pm. **Closed Wednesdays & Thursdays.**





## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### MUSIC IN THE GRAPEVINES RETURNS WITH STRAY GRASS

#### Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-Music in the Grapevines returns with a line-up of five concerts at Two Rivers Winery and Chateau. On Tuesday, May 21, Stray Grass will play its blend of bluegrass, Americana and rock 'n' roll. Bring lawn chairs and a picnic for an evening of music and relaxation in the shade of the Colorado National Monument. Wine is available by the glass or bottle. Gates open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$15, at the Chateau, the Western Color-

do C --enter for the Arts (The Art Center, 1803 N 7th St, GJ), or the gate. All proceeds benefit The Art Center.

Later concerts –

-Katie Walters and Friends (classic rock and pop), June 18

-The Scones (rockin' rollin' Americana), July 16

-Bryan Savage, (smooth jazz), Aug. 20

-Soul Habit (dance, funk and soul), Sept. 10

## DELTA COUNTY ROCK, GEM AND MINERAL SHOW WILL BE JUNE 1

#### Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-The Delta County Rock, Gem and Mineral Show will be held on June 1, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Bill Heddles Recreation Center, 531 N. Palmer St., Delta, Colorado. Featured items will include lighted mineral and specimen displays, gold panning, a fluorescent mineral display, bingo for children, and educational displays for children. There will also be door prizes, grab bags, a silent auction, and a wheel of rocks. More than 28 vendors will have gemstones, jewelry, mineral specimens, cabochons, slabs, fossils, and many other types of rocks for sale and on display. This event is free to the public, and children and adults of all ages are welcome. Come and enjoy the Annual Rock Show.



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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: RECOGNITION

### MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: FLETCHER FLOWER

*Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE-The Montrose Education Foundation wishes to recognize Fletcher Flower as the 2019 MHS Distinguished Alumni. From the class of 1985, Fletcher followed several family members' footsteps who previously graduated from Montrose High School throughout the years. Both his parents and grandparents proudly graduated from Montrose. His roots go back even further to Sid and Joe Hartman, who started Hartman Brothers in 1904.

Though best known for being an exceptional football player, Fletcher also excelled in the classroom. His prowess on the field got him noticed by Mesa College, which offered him a scholarship. He played two years for the Maverick's before transferring to CSU and earning a BS in Finance and a BS in Computer Information Systems. After completing his undergraduate degrees, he stayed at CSU and pursued a Masters in Corporate Finance. Upon graduating from CSU, Fletcher worked for Anderson Consulting. They maintained offices in Denver, Chicago and San Francisco; Fletcher working at all of

them. Then, FMI, a well-known consulting firm in Denver attracted him to work in their Merger and Acquisitions Group. A job he thoroughly enjoyed for 4 years.

However, in 1999 Fletcher made the very important decision to move home to Montrose and enter the family business—Flower Motor Company. The business his father, Fred Flower, started in 1968. He married his wife, Kris Kirk Flower in 2001 and they have two boys, Jack Flower (13) and Fletcher Flower (10). He and his brother Fritz Flower currently run three car dealerships. Two are located here in Montrose, and one in Steamboat Springs. As if owning and running those businesses weren't enough, Fletcher still finds time to dedicate considerable effort to his local community. He participates on several boards, including the Hospice Advisory Board, TRAC Advisory board for the City of Montrose and the Rotary Club. And, at the state level, he is a board member for the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board for Colorado, which appointed him the Chairman for the Denver Auto Show in 2019 and 2020.

Nevertheless, Fletcher always remembers where he came from and contributes

generously to his home community. Flower Motor Company is the first stop for every local fundraising campaign and many organizations and causes receive their support. Over the years, they've supported community non-profits, clubs, and youth organizations (both sports & non-sports related). Fletcher and his family give back to a community that has given them so much. He loves the Montrose community and shows this by personifying the qualities taught by his parents—the importance of hard work and doing things the right way. Montrose Education Foundation is honored to recognize Fletcher Flower as the Montrose High School 2019 Distinguished Alumni.



**2019 MHS Distinguished Alumni Fletcher Flower.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

## STANSBERRY PRESENTS TO MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

*Special to Art & Sol*

DURANGO-- Audrey Stansberry of Montrose attended and presented at the 2019 Mathematical Association of America Rocky Mountain Section Meeting on April 5 & 6, in Durango, Colorado. Stansberry, a Mathematics major at Fort Lewis College, presented a poster entitled, "Counting

Hook  $P(n,2)$ -Tableaux of Shape  $(1+k, 1^n)$ ." Fort Lewis College is the Southwest's crossroads of education and adventure.

Our blend of small classes, dynamic academic programs, and a liberal arts perspective leads to transformative learning experiences that foster entrepreneurship,

leadership, creative problem solving, and life-long learning.

And our unique & beautiful mountain campus, on a mesa above historic Durango, Colorado, inspires an active and friendly community with a spirit of engagement, exploration, and intellectual curiosity.



## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: RECOGNITION

### OLATHE HIGH SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: CARYN GIBSON



**2019 OHS Distinguished Alumni**  
**Caryn Gibson. Courtesy photo.**

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

OLATHE-The Montrose Education Foundation wishes to recognize Caryn Gibson as the 2019 OHS Distinguished Alumni. Ms. Caryn Gibson, is a proud 1982 graduate of Olathe High School and is thankful for the wonderful opportunities to learn, grow and achieve. She is currently the Superintendent of Delta County School District, where she is a skilled educational leader with 33 years of experience in public education. Ms. Gibson became the Delta County School District Superinten-

dent in 2012. She has been honored to serve the students, staff and communities of Delta County for the last seven years as Superintendent. She leads through the District's mission of "*Caring, Challenging, Learning . . . Every Student, Every Day!*" Ms. Gibson oversees all aspects of the District, which includes about 4,800 students, 700 staff and a budget of more than \$55 million.

She began her career in education as a high school business teacher and coach at Fruita Monument High School and then Delta High School. She was a classroom teacher for 15 years before moving into administration where she was an Assistant Principal, Financial Aid Director and then Director of Delta Montrose Technical College. In 2010 she moved to the District Office for Delta County Schools where she has served as the Human Resource Director before accepting the position of Superintendent.

Ms. Gibson and her husband, John, have raised three girls on a dairy farm outside of Olathe. All three of their daughters graduated from Olathe High School, which has instilled a quality work ethic and can-do attitude. All three girls

have earned college degrees and are giving back to their communities. Ms. Gibson is a fifth generation farmer in the valley and is devoted to serving the students of Delta County School District and its communities.

Ms. Gibson is a graduate of Western State College, which is now Western Colorado University. She has a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in education. She has a Masters in Vocational Education from CSU. She earned her Principal and Administrator's licenses in Education from University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

Caryn's passion for her community and serving the youth is evident through her dedication of being a 4-H leader for 20 years, recognized by the State for her support of FFA programs, receiving the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award through Veterans of Foreign Wars, and being recognized by Who's Who America's Teachers multiple times all while being a breast cancer survivor. Caryn would like to say "Thank you" to Olathe High School and the many people who have made a difference in her life and lives of her children.

### SCOUTS HELP LETTER CARRIERS STAMP OUT HUNGER

*By Wayne Quade*

MONTROSE-Saturday, May 11 saw the Montrose Scouts helping the post office letter carriers with their annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

Both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts from units affiliated with St. Mary Catholic Church, the Montrose Elks Club, and the LDS Church helped the letter carriers by retrieving donated food from residences throughout Montrose.

The collected food is then distributed to the needy through the Montrose Food Bank. Scouting traditionally has been service oriented.

*At right, courtesy photo.*



## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO TOURISM OFFICE, CDOT TEAMING UP FOR SAFETY

*Special to Art & Sol*

FRUITA—The Colorado Department of Transportation and Colorado Tourism Office unveiled one of a series of replica “Welcome to Colorful Colorado” signs today at the Colorado Welcome Center in Fruita. This interagency initiative aims to lure more visitors to the state’s welcome centers and improve safety by giving them a safer spot for a photo opportunity with the iconic and rustic signs than along an interstate shoulder.

“While we’re very pleased that our ‘Welcome to Colorful Colorado’ signs have become a worthy traffic stop for visitors, we’re approaching safety in all aspects of our system, including this effort to place our iconic signs at rest stops to provide a safer location for photo opportunities,” said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. “Partnering with the CTO will help enhance safety for the traveling public and hopefully boost economic activities in the more rural areas of the state. It’s a win-win for everyone.”

Greeting travelers at Colorado gateways

since 1950, the tall wooden signs have become an attraction in their own right, with motorists often parking on highway shoulders to photograph themselves with the sign. The proximity of the signs to high-speed traffic, however, creates a safety hazard.

To get travelers to pass up on photographing the border highway signs, CDOT will install new signage encouraging them to make a safer stop at the visitor center ahead.

“These new replica signs give us an exciting new way to attract visitors to our Colorado Welcome Centers, where our volunteer travel counselors can inspire them to explore more and leave more economic impact during their stay,” said CTO Director Cathy Ritter, whose office suggested and covered costs for the signs. “Every time we can encourage a traveler to stop by, the better chance we have of inspiring them to seek out new experiences, stay longer and come back for more.”

A 2017 CTO study showed that its 10 Colorado Welcome Centers serve more

than a million visitors a year and directly influenced \$23.2 million

in additional travel spending. This finding was based on research showing that 21.9% of trip parties, which averaged 2.7 people, spent an additional \$264 on average as a result of their welcome center stop.

The replica signs, fabricated in CDOT’s sign shop, have also been installed at the Colorado Welcome Center in Burlington. A third sign will be installed at the Julesburg location later this year. The state’s busiest Colorado Welcome Center, Julesburg, greeted more than 363,000 travelers last year, while Burlington served about 161,000 and Fruita approximately 150,000.



*Courtesy photo.*

### HISTORY COLORADO KICKS OFF SUMMER WITH FREE KIDS' ADMISSION

*Special to Art & Sol*

DENVER— Families looking for fun activities during the summer, look no further! History Colorado is offering FREE admission at all eight museums around the state.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, families living in or visiting Colorado can enjoy free youth admission at History Colorado museums statewide.

At all History Colorado museums — the History Colorado Center in Denver, El Pueblo History Museum in Pueblo, Trinidad History Museum in Trinidad, Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center in Fort Garland, the Healy House Museum and Dexter Cabin in Leadville, Fort Vasquez Museum in Platteville, Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, and the Center for Colorado Women’s History at the Byers-Evans

House in Denver — visitors 18 and under can enjoy free admission. From historic homes to adobe forts, each museum tells the history of Colorado’s many cultures and prominent figures.

-History Colorado Center in Denver, visitors can explore the new summer pop-up installation *Wildflowers, Wild Places* with giant flowers and beehive or the visit the recent exhibition *Written on the Land*, featuring artifacts and hands-on activities telling the history and living culture of the Ute people

-Trinidad History Museum, visitors can see the new *Borderlands of Southern Colorado: Remedios, Medicine and Health* exhibition

-Center for Colorado Women’s History in Denver, visitors can learn about the sto-

ries of women’s struggles for equity in the workplace in the *Women/Work/Justice* exhibition

-At our museums in Pueblo and Platteville, families and children can participate in hands-on activities like tortilla making and adobe construction nearly every day at both El Pueblo History Museum and Fort Vasquez Museum

Summertime will be filled with lots of exciting exhibits and events. Colorado Day is celebrated every year on August 1 and includes FREE admission for all of our visitors at all of our museums. Enjoy birthday cake and fun activities!

Visit [our website](#) for offer terms and to learn more about the various museums’ pricing and hours. Free kids’ admission offers expire Sept. 2, 2019.





**SATURDAY, JUNE 29**  
**Valley Manor Care Center**  
*1401 S Cascade Ave, Montrose*

Registration  
Starts 7:00am  
Races start  
**8:00am**

**REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT VALLEY MANOR CARE CENTER**

**Pancakes and Live Entertainment 9:30 - 12pm**

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like they once provided for their families.



Contact Debra Hayre [dhayre@voa.org](mailto:dhayre@voa.org) or  
Brandi Garcia [bgarcia@voa.org](mailto:bgarcia@voa.org) with any questions.  
Phone: 970-249-9634

# Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

## Magic Mushrooms as Medicine

**DENVER'S VOTE** ... The Front Range news media mostly had egg on their faces as several outlets in the Mile High City wrongly projected Initiated Ordinance 301 as having lost on voting day last week, only to have the last-counted ballots turn that projection on its head ... Decriminalization of *Psilocybe spp.* of fungi means that Denver police within the city's jurisdiction will not go after mushroom users, unless usage or sales falls into their laps. They are not authorized to ignore illegal use or sales, but they are also not empowered to seek out users or sellers either ... It's a first step in working towards legalization – a path similar to the one another valuable medicinal, *Cannabis spp.*, took to change hearts, minds and legislation. Both were outlawed for unscientific reasons ... As Dr. Matthew Johnson, an associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine -- and one of the authors of a study last year recommending that the Food and Drug Administration reclassify the drug to acknowledge its potential medical uses and relatively low potential for abuse -- told the *New York Times* last week, "Psilocybin is not addictive, and 'there's no direct lethal overdose' of the drug on record." Which is to say, coffee and aspirin are more dangerous than psilocybin, the active entheogen in magic mushrooms ... Of course, that scientific fact didn't deter failed Drug War crusaders from outlawing it for decades ... However, recent research from John Hopkins and other venerable medical institutions are putting the lie to that law. And in Telluride, the local Mushroom Festival has been educating folks to the truth about magic mushrooms for decades – they are powerful medicine. That's what Dr. Emanuel Salzman, founder of the Telluride Mushroom Festival that's now in its 39<sup>th</sup> year, has been saying forever. We shouldn't be outlawing psilocybin, but figuring out safe protocols for its use ... And those of us who cut our political and social teeth in the Sixties have always thought the law completely wrong and stupid. And have



**The late Dr. Emanuel "Manny" Salzman holding a "Psilocybin as Mind Medicine" sign, with his cap on top of a large brain-like fungal growth, at the 30th Annual Telluride Mushroom Festival parade (photo by Irish photographer Bill O'Dea).**

largely ignored it – though at substantial risk to our safety and well-being ... So, the Denver vote is a historic moment in the history of mushrooms in this country. The federal FDA/DEA's anti-mushroom crusade has been an emperor parading around without the clothing of accepted science, and Denver has just called them on that ... However, decriminalization is not without its downsides. As an interim political measure, it's a sound strategy. But as a social situation, it's fraught with potential dangers ... Psilocybin is not the same kind of compound as THC, and the effects on users can be quite ego-shattering. Dr. Andrew Weil, a leading national medical authority, has always insisted that attention to dosage and careful choice of set and setting were essential to having a good experience with magic mushrooms. And having a guide, not under the influence of psychotropic substances, attendant to users (especially first-time users), is crucial. The fracturing of one's ego can be a very traumatic experience, and having a trusted friend to reassemble reality for one in a discombobulated entheogenic state is essential ... Magic mushrooms really aren't recreational for most folks (although some long-time users accustomed to their effects use them so).



**Tatum's Telluride Top of the World bookcover.**

It's a spiritual/medical experience that takes one to the edge of one's known world, and back (if one has paid attention to dosage, set&setting and a guide). Trying them on one's own, especially at first, is not recommended. But you know, with the recent decriminalization in Denver, that's exactly what inexperienced people will likely attempt ... And similar to the increased "freak-out" hospitalizations for overdoses of cannabis when it was legalized, I expect a similar spike in hospital visits will attend this mushroom decriminalization ... Indigenous cultures had "coming of age" ceremonies, and rituals for use of entheogenic substances – varying in kind and aspect, but all concomitant with the use of entheogens. In our modern society, we're unfettered by tradition and free to try anything. And that freedom, while highly valued by all of us, can get us into trouble ... While I applaud the new Denver law, I think in addition to a commission to study the effects of decriminalization (a good idea), there ought to be some kind of medical/psychiatric center set up to help with mushroom freakouts, because freakouts there will be. And a safe space and appropriate treatment facility will be needed for those that experience ego-shattering and have taken too much, or are in the wrong setting, or find themselves trapped in a negative space, or



# Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

are without a helper to assist them back to our consensual reality ... So, yes, Denver's vote was a great victory for science and society, the first step in a path towards recognition of psilocybin as medicine, but also a stop-gap measure that could have some negative impacts on the unwary or the unwise.

**TELLURIDE TOP OF THE WORLD** ... I like to keep tabs on what folks write about Telluride. My fav account to date is one that Theodora Kroeber wrote in a chapter of her biography of her anthropologist husband, *Alfred Kroeber: A Personal Configuration* (Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, 1970). Although I'm expecting a full-length historical account of Telluride from Paul O'Rourke someday. His short historical

pieces in local magazines promise whatever he does on a big scale will be spectacular .. Not so Tom Tatum's novel self-published last year from Outskirts Press. It's an action-packed potboiler film script cross-dressing as a novel that captures some chunky nuggets of Telluride's wild, cocaine-fueled first decade as a ski-town makeover of a has-been mining town ... I have to admit I kind of liked its fast-paced, outrageously inflated plot with more twists than a Brooklyn pretzel. But a sophomore stylistic habit of piling-on adjectives to almost every available noun, as well as unexpected incidents of magical realism popping up at odd moments, distracts.

I could have done without "legendary ten-goal polo playing quadriplegic ranchers"

or "black Italian leather overstuffed couch [s]" or "them shell-shocked drunken west-end Vietnam vets."

Or inconsistencies, like all the towns and geographic features around Telluride being spelled correctly, except the "Delores River," which gets mentioned throughout the book.

Or "pinion" for pinyon. Or "cular" for couloir ... I have to point to these as annoyances.

But if you want a breathless, fantastical fast read that captures (overblown as it may be) a black&white cartoon of what the Seventies were in pre-airport To-Hell-U-Ride, Tatum's book is a page-turner. And if you've been around long enough, you might even recognize some of the paged characters and events.

## THE TALKING GOURD

### White Space

Screaming over Vail Pass  
through blinding snow  
and then back to town.  
A gray Dodge melts  
to the shape of a tear,  
wells up as I merge in traffic.  
White lines unwind behind me  
like blasts on a mirror  
back to the funny bank  
where your friend disappeared  
all those years past.  
Oval like an egg, or a small sponge  
rubbing out the words  
'til only newsprint  
and white space remain.  
Sorrow is a circle,  
round as the moon.  
In every light is blackness  
and every hello  
holds the sounds of goodbye.

-Caitlin Switzer  
Montrose

## READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



*The elusive Western Tanager, above, and Black-Headed Grosbeak, right.*



*Below, storm showers over Horsefly as viewed from Storm King.*





## SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

### CURRENT/ONGOING-

**ARTISTS ALPINE HOLIDAY**--Artist Registration is open for Ouray County Arts Association's 59th Artists' Alpine Holiday Art Show now through June 24. Go to [ourayarts.org](http://ourayarts.org) for details and a link to register.

**BOSOM BUDDIES OF SOUTHWESTERN COLORADO BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** meets every Wednesday from noon till 1 pm at 645 South 5th Street in Montrose. For more info email [info@bosombuddiesswc.org](mailto:info@bosombuddiesswc.org).

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP** meets every third Tuesday of each month at the Centennial Meeting Room at 6pm, behind City Hall. New Watch Groups are formed and guest speakers alert us to safety issues. The public is encouraged to attend. Contact Joyce Loss at 970-249-4217 or 970-275-1329 for details.

**YOGA HOUSE**-Yoga House has added HIIT Yoga on Wednesday's at 5:45p AND Hot Yoga and is held on Fridays @ 4:30p.m. and Saturday's at 10a.m.; SUP (Stand up paddle board) Yoga is Held at Montrose Rec Ctr \$25/class, Held the Following Thursday's at 7p.m. March 21. For more info on classes and workshops: [ColoradoYogaHouse.com](http://ColoradoYogaHouse.com)

**ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MEETING**-second Tuesday of the month, @ 7 p.m., Community Meeting Room, Montrose Library, 320 S 2nd St. Includes: Presentations, photo sharing & critiques. All are welcome to attend.

**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.

### 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. Information: Dianna 970-249-0724

### MONTHLY-

**May 14**-The volunteers of Montrose County Historical Museum are a driving force behind our Museum. Volunteers play an important role in helping to tell Montrose's story. If you are interested in our history and would love to learn more, please join us for an informational meeting on May 14 starting at 10 am. The location is 21 N. Rio Grande, Montrose County Historical Museum. For more information please contact Sally at 249-2085.

**May 14**-Alpine Photography Club Meeting, May 14, 7pm, Colorado Mesa University, 245 S. Cascade Ave., Room 100. Presentation: Photographing the Aurora Borealis By: Austin Ray. Sharing Topic: Night Sky (3-5 images). Critiques: Open & Anonymous (up to 3 images). The public is welcome.

**May 16-27**-Advanced Ceramics Highschool Students Three-Dimensional Spring Art Show, @ Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery 68 S Grand Ave Montrose, Co from May 16-27: The students of Montrose High School's Advanced Ceramics class will have their artwork on display to the public at the Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery right next to Cimarron Coffee Roasters. This is a great chance for the community to see the work of local up and coming artists.

Gallery Hours: Monday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday- Friday 8am to 7pm., Saturdays 8am to 3pm, Contact information: cell (970-252-1698), Email: [keaton.loyd@mhslead.org](mailto:keaton.loyd@mhslead.org)

**May 16**-Colorado landscape photographer John Fielder will present *Colorado: Black on White*, a new book and multimedia presentation, in Montrose at 7 pm on Thursday, May 16 in the Jordan Room of the Holiday Inn Express. John will be on hand before and after the show to sell and sign his popular Colorado books and calendars, including *Colorado Black on White*. John will donate 30 percent of the sales to the Friends of the Montrose Library. For more information, please call the library at 249-9656.

**May 18**-The 16th Annual Montrose Wine & Food Festival is Saturday May 18, 2019 from 1-5 p.m. at the Bridges in Montrose. All proceeds from the Festival benefit the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club (BCBGC). Tickets are \$50 for general admission, which includes a Festival glass, and there are a limited number of VIP tickets for \$75. Tickets and event information can be found at the Festival website [www.montrosewinefestival.com](http://www.montrosewinefestival.com). For more information on the BCBGC, check out [www.bcbgc.org](http://www.bcbgc.org).

**May 21**--Stray Grass will play its blend of bluegrass, Americana and rock 'n' roll at Two Rivers Winery and Chateau. Bring lawn chairs and a picnic for an evening of music and relaxation in the shade of the Colorado National Monument. Wine is available by the glass or bottle. Gates open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$15, at the Chateau, the Western Colorado Center for the Arts (The Art Center, 1803 N 7th St, GJ), or the gate.

**June 1**-The Delta County Rock, Gem and Mineral Show will be held on June 1, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heddles Recreation Center, 531 N. Palmer St., Delta, Colorado. Admission is free to the public, and children and adults of all ages are welcome.

**June 8**-Yoga House, 207 East Main Street, From 12p-2p - Habits Of a Yoga Series (a 3-part series based on Ayurvedic principles) \$20/class or \$50 for all three.

**June 29**-12th annual Ridgway RiverFest, Saturday, June 29, 2019 @ 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Rollans Park, Ridgway. This free, outdoor celebration of the Uncompahgre River Watershed is organized by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. Come to enjoy river races, live music by Sugar & The Mint, and lots of family-friendly activities. Sponsors, silent auction donors, vendors and volunteers needed! To find out about the fun, free outdoor festival for the whole family, go to [ridgwayriverfest.org](http://ridgwayriverfest.org) or call 970-325-3010.

**July 22-27**-Montrose County Fair & Rodeo, Montrose County Fairgrounds.

**Aug. 3**-Olathe Sweet Corn Festival is proud to announce that BBR Music Group singer-songwriter Craig Campbell will headline the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual event on Aug. 3, 2019 at the Montrose County Event Center in Montrose. Tickets are now on sale and include General Admission and VIP, with VIP including preferred seating, drinks and dinner. For more information and online ticket sales please visit [www.olathesweetcornfest.com](http://www.olathesweetcornfest.com).

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## MIRROR IMAGES...FUN IN THE SUN!



*At left, the Lions Club Carnival was in town last week...photo by Brad Switzer. Below, a paddle boarder on the Uncompahgre,*



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