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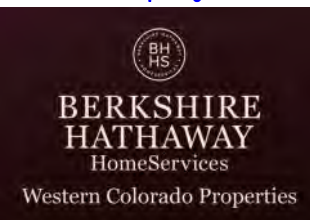


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the Montrose Mirror

Issue No. 326 May 27, 2019

Remembering those who gave their lives in service to our nation...

NEIGHBORS ALARMED OVER SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

Proposed composting facility could process more than green waste



According to a Special Use Permit application filed with Montrose County by 3xM grinding and Compost, LLC, materials to be used at a proposed commercial composting facility on Amber Road include but are not limited to green waste, food waste, biosolids, wood fiber, newsprint, cardboard, construction and agricultural waste. Neighbors are concerned about the impacts to adjacent homes and business in the area. Photo by Tyler Martinez.

By Caitlin Switzer

OLATHE-Neighbors are concerned that more than green waste may be processed at Thunder Mountain Organics Composting near Olathe if a Special Use Permit for a Class III composting facility is approved by Montrose County officials. A [request for a special use permit](#) on behalf of 3xM Grinding and Compost, LLC came before the Montrose County Planning Commission on May 23, for a large, commercial composting facility to be located in the general agricultural zone at 59039 Amber Road.

If the special use permit application is approved, owners Keith and Kirt Mautz could process not only green waste, but food waste, biosolids, wood fiber, newsprint, cardboard, construction and agricultural waste. (According to the [American Heritage Dictionary](#), biosolids are solid or semisolid material obtained from treated wastewater, often used as fertilizer.)

"The basic operation consists of grinding the carbon material, mixing it with the [Continued pg 15](#)

DMEA BOARD HOPEFULS FACE TOUGH QUESTIONS

League of Women Voters Forum Spotlights Candidates

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose County League of Women Voters hosted the first of two candidate forums on May 20, for the upcoming Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) board of directors' election. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. Mail-in ballots, along with the candidate's official bio, will be sent to DMEA members in late May.

League facilitator Tanya Ishikawa announced the format for the two-hour [Continued pg 17](#)



Approximately 30 people attended the Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) candidate forum hosted by the Montrose County League of Women Voters held on May 20 at the DMEA headquarters. (L to R) League Facilitator Tanya Ishikawa; District 3 Candidate Brad Harding (unopposed); District 4 Candidates Ken Watson and David White; South Region Candidates Jock Fleming and Ken Otto. Photo by Gail Marvel.

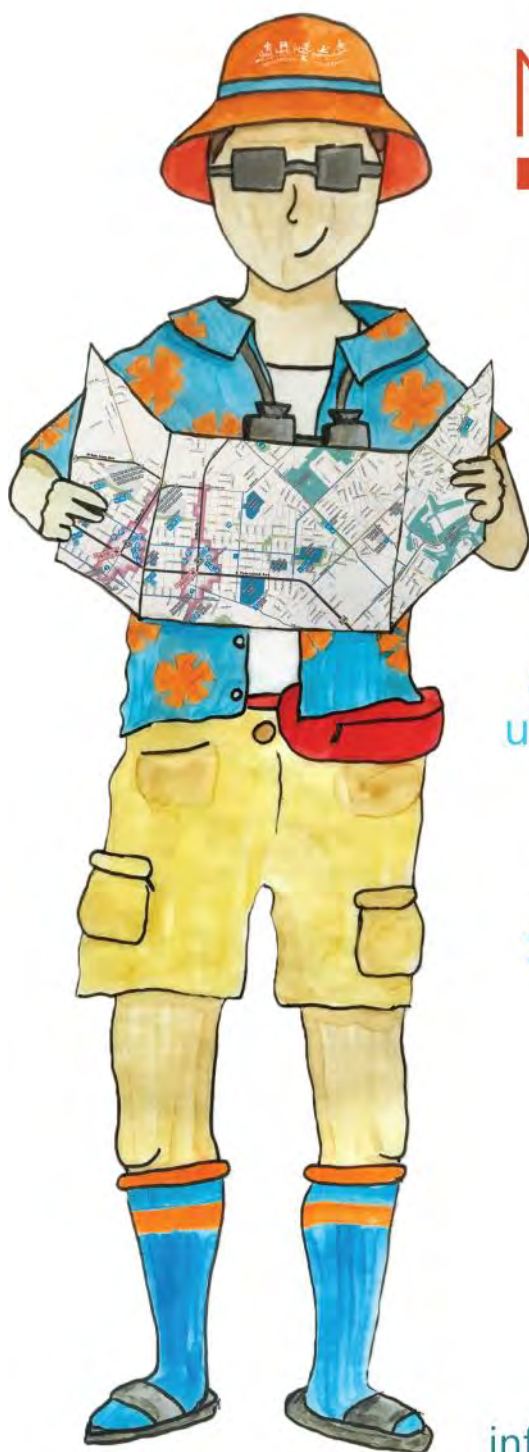
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SNOW DETERS ROAD OPENING OPERATIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Montrose County and the U.S. Forest Service Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests will not open 90 Road (National Forest System Road #540) or Divide Road (NSFR #402) until after Memorial Day. In an agreement with the two agencies, Montrose County Public Works begins spring plowing in an effort to open the major roads on the Uncompahgre Plateau by late May. Due to the overwhelming amount of snow—some of which has still been accumulating—the roads will remain closed for the holiday weekend.

“The high country received a significant amount of snow and depths of over four feet are still present at the top of the plateau,” said Public Works Director Keith Laube. “Crews will continue to plow with the goal of opening the roads in early June depending on conditions.”

Currently, 90 Road to Divide Road is open and a large turn-around area is available at the closure. Divide Road is impassable and should not be attempted. At this time, 25 Mesa (NFSR 544.1A) is open to the public. The two designated campgrounds on the plateau—Iron Springs and Columbine—are both closed to the public at this time. Sign boards and signage are both present at the base of the plateau on both sides to advise the public of the closures. The public will be notified as soon as the 90 Road and Divide Road are open to vehicle traffic. Additionally, Dave Wood Road (NSFR 510) to Sanborn Park Road (NSFR 530) and the San Miguel River are both open to the public. For more information about the GMUG including camping information, please visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/gmug>.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

DMEA SHOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS TO SEEK AGREEMENT WITH TRI-STATE *Some board candidates do not appear to value G&T membership*

Editor:

The public vilification of Tri-State Generation & Transmission (G&T) needs to stop. In the DMEA candidate forums on Monday and Tuesday last week, some board candidates stated that Tri-State represents front range interests and repeated their call for DMEA to break its contract with Tri-State in order to contract with a for-profit energy broker for our energy needs. Tri-State is a multi-state non-profit utility that provides energy at cost to 40+ energy distribution cooperatives, one of which is DMEA. These cooperatives are located in both large and small communities across four states. Tri-State provides jobs and community support in towns across their service territory including Montrose, Delta and the North Fork valley. Only a few of their 40+ members are located on the front range of Colorado. Tri-State provides more than energy sales to its members. Tri-State operates and maintains high voltage electrical equipment which is key to delivering power to DMEA. Tri-State assures that if equipment fails they have replacements at the ready to provide reliable service to our community.

If DMEA leaves Tri-State it will have to assume responsibility for a larger energy infrastructure necessary to delivering power to our homes and businesses, or pay another company to do so. This can certainly be accomplished but it will cost a large chunk of the purported savings that others are telling us we will enjoy if we contract with an energy broker. Energy brokers do not own and maintain electrical equipment on behalf of their customers. That is the benefit of belonging to a

Generation and Transmission company. The energy rate DMEA pays to Tri-State includes payment for a range of services. The energy rate offered by energy brokers is only for energy.

These candidates also stated that the Tri-State rate, is too high, citing that the rate is not low enough to allow DMEA to offer competitive *industrial* rates in order to attract new industry to our community. However, in reality, our small business, residential and agricultural rates are 10% lower than the average rate in Colorado and 14% lower than the national average. Reliable energy service from a company invested in the communities it serves is important to protecting existing members interests.

Additionally, while bulk energy prices on the open market are generally lower, especially in times of surplus generation, these lower market prices do not directly result in lower rates to consumers. Nationally, electric rates have risen steadily over the past decade and this trend is expected to continue. Much of our nation's energy grid is aged and in need of replacement. This past week Excel Energy, the largest energy provider in Colorado announced a proposed rate hike of 6.5%. Part of its proposed hike is to increase revenue for shareholders and part to support aging infrastructure. Tri-State, like most utilities, is facing the need to upgrade aging equipment, however, Tri-State does not have to cater to shareholder pressure to increase profits. The energy broker being touted as our only solution to rising prices is a national broker. This company is not invested in our communities and its interests lie with profits

to its shareholders.

Our local Tri-State employees take pride in providing necessary services to our community and should not have their company disparaged by board candidates who clearly either don't understand or don't value the benefits of being a G&T member.

Tri-State's new CEO is committed to leading Tri-State forward and making the changes necessary to keep the company competitive. DMEA's efforts on the Tri-State board are now being supported by a growing number of other members. Now that changes are coming, it is not time to walk away from the negotiating table.

DMEA's efforts in front of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to determine a fair and reasonable exit price should continue. If changes at Tri-State do not come to fruition, or are not enough to satisfy DMEA's members, then leaving Tri-State may be prudent. Until such time that the CPUC renders a decision and all appeals to that decision are settled, DMEA should continue its efforts to seek agreement with Tri-State on modifications to member contracts, increasing member self-supply, and cost reduction changes to its business model.

If I am elected to be your representative, I will use my industry knowledge and experience to help guide DMEA in making decisions that continue to provide reliable, cost-based energy to our homes, farms, ranches and businesses. To quote Benjamin Franklin: The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten.

Ken Otto,

Candidate for DMEA Board, South Region



CAR CLUB ASKS FOR RETURN OF K9 DONATION, BASIN CLINIC APPLIES TO BECOME FEDERALLY QUALIFIED SATELLITE OF UMC



Peggy Braehler of Black Canyon Classics Car Club asked that the club's \$4K donation be returned so that it can be awarded to K-9 officers Oxx and Roo as intended.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Chair Sue Hansen welcomed those in attendance at the [regular meeting](#) of Wednesday, May 22, including visiting City Councilor Doug Glaspell. Two citizens spoke during the time for public comment.

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash was not present at the meeting; the invocation was delivered by Pastor Buddy Cook of First Church of the Nazarene.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Citizen Jim "L.J." Anderson stepped forward to speak. "...I just wanted to thank you for the public meetings we've had in recent months...a lot of things we have talked about that needed to be corrected and looked at, I am very happy to see that they are being corrected."

Safety of Sheriff's officers is a foremost concern, Anderson said. "The citizens of Montrose County have opened up their hearts and their wallets to ensure that those additional funds over and above the General Fund are there for our officers to have and use under the direction of the Sheriff's Department.

"It's nice to see that they are supported, our officers are coming first," Anderson said. "...Thank you for your openness in prior meetings. Finance is doing a good job. We are getting new transparency... anything the Sheriff's Office needs in the

way of officer safety should be an immediate action item...God bless every officer we have out there. Take good care of them."

Also addressing the BOCC was Peggy Braehler of the Black Canyon Classics Car Club.

"Last year we gave K-9 Oxx and K-9 Roo \$4,000 donated from our car show," Braehler said. "The money has not

went to Oxx and Roo yet, and

we keep getting the run-around and lies from the Sheriff. He said he had sent the money, and he had not sent the money. Then he said that he would look into it, check into it and get back to me...he has never gotten back to me as of yet, and we would like that money to go to Oxx and Roo because that's what we raised it for. They were at the show representing the K9 unit.

"We need to see where to go to get our money back to us so we can give it to Oxx and Roo," Braehler said.

"We will look into that and make sure we find out what's going on," Hansen said. "Thank you for bringing that to us."

CHANGES TO AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the [meeting agenda](#); Consent Agenda items passed unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Commissioners unanimously approved a [request by the Basin Clinic in Naturita](#) for assistance in paying \$5,900 toward the clinic's consultant fee as it applies to become a [Federally qualified health care center of the Uncompahgre Medical Center](#).

Keeping the Basin Clinic viable has been a big challenge in a sparsely populated community, County Manager Ken Norris noted, though the clinic is critical to the provision of health care. If the Basin Clinic is approved to become a satellite clinic, it

will improve services and access for county residents and visitors to the area. "We are hopeful if this effort can go through that we can reduce the county payments and maybe even eliminate the county payments, plus have a much stronger health care facility in the Nucla/Naturita area," Norris said.

Montrose County has traditionally supported the Basin Clinic with more than \$300K annually to keep it in business, he said.

"I think this will be a good thing for the County...," Commissioner Keith Caddy said. "It has taken a lot of work by the Basin Clinic as well as Uncompahgre Medical Center to make this happen.

"It will increase the payments from Medicare and Medicaid by four to five times what they're getting right now, to help supplement their budget," he said.

Commissioner voted unanimously to [assign the County's 2019 \\$1,109,438 Private activity bonds \(PAB\) cap to Colorado Housing & Finance Authority \(CHFA\)](#) on behalf of Colorado Outdoors, for the purpose of financing one or more multi-family rental housing projects for low and moderate income persons and families or to issue Private Activity Bonds for the purpose of providing single-family mortgage loans to low and moderate income persons and families for the issuance of mortgage credit certificates. CHFA's Western Slope Community Relationship Manager Karen Harkin was on hand to answer questions.

Chair Hansen convened a **public hearing** to consider adoption of [Supplemental Budget Resolution 19-2019](#), concerning the first 2019 Supplemental Budget Appropriation (total supplemental appropriation is \$3,496,004) as presented by County Finance Director Cindy Dunlap. With no comments received, the hearing was closed; Resolution 19-2019 was adopted unanimously.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ITEMS

Commissioners approved four P&D items, including the [Amended Big Mac Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to lift a plat note. The proposal was the subject of two

CAR CLUB ASKS FOR RETURN OF K9 DONATION, BASIN CLINIC APPLIES TO BECOME SATELLITE From previous pg

lengthy discussions in previous meetings and had been denied initially to allow additional staff review.

According to a report prepared by Planning & Development Director Steve White, the only way the property could be divided without lifting the plat note would require the construction of a new county road; in this instance building a road is not feasible because of the location. "In this case, they have no other option," White said. "...Staff does recommend approval." Commissioner Keith Caddy thanked the

applicants, the Lovato family, for their patience.

The Applicant's son Dominic Lovato said, "I just want to say thank you...we appreciate the county taking a serious consideration of our request and looking at it from a practical point of view...I can honestly say now...I think that we are being considered as constituents."

"Thank you very much."

In other business, commissions approved a [proposal by the Gad Minor Subdivision](#) to divide a 39.670 acre lot into two lots; a

[proposal by the Last Chance Large Tract Exemption](#) to create three (3) tracts from a 155.70-acre tract; and a [proposal by the Distel Large Tract Exemption](#) to create one new tract from a 144.92-acre tract.

The BOCC closed the regular session to convene as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority, and approved a [special event permit](#) for the San Juan Health Care Foundation Boot Stomp to be held at Antler Ridge June 1. After reconvening as the BOCC, Hansen adjourned the meeting.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ABOVE AVERAGE SNOW LEVELS TO KEEP FOREST ROADS AND CAMPGROUNDS CLOSED LONGER

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The winter snow is receding and spring fever has many forest users excited to get outside and explore the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests. Though snow may have thawed from some areas of the GMUG, forest officials are warning that most forest roads are still not accessible and could be impassable for some time due to ice, mud or snow. Forest travel on wet, muddy, or snow-covered roads can cause serious resource damage and safety concerns especially if visitors are unprepared. Even a few inches of snow can obscure icy roads and soft shoulders where vehicles can become stuck.

Forest officials are encouraging the public to minimize impacts to natural resources from travel on roads that are susceptible to rutting due to warmer weather and melting snowpack. Forest roads are easily damaged when saturated and wet especially with the continued precipitation the GMUG has experienced. Some higher elevation roads, motorized trails and campgrounds will open later than normal due to this year's heavy snowpack. Some gates are still buried in snow, and roads are extremely wet and muddy. Please respect gates and closed areas and find alternate locations to recreate to allow muddy roads and trails time to dry out. Contact your local [Ranger District](#) for current conditions before heading out on your trip. "Forest roads are not constructed to be all-weather roads, so they can be easily damaged when wet, especially during years of above average snowpack as we have experienced this year" said Chris Phelps, a GMUG Engineer. "Ruts created by tires that are a mere inch deep can leave long lasting impressions that only increase with rain and erosion." Motorized and mechanized vehicle users are responsible for knowing when and where they can drive or ride. Motorized vehicle users are asked to obtain and adhere to routes shown on the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs). MVUMs show which routes are open to motorized vehicles, which types of vehicles may be used, and season opening and closing dates. Hard copies of MVUMs are free and available at all forest offices and online [here](#). Helpful information about planning a trip to the GMUG can be found on our Know Before You Go webpage at: <https://www.fs.fed.us/visit/know-before-you-go>.



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MAYOR POSTPONES INCENTIVES DISCUSSION PLANNED FOR WORK SESSION

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Discussion Item A, a planned discussion of job creation and housing incentives, was removed from the Agenda of [the Montrose City Council work session of Monday, May 20](#). Said Mayor Dave Bowman, "We all have a lot to learn before we can have an intelligent discussion."

Councilor Doug Glaspell did not arrive until the work session's end due to an airline delay. Lunch for Council & Staff was catered by Heidi's Deli.

NEW PATROL OFFICERS & STAFFERS

Six new City employees were introduced, and a new Police Officer was sworn in prior to the start of the work session. Joining the City are Patrol Officers Jamie Kent, Marcina Sarmiento, Mariah Smith, and Dakotah Shae-Shelley. Also officially introduced were Planner I Tallmadge Richmond and Stormwater Inspector Stephen Taylor. Taylor also leases land from the City to raise Scottish Highland cattle and raise crops; he has agreed to provide agricultural education services in return.

Police Chief Blaine Hall held a swearing in ceremony for Jamie Kent; becoming a police officer is a calling, Hall said. "It does not stop when you are off duty...it is an honorable profession...we have criminals in our community who cause harm to our citizens, and we've got to go after 'em.

"Never sacrifice your integrity," Hall said. "As soon as you do something dishonest, that you try to hide, you're gone." Kent's wife pinned his badge on him.

2019 SANITARY SEWER CURED IN PLACE PIPE CONTRACT EXTENSION

Utilities Manager David Bries presented information on the contract extension; Bries said that he had reached out to last year's provider and was quoted the same price. "The City has extended the contract," he said. The cured in place process has been used for 15 years in Montrose and has been very well received. The cost of the process is \$25 per foot, compared to \$100 per foot for pipe replacement. The matter will come before Council for approval in June.

ASSIGNMENT OF PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND (PAB) BONDING AUTHORITY

Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement Virgil Turner presented information

on a request by Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) to use the City's allocation of the 2019 Colorado private activity bonding capacity.

Background: According to the work session packet, the IRS allocates a per capita bonding authority annually for housing to each state, also known as PAB Volume Capacity or Cap. Colorado in turn allocates this authority to statewide authorities and local governments; in 2019 the allocation for the City of Montrose is \$1,032,83.

Last year the city assigned its allocation to Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA). This year CHFA has requested the City of Montrose assign the 2019 Private Activity Bond (PAB) allocation to CHFA to support the new construction of The Park at Colorado Outdoors, a 72-unit family housing project in the City of Montrose.

The County is considering a similar request, Turner said. "They are looking for \$8M in private activity bonding to finance that project...we went to Denver to testify to CHFA on behalf of the project for Colorado Outdoors," Turner said. "It adds several million in equity to that project."

Mayor Bowman asked about a project timeline. Turner said he thinks it would start later this year with an 18-month schedule for completion. "It's something I would be proud to live in," Turner said. "So far it's looking really good." Bowman called the project a "major first step" in helping bring affordable housing to the community.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Judy Ann Files spoke about recent Council training sessions, including sessions on harassment, trans-cultural diversity, youth safety, and economic development. "One of our new police officers is going to be involved with cultural diversity," Files said. As for economic development, "Montrose is going to grow," she said.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum asked City Manager Bill Bell about a report that had appeared in the *Mirror* concerning the DDA Loan Fund and the City. Said Bell, "I will give an update at Council...what is in the *Mirror* is 100-percent inaccurate and untruthful."

Bynum thanked communications staffer



Patrol Officer Jamie Kent was sworn in by Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall May 20.

William Woody for recording the Forum discussions at the CASA Facility on Wednesdays. "It's another way to let the community know what's going on."

Bowman thanked staff for help in promoting the Mayor's Water Challenge, which saw increased participation this year.

Chief Hall said that police staffing levels are back up, with "more in the pipeline."

Glaspell arrived; "Someday they'll find my luggage," he said.

Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty said she has been fielding calls about the Opportunity Zone and recently served on a panel. "It's really keeping me busy...I believe we will have a prospectus in hand today...there are only a few projects happening in the State."

Rosty also noted the placement of a piano at the corner of Main Street and Cascade Avenue. Local artists painted the piano, which was donated by Habitat for Humanity and installed by public works crews.

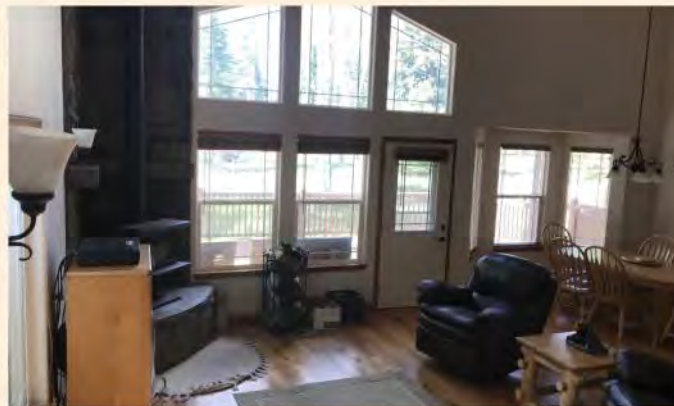
Turner said that he is excited about the comprehensive plan process; meetings are coming up June 11 (from 5 to 7:30 p.m., English language) and 13 (from 6 to 8:30 p.m., Spanish language) at Columbine Middle School. Childcare as well as light refreshments will be provided. Applicants are being sought for an advisory committee, Turner said.

Pipe bursting will take place on Cascade Avenue in late June, Bries said. City Engineer Scott Murphy provided a roads and trails update; Bell provided an activity update. Youth Council were added to the May 21 Council meeting for a presentation.

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NEIGHBORS ALARMED OVER SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

From pg 1

nitrogen material, and allowing the material to decompose in a manner that meets CDPHE and local regulations...When needed, the final product will be screened or ground to produce a marketable product," the 3xM special use permit application states.

No other entities are currently using the same waste stream, and the 3xM Organics Recycling Facility would be able to divert all of the region's organic and compostable waste while making a high-quality marketable product, according to the application, which also notes that initially, anticipated volume will be 20,000 cubic yards of inbound green waste material, which will produce approximately 10,000 cubic yards of finished compost. The 14-acre site is capable of processing at least 7,500 cubic yards of material per acre.

The matter has been continued until June 27, Montrose County Planning & Development Director Steve White said, because the Planning Commission has questions about the proposed facility.

"There are questions that need to be answered before we can make any logical decision," White said. "We need to figure out exactly what 'waste' means...our planning commission will vet this very well. If it won't work, they can say no. If the applicant can find a way to solve the problems, we can move forward."

Neighbors of the proposed composting facility include Steve and Tracy Martinez, who have lived on an adjacent parcel on Amber Road for 25 years. A statement given to the Planning Commission by the couple states, "From this application there are too many concerns that are not adequately dealt with and cannot be dealt with due to the location of the current residences surrounding the property. A General Agriculture area with multiple residences is not the appropriate location for a facility that can introduce noxious odors, windblown debris, asbestos, salmonella and e-coli into the environment.

"We do not believe that anyone wants



A General Agriculture area with multiple residences is not the appropriate location for a facility that can introduce noxious odors, windblown debris, asbestos, salmonella and e-coli into the environment, neighbors say. Photo by Tyler Martinez.

this type of facility as their neighbor. This type of facility needs to be where it will not reduce property values and where it is less likely to create safety and health concerns for the residents living nearby."

If approved, the composting facility would cause nearby property values to drop, and make those properties more difficult to sell, Tracy Martinez said last week.

"We have worked very hard here over the years," she said. "We first heard about this when we received a letter a couple of weeks ago...the applicants didn't come and talk to us.

"It's kind of scary right now."

Also opposed to the composting facility is son Tyler Martinez, a grower who owns and operates a hops farm in the vicinity. The possibility of human waste being taken from Telluride into settling ponds that are open on top—something that came up at the planning commission meeting—is of

great concern, he said.

"I own Peach Valley Hops," Tyler said Friday. "It is located directly across the road from the waste facility that was talked about last night with the County. I have invested my life savings in this hop farm; if this waste facility goes through, no brewery would buy my hops and I don't blame them.

Hops are used in multiple stages during the brewing process, he said.

"I grow Cascade hops, which are an aroma hop," Martinez said. "They are used in the final stages of brewing, and they are also used for dry hopping. When used for dry hopping they are put in the beer after fermenting; they are not washed.

"Every contaminate from the waste facility would be on the hops."

The June 27 [Montrose County Planning Commission](#) meeting will take place in the County Board Room at 161 South Townsend Avenue at 6 p.m.

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TOUGH QUESTIONS FACE DMEA BOARD HOPEFULS From pg 1

forum, which included opening statements from candidates, league questions, written questions from the audience, questions from the floor (time permitting) and candidate's closing statements. Time limits, monitored by Rod Britten and Sara Combs, were placed on opening/closing statements and candidate's responses.

With the exception of Jock Fleming, candidates used their opening statements to introduce themselves to the audience, cite their background and their community involvement/investment. Fleming, an attorney, said, "The main reason I'm running is the \$15,000,000 a year we give to Tri-State [Tri-State Generation and Transmission Assn.] for energy we could generate right here. The reason I'm here is Tri-State. I'm committed to getting out of the contract."

All five candidates answered each question as it was presented. However, for this report candidates' responses for contested races are grouped together so readers can compare and contrast the answers given by those candidates.

District 3 - Brad Harding (unopposed incumbent).

League question: What is your first priority if elected to the board? Would you pursue the exit from Tri-State?

Harding said, "We never have the luxury of doing only one thing [one priority]. We will continue to make good decisions by using the data we have. We will continue to press forward and make the best decisions that we can."

League question: What vision do you have for alternative energy?

Harding said, "My dad was a coal miner. Personally, I mourn the loss of the coal industry. It made a lasting impression on me. It comes down to price. Even Tri-State is buying more wind and solar because it's cheap. We need a combination of energy so we can self-source."

Audience question: What is your stance on pension plans?

Harding said, "This is something we can disagree on. I'm more of a 401(k) believer, it has personal responsibility. A defined benefit plan puts a tremendous amount of pressure on an organization. You have to

be openminded. If I had my way, I'd have 401(k)."

Audience question: Yes or no, have you been attending DMEA meetings?

As a current board member Harding laughed and said, "Yes."

Audience question: Comment on DMEA's tree trimming policy.

Harding said, "This is the most emotional issue we deal with." Citing the fire in California that forced a power company into bankruptcy, Harding said, "Overall I support aggressive tree trimming."

Question from the floor: How do you negotiate out of a contract? It seems like we pay too much to get out of it."

Harding said, "Comparables. What precedent has been set, what model? Is there a number that is too high? Absolutely. Data analysis. When to leave, or not leave."

Question from the floor: How bad do you want out and are members willing to pay that price? The ramifications are huge, the upside and the downside.

Harding said, "I cannot reveal our legal strategy. We have guardrails and fully realize we are playing for big stakes — control of our energy future. The resolve of the board. Are we tough enough with the will to follow through? This is a tough board."

Question from the floor: Concerned whether an equitable exit amount had been established and if the possibility of equipment failure (large transformers currently owned by Tri-State) had been evaluated.

Harding said, "We [DMEA board] don't have as much discussion on post-management transmission assets. High voltage power. We will have to take that and the cost of transmission assets under consideration moving forward."

District 4 – Ken Watson (incumbent) and **David White**.

League question: What is your first priority if elected to the board? Would you pursue the exit from Tri-State?

Watson said, "Continue to stabilize rates and bring them down."

White said, "To understand more clearly the situation with Tri-State. Finding alternatives. I want to learn everything I can.

Not being on the board I'm not privy to the issues and what to do. What alternatives look like."

League question: What vision do you have for alternative energy?

Watson said, "Renewable stabilized rates. We should grow our hydro and add renewable as it makes sense economically."

White said, "While we've already taken steps with a hydro facility on the South Canal, we need to look at all alternatives. Keep all doors open at a fair cost. We can't afford to take a gamble on alternatives that have not been thought out."

Audience question: What is your stance on pension plans?

Watson said, "We need to take care of employees and the company needs to keep commitments they have made. Going forward I would not like benefits, but where we have made commitments, we should fund the benefit plan. There is a personal responsibility as a factor."

White said, "I prefer 401 (k) versus getting into a situation like PERA with the State. Many benefit plans have been underfunded. The liability that comes from underfunding pensions plans is huge. I lean toward the match where you have skin in the game. Taking care of employees is a priority."

Audience question: Yes or no, have you been attending DMEA meetings?

Watson said, "Yes. Board meetings and other meetings."

White said, "I have attended meetings, but I'm not always able to get off for a 3 p.m. meeting. I've done what I can possibly do to stay informed."

Audience question: Comment on DMEA's tree trimming policy.

Watson said, "That's number one for members, it's ahead of Elevate. People put a lot of effort into landscaping. People do not want DMEA coming in and trimming their trees. The board has done a lot of work with vendors and tree trimming to keep us safe. I support it."

White said, "I agree. They [employees] know their business. People should consult an arborist. No one wants to kill trees, but common sense needs to prevail. We

Continued next pg

TOUGH QUESTIONS FACE DMEA BOARD HOPEFULS From previous pg

need to keep employees safe and the power on."

Question from the floor: How do you negotiate out of a contract? It seems like we pay too much to get out of it."

Watson said, "The [exit] numbers are all over the place. Tri-State gave us numbers that were 10 times higher than the New Mexico Kit Carson exit from Tri-State. Studies are showing it could be zero to 10 times the amount."

White said, "As one of the outsiders I'm not privileged to know all the negotiations. Your rates are based on looking into the future. All those things are factored in. If the new CEO [of Tri-State] is willing to meet, I'm not privileged to that information."

A follow-up question from the floor: Another way to get out of the contract is for you to breach. You stop buying and they sue you for the difference. What are the damages that Tri-State will suffer for DMEA leaving? Is that a possible outcome? There are still choices to be made and additional litigation. Does the board see these possibilities? Are you as board members ready to deal with this?

White said, "A breach of contract is far worse than trying to negotiate the way out. I'm not privileged to those negotiations and executive sessions, but it's better to come to a solution."

Watson said, "We want to stay within the rule of law. If we were to breach negotiations would be gone."

Fleming said, "I'm a lawyer. Breach is a harder step than negotiation. I'm not saying you want to do litigation; it would take serious discussion."

Question from the floor: How bad do you want out and are members willing to pay that price? The ramifications are huge, the upside and the downside.

Watson said, "We don't want to show our cards. Nothing is off the table."

White - quote not captured.

Question from the floor: Concerned whether an equitable exit amount had been established and if the possibility of equipment failure (large transformers currently owned by Tri-State) had been

evaluated.

Watson said, "We looked very hard at transmission assets. We could purchase maintenance of those transformers from Tri-State. We have to check every box. We cannot make mistakes here."

White said, "We may not have to pay \$15,000,000 to Tri-State, but we'll have to maintain the lines. There is debt service. The question may have been answered, but I don't know. We need answers."

South Region – Jock Fleming and Ken Otto.

League question: What is your first priority if elected to the board? Would you pursue the exit from Tri-State?

Fleming said, "Dealing with the Tri-State contract. Tri-State has a new CEO. We should use local resources to help the local economy."

Otto said, "Clearly Tri-State is the topic of the day. We have some time, Tri-State has a new manager from the outside. While we are negotiating an exit, we can negotiate with them. There is not always one solution to a problem. There are issues with taking back high voltage equipment if we get out of Tri-State. There are hidden costs with the exit. We have to look at all the costs of exiting."

League question: What vision do you have for alternative energy?

Fleming said, "Hydro and bio fuels at the old Nucla Plant is something we should look at. Convert that [plant] and do bio fuels. Expand the solar garden. We have water, expand hydro. We have the resources to do a lot with renewable energy."

Otto said, "Renewables are growing in Colorado. Coal is being phased out with reporting on the social cost of using coal. There is room in the valley for hydro. We'll need to look at backup for when the sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow. We don't need to be the green energy leader in the valley. We need a good economic mix."

Audience question: What is your stance on pension plans?

Fleming said, "Sometimes people and companies put more into defined benefit

plans. I think DMEA is moving away from a defined benefit plan. I think that is a mistake. I believe in defined benefit plans."

Otto said, "I believe a mix is best. One percent of your salary in addition to savings plan so you could invest your own money and the company would match. That's a better retirement for a new employee. A mix of both."

Audience question: Yes or no, have you been attending DMEA meetings?

Fleming said, "A couple of years ago I attended meetings, but the last two years I've been on the Round-Up Board [DMEA charitable program] and I attend those. I have lunch with staff and board members. But at the moment I've not attended board meetings."

Otto said, "Yes. I've been following DMEA and watched the changes in bylaws. Seventy percent of DMEA employees have less than five years with the company."

Audience question: Comment on DMEA's tree trimming policy.

Fleming said, "A few years ago I didn't have an opinion on that, but then I had to watch sparks on my own roof while I waited for the fire department to arrive. I'm a real supporter of aggressive tree trimming. We have to get trees away from electrical lines."

Otto said, "It's a matter of public safety and employee safety. You can top trees, but it only takes a couple of years for them to grow back. Tons of money can be spent in re-trimming trees. Trees can't be growing into powerlines."

Question from the floor: How do you negotiate out of a contract? It seems like we pay too much to get out of it."

Fleming said, "There are two answers. Have the PUC [Public Utilities Commission] decide what's reasonable, lawyers, [etc]. They will provide a number to DMEA and Tri-State. That's the first answer. The second is simple economics. Ordered to pay X amount of dollars that is affordable. If it is so high, we won't be able to get out. If we get out it will cost us, but we can save."

Otto said, "A decision was made years ago for a 50-year investment [coal]. New factors come into play. If we walk away,

TOUGH QUESTIONS FACE DMEA BOARD HOPEFULS From previous pg

are we willing to pay our fair share? A fair exit price to Tri-State so we don't burden the other [Tri-State] members.

Question from the floor: How bad do you want out and are members willing to pay that price? The ramifications are huge, the upside and the downside.

Fleming said, "I am more optimistic about the PUC ruling. This is going to end soon, rather than years from now."

Otto said, "I expect the PUC to come up with an exit price. If we have to stay with the Tri-State contract for 22 more years it's not going to get so bad."

Question from the floor: Concerned whether an equitable exit amount had been established and if the possibility of equipment failure (large transformers currently owned by Tri-State) had been evaluated.

Fleming said, "We need to remind people that Tri-State doesn't do anything for free. Tri-State is charging us. If we get out of the contract, we'll save money."

Otto said, "The money we pay to Tri-State is more than just buying energy. It's replacing equipment, moving transformers around the state. There are advantages to being a part of their group. The 43 G & T's [generation and transmission] share in this type of expense. I'm not

saying we shouldn't exit, but we need to have our eyes open."

Questions, even those directed at a specific candidate, could be answered by all candidates if they wished to respond.

Facilitator Ishikawa asked for relevance when an audience member directed a question about the Montrose County Event Center to White, a former Montrose County Commissioner.

White said, "If you're asking about transparency in government, we have to be transparent. Government has open meetings and open records laws."

Harding said, "We [DMEA] have transparency in meetings. Legal battles, these remain in executive session."

President of the DMEA Board of Directors Bill Patterson, who is also a longtime member of the League of Women Voters, inserted himself into the forum. Rather than asking a question, Patterson chose to make statements and respond to questions that were intended for, and previously answered by, the five candidates.

Closing Statements:

Otto said, "I'm not here to upset an applecart. I can offer another perspective that comes from experience. It's a little different than a legal experience. My technical knowledge would add flavor to the

board."

Fleming said, "We're going to generate our own local energy." Fleming reiterated that DMEA would save \$15M by exiting Tri-State.

White said, "We all need to be aware of the decisions made by DMEA's Board of Directors. Those decisions effect what happens in your home, your business, the restaurant you eat in. I'll bring my experience."

Watson said, "The risk of doing nothing with Tri-State's aging generation; there is debt with aging assets. If we do nothing, we will get what we've been getting. Do we really want someone on the Front Range telling us what to do?"

Harding said, "I'm living in a fascinating time in DMEA history. I'm a local control person and anytime you have a chance for local control [take it]. Now we don't control our energy future; we have a chance to do that."

The DMEA Annual Meeting will take place on June 20, 2019 at Hotchkiss High School (438 Bulldog Street). Members can cast their vote by mail; vote in person at the Annual Meeting or bring their completed ballot to one of the two DMEA offices and place it in the secure ballot drop box located in the lobbies.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

EXPECTED REVISIONS TO COLORADO NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

COLORADO-Fourth quarter 2018 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) results indicate Colorado total nonfarm payroll jobs estimates will be revised up for this period with the release of benchmarked estimates in March 2020. December 2018 estimates are expected to be revised up by about 1,100 nonfarm payroll jobs. November 2018 estimates are expected to be revised up by about 8,000, or three-tenths of a percentage point. October 2018 estimates are expected to be revised down by about 1,300 nonfarm payroll jobs.

Applying these results through April 2019

brings estimated total nonfarm payroll jobs in April to 2,766,300. This change brings over the year payroll job growth estimates through April 2019 to 50,200 or 1.8 percent.

The final March 2020 benchmarked series are expected to vary from these estimates due to new seasonal adjustment factors and new estimates of nonfarm payroll jobs not covered by the unemployment insurance program.

Industry sectors expected to undergo an upward revision to payroll jobs estimates in the 4th quarter¹ include construction (~3,500), government (~3,300), financial

services (~3,200), education and health services (~1,800), and information (~1,000).

The industry sectors expected to undergo a downward revision to payroll jobs estimates are professional and business services (~6,000), other services (~2,600), and leisure and hospitality (~1,600). Payroll jobs estimates for mining and logging, manufacturing, and trade, transportation, and utilities may also be revised down.

Payroll jobs estimates for the Boulder, Denver, Greeley, and Pueblo Metropolitan Statistical Areas may be revised upward in the 4th quarter.

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT & ABOUT!



Above left and right, placing flags and preparing on Sunday for the Memorial Day Holiday at Grand View Cemetery, Montrose remembers those who gave their lives in service to our nation. Photos by Brad Switzer.



Above, and below right, Niko's Tavern (303 East Main Street) has a pool tournament every Tuesday at 7pm, \$10 buy in. Pictured is Jesse Wilson making a shot. Photos by Jennifer McClanahan.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COMPENSATION AVAILABLE FOR LANDOWNERS TO PROTECT FORESTLANDS

Special to the Mirror

FORT COLLINS-Colorado landowners who want to protect environmentally valuable private forest areas that could someday be threatened by development or conversion to other non-forest uses – and who desire to receive monetary compensation in the process – now have the opportunity to submit proposals to protect their forestlands.

The Colorado State Forest Service is accepting Forest Legacy Program proposals from Colorado landowners. The program authorizes the CSFS or U.S. Forest Service to purchase permanent conservation easements on private forestlands to prevent those lands from being converted to non-forest uses.

The application deadline is July 31, 2019,

for federal fiscal year 2021 funding, and proposals must be submitted by standard mail.

The purpose of the Colorado Forest Legacy Program is to protect environmentally important private forest areas that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. The program provides an opportunity for private landowners to retain ownership and management of their land, while receiving compensation for unrealized development rights.

Forestlands that contain important scenic, cultural, recreation and water resources, including fish and wildlife habitat and other ecological values, and that support traditional forest uses, will receive priority. Landowners who elect to participate in the program are required to follow

a land management plan approved by the CSFS. Activities consistent with the management plan are permitted, including timber harvesting, grazing and recreation activities.

The Colorado State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee will evaluate proposals and recommend to the state forester those proposals that have sufficient merit to forward to the U.S. Forest Service. Forwarded proposals will then compete at a regional and national level for funding.

For additional information or to obtain an application packet, contact Carolyn Aspelin at 970-491-1869 or carolyn.aspelin@colostate.edu. Applications also are available online at <http://csfs.colostate.edu/funding-assistance>.

SOUTHWEST COLORADO CO 145 ROCK SLIDE: BOULDER BUSTING A SUCCESS



CDOT courtesy photos.



Special to the Mirror

SOUTHWEST COLORADO – A crew has successfully blasted one of the massive boulders that destroyed a section of CO Highway 145 between Cortez and Telluride. CDOT officials are extremely pleased with the outcome. Trucks immediately

started hauling the fragments away so that traffic can begin flowing on a temporary road being built by CDOT's maintenance division. The task of hauling away the rubble may not be completed until tomorrow, (Monday, May 27).

The enormous 2.5-million-pound rock (or

1150 tons) tumbled and plowed its way to the two-lane highway from a ridgeline some 1000 feet above on Friday. CDOT officials say the second massive boulder, which created an eight-foot trench across both lanes and landed on the east side of the road, may remain where it sits.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TEI ROCK DRILLS TO HOST ANNUAL HOLLOW BAR SCHOOL

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Rock drill operators and others will gather together from six different countries on June 2-8, 2019 in Montrose, Colorado for TEI Rock Drills' Hollow Bar School. As a first, during this week two separate sessions will be held to accommodate growing interest.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn from industry experts through classroom instruction and hands-on operation about the process and best practices of installing hollow bar. Hollow bar is used in foundations, soil stabilization, and earth retention projects worldwide as a vital component in the building of roads, bridges, tunnels, and other civil construction applications.

The International Association of Foundation Drilling, in conjunction with The U.S.

Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration, devised a standard for the installation of HBSN in 2010. Since then, TEI has been at the forefront of the education of users in this method, holding sold-out seminars and our factory schools each year.

All aspects of hollow bar installation will be taught including the TEI Method for Installation, grouting principles, an overview of micropile and soil nail design, and step-by-step instructions on how to properly test a hollow bar micropile. Case studies from geotechnical contractors will be emphasized. Instructors also cover the operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of each piece of equipment.

TEI Rock Drills is an industry leader in the



manufacture of rock drill excavator attachments, limited access drill rigs, safety equipment, and associated components. All TEI products are created by in-house engineers, uniquely patented, and manufactured in our ISO Certified facility. TEI equipment is proudly made in the US with American made parts to ensure quality, efficiency, and up-to-the-minute innovation. For more information, please visit www.teirockdrills.com.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY OF MONTROSE SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR DDA BOARD, HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose is accepting applications for three vacant positions on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board of Directors and one seat on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Appointed members of the DDA Board must reside, be a business lessee, or own real property within the Downtown Development Authority boundary.

Historic Preservation Commissioners can reside within the city or surrounding area. The current vacancy is for the remainder of a two-year term.

The City Council appoints the commission. At least 60 percent of its members are residents of the city, and at least 40 percent of the members are professionals or individuals with extensive expertise in a preservation-related discipline, including but not limited to history, architecture,

landscape architecture, American studies, American civilization, cultural geography, cultural anthropology, planning or archaeology. The deadline to apply is the close of business on Monday, June 10, 2019. Applications are available at City Hall, 433 S. First Street, on the City of Montrose website at www.cityofmontrose.org, on the DDA website at www.montrosedowntown.com or by calling 970.240-1430.

BLM EXTENDS TIMEFRAME FOR SEASONAL CAMPING FEES @ RUBY-HORSETHIEF RECREATION AREA

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced today that it is extending the timeframe for seasonal camping fees along the popular Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado River. The fee extension, which begins in October 2019, is designed to improve camping experiences in the area.

Following public outreach on the fee extension in 2017, the BLM updated its Ruby-Horsethief Recreation Area business plan to extend the fee calendar by two months. While permits are always required for camping in this area, camping fees are now required from April 1 to Oct. 31. Previously, fees were charged from May 1 to

September 30. Fee amounts remain the same:

\$20 per night for a group of 1 – 5

\$50 per night for a group of 6 – 15

\$100 per night for a group of 16 – 25

The fees will be used for ranger patrols, campsite maintenance, river restoration, and future improvements at the Westwater Ranger Station and Loma Boat Launch.

“The permit system improves recreation experiences for visitors and protects important resources, making Ruby-Horsethief a world-class flat water boating destination,” said National Conservation Area Manager Collin Ewing. “We were seeing huge increases in use in April and

October, and we need to be able to respond with ranger patrols and improvements to facilities.”

In 2017, the Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado River received more than 23,000 visitors. The approximately \$104,000 in camping fees collected were used to hire a seasonal river ranger, improve and clean campsites, and conduct restoration projects. Permits are available at www.recreation.gov.

Recreation on BLM Colorado-managed public lands generated \$618 million and supported 5,043 jobs in Fiscal Year 2017.

The updated Ruby-Horsethief business plan is online at <https://go.usa.gov/xm7CV>.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS ALERT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Montrose County Sheriff's office are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate parties who may have information on a crime which occurred in the 15000 Block of 6000 Road, Montrose County, Colorado.

On March 27, 2019, three male parties were photographed on a property in the 15000 Block of 6000 Road, Montrose County, Colorado. Due to clear images taken with surveillance equipment, it appears the parties arrived in a maroon Jeep SUV. This property was burglarized several days prior to these parties being photographed and at that time multiple items were taken as well as damaged.

Anyone with information about this incident or the identity of the parties in the photos, or any crime may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500, use the mobile app P3 Tips, or provide information via P3tips.com. Crime Stopper wants your information, not your identity.

If the Tip results in an arrest, the Tipster may receive a cash award. All subjects arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. For additional information, please view our Facebook



page, www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers. Crime prevention and crime solution are everyone's responsibility.

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Jeff Keehfuss

Broker/Owner

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The Keehfuss Team



\$565,000

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Bedrooms: 3

2,900 sq. ft. on 15.353 acres | Year Built: 1988



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EAGLE SCOUT PLANS TO BUILD SUN SHADE FOR DOG PARK; CITY TO SIGN LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR DMEA PLAN TO EXIT TRI-STATE



At the regular meeting of May 21, representatives of the Montrose Youth Council reported to City Council.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-At the [regular City Council meeting of May 21](#), Montrose City Council heard an Eagle Scout presentation by Daniel Wittenberg, who plans to put a shade structure at the Montrose Dog Park.

A change to the meeting agenda added a presentation by Montrose Youth Council.

Among items approved by Council at the meeting was a letter of support to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on behalf of Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)'s attempt to exit its contract with power supplier Tri-State Generation & Transmission. Council heard from City Manager Bill Bell in response to concerns raised over the City's control of and lack of reporting on a USDA Loan Fund granted to the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in 2012. Youth Council representative was Alejandra Tapia. Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum was not in attendance at the meeting.

EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION

"The plan is to do a shaded structure in the dog park," Wittenberg said, and showed pictures of the proposed shade.

"...The shade structure itself is going to be about 19 feet by 19 feet, so it will be a triangle," Wittenberg said. "...That should give enough shade for the public...with Colorado weather you never know if it will get cloudy or there will be rain...this should provide some cover for the rain...or shade for a hot sunny day."

"Thank you very much for that contribution to our City," Mayor Dave Bowman said.

Councilor Roy Anderson called the project, "awesome."

"I am sure our Parks Advisory Board will be very excited to hear this," Councilor Judy Ann Files said.

MONTROSE YOUTH COUNCIL

Led by Youth Council Mayor Jenna Holyfield and wearing matching blue youth council attire, representatives of the Montrose Youth Council reported to Council. Three "Rock the Rec" events were held this year, in addition to the well-received proclamation against youth vaping and the annual Teen Opportunity Expo, Holyfield said. "...We had a great term; I think we accomplished a lot...we also

learned about budgeting...for all three events we remained under budget...we did hear positive feedback from those who attended...we also learned a lot about marketing."

She listed Youth Council's 2018-19 accomplishments, thanked community sponsors and supporters, and noted that the 2019 proclamation against youth vaping generated strong interest from the public. Youth Councilor Clair Wilson said that this year's accomplishments will provide a strong start for next year's youth council. "We have a lot of new ideas that we want to bring into the new term," Wilson said. "But we are waiting for our new team...we are really excited to see where the next thing goes and helping youth in our community feel like they have something to do.

Both Holyfield and Wilson thanked City Council for the opportunity to serve.

"Thank you all...it has been a great past four years working with each and every one of you," Holyfield said. "The program is amazing...please keep it going."

"Thank you all for letting us have this amazing opportunity," Wilson said. "...Thank you Roy, for coming to our meetings."

Said Councilor Roy Anderson, who has served the City's representative to the Youth Council, "For me it has been a privilege and an honor to represent City Council with you guys."

Mayor Dave Bowman thanked Youth Council Sponsor and Office of Business & Tourism Marketing Pro Kelly Rhoderick for her work with the teens.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No citizens spoke during the Call to the Public.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 7 COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Council meeting of May 7, 2019 were unanimously approved.

LETTER TO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC) IN SUPPORT OF DMEA'S EXIT FROM TRI-STATE G&T

Council approved a letter to the Colorado PUC supporting a December 2018 filing by Delta Montrose Electric Association

EAGLE SCOUT PLANS TO BUILD SUN SHADE FOR DOG PARK

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(DMEA) to exit from its power supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

Mayor Bowman declined to read the letter into the record, but referred those interested to the [meeting packet](#), which contains a copy.

No public comment was received.

"I think this is a wonderful thing for us to do," Councilor Roy Anderson said, "only because it serves our citizens of Montrose in the opportunity to get more stable electric rates and even possibly lower rates that are competitive with other parts of the state in the country...so I support this."

Bowman noted that Bynum had also expressed support. The Letter of Support was unanimously approved.

HOTEL/RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER

Council unanimously approved the transfer of a Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 1135 E. Main Street from Daisy Pallares, doing business as Payares Grill and Cantina, to JMJ Ventures LLC, doing business as Fly'n Roosters, for consumption on the licensed premises.

Assistant City Attorney Rachel Allen questioned applicants John and Jason Steed.

The Steeds have two restaurants in Grand Junction; the Montrose location will be geared toward sports, Jason Steed said, and will be open the first week of June.

John Steed said, "We I.D. virtually everybody; our concentration is more on food; we have never had any liquor violations."

NEW HOTEL & RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Also unanimously approved was a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license application at 1521 Oxbow Drive, suite 165, for Jonesin-4-Play LLC, doing Business as Rib City Grill Montrose, for consumption on the licensed premises.

Applicant Tyler Jones opened Rib City Grill in June 2006 and has been licensed to serve beer and wine. "Numerous people over the years have wanted a bourbon and Coke with their baby back ribs," Jones said, adding that he has lost customers to a neighboring restaurant with a full liquor license.

Over service will not be a problem, Jones said. "We do not over serve. We never have and we never will."

AMENDED ORDINANCE 2477-SECOND READING
Amended Ordinance 2477 repeals and replaces Title 6 Chapter 2 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding animal control regulations.

City Attorney Stephen Alcorn said that "a couple of updates" had been made since first reading, the most significant being strong language concerning containment of aggressive animals, and replacement of the word "destroyed" with the word "relinquished."

Citizen David Stockton asked for stronger enforcement of the rule that prohibits leaving animals in cars on hot days. "Make sure animal control is out and responding to those calls right away."

Alcorn reminded all not to take matters into their own hands but to call 911 in the case of an animal observed in a hot car. "Please call the professionals and let them handle it."

Ordinance 2477 was unanimously approved on second reading.

ORDINANCES 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481-SECOND READING

Also approved unanimously were Ordinances 2478, 2479, and 2480 (Klippert Addition Annexation Nos. One, Two, and Three) as well as Ordinance 2481 on second reading, zoning Klippert Addition Nos. One, Two and Three as a Rural Living District.

STAFF REPORTS

City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg presented a Sales, Use & Excise Tax Report.

For the First Quarter Budget Review Wittenberg said, "Tonight I just want to



DMEA CEO Jasen Bronec and Board Chair Bill Patterson listen at the City Council meeting May 21.

highlight one of the funds."

She presented information on the Downtown Opportunity Revolving Loan Fund, created for the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) with funds from a USDA grant but now offered through the City's [DART program](#).

Wittenberg presented Council with a memo detailing the history of the fund and the loans made.

"I just handed you this memo that I was just going to briefly go through," she said, "so that everybody in the audience understands this revolving loan fund. Seems like there's been some concern in the community of late."

The fund was created Jan. 17, 2012 by [Ordinance 2292](#), she said.

Ordinance 2292 established a "City of Montrose/Montrose Downtown Development Authority Revolving Loan Fund" to provide a fund that shall be expended only in conjunction with the adopted City of Montrose/Montrose Downtown Development Authority Revolving Loan Fund Plan."

Wittenberg read from the memo.

"Funding was obtained through a grant from Rural Business Enterprise (RBEG) an agency of USDA in the amount of \$75,000 with matching funds from the City's General Fund in the amount of \$63,500 and the Downtown Development Authority in

EAGLE SCOUT PLANS TO BUILD SUN SHADE FOR DOG PARK

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the amount of \$12,000," the memo stated. "...This program has always had a loan review committee that includes the DDA Director, DDA Board Chair, City Manager and Finance Director. The City has always assisted with this loan program as a partner with the DDA."

Wittenberg said that after early loans, most decisions were made by email. "After the first few it became apparent we didn't need to sit down and talk."

Though 12 loans have been made through the Downtown Opportunity Fund, only four were made after Jan. 1, 2015. On April 2, 2017, \$20,000 was loaned to Chuck's Glass. The loan has been paid off, according to the memo. On Aug. 22, 2017, \$20,000 was loaned to Canyon Creek Bed & Breakfast; on Oct. 1, 2017, the Vine Bistrot borrowed \$18,922.72. On Feb. 1, 2018, the owners of the building at 346 East Main Street borrowed \$20,000.

Wittenberg said that only one of the loans is currently delinquent; in the past two applications were denied. "As of March 31, 2019, the Downtown Opportunity Revolving Loan Fund has available cash to lend of \$60,000."

She moved on, "The rest of the report for the First Quarter is very positive. Our revenues are coming as expected and our expenditures are going out as expected, so we don't have any concerns with any of the funds within the City."

Councilor Judy Ann Files said, "Having gone through this process several years ago when I was on the DDA Board, at that point we were still meeting...We would meet and we would talk and we would

approve whatever," Files said. "These recent ones, does the committee sign off? Is there some way of knowing who approved these loans?"

"There's always some sort of tally," Wittenberg said. "I can't remember exactly...there's a loan document that's actually signed."

The documents are in a file, Wittenberg said and can be viewed through a public records request.

City Manager Bill Bell said that the Downtown Opportunity Fund is different than the Montrose Opportunity Fund, a separate fund that he and Wittenberg created to serve applicants outside the DDA Boundaries. "Shortly after we approved this creation, Shani and I came before the City Council at the time and asked each year if our general fund is under budget, can we take \$50,000 of that leftover money and deposit into the Montrose Opportunity Fund," Bell said. "In the years that we do come in under, we deposit that money into the Montrose Opportunity Fund...We've had a couple of applicants—the one that comes to mind right now is Dalee Spa...and we agreed in the Mayfly incentive agreement early on that they would receive \$20,000 out of that fund...the pot of money is not as large...we didn't get any match."

"It's just our own City money."

According to the [DART web site](#), the City has also provided financial assistance to several other businesses through the DART program; "...DART has helped with physical improvements to Storm King Distillery and interior improvements at Back

Street Bagels and the Daily Bread Bakery on Main Street. With assistance from DART, the Coffee Trader's owners were able to construct an outside seating area with steel barriers for safety at their new store on South Fifth Street."

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER REPORT
City offices including the Visitor Center will be closed on Memorial Day, Bell said.

Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall said that four new officers were recently hired, and he conducted an interview with a certified candidate earlier that day. "This individual said that he applied because of the culture within our department...our hiring processes are full," Hall said. With the potential for ten hires in 2019, "That would get us back to full staff," Hall said. He thanked City Human Resources Director Teri Wilcox and the Police Department's commanders, "They are doing an excellent job."

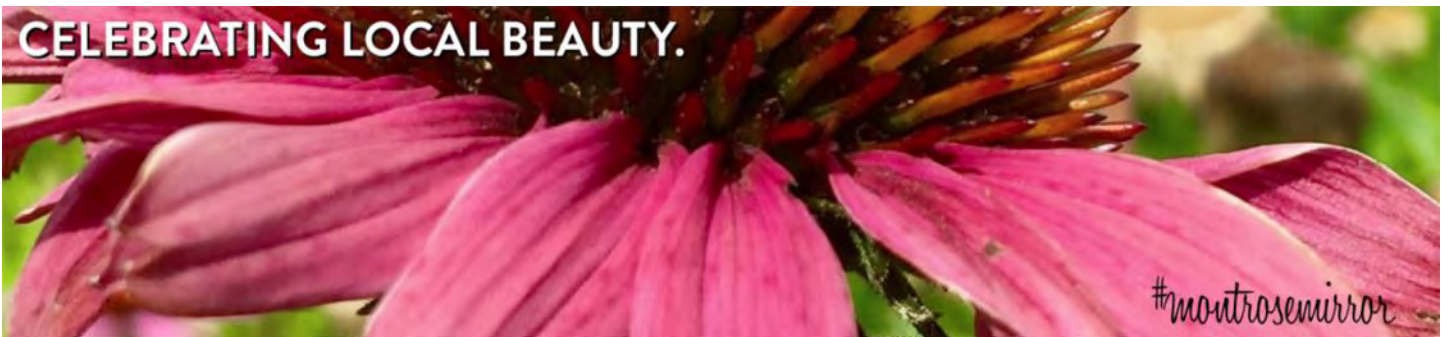
The City's Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee will report to Council June 4.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Bowman reminded Council of several upcoming City and County events. Acoustic Tuesdays will return to the Pocket Park this summer, he said. The events will begin June 11, with Ulterior Motive, and will be sponsored by DART rather than the DDA this year. Bowman provided an update on results of the Mayor's Water Challenge. Montrose was ranked sixth nationwide for the competition this year; "We're Number Two in Colorado," Bowman said.

Council sang Happy Birthday to Files prior to adjournment.

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Brandi Garcia bgarcia@voa.org with any questions.
Phone: 970-249-9634

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS: BUSINESS GIVES BACK!

ALPINE BANK STAFF SET COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING RECORD \$1,000 NONPROFIT CHALLENGE WINNER ANNOUNCED

Special to the Mirror

GLENWOOD SPRINGS— In giving back to the communities they serve, Alpine Bank employees just set an all-time record, volunteering 3,171 hours in April and far surpassing their collective 750-hour goal for the month. While community service has been a core value at Alpine Bank since its founding in 1973, this April employees volunteered more hours and reached out in new ways to support 500 nonprofit organizations and individuals in the 29 Colorado communities the bank serves.

Alpine Bank pays staff to volunteer three full days each year for the nonprofit organization(s) of their choice. Last year Alpine employees volunteered more than 14,000 hours to help address needs in their communities. "I am so proud of our employees for giving their time to causes they feel strongly about," said Alpine Bank founder and Chairman Bob Young.

In order to boost awareness of the important contribution of nonprofits and the impact of volunteering, Alpine Bank held a Facebook Challenge in April. It enabled anyone to nominate a Colorado nonprofit organization to win and spurred 811 entries. The winner was Barbara Butler, who received a \$1,000 check from Alpine Bank, which she presented to the nonprofit she nominated, CASA Mesa County.

"They are so near and dear to my heart," Butler said about CASA. "They do such important work in the community." Joy Thompson, executive director, CASA Mesa County said, "We are so grateful for the support of Alpine Bank, which has been so generous to our mission of serving child victims of abuse and neglect in our community."



Photo Caption: Alpine Bank Vice President Scott Burnham, Alpine Bank Community Outreach Director Tawni Kelley, Barb Butler, CASA board member/Facebook Challenge Winner and Executive Director of CASA Mesa County Joy Thompson. Courtesy photo.

Mesa County employees of Alpine Bank organized their first-ever Community Day on April 13 to help individuals and organizations who needed an extra hand to tackle house and yard projects. On that Saturday 98 Alpine employees fanned out to complete 33 projects, working a collective

total of 520 volunteer hours. Impressive as these numbers are, they don't tell the whole story. "The volunteers were nothing less than awesome! I am so thankful and grateful for everything they did for me." This was one of many appreciative comments received on Community Day.

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#montrosemirror

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TOWN RUN ON THE UNCOMPAHGRE MAY 30

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Bring your boat and join the float as the City of Montrose celebrates the opening of a new boat launch on the Uncompahgre River.

The city will lead a "town run" with boats launching from the new site, located off the north side of Chipeta Lake, on Thursday, May 30, at 4 p.m. The May 30 run will end at the West Main Street take-out located directly south of the West Main Bridge.

The Parks Division, with help from Public Works and community members, designed the river put-in to be used by small craft; kayaks, stand up paddle boards, inflatable, and small rafts.

Access to the area through an automated gate is allowed between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. The area is intended as a loading and unloading area for boaters and walk-in users. Parking is allowed outside of the river access area.

Vehicles are not allowed to drive down to the river's edge.

The city, along with help from local contractor Haynes Excavation, installed a gate, roadway improvements, turn-around area, picnic area, and boat ramp in late April.

Parks and Special Projects Superintendent John Malloy said the increasing flows on the Uncompahgre River make it a good time to open the area for recreational



West Main Takeout area. Mirror file photo.

access. This access area is one of three river access improvements the city has made over the past three years. There is a ramp at the West Main Trailhead as well as a ramp at Taviwach Park.

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Linda Steil

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970-417-8082

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SHERIFF HAS AUTHORITY TO USE PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX FUNDS

Editor:

Some eleven years ago, in 2008, the Montrose County electorate passed an extraordinarily generous Public Safety Sales Tax of 1.75%. It was to be divided the 1% to Road and Bridge; the 7 tenths of one percent to the Sheriff's department and .05% portion to the commissioners for their discretionary use on public safety issues.

The allocation to the Sheriff's Department has provided a good bit of assistance to their law enforcement effort.

As I understand it there is in excess of \$2,000,000 in the fund at present. This money was and is to be used for whatever the Department needs to do its job over and above the County budget's General Fund allocation to the Department. And rightly so.

This sales tax was sold to the electorate as an addition to and not a replacement for, the General Fund budget---an enhancement to the regular department budget, not a replacement for it. It was never intended either by the county or by

the electorate to be saved for an emergency, rather it was to be used as needed to ensure the department and the deputies were adequately trained and equipped for the keeping of law and order in our county. And here it sits with a significant balance when the department is in want of replacement pistols, tasers, protective vests, more deputies, more training and who knows what else. Replacing this money is a lot easier than replacing a deputy.

The money in the bank, while it might look good to bureaucrats, does absolutely nothing to protect the deputies or the public.

Since taking office Sheriff Lillard and his staff have been working long and hard to improve the department. Decisions on these matters are long overdue. There should be no question as to where the funds will come from---the PSST---it is there for the sheriff to use to improve the force. If the Sheriff believes the expenditure is justified, he should 'make it

so'. That is what the taxpayers voted for in 2008.

It would be a travesty if some perpetrator were to be shot because he could not be tased or that an officer be shot because his pistol did not work reliably or wounded or killed because his vest was not as good as it should have been.

Montrose does not need that to happen--especially when we have the funds readily available to preempt such a thing from happening.

I want to compliment Sheriff Lillard and his department for their pro-active forward thinking and action on this matter of critical needs. He has the money to use for the purpose and I encourage him to use it. Gene Lillard knows what is needed; he is a professional with experience and leadership ability.

With our support and his ability, Sheriff Gene Lillard will provide Montrose County with a superior sheriff's department in both manpower and equipment.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

JURY STILL OUT ON 'SAVINGS' FROM DMEA PLAN TO EXIT TRI-STATE

Editor:

As a Candidate for the Delta-Montrose Electric Association Board of Directors District 4 seat, I have heard my opponent and other candidates say DMEA is paying \$15,000,000 to Front Range Special Interests every year and that by getting out of the TriState contract the money would stay in the Montrose and Delta region. When asked who these special interests are, neither the public nor I have ever been told what that \$15M represents other than we're paying, by contract, to Tri-State Generation & Transmission, too much.

The contract to purchase power from TriState was entered into almost 20 years ago and has another 20 to go. It cannot be

denied that there are issues that need to be addressed with TriState and that in today's world the contract is not perfect.

However, let's consider the flip side of the leave-Tri-State side of the coin. If we save \$15M a year by exiting our contract, and if the Colorado Public Utilities Commission lets DMEA do so, then what? DMEA must pay Tri-State a price to get out of the contract.

Originally the buyout number was \$350M. Today, it is most likely in the range of \$75M - \$100M, which equates to \$7.5M - \$10M per year in debt service. Add to this the potential that TriState will turn back the high voltage power lines to DMEA that were once owned by DMEA. Millions more will evaporate when DMEA

is forced to maintain and service their re-acquired high voltage power lines.

Aside from the TriState issue there are other cost facing DMEA — Elevate Fiber, hiring additional employees, adding capacity to the current hydroelectric and solar systems, and increased management salaries.

How does the board of directors and management lower rates, or stabilize rates, with all of these costs facing them? Based upon what I see, the jury is still out on what the claimed savings are going to cost each one of us. We need answers and I'm willing to ask the hard questions.

Please vote for David White for the DMEA Region 4 board seat.

David White, Montrose

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

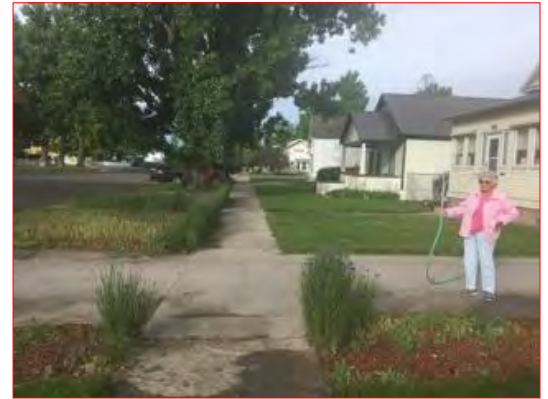
CITY MOWS DOWN RESIDENT'S GARDEN, VOLUNTEERS WILL HELP TO RE-PLANT

Editor:

The other day the City mowed down my little neighbor's poppies. She thought they were a sign from her late husband. She even called to tell them they were flowers and they claim they never got the message.

Our sidewalks are So terrible and people in wheelchairs have to travel on the road to maneuver around town (dangerous) and this is how they waste their time and money, cutting down little old ladies flowers. If you can't tell flower from a weed maybe you shouldn't be in charge of weed notices... Come on Montrose, do better than this. We have flowers donated and also volunteers willing to plant in her yard.

Mandy Miller, Montrose



MIRROR IMAGES...SOUTH NEVADA AVENUE CLOSURE



Photo by Gail Marvel

Removal and replacement of asphalt on South Nevada Avenue, between Main Street and South 5th Street, began on Thursday, May 23. The project, which is adjacent to Montrose Memorial Hospital, is expected to be completed by the end of May.



TELLURIDE MT. VILLAGE ANNOUNCES SUNSET CONCERT SERIES

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE – The Telluride Mountain Village Owners Association is excited to announce the lineup for the 21st annual Sunset Concert Series held in Mountain Village, Colorado. One of the most anticipated events of the summer celebrates its long-standing tradition of bringing music and entertainment to the San Juan Mountains.

2019's Sunset Concert Series brings nine spectacular shows to Mountain Village's Sunset Plaza (on the lawn near Lift 1) located steps away from the gondola to Telluride. The family-friendly concerts start at 6 p.m., and as in prior years, the concerts are free and pet-friendly.

Aptly named because of its west-facing orientation resulting in excellent sun exposure and fantastic sunset views, Sunset Plaza in Mountain Village sets the stage for one of the most spectacular music settings in the country. The series kicks off June 26 and runs through August 14.

"We look forward once again to having our members, guests and visitors come together for this weekly community event that is one of the great summer traditions in the region," said Anton Benitez, TMVOA President and CEO.

The 2019 Sunset Concert Series lineup is as follows:

June 26 — Orquesta Akokán (Cuban Big

Band)

July 3 — Red White & Blues Celebration Lawrence (Funk, R&B & Rock 'n' Roll)

July 4 — Red White & Blues Celebration Local Bands and DJ Kat V (DJ)

July 10 — Nikki Lane (Country)

July 17 — Shawn James (Folk, Americana, and Blues)

July 24 — Jon Cleary & the Absolute Monster Gentlemen (New Orleans Funk & R&B)

July 31 — Flor de Toloache (Mariachi)

Aug 7 — Pierce Edens w/ The Dirty Grass Players (Rock & Bluegrass)

Aug 14 — Mo Lowda and The Humble w/ special guests the Mammoths (Alternative, Indie & Rock)

"We have an incredibly diverse lineup and bringing some genres of music rarely seen in Telluride," said Teddy Errico of The Telluride Society for Music, Producer of the series. "There is something new and different each week."

New to the Sunset Concert Series is the expanded Common Consumption Area. In effect daily starting June 15th the new area will encompass Sunset Plaza, Heritage Plaza and all walkways and breezeways connecting those plazas. More details will be released by TMVOA and the



Orquesta Akokán (Cuban Big Band). Courtesy photo.

Town of Mountain Village shortly. Adding to the vibrancy a new Market at Sunset (Vendor Village) will be added with at least eight Vendors providing different goods and services. Also new to the series will be select Breweries featured on site. Already signed up are Crooked Stave and Palisade Brewing Company.

The Sunset Concert Series is provided to the public free of charge by TMVOA, The Telluride Society for Music and presenting sponsor, Telluride Express. Supporting sponsors include Alpine Bank, Madeline Hotel and Residences, Rodney Strong Vineyards, Telluride Resort Lodging, Telluride Ski & Golf, the Town of Mountain Village, The Peaks Resort & Spa, By Sutton, and Teddy Errico of LIV Sotheby's International Realty. The event is held rain or shine.

Learn more about the [Sunset Concert Series](#) and the [Red, White & Blues concert](#) visit tmvoa.org and facebook.com/sunsetconcertseries.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADOANS NOW HAVE AN APP TO HELP IDENTIFY TREES, SHRUBS, AND WOODY PLANTS

Special to Art & Sol

FORT COLLINS—A group of Colorado State University faculty and Extension specialists have created a free shrub and tree identification mobile app called CO Woody Plants. With the launch of the app, Colorado's wide-range of shrubs, trees, cacti, and woody plants are easier to identify than ever.

What kind of shrub is this?

Mark J. Platten, Teller County Extension Director, came up with the original idea for the app after noticing how often he would receive phone calls to his office with a similar question — “what kind of shrub/tree is this?” After searching for a resource that he could send curious Coloradoans to no avail, Platten decided to take matters into his own hands.

Working alongside Platten were Brian Kailey, Logan County Extension Director, Susan Carter, Deryn Davidson, Boulder County Horticulture Agent, and Deryn Davidson, Tri River Area Horticulture Agent. This team started with a series of YouTube videos which were released three years ago with the aim to help citizens identify their native conifers. After sharing the video resources with community members, the team continued looking for additional solutions that could allow people to search for a plant based on characteristics. They landed on the idea for a mobile app and knew that further collaboration would be needed to get the idea off the ground.

Working together with CSU Extension, the Colorado State Forest Service, the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, and Warner College of Natural Resources, Platten and team identified Kevin Brown, CSU Research Software Facility Director,

that would be able to incorporate the various features needed to make identifying plants quick and easy. Two years later, the CO Woody Plants app was launched.

The core developers included Kailey, Megan Matonis, Colorado State Forest Service, Barbara Fahey, Extension Native Plant Master Program Director, and Michael Menefee, Environmental Review Coordinator at the Colorado National Heritage Program.

Feature of the app

In addition to a comprehensive library of plant knowledge, the CO Woody Plants app features an innovative search platform that allows the user to search by plant characteristics or name, as well as a favorites section to flag plant data that is most relevant.

One of Platten's favorite features of the app is the ability to download plant data to allow searchability in offline locations without cellular connection. The offline data feature was a critical component of the app. “The App is a great tool for someone hiking through the forest who wants to know what woody plant they've come across, even when there isn't reception” said Platten. “It will enhance the user's knowledge of the woody plant species around their property or on their favorite trail, which inevitably leads to them sharing their newfound knowledge with others.”

Education in your palm

The ‘plant characteristics’ screen uses visual icons to guide the user through a series of choices to narrow down the possible plants.

Once the choices are identified, the user clicks on the results and can browse through photos and descriptions, includ-



ing a map of which counties each plant is known to be present.

These features open up a world of possibility for the app, including being a handy tool for educators.

“The app is also designed for the natural resource professional who may know which plant family they are dealing with but might not recognize the specific species” said Platten. “Since the App is so flexible, it can be used for educating in the field in programs like Extension's Native Plant Master program and beyond.”

Download the app today on iOS, Android, or Google Play by searching “CO Woody Plant”.



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HELPING LOCAL MONTROSE FOLKS FACING CANCER WITH NON-MEDICAL NEEDS.

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Stompin' on cancer



JUNE 1ST | 6PM

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TICKETS: \$60 AVAILABLE AT BOOTSTOMPMONTROSE.COM

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OF JANET QUAY

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

OCHS OFFERS SIXTH ANNUAL GEOLOGY TOUR

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-The Ouray County Historical Society offers its annual Geology Field Trip Wednesday, June 12, 2019. Participants will view 1.6 billion years of earth's history as seen in the rocks and formations of the Ouray area.

Led by local geologists Larry Meckel and Robert Stoufer, the popular, all-day trip will make nine stops along US 550 from Ridgway to Red Mountain Pass. The leaders will discuss the ores and minerals of the mines along the route and display minerals typical of the three mining districts on the tour.

"We look forward to having you join us to learn about the varied and fascinating geology of the northwest San Juan Mountains," said tour leader Larry Meckel, an exploration geologist and retired faculty member of the Colorado School of Mines. "These mountains have an exciting story to tell. Join us and be amazed!"

Tour guests will ride in open-air trucks from Colorado West Jeep Rentals. The \$135 fee includes transportation, lunch, beverages, park admission at the Box Canyon and a guidebook. Admission fees are nonrefundable.

Participants should meet in front of Ouray City Hall on Sixth Avenue no later than 7:30 a.m. The tour vehicles will return to City Hall by late afternoon.

For more information or to register for the field trip, please call (970) 325-4576 or e-mail ochs@ouraynet.com. Registration for the trip will remain open until all spaces are filled.

MONTROSE WOMAN'S CLUB PRESENTS AWARDS

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Who in Montrose works long, hard hours twice a year, just to give away twelve thousand dollars? The Montrose Woman's Club, that's who! The members of the Montrose Woman's Club hold two yearly fund raisers to earn money to give back to the local community. The ever-popular Flea Market is held the first weekend of April and the Holiday Bazaar is held the first weekend of November. On Monday, May 20th, the dollars earned were awarded to twelve Montrose non-profit groups. The awards continued the Montrose Woman's Club's long standing commitment to give to small local charities that do not receive funding from high dollar events, governmental support or state and national charities.

(Award recipients, front row, left to right)

- 1) Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, providing assistance to veterans in job placement, mental health, peer to peer mentoring, recreation opportunities, and housing assistance.
- 2) Christ's Kitchen, providing provide food for hungry people, particularly those in need.
- 3) Shepherd's Hand, providing food and shelter with employment assistance, lim-

ited financial assistance, food boxes, and limited overnight housing for homeless, including families with children.

4) Sharing Ministries, providing food to the needy, facilitating education on food handling and preparation, and assisting with access to other community resources.

5) Sleep in Heavenly Peace, to build beds for children to eliminate needy children having to sleep on the floor, currently working with a 16-child waiting list.

6) Dolphin House, to help serve victims of child abuse, and assist Child Protection Services and Law Enforcement Agencies.

(back row, left to right)

- 7) Montrose Botanic Gardens, serving all ages with horticultural education and demonstration for pleasure, leisure and mental health.
- 8) Montrose County Historical Society & Museum, to preserve, the historic and cultural legacy of Montrose County.
- 9) MADA, to assist persons of low income, with household items, clothing, lockers, showers, laundry services, life skills train-



ing, mail reception, and telephone accessibility.

10) Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, providing services to Montrose County including Search and Rescue, Wildland Firefighting Security, traffic control, and event security.

11) Kid's Aid Montrose, providing food and filling backpacks with enough food to feed a homeless and needy child during the weekend when school is not in session.

12) Save the Sculptures, to contribute to funds raised to purchase the large sculptures on corners of Uncompahgre/Main and Townsend/Main.

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Delightful home located in a desirable neighborhood only minutes from town, parks, shopping & dining. Enjoy coffee on the front porch & delight your senses with the smell of beautiful rose bushes that will soon burst with color. A tiled foyer welcomes you into a well-maintained home featuring 4 bedrooms & a small office/den. The kitchen boasts of beautiful cabinetry, wood floors & includes all appliances. Split master suite & large en suite master bath complete with granite countertops, dual sinks, private water closet, full-size walk-in shower, tub with tile surround, tiled floor & large walk-in closet. Much here to love!

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & EDUCATION

JANE ALEX NAMED TO UVM DEAN'S LIST

Special to Art & Sol

BURLINGTON, VT-- Jane Alex, Class of 2022, has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2019 semester at the University of Vermont.

Alex from Montrose, CO, is majoring in Data Science in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

About UVM

Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class research-

ers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field.

Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and

top 100 national research university educating 10,513 undergraduate students, 1,542 graduate students, 826 certificate and non-degree students, and 459 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine. [Visit uvm.edu](http://uvm.edu).



CRACK THE SKY @ INTRINZIK JUNE 8

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE--For the first time in decades, Crack The Sky plays west of the Mississippi River. Come enjoy the band in at Intrinzik (512 East Main Street) in Montrose, starting at 8 p.m. on June 8. Crack the Sky spent the '70s touring with everyone from Frank Zappa to ELO, and their eponymous debut album was named Rolling Stone's Debut Album of the Year in 1975. Now, some 40 years later, the band has cracked the charts with their highest charting debut in 40 years with their new studio album *Living In Reverse*. It charted at #7 Heatseekers, #31 Independent Current Albums, and #40 Top Current Albums. The band also released *Crackology*, a collection of 12 career favorites. Both came out on Aug. 24, 2018.

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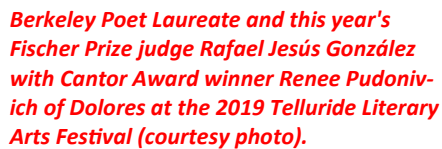
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- Community Dining and Homebound Meal Delivery



Volunteers of America®

Contact one of our care navigators to explore all community services and resources or for a benefits checkup.

Festivals, films, books, hospitals, etc.



A collection of archaeological artifacts, including a large metal fragment, a small metal box, a small metal object, a long metal rod, a bundle of material, and a long metal strip.

Entheogenic ritual bundle recently found in a cave in Bolivia (courtesy photo).

when the moon is full,
I will walk into the desert,
find a certain place on red earth
 where the moonlight is lace and
ethereal,
will nurse my own wounds,
take this overworked cardiac steak
in my bare hands,
lift it so that moonlight bites
and stars alight on scorched surfaces,
 and the words will pour forth
from me,
 because by the sheer will of my
art

ODDS & ENDS ... Poland's Catholic hierarchy is reeling from the release of a new documentary by brothers Tomasz and Marke Sekielski tracking victims of clerical abuse, *Tell No One*. According to *The Week*, the film "shows in appalling detail how church leaders reassigned molester

Continued next pg

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes, continued

priests to new parishes." The movie comes close on the heels of a church study published two months ago revealing that from 1990 to 2018, bishops received reports of 382 priests who abused over 62 minors. Archbishop Wojciech Polak, Poland's primate (as the Roman Catholics called their leading clergyman in a nation), thanked the Sekielski brothers for the film, saying, "I apologize for every wound inflicted by the people of the church," promising that "no one in the church can

shirk responsibility" ... A second Denisovian fossil was identified from a cave two miles above sea level recently, expanding the range of this mysterious extinct species of Neandertal-like humans from Siberia to the Tibetan plateau ... Actor Luke Perry of *Beverly Hills 90210* and *Riverdale* died this spring of a stroke at 52, and was buried in Tennessee in a biodegradable mushroom suit made by Coeio.com ... Traces of several entheogens were found in a 1000-year-old ritual medicine bundle

found in a Bolivian cave by a team led by archaeologist Melanie Miller of the University of Otago (New Zealand), according to a study published this month in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Dating back to the pre-Incan Tiwanaku civilization, the *Cueva del Chileno* yielded a leather kit that contained five plant-based entheogens, including Ayahuasca's two main psychoactive compounds: dimethyltryptamine and harmine.

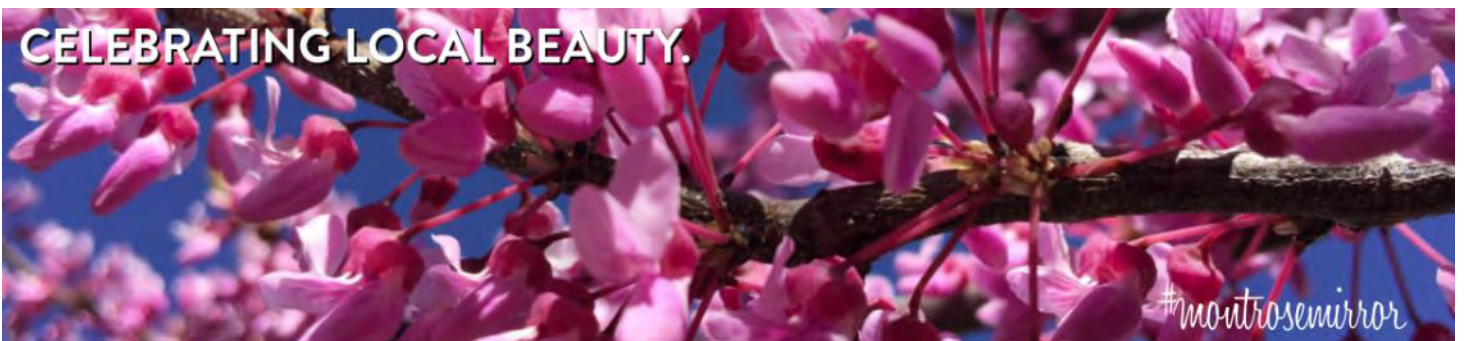
THE TALKING GOURD

Rutted

Why do I keep doing
the same thing over
and over again,
expecting change,
something different
to happen?
Haven't I figured out
that the same thing
results in the same thing?
Why am I afraid of doing
something different,
something I haven't tried?
Is it change that I fear,
or am I afraid of what
changes change'll bring?

-Ed Brummel
Salida

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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 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.

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

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. Montrose County School District Office- 930 Colorado Ave. Information 970-765-7406.

MONTROSE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEETING

Noon - third Fridays. Hampton Inn, 1980 North Townsend Ave. Information: Dianna 970-249-0724

BINGO AT OURAY ELKS--Every Wednesday night, June 5-Aug. 28, @ 7 p.m. Light refreshments available, open to the public.

MONTHLY-

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

May 27--The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Montrose Chapter will host a Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27 at 9 a.m. at Cedar Creek Cemetery. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) will host a Memorial Day ceremony on May 27 at 11 a.m. at Sunset Mesa Cemetery.

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 1--Stomp out cancer! San Juan Health Care Foundation Boot Stomp, Antler Ridge, BBQ, Barn Dance, Music by Narrow Gauge, Live auction. Tickets are \$60. www.bootstompmontrose.com.

June 3-7: RIDGWAY RAILROAD MUSEUM WORK WEEK: 8:30 am – 5 pm each day. Help with restoration projects including passenger coach 252. Painting, carpentry, lots of possibilities. Lunches provided, field trip on Friday. Meet at the new railyard on Railroad Street across from the fire station. 970-318-0322 for information.

June 4--Ignite Montrose is happening at Canyon Creek Bed & Breakfast- backyard patio (830 east Main, Montrose) Tuesday, June 4 at 7:30 pm. Ignite is an event where community members share their ideas, passions, hobbies or adventures, but- it has to be quick-- five minutes and 20 slides! Stop in for an entertaining evening of fast- paced presentations that enlighten the audience. You won't be bored -- visit Ignite Montrose on Facebook to find out more.

June 7--Pepper HOA Yard Sale! June 7-8, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 10--Join the non-partisan Citizens Climate Lobby and make a difference--the next meeting is at the Montrose Library on June 10, at 6:30 p.m. citizensclimatelobby.org.

June 12--The Ouray County Historical Society offers its annual Geology Field Trip Wednesday, June 12, 2019. Led by local geologists Larry Meckel and Robert Stoufer, the popular, all-day trip will make nine stops along US 550 from Ridgway to Red Mountain Pass. The \$135 fee includes transportation, lunch, beverages, park admission at the Box Canyon and a guidebook. For more information or to register for the field trip, please call (970) 325-4576 or e-mail ochs@ouraynet.com. Registration for the trip will remain open until all spaces are filled.

June 13--The Bureau of Land Management's Southwest Resource Advisory Council will meet Thursday, June 13 in Grand Junction at the BLM Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506. The meeting will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to the public, with a public comment period scheduled for 11 a.m. Agenda items include a campground development proposal, overview of the special recreation permit program, consideration of future agenda topics, and district and field manager updates.

June 20--DMEA Annual meeting to be held at Hotchkiss High School, 5 to 9 p.m. (438 Bulldog Street)

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

MIRROR IMAGES...COLORADO VIEWS!

Photographer Deb Reimann captured Colorado's ethereal light, below.



Photographer Leslie Jones snapped these photos of the Silverton snow slide field and avalanche debris field.

READ THE MONTROSE MIRROR



ONLINE NEW
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