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Fresh news for busy people... weekly on Mondays!

# Montrose Mirror

# **LACK OF ACCESS IMPEDES QUALITY OF LIFE**



Montrose resident Tonja Clark looks across a parking lot at a bus stop where passengers must alight in traffic next to WalMart, without a safe path of travel. By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-When heading out for a cup of coffee, Montrose residents have a variety of choices these days—that is, unless they happen to use a wheelchair. With rugged sidewalks throughout the Downtown area that pose danger even to the ablebodied, and increasing traffic that does not always stop even for pedestrians in crosswalks, locals with mobility issues can feel left behind.

For Tonja Clark of Montrose, who relies on a wheelchair to get around, there is only one choice when it comes to coffee shops—Coffee Trader II. "Look how open it is," Clark said. "The parking is in front, and it is accessible."

Though new construction and

Continued pg 27

# DMEA CONSIDERS POSSIBLE RATE INCREASE PROPOSAL, CHANGES TO BILLING CYCLE

By Gail Marvel MONTROSE-The regular meeting of the Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors was held on May 28. All nine members of the board of directors were present for the four-hour meeting.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, opening prayer, and approval of the consent agenda, the board moved to general business and committee reports.



DMEA Board member Mark Eckhart (center) expressed his concern to fellow board members about a survey summary on the proposed rate increase that was given to the board. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Finance-Audit-Rate (FAR) committee chair Brad Harding presented the committee report and called for votes on RUS Partial Repayment, the Arch Coal Special Retirement Proposal, and the Rate Increase Proposal Revisions. All were approved unanimously.

The topic that generated the most discussion was a survey done for the rate increase

Continued pg 7

Reader photo spotlight Boutique Hotel, Marketplace Planned for 15 West Main St. Western Slope Burlesque Selling out shows!

Montrose Puppeter Now on YouTube!

## **DUI ENFORCEMENT, DRUG ARRESTS UP AS POLICE TARGET TOP 6%**

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-If you drink and drive, here's a heads up—Driving While Under the Influence (DUI) arrests in Montrose are skyrocketing. The <u>first quarter police report</u>, shared with City Council May 6, shows a consistent spike in several areas. In January, officer-observed DUI's were up by 175 percent; in February officer-observed DUI's were up by 122 percent; in March that number had jumped to an increase of 260 percent. Also on the rise are drug arrests—showing an increase of 142 percent in January, 150 percent in February, and 146 percent in March.

Downtown residents have become painfully aware of the increase in personal and property crimes in recent years; now, with more patrol officers on the streets and a new approach to community policing, the Montrose Police Department hopes to make City streets safer for citizens once again.

According to the <u>United States Bureau of</u> <u>Justice Assistance</u>, innovation in policing occurs when leaders think creatively and are willing to adopt nontraditional practices. Intelligence Led Policing (ILP) is among the successful new approaches, defined by the Bureau of Justice Assistance as, "A collaborative law enforcement approach combining problem-solving policing, infor-

mation sharing, and police accountability, with enhanced intelligence operations."

Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall is implementing the ILP model here in Montrose, and believes it will not only help reduce crime, but could build officer morale

"We're just rolling it out," Hall said. "We need to get on board with everything involved; one idea is that we focus on the top six percent of offenders, who commit

30 percent of the overall crime. If someone is dealing drugs, they are most likely committing thefts and burglaries."

By targeting the drug users and dealers, law enforcement can disrupt and displace criminal activity, Hall said.

"With that, we should see an overall reduction in crime," he said. "That's our job; we are here to reduce crime in our community."

While the new model remains a work in progress, "Once we set our focus and direction, it brings us together as a team,"



Montrose Police officers making a drug-related arrest in a City neighborhood in 2018. Mirror file photo.

Hall said. "And it has been an easy sell for our people, because as a patrol officer that is what you signed up for—to fight crime."

Local police are also busy writing traffic citations, Chief Hall said. The First Quarter Police report showed a slight increase (12 to 16 percent) in traffic accidents for all three months. "Montrose has been discovered, and traffic is definitely an issue," Hall said. "We're holding steady on traffic accidents...and we're way up on D.U.I. arrests."





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## **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

# RSVP FOR MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM'S LEGENDS & TRUE TALES WALKING TOUR JUNE 4

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Museum will be offering this season's first Historic Walking tour of "Legends and True Tales" on June 4 starting at 7 pm. This short walk will take you to the alleys of our historic downtown, where you will learn the location of our first jail and courthouse. Along with some of the stories from our famous visitors who had "come" to town to work, live or visit. You will also learn some of the unknown stories that had happened behind the closed doors in our historical buildings. Please meet at the Museum (21 N. Rio Grande Ave) and space is limited, so RSVP by email or phone. There is a cost of \$10/person. If you have any questions or would like to join us please call 249-2085.



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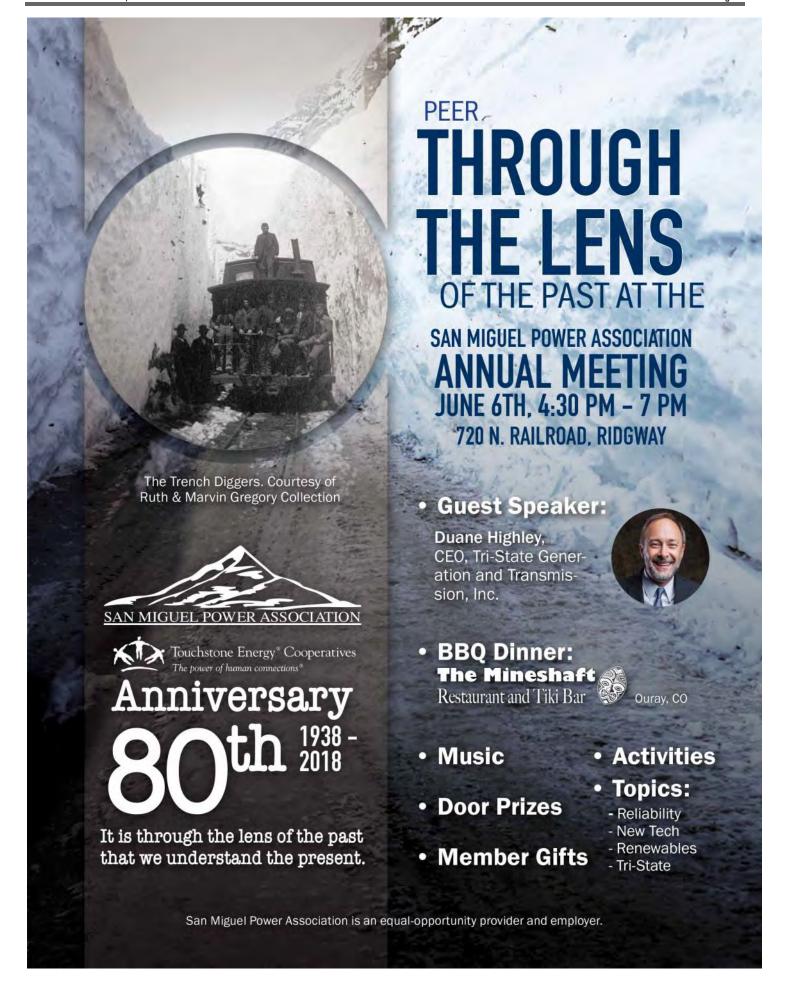
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# DMEA CONSIDERS POSSIBLE RATE INCREASE PROPOSAL, CHANGES TO BILLING CYCLE From pg 1

proposal and the summary that followed. Board member Mark Eckhart said, "I don't know what to say. I'm a little concerned about the summary that was given to us."

CEO Jasen Bronec noted that at this point the board was not proposing a rate increase, "The board is approving us to move forward with a rate increase hearing. We will propose rates to members for their comments. We will collect information about what a rate increase will look like. The cost of service study to the board is only one key point of setting rates. We also use comparables with other competitors, other entities like municipalities. This is a process. We have to have a starting point. The last rate increase was in 2017."

Rate increases across the board are being proposed — residential (5.46%), small commercial (3%), industrial (6%), agriculture (5 to 5.5%). Residential is the largest category and the proposed 5.46 percent increase for residential would add another \$5.50 to the monthly customer statement. Bronec said, "We are competitive with all the rate classes. I don't think we are too far off with comparables."

Eckhart said, "I'm not opposed to it as a board, but we need a better understanding of load shifting. This is a pretty serious matter in my eyes. I don't think we have a real clear vision."

Bronec reiterated that the 224-page survey is valuable, but it is only one piece of the picture.

Board member Damon Lockhart said, "I feel good about the proposal to start. We all have members, we have the same purpose, to lower rates. I think it's a good start."

Eckhart said, "I don't like to question the board or the management. I just feel there is room for improvement."

Justification for the rate increase included the loss of revenue because of coal mines shutting down, load growth, Tri-State rates, newer homes are more energy efficient, and unanticipated loads falling off for some larger organizations. Bronec said, "No one takes a rate increase lightly. Some [projected] loads did not come into fruition."

DMEA board chair Bill Patterson said, "We need to make sure to say that the rate increase is not because of Elevate." Engineering-Construction-Renewable Energy Committee Chair Damon Lockhart reported on a meeting that had a lot of discussion and little action. He said, "We have a meeting scheduled for June 5 at 9:30 am."

Member Relations – Energy Services Committee Chair Tony Prendergast, who is term limited and attending his last meeting, reported there was no meeting this month.

Executive Committee Chair Bill Patterson said, "We did not have a meeting." Executive sessions are scheduled as needed.

Safety and Occupational Health Report was given by Chief Operating Officer Virginia Harman. The board was introduced to new Safety Director Chad Stickler. Harman said, "There were no injuries or accidents in April."

Financial Report was given by Chief Financial Officer Wade Pynes. Pynes said, "Right now we have five different billing cycles that are set up geographically. It goes back to the old meter reader days. We want only two or three cycles." Pynes explained changing billing cycles will be a challenge and it has not yet been determined how changes will be made. In order to coordinate the cycles some customers could receive a short statement for two weeks, while others could receive a long statement covering six weeks.

Taking into consideration that DMEA membership will be hit with three big changes, Board member Kyle Martinez said, "This is not going to be easy to do. Consolidating billing, a rate increase, and trying to eliminate paper bills. It's a lot." Board member Ken Watson said,

"Changing the billing cycle will be a heavy lift."

Harding said, "We're not growing in Paonia. Revenue keeps going down and down."

Bronec said, "We try to be realistic. We try to make the best guess. We'll probably have to start budgeting on negative low growth." Bronec gave examples of loads falling off with some high energy users and not knowing the effect of hemp operations. He said, "We have to set a realistic budget. Revenue projections were off \$1.2M through the first part of the year. We have 150 new services year-to-date, but new homes are much more energy efficient."

**CEO Report** – Bronec submitted a written report, but also noted an upcoming meeting with Guzman Energy. He said, "We have a lot of work going on, but it doesn't translate into revenue."

Prendergast asked about the benefits of the Touchstone membership, which costs \$22K annually. (According to its website, Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives is a national network of electric cooperatives across 46 states that provides resources and leverages partnerships for member cooperatives and their employees.) Other discussion revolved around various electrical association boards and their communication styles.

Legal Report – DMEA Attorney Jeff Hurd requested that his firm be allowed to work on an employment issue for another electric utility company. After lengthy discussion it was determined that in the area of employment law there was not a conflict and it was not unusual for co-ops to share the same attorney. Eckhart said, "It muddies the water. We need to put our members' interest first. It's just that I'm a bit of a different thinker and a bit of an ass. I'll probably vote no." Eckhart voted no; all other members voted yes.

The next scheduled board meeting will be held on June 25, 2019.





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Columbine Middle School | 610 York St

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Venga con sus ideas para dibujar juntos el futuro de Montrose



CityofMontrose.org/CompPlan

# CITY TO DISCUSS FUTURE OF DDA, HEAR SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council will convene for a work session on Monday, June 3, and a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 4.

#### **COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

Montrose City Council will discuss the future of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) at the work session of Monday, June 3.

Also to be considered is an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for the Hwy 550 Access Control Plan.

Council will consider alternatives for replacement of the Sunset Mesa water tank; a permit for the Fourth of July fireworks display; and a landfill agreement with Waste Management.

There will be a general city council dis-

cussion.

No reports are included in the work session packet.

Items set for future City Council discussions include:

June 17-DDA board applicant interviews; Historic Preservation Commission applicant interviews.

June 18-Executive session for evaluation of Municipal Court Judge.

July 2-Horsefly Addition Annexation hearing; DDA board appointments; Historic Preservation Commission Appointments.

As yet unscheduled are business incentives for a hotel developer and a housing needs analysis report.

#### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Council will proclaim Bike-to-Work Day.
The Public Safety Citizens Advisory Com-

mittee will present its findings to Council. Council will consider a new retail liquor store license application at 86 Rose Lane, for Donald G. Morris, doing business as Wine for Life, for consumption off of the licensed premises.

Council will consider approving Resolution 2019-16 authorizing assignment to the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) of a private activity bond allocation of the City of Montrose, pursuant to the Colorado Private Activity Bond Ceiling Allocation Act.

Council will consider extending a contract to Granite Inliner, LLC in the amount of \$148,890 for cured in place lining of sanitary sewers.

Following staff reports and Council comments, Council will adjourn.





## **DMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - District 4**

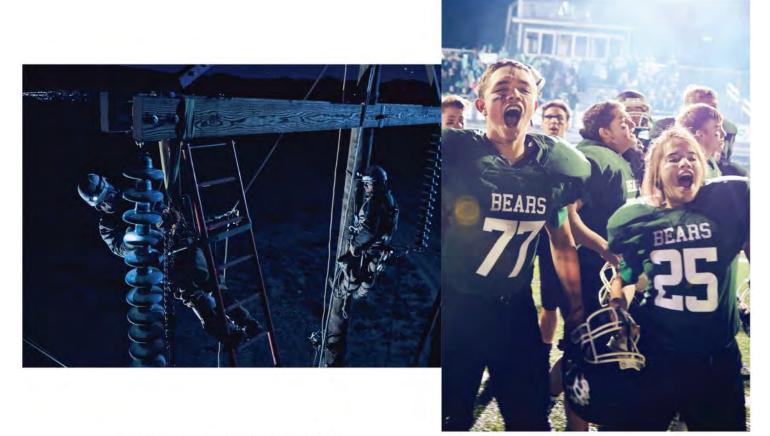
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# MARKETPLACE, BOUTIQUE HOTEL PLANNED FOR 15 WEST MAIN



A marketplace and boutique hotel are in the works for the former New Life Church Property at 15 West Main Street. Photo by Brad Switzer.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-When a group of investors presented their planned project for the New Life Church property located at 15 West Main Street to the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA) on May 21, the project, which includes both a marketplace and a boutique hotel, was met with enthusiasm.

"The DDA fully supports the project," DDA Director Melissa Lowe said last week, "and thinks it will be a great asset to the downtown community in a multitude of ways - creating more downtown activity, creating more jobs, adding variety to the area, and more!"

Partners in the 15 West Main Street project include Charli Oswald, Tricia Joy, and Nicole Stone-Lankes, and the property, currently owned by the New Life Church, is now under contract. Investors hope to take advantage of the Opportunity Zone program as they move forward.

we have been working on," Managing Partner Charli Oswald said. "Our group, 15 W. Main Partnership, LLC just negotiated the initial contract and we are working through the details of a complex property.

"What's envisioned is a very familyoriented, friendly atmosphere filled with health-based services and foods, kid's activities, personal services, and options for educational programs and meetings.

"We also determined it was possible to get a boutique hotel to fit which makes it really exciting as we have all heard numerous times a downtown hotel was so needed. It's a big project, and we look forward to working with our neighbors, the city and all parties involved to make it happen and be something the community will enjoy and be proud of," Oswald said.

City of Montrose Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement Virgil Turner said that the City has already completed a Phase 1 Environmental Assessment for the wrote.

New Life Church property. He declined to comment on the project proposed by the 15 West Main partners. "I know the property is for sale, and part of it is owned by the Railroad," Turner said. "Whatever happens there will have City involvement. I would like to see the property in produc-"The building is a great fit for the concept tive use; everyone would like to see some solution.

> "I think it's great that folks are interested," Turner said, "and that there is excitement and interest in properties that are difficult—things are happening in Montrose."

> City Director of Business Innovation Chelsea Rosty, who was present at the May 21 DDA meeting, responded to investors afterward by email: "... I have some concerns about this project regarding funding as well as its direct competition with the Potato Growers building next door that is intended to be the exact same type of project," Rosty wrote.

> "After speaking with some of our local partners, it doesn't feel like they feel your project will compliment theirs as you suggested...but rather be in direct competition with them...

Still, "The City of Montrose is excited and always supportive of new business," Rosty



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

#### PEPPERTREE HOA YARD SALE

Special to the Mirror MONTROSE-The 2019 Pepper HOA Yard Sale is coming up! June 7-8, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## **CRIME STOPPERS ALERT**

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. and the Montrose Police Department are seeking the help of citizens to identify and locate the suspect(s) who are responsible for several recent burglaries. There have been five burglaries in the last week and seven going back to February where not only have items been taken, but a great deal of damage has occurred:

On 5/28/19 the concession stand at McNeil Fields was broken into as well, causing major damage. This is the second time this has happened in May.

On 5/29/2019 the concessions stand at Ute Park was broken into. Again, there were hundreds of dollars in damages incurred and food items were taken

On 05/29/19 the Horsefly Brewery was broken into. Two parties enter the business with their faces mostly covered and stole alcohol. Damage was caused to the doors and camera system.

On 05/29/19 the fruit and vegetable stand in the parking lot of US Bank, 1520 East Oak Grove was broken into. Money was taken.

Although there was some video surveillance obtained in some of these thefts, the detective does not feel they would be very helpful.

Anyone with information about this crime or the identity of the perpetrator(s) or any other crimes may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500, use the free mobile app P3 Tips, or provide information via P3tips.com. Crime Stoppers wants your information, not your identity. Crime Stoppers wants to remind everyone that all arrested suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty by a court of law. If the Tip results in an arrest, the Tipster may receive a cash award. For additional information, please view our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/

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# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

# **JOCK FLEMING FOR DMEA BOARD**

#### Editor:

I heartedly endorse Jock Fleming for the DMEA Board of Directors. I have known Jock since he came to Montrose over 30 years ago. He is a personal friend. He is also our family and corporate attorney, and we have benefited from his wise counsel. Jock has a long background of board service, including as a representative on the State Utility Consumers Board and as a member of the Montrose Planning Commission. I personally served with him for several years on the Montrose County School Board, where he was a thoughtful, collegial, and responsible member of the board.

Jock's experience with the law, utilities, and finances will be a major help for DMEA's effort to gain energy independence from Tri-State. Electing Jock Fleming will help our electrical cooperative achieve their goal of using local resources to keep our electrical utility rates low and boost our community's economy.

Please look for your ballot in the mail, vote for Jock Fleming, and return it before June 14. Thank you. *Susan Chandler-Reed, Montrose* 

Effective immediately, there is (1) opening, fulfilling a position with an expiration of 01/14/2020. The purpose of the Roundtable is to support and advocate a collaborative effort to coordinate and facilitate the appropriate use of the State's waters; building an effective voluntary basin-wide program that fosters open communication and cooperation among stakeholders.

**BOARD OPENING** 

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# **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### LOCAL YOUTH PLANS AMERICAN FLAG AWARENESS, RETIREMENT EVENTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Michael Hamner is performing a community service by raising American flag awareness with handouts and retiring worn and damaged American flags

properly. City Market north and south have graciously allowed him to set up at both locations from 12pm to 6pm Tuesday June 4 and Wednesday June 5 in the parking lot. Michael Hamner and the Montrose chapter 17 DAV have teamed up for this event. The volunteers will be collecting damaged American flags and handing out pamphlets.



Michael Hamner. Courtesy photo.



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# MONTROSE COMMUNITY BAND TO PLAY FREE CONCERT JUNE 30

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Join the Montrose Community Band on Sunday, June 30 at 3 pm for the 17th Annual Patriotic Concert at the Montrose Pavilion. The band will be playing marches, patriotic songs and ballads. The concert is free! For more information visit <a href="www.montroseband.com">www.montroseband.com</a> or call 970-596-1188.





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# **DMEA GOES PAPERLESS, ADDS \$2 BILLING SURCHARGE**



The May 2019 newsletter from Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) informed members that beginning in July they will see a \$2 statement fee on their bill, but if members go paperless, they can save \$2 a month. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The May 2019 newsletter from Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) informed members that beginning in July they will see a \$2 statement fee on their bill, but if members go paperless, they can save \$2 a month.

DMEA member Cathy Carlson said, "Someday I expected my credit card company would force me to go paperless because they are a huge company, but I didn't expect it from my local electric company." Carlson spoke to a DMEA customer service representative (CRS) who said the cost of sending paper statements was in the \$300,000 a year range. However, it was not clear if that figure was just for billing statements, or if it also included the three reasons for going paperless. The cost of publishing the company newsletter which is mailed with the statements.

Montrose resident Linda Davis said, "My dad is 93 years-old and he doesn't have a computer. He can't make payments electronically. I haven't contacted DMEA yet, but I intend to."

After reading the newsletter announcement Sherry Lynn Nicolas wrote to DMEA, "I have five electric bills that come each month. When the last one comes in the mail, I write one check, put them in one envelope and send them in with one stamp. I am 75-years old. I don't want to be online. I don't have email and I don't want email."

DMEA contacted Nicolas to tell her they had received her letter.

The fee notice in the newsletter offered third rationale: "Starting in July, you'll see a \$2 paper statement fee on your DMEA

bill. Go paperless now and save that \$2 each month. What can \$2 get you that's way better than a bill anyway? A Wendy's Bacon Cheeseburger, a candy bar, a pack a (sp) gum, a song on iTunes, a scratch ticket...pretty much anything is better than paying extra to get your bill."

The new fee will cost Nicolas \$10 a month. She said, "I'm offended they are giving me suggestions on how to spend my money."

Carlson noted that not everyone reads the newsletter and suggested the upcoming fee should have been written on billing statements in red letters.

She said, "I know the board of directors are supposed to be our representatives, but this is one time they are not representing the members."

**DMEA Board Members** 

Dist 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449,

bpatterson@montrose.net

Dist 2 - Kyle Martinez, 970-615-7124, kyle@touchofcarepcp.com

Dist 3 - Brad Harding, 970-270-3692, bharding@firstcoloradobank.com

Dist 4 - Ken Watson, 970-275-2100, kennethwatson@gmail.com

Dist 5 - Chris Hauck, 970-497-0900, 1ch@haucks.cc

Dist 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071,

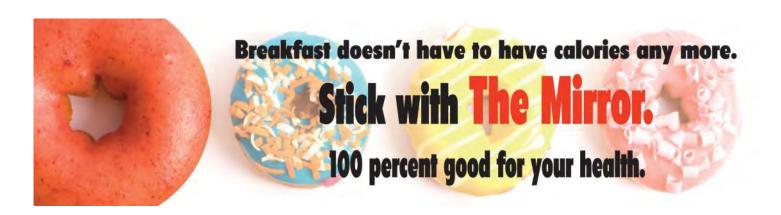
damon.lockhart@dmea.com Dist 7 - Mark Eckhart, 970-856-3663,

mark.eckhart@dmea.com

Dist 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920 -207-8831, stacia.cannon@dmea.com

Dist 9 - (South Region) Tony Prendergast, 970-361-7126, to-

ny.prendergast@dmea.com



# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

# PLEASE VOTE KEN OTTO FOR DMEA BOARD

#### Editor:

Ballots for DMEA Board of Director positions hit the mail on Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>. Please take the time to read the candidate profiles, choose a candidate for each of the three seats, and mail your ballot. I am hoping you will support me in my endeavor to represent you on the board. Two candidate forums were held last week, one in Montrose and one in Paonia. At both forums I believe that I clearly demonstrated that the knowledge and expertise gained from 37 years in the electric industry make me a far superior candidate than my opponent. If elected, my effort will be to produce board decisions that are in the interest of the DMEA members. I am not influenced by special interests. I will work to ensure that DMEA continues to provide excellent service through careful consideration of power supply options, investment in critical infrastructure necessary to keep our system reliable, and investment in an professional customer oriented DMEA staff. I support hiring and development of local talent, especially those displaced from other local industries. A company is only a great as its employees, and I support fair pay and benefits, and a sound retirement system.

I will also work to ensure that our member investment in Elevate is a success for all of us. Due to its superior bandwidth and speed, Elevate can partner with our schools to improve their computing abilities and with local hospitals and doctors to provide members enhanced home healthcare services, especially those members in our rural areas. Future revenue from Elevate should be used to lower rates for internet and/or electric power, used to invest in our own local generation, or returned to us as capital credits.

I hope to serve on your DMEA board. *Thank you, Ken Otto.* 





# HOMEHEALTH

70 Stafford Lane • Delta, CO Office 970.874.2463 • Fax 970.874.2477

# Open House

We invite you and your family to spend some time with us for some food, fun, meet our new Home Health Director, and learn about our new HRS

Telehealth System!

6.14.19 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm 70 Stafford Lane



Proceeds will help purchase new van for our residents THE HOMESTEAD AT MONTROSE
PRESENTS THE 8TH ANNUAL

# GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, JULY 21ST 8:30 AM- SHOTGUN START 2-PERSON TEAMS BLACK CANYON GOLF COURSE MONTROSE, COLORADO

8 Hole - Scramble Format - Handicapped & Flighted \$60 per player (includes Green Fee, Cart & Lunch!)

For entry form: Contact Denise at (970) 964-3400 or email dswanson@voa.org or call Black Canyon Golf Course at (970) 249-4653

# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

# **VOTE DAVID WHITE FOR DMEA BOARD**

#### Editor:

As we are all aware, the DMEA Board of Directors election is imminent and choices must be made to select candidates who will best represent the interests of both the citizens and the Cooperative. After reading the DMEA "Board of Directors Policy" and letters/information from prospective applicants, it is apparent that David White is the ideal person to help lead DMEA in the critical times ahead.

From his college days through his many years in the private and publics sectors, David has displayed a desire to develop leadership qualities and excel in every endeavor. His extensive experience in-

cludes business in the transportation/ marketing industry, positions in Colorado Springs and Montrose City/County government, and participation in local service organizations. (For details, see https:// www.dmea.com/2019-dmea-boardcandidates) However, above and beyond all of his practical experience, is the man I came to know and admire by working with him on a number of local projects; I have seen, first hand, how David approaches commitments and tackles difficult problems. He has the ability to gather/process immense quantities of information, rationally analyze situations, and form reasoned conclusions, based on his research and

input from constituents/co-workers, free from prejudice or undue influence. David is one of those rare individuals who can manage his considerable family responsibilities, work commitments, and public service with continued enthusiasm and tireless energy, constantly determined to contribute to our common good in any way possible.

Above all, David White is an honorable, ethical person who can be trusted with the important issues that will impact our future.

I urge you to give David the opportunity to serve us on the DMEA Board. Becky Waugh, Montrose

#### **KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE MAKE KEN OTTO BEST CHOICE FOR DMEA BOARD**

#### Editor:

I am writing this letter to recommend Ken Otto for the DMEA Board of Directors South Region. Ken has extensive experience in the electric utility industry. Working for Western Area Power Administration here in Montrose Ken has held many positions with increasing responsibility and accountability. Early on in his career he worked in the engineering and maintenance departments and became well versed in the design, installation and maintenance of high voltage transmission equipment. Before retiring, Ken was a manager in WAPA's Power Marketing Department where he was responsible for scheduling hydroelectric generation, and the buying and selling of electric energy and necessary transmission rights in the open market to meet the requirements of their non-profit customers. This operation was conducted 24 hours per day 365 days per year. In this position Ken also worked

jointly with other utilities to establish policies and procedures to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the electrical transmission system in the western region of the United States. He achieved the respect of his peers in the industry. I feel that this knowledge and experience uniquely qualifies Ken for DMEA's Board.

Some of the other board candidates do not appear to understand how the cooperative model works and the value that DMEA receives from being a member of Tri-State G&T. They want DMEA to break their contract with Tri-State and contract with a for-profit power broker "Guzman Energy" for DMEA's energy needs. To date only one member has exited Tri-State, Kit Carson Electric Association located in New Mexico. The first year after leaving Tri-State Kit Carson increased their rates by 21 percent. In addition to not wanting to see huge rate increases in the future, I do not want to see our local co-

operative changed to an investor owned utility, which is essentially what will happen if Guzman pays for DMEA's costs to break its contract with Tri-State.

With his experience Ken understands that all costs need to be considered before determining if it is in DMEA's best interest to leave Tri-State including the costs for transmission wheeling, transmission equipment maintenance, and the costs associated with government regulatory requirements as a Transmission Equipment Owner.

Ballots for the DMEA election were mailed out on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Members can cast their vote by mail by completing and returning their ballots; voting in person at the Annual Meeting; or by bringing their completed ballot to a DMEA office and placing it in a secure ballot box.

Please join me in casting your ballot for Ken Otto in the DMEA board election. *Mac Fellin, Montrose* 

### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **FUNDING FOR WELL WATER TESTS AVAILABLE FOR ONE MORE YEAR**

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Only six percent of the wells eligible for free water quality analysis in a six-county area have been tested since funding was secured in September 2015. Local public health officials encourage private well owners in Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties to take advantage of the free well water testing, before funding ends in September 2020.

"Well water testing is important for well owners' peace of mind, knowing their health is not in jeopardy or discovering that there are contaminants that put your or your family's health at risk, so that you can treat the water appropriately and mitigate those risks," said Kenneth Nordstrom, director of environmental health at the Delta County Health Department.

Nordstrom's office is the coordinator of the well water testing grant from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention that made \$109,409 available per year to the West Central Public Health Partnership. The partnership consists of public health agencies in the six rural counties, covering 9,569 square miles and 93,440 people.

The funds pay for homeowners whose primary source of drinking water is a private well to receive a water sampling kit, mail it to the testing laboratories, and receive results that help them understand their water quality. However, homeowners must voluntarily request the kits, collect the water samples, and give the public cides, her provided and contain tion, pote sure, com nants, an nologies.

health offices permission to publish their well's results anonymously with aggregated results for the whole area. Of the estimated 9,600 wells at private residences in the area, sampling kits have been requested for 756 wells and results have been received for 600.

Gary Roberts is a local rancher who tested his well. Also a board member of the Uncompany Watershed Partnership, which is helping promote the service in Ouray County, Roberts said, "A number of us folks with private wells have always wondered what is in our well water and this is an excellent opportunity to find out at no cost. The sample collection is quite simple and everything you need is in the kit that is mailed to you. I was amazed at how much information the tests provided on our well water."

Wells should be tested periodically, because aquifers or well structures can change, resulting in new contaminants entering the water. The free tests would normally cost \$500 or more. They provide results for pH, alkalinity, hardness, bacteria (Coliform and E. Coli), 22 heavy metals and minerals including lead and mercury, and nearly 75 other substances including nitrates, chloride and a wide range of chemicals such as those found in pesticides, herbicides and fossil fuels. A guide provided with the results shows the standard contaminant levels for safe consumption, potential health effects from exposure, common sources of the contaminants, and recommended treatment tech"We discovered an area where many of the wells have high levels of arsenic. The groundwater in our region is very hard and high in total dissolved solids," said Nordstrom of well water results analyzed in the first three years. "We have not found any wells contaminated with pesticides. Arsenic contamination is our biggest concern."

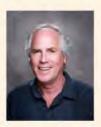
Arsenic in levels above EPA health standards is known to lead to cancerous tumors of the skin and lungs, and may cause problems with the nervous system. However, arsenic can be removed from well water and brought to safe levels through reverse osmosis, distillation, activated Alumina, and other absorptive media

"If a well owner does find a high concentration of any contaminant, they should contact a water treatment specialist. There are many options for filtration and other technology to remediate any problems discovered," he added. "People should choose treatment providers and decide on their recommendations carefully. Some treatment systems and their installation may be very costly, and they may not perform or be too expensive to maintain." Well testing applications from homeowners will no longer be accepted after May 2020. For information or to request a sampling kit, go to <a href="http://">http://</a> www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/ activities/free-private-well-water-testing/. Interested people can also contact Nordstrom by phone: 970-874-2165, fax: 970-874-2175, or email: knordstrom@deltacounty.com.



# **Home Sweet Home**





Don Bailey
Broker Associate
970-209-8257
donbaileyrealestate@gmail.com
DonBaileyRealEstate.com

\$240,000 MLS# 755828











bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 car garage plus storage area. Large Master Bedroom has en suite bath including a soaking tub with two shower heads and walk-in closet. Formal living room plus family room. Kitchen with new stainless appliances, breakfast bar, built-in desk & shelves. Fenced landscaped backyard with sprinkler system. Patio has retractable awning. Close to shopping & Recreation Center. Backs up to open space with paved walking/bike path.

2710 Abrams Avenue | Montrose, CO

1,642 sq. ft. on 0.15 acres | Year Built: 2000



435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

#### DMEA OUESTIONS NEED TO BE ASKED AND SHARED WITH THE PUBLIC

#### Editor:

As members of DMEA, we've been bombarded with the message that DMEA needs to be allowed to exit their Tri-State contract for our collective good. Tri-State, partially owned by DMEA, generates and transfers the power we buy from them to us. We've been told that millions of dollars are needlessly going to Front Range special interests in the form of higher power costs for us.

However, like any nasty divorce, who's going to pay for it and who's going to get hurt? What's the reason behind this and how do you get to the \$15M exit cost number? They don't tell us that nor have those who are endorsing DMEA's plan. Is TriState (owned by 43 electric cooperatives like DMEA) perfect? Far from it! Should DMEA be allowed to leave TriState? Perhaps. If so, will the flood gates open and other cooperatives leave Tri-State thereby bankrupting them and cutting off or reducing electric generation and transmission in Western Colorado?

So, what's the downside? A buyout cost to all us members probably approaching \$75-\$100 million dollars. The taking back of the high voltage electric transmission lines that bring power to us with the maintenance associated with them (think about a \$1M dollar transformer going out and how that gets paid for) is going to be a cost borne by DMEA. What about the drain on DMEA finances by Elevate Fiber? These and so many other questions need to be asked and shared with the public.

As a candidate for the DMEA Region 4 Board of Directors seat, I will ask the questions that no one else is. Your vote for me to do so would be very much appreciated.

David White, Montrose

#### MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER: THANK YOU TO THE MONTROSE COMMUNITY!

#### Editor:

A BIG thank You to the whole Montrose community for continuing to support our 'Pay It Forward' lunch fund. All the volunteers at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center helped so whole heartedly to make the 'Magical, Musical Mystery Dance an exciting evening that everyone really enjoyed. Even though Mother Nature didn't give us a sunny day, all the smiling faces and happy hearts filled and warmed our community center. After the BBQ and magic show, the floor filled and we danced our socks off to those favorite 70's rock n' roll, country and original songs performed by the 'Scones' band.

How many ways can all of us who benefit from the "Pay It Forward' lunch program begin to thank all our generous sponsors. To begin with we would like everyone to know how caring these organization have always been towards our community. Altrusa gave us our start-up funds and the Beacon followed by offering us the whole back page ad in their magazine. When Dr Bennett

from Colorado Hearing donating the BBQ we were on a roll with ongoing support from Montrose Memorial Hospital, Alpine Bank, the Lyons Club, Brookdale Senior Living, Pepsi, Cedar Point Health, Aspen Grove Physical Therapy, Office Depot, Montrose Rec District, Colorado Retirement Services, the Scones Band, Montrose Mirror, Camp Robber, Touch of Care and the donations from all the people that joined us to have fun.

This really is the community that knows we can make a difference and help change things. Here in Montrose people continue to look for the ways in which they can contribute to the well being of the whole community. Montrose Memorial Hospital has over 100 volunteers along with our Library and Heirlooms for Hospice supporters. How generously people give of their time to Christ Kitchen and Sharing Ministries food bank to serve food. Our volunteers are so willing to give of their time and talents to insure that our senior center lunch program does not have to fall back to government programs

that are cutting back. The Golden Circle Senior invite all ages to come to our community lunches. Please consider stopping by and having lunch, or sharing a volunteer hour with us. These events are our invitation to everyone in our community to stay interested and supportive so the Montrose Community Senior Center can continue to thrive and the "Pay It Forward' fund will be serving people for generations to come. With the success of Magical Musical Mystery Dance, we will continue to offer our four course meals for \$5 and offer the volunteers a free lunch. Our menus are printed in the Daily Press and the Senior Scene paper. Come down and see how much fun and friendship you can find here at our center. The Golden Circle Senior 501c3 knows that our community support is priceless so contact us at PO Box 832, Montrose Co 81401 or call 970 901 9914

Arigato, Gracias, Thank You, Takk, Merci Beaucouys, Todah Rabah, Obrigado, Danke!

Marilyn Huseby, Montrose



Western Colorado Properties















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

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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# **Just Listed**





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



\$565,000

MLS# 756088









#### 620 County Road 22 | Montrose, CO

This custom log and wood frame home, sits on just over 15 acres offering the peace and quite you have always dreamed of. Originally built in 1988, this home has been updated, remodeled and added onto over the years to include 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, an additional office space and much more.

Bedrooms: 3 2,900 sq. ft. on 15.353 acres | Year Built: 1988



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Western Colorado Properties

# LACK OF ACCESSIBILITY IMPEDES QUALITY OF LIFE From pg 1

businesses are springing up all over town, Coffee Trader II stands out in the City of Montrose for its adherence to Americans with Disability Act (ADA) regulations and guidelines. Still, Federal guidelines are clear: new construction is discriminatory if it fails to design and construct facilities for first occupancy that are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

Local sidewalks are frequently broken and difficult to navigate, though Clark said that the sidewalks she has reported to the City through the "A Better Montrose" app have all been fixed.

In neighboring Ridgway, long known for unpaved streets, accessibility has greatly increased in recent years. "Ridgway is one of the most accessible towns in Colorado," Clark said. "I can roll up and down the sidewalks, and I can get all around the little park in town."

That's because accessibility is important to Ridgway, Town Manager Jen Coates said. "Our downtown project, which was a

partnership project with CDOT, was designed and constructed to be fully accessible through and across the public rights-of -way," Coates said.

"This was, and is, a top priority for the town. The Council has budgeted funds for the past few years to incentivize private investment in accessibility as well. As a burgeoning community there is a lot of opportunity here, and accessibility is a priority for the town. The downtown project was a significant improvement in making our historic downtown accessible to all."

Ridgway State Park is also a model of accessibility, Clark noted, as is the Montrose Community Recreation Center. "It is beautiful, and it serves its purpose," Clark said, "Though I am not sure how much of the equipment is available to me in a wheelchair."

New businesses in Montrose do not seem to be held accountable for fixing sidewalks, and in some cases local builders appear to cut corners when it comes to access.

Even bus stops can be unsafe for someone who is wheelchair-bound. According to the ADA's 2010 Standards for Accessible Design, bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall be connected to streets, sidewalks, or pedestrian paths by an accessible route, with a safe path of travel.

Still, here in Montrose, disabled passengers can be dropped off in areas where there is no safe path of travel and they are in danger of being hit by a motor vehicle.

"They have a transport stop at the side of Walmart," Clark said. "When somebody gets off the bus they have to be in traffic." If the City of Montrose appears to be turning a blind eye to access for those with mobility challenges, Tonja Clark will not. ADA accessibility is not optional, particularly in a community that prides itself on being a place where wounded warriors can heal.

"Situations like this are impeding my quality of life here," Clark said.

### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### SAN MIGUEL POWER ANNOUNCES 2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Congratulations to this year's San Miguel Power Association (SMPA), Tri-State, and Basin Electric scholarship recipients. SMPA is proud to award the following scholarships to deserving graduating seniors within the co-op's service territory:

#### **Norwood High School:**

Zoey Truelock SMPA \$2000 Scholarship &Basin Electric \$1000 Scholarship Jace Sinks SMPA \$2000 Vocational Scholarship

Raquel Johnson Basin Electric \$1000 Scholarship

#### **Nucla High School:**

William Gabriel SMPA \$2000 Scholarship

Taryn Sickels SMPA \$2000 Vocational Scholarship

#### **Paradox Valley Charter School:**

Addison Davis SMPA \$2000 Scholarship **Ouray High School:** 

Cooper Rondinelli SMPA \$2000 Scholarship

#### **Ridgway High School:**

Owen Juell SMPA \$2000 Scholarship Samantha Scherner Tri-State \$500 Scholarship

#### **Silverton High School:**

Blaze Braford-lefebvre SMPA \$2000 Scholarship

#### **Telluride High School:**

Jessica Pack SMPA \$2000 Scholarship Alexa Gardner Tri-State \$500 Scholarship

#### **Telluride Mountain School:**

Hamo Thorneycroft SMPA \$2000 Scholarship

"Every year we have an amazing group of students apply for our scholarships, and this year was no exception," said SMPA CEO and General Manager, Brad Zaporski. "San Miguel Power sends out our thanks and appreciation to the parents and teachers in our service territory for their hard work shaping our future generations." SMPA awarded \$23,000 in scholarships this year to help local students pursue higher education. SMPA offers one \$2,000 SMPA scholarship to a graduating senior from each local high school, (including public, charter and private schools) two \$500 Tri-State scholarships, and one or two \$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship, as well as a \$2000 Vocational Scholarship for each school, dedicated to students planning to pursue career training after high school. The scholarships are awarded based on overall academic performance, community involvement, student need, and the students' own writings. The scholarship recipients were selected from a blind evaluation by a volunteer committee. This committee selflessly commits their time and effort to evaluate applications thoroughly and fairly. SMPA expresses our sincere thanks to these volunteers.



SATURDAY, JUNE 29 Valley Manor Care Center 1401 S Cascade Ave, Montrose Registration Starts 7:00am

Races start 8:00am

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT VALLEY MANOR CARE CENTER

Pancakes and Live Entertainment 9:30 - 12pm

#### PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS

Phase 2 of remodeling the dining experience in Memory Care so our residents can participate in preparing and cooking meals like they once provided for their families.



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

# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

### **WE CAN'T AFFORD DAVID WHITE ON DMEA BOARD**

Editor:

David White for DMEA?

His qualifications for the job pale alongside Ken Watson's, but more than that lets look at what he 'accomplished' as in his two terms as County Commissioner.

First was the attempted power grab to take control of the hospital and sell it. That cost us taxpayers over a million dollars in legal fees. Since we own the hospital that put us in the ludicrous position of suing ourselves! A mind boggling waste of our tax dollars. That was followed by the two FBO's fiasco. Bringing in someone who had neither run nor owned an FBO. What that cost us in legal fees before the deal collapsed is unknown. An example of David's views on transparency.

Lastly was the Event Center. Good or bad, we are now saddled with a 14 million dollar mortgage without having had a public vote. He pushed that through in the last council meeting of his term, despite the pleas of the incoming board and public demand for a vote on the issue. The commissioners said they had a financial plan, but never produced it. More Transparency?

David is against breaking up with Tri-State even though we could save a ton of money. As much as 15 million dollars! He also wants to rein in Elevate, which is bringing us high speed internet, something that was rejected by the BCC's when he was a member.

There was also the one million dollar settlement paid out to the county employee that was fired as soon as she told the county she was pregnant. No other County or business would do that.

What do we gain w/ David on the board? A lone dissenting voice, and endless carping about going forward with good ideas. Based on his proven track record I don't think we can afford having David White on the DMEA board. Paul R. Janzen, Montrose

#### DAVID WHITE SHOULD NEVER HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE AGAIN

Editor:

In my opinion: The performance of then commissioner David White left everything to be desired! What is more, he should never hold public office again.

Myself and others frequently attended the Montrose County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meetings. We distinctly remember Mr. White's appearance of arrogance and apparent unwillingness to consider incontrovertible information and concerns presented to the BOCC by numerous citizens.

This 'servant of the people' caused total hurt and chaos when he sued the Montrose Memorial Hospital. Only recently has the present BOCC been able to extract itself from that suit after ten years of expensive and unproductive litigation fostered in a large part by Mr. White. The BOCC lost and because of the expense involved the citizens lost a million or so

dollars.

Who in Montrose can forget his support of the 'second' FBO, Jetaway and Extra Aircraft? After a cost to Montrose County taxpayers of huge litigation expenses, all of those debacles failed to materialize.

Many citizens arose to speak at BOCC meetings. They publicly presented valid concerns regarding the contract for the Arena (now the Event Center). Questions about its financial soundness, the lack of a business plan and the virtual absence of competitive bidding were all ignored by White's BOCC. Competent review of the project predicted significant cost overruns and annual losses in excess of a million dollars. Both of these predictions have come to fruition.

Soon thereafter, when it came time to fill our vacated House and Senate seats in Denver, the Republican delegates charged with making interim appointments to

those positions, revolted against Mr. White's attempt to bull his way into one of those offices. He lost that effort and by no small margin.

In my opinion and with all due respect to Mr. White, our DMEA board of directors should never have Mr. White inflicted upon them! DMEA is a serious business. The issues facing DMEA are significant for us all. Membership on the board should not be used as an entry level job to restart a political career or for a platform for personal self-aggrandizement.

Elections have consequences. The incumbent board has studied the issue and knows the direction we (DMEA) should take.

Let's not bet on the 'wrong horse' again. The citizens of Montrose have already had eight years of his failure; let's not do it again.

Bill Bennett. Montrose

### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

# DMEA TO CONDUCT AERIAL LINE PATROL



DMEA journeyman lineman, Wade Wilson, gets a bird's-eye view of DMEA's power lines as he conducts an aerial inspection. DMEA courtesy image.

Special to the Mirror
REGIONAL-Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) will conduct aerial line inspections across its service territory on June 4, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and lasting

throughout the day. The patrol will be conducted by Mountain Blade Runner of Montrose using a helicopter.

Work will start in Montrose and the flight pattern will proceed to Delta, Surface Creek, and Cedaredge, then through the North Fork Valley and return to Montrose.

Aerial line patrol is conducted regularly as part of DMEA's system reliability program which helps ensure safe and reliable delivery of power to homes and

businesses across Montrose and Delta counties. "Our aerial line patrol program allows us to inspect the hard-to-reach lines on our power system. It's more efficient and effective to patrol our mountain-

ous terrain from above, so our crews can scan for damaged or worn equipment. It's an important preventative maintenance tool that lets us identify red flags before they impact service to members," said Troy Hall, DMEA Operations Manager.

DMEA linemen ride along with the pilot looking for potential problems with lines and equipment on DMEA's system before they cause power outages. Thermal imaging is also used to identify "hot spots." Excess heat can signify areas that need attention because equipment with even minor damage or wear will heat up.

In total, DMEA will inspect more than 3,000 miles of power lines across all portions of the service territory. Members may see and hear the inspection process, as the flights are typically low flying to allow for visual inspections.





BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Western Colorado Properties

#### 14640 6215 Road | Montrose, CO 81403 ~ New Price

\$650,000









#### QUINTESSENTIAL COLORADO

Bedrooms: 3 Baths: 3.5 Sq. Ft.: 3,339 3 Car Garage, 3.05 irrigated acres Year Built: 2004 MLS 748737

A quiet country road leads to a lovingly cared for home with MOUNTAIN VIEWS in all directions. Follow the paved driveway to a gorgeous front yard landscaped with beautiful perennials and a welcoming front porch with stone accents. The back yard boasts of SAN JUAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS, fire-pit, fruit trees and garden beds. Step inside and be amazed by the spaciousness of all the rooms. Interior finishes include beautiful engineered wood flooring accented with tile. The kitchen features quality cabinetry, Corian countertops, stainless steel appliances and large pantry. PERFECT for MULTI-GENERATIONAL LIVING with three generous sized bedrooms,



each with an en suite bath and walk-in closet.



Linda Steil
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FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES, THERE'S NO COMPARISON.

## **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

# BE PREPARED FOR SEVERE WEATHER THIS SEASON

Special to the Mirror

DENVER-It was a wild weekend of spring tory Checklist to get you started. In addiweather all over Colorado - tornadoes, hail, thunderstorms and winter storm warnings. Fortunately, many of the watches, warnings and forecasts did not result in a great deal of damage, but all of it serves as a timely reminder about what people can do to be prepared. The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) offers these tips.

#### Three tips to be prepared for severe weather this spring and summer

If you didn't suffer any damage in recent storms, there are still precautions you can take to be ready for severe weather this season.

Become familiar with your homeowners insurance policy - Know what's in your policy. Ask your company or agent if there is anything you don't understand. Also, review your policy and coverage limits annually to make sure the policy keeps pace with your needs and construction costs in your area.

Consider Buying Flood Insurance - Now is the time to consider flood insurance, as there is a 30-day waiting period before it becomes effective. Many homeowners do not realize that flood insurance must be purchased as a separate policy. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), a program available to any property owner whether or not the property is in a floodplain. If you do not have an agent or your agent does not sell flood insurance, contact the NFIP at 1-888-379-9531 or go to floodsmart.gov to get the name of an agent in your area. For more information, visit the Colorado Division of Insurance flood insurance webpage or the FEMA / NFIP website floodsmart.gov.

Create a Home Inventory - Before any disaster strikes, consumers should recognize the value in creating a home invento-

ry. The DOI has developed a Home Invention, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) has created a smartphone app to help homeowners and renters develop a Home Inventory Checklist. Find information on the app at naic.org, under the "Consumer Resources" tab. If you did suffer weather-related damage this weekend, here are some tips on handling insurance claims in the aftermath of storm damage.

#### Tips for dealing with storm damage and insurance

Start the claim process - Call your insurance company or agent and begin the claim process. Contact DOI if you need the contact information for your company or agent.

Document / mitigate the damage - If the damage to your home is extensive, start taking photos of the property and documenting what was lost. If the damage is repairable, mitigate further damage by placing tarps on roofs or boarding up win-

**Ask questions** - After you file your claim, your insurance company will send a claims adjuster to your home to assess the damage at no cost to you. Once the adjuster has completed their assessment, they will provide documentation of the loss to your insurance company to determine your claims settlement. Be sure to ask the claims adjuster for an itemized explanation of the claim settlement offer. If there is a disagreement about the claim settlement, ask the company for the specific language in the policy that is in the question. If this disagreement results in a claim denial, make sure you obtain a written letter explaining the reason for the denial and the specific policy language under which the claim is being denied.

Don't rush into a settlement - If the first offer made by an insurance company does not meet your expectations, be prepared to negotiate to get a fair settlement. If you

have any questions regarding the fairness of your settlement, seek professional advice.

Contact the DOI – While claims need to be filed with the insurance companies, the DOI can assist consumers with questions about insurance and the claims process. Call the Division at 303-894-7490 or 1-800 -930-3745 (outside of the Denver metro area) or email us - DO-

RA Insurance@state.co.us. Also, be sure to do your homework about people who may contact you to help with your damaged property.

Verify public adjusters - Public adjusters may contact you if you have suffered damage to your home. You are not required to hire a public adjuster, but if you do, make sure he or she is licensed and reputable check references. If possible, hire a Colorado-based adjuster. The DOI licenses public adjusters and consumers can call the Division to verify a license. Public adjusters work on behalf of a consumer and often charge a percentage of the claim amount. The fee is agreed upon in the contract between the public adjuster and the consumer. This cost is not included in the claim amount paid by the insurer.

Protect Yourself from Roofing Fraud - In the wake of a hail storm, roofing contractors and other construction contractors start door-to-door sales or phone solicitations.

While most contractors are honest and reputable, some make false promises, insist on full payment before the work is complete, and may even create damage where none occurred. The DOI participates in the #NoRoofScams campaign with a number of other organizations - find more information at the Better Business Bureau's site You've Been Hit with Hail, What's Next? Visit askDORA.colorado.gov and click on "insurance" under "Consumer Topics" for more information and resources about how to protect yourself as a consumer.





# **WEST SLOPE BURLESQUE SELLS OUT SHOWS**



Angela Ferelli, aka Sheila Shortcake, before the show at Intrinzik.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-After putting on a series of burlesque shows, Sara Doehrman can recall only one incident where a patron became less than polite. "He was in the front row during a Christmas show," Doehrman said. "So I came out dressed as Santa; 'Someone's going to be put on the naughty list!'"

Far from being rowdy crowds packed with men and boys, many of those who attend the burlesque shows are other women, said Doehrman, a former theater teacher and lifelong actress.

"We sell out our shows; there are a lot of women who come," she said. "It's definitely an empowering moment to get up there and take your clothes off with everybody watching."

The most recent 21and-over show, Circus Burlesque, took place Saturday night, June 1, at Intrinzik. It was the fourth show that the troupe has held since

its formation. Doehrman first started a group in Ridgway five years ago, and then, "One year ago I came to Montrose," she said. "I talked to Josh (Fabian) at Intrinzik, and told him that I have a vision—I want to teach burlesque."

After starting out at Intrinzik, classes have moved down the street to Tiffany Moore's Bones in Lace Boutique, and Moore helps to costume the performers. The eleven woman who currently participate in burlesque shows are of all shapes and sizes, and range in age from 20's to 40's.

"We teach a whole day of burlesque moves," Doehrman said, noting that the next class will be held in early 2020. The Western Slope Burlesque ladies are also planning shows in Grand Junction, Silverton, and possibly Norwood, she said.

"It's about letting go of society's perception of how you should look, and getting in touch with your own sexual power, at any age," Doehrman said.

Inspired by the beauties of the classic pinup era, performers choose names like Sheila Shortcake (winner of the 2018 car show pinup contest) and Luscious Lucy (Sara Doehrman's alter ego), and wear, at least temporarily, carefully chosen costumes that reflect their individuality. "You create a story," Doehrman said.

Many of the women who have taken part in the Western Slope Burlesque shows have found not only empowerment, but friendship, as well as success in life, she said.

"It helps build confidence," Doehrman said. "I am doing this for myself, my friends, and for other women who want to feel beautiful and sexy."

To learn more about upcoming shows, find <u>Western Slope Burlesque</u> on Facebook.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **GET READY, SET, SPEAK – BLACK CANYON VOICES TOASTMASTERS HOST OPEN HOUSE**

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-What is the thread that will connect a room full of perfect strangers in the back of CBs Tavern on Thursday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m.? Toastmasters International! Black Canyon Voices, the local Delta Toastmasters club, will host an open house and invites the public to come and experience what a Toastmaster meeting is all about. Grab a bite to eat, enjoy a beverage, or just observe. CBs Tavern is located at 334 Main Street in Delta.

Doug Speedy and Bill Crawford, both members of the club, will give a speech, followed by club members demonstrating each of the roles of a regular meeting. This includes constructive feedback, impromptu speaking, while staying within given time frames and, most of all – having fun.

"I've seen Toastmasters make a tremendous difference in the lives of people, including me. It took me months to work up the courage to make that first visit, it's difficult to do something that you are really uncomfortable with," said Gina Rone, one of the newer members who moved to Delta recently. "Toastmasters is nothing like high school or college speech classes," Rone added. "If you were uncomfortable in classroom settings, consider Toastmas-

ters. If you loved speech class, also consider Toastmasters as a practical way to take your skills to the next level. You are provided with feedback to help you improve, not a grade. There is always a way to participate as a speaker, listener, or evaluator."

Through self-paced educational programs, Toastmasters can help shed the fear of public speaking, while gaining organizational and leadership skills that help members progress in their professional and personal lives.

Most importantly, it provides an ongoing opportunity to practice and learn at your own pace with others who share an interest in improving – Toastmasters meets you where you are at. The cost for membership is less than a latte per week, which is hard to beat. For some it can be an enjoyable social outlet, for others it provides the means of fine tuning, practicing, and delivering that upcoming wedding speech or that awkward presentation at work

Edith Johnston, Vice President of Education for the club, encourages people to consider visiting and becoming a member. "Visitors are welcome any time, but we're hoping they'll come out on the 13th for this informational Open House. They will

see firsthand how every aspect of the club's agenda prepares you for real-world interactions."

Black Canyon Voices Toastmasters has been building leaders in our community since 2012. Additional clubs are located in Grand Junction, Montrose, and across the globe. Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that has empowered individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders since 1924. Headquartered in Englewood, Colorado, the organization's membership exceeds 352,000 in more than 16,400 clubs in 141 countries. For information about other Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org.

If you cannot attend the Open House, Black Canyon Voices Toastmasters encourages the community to join one of their club meetings at 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month at First CO National Bank, 150 Gunnison River Dr., (Next to City Market), Delta, CO. To learn more about BCV Toastmasters club, go to <a href="http://">http://</a>

blackcanyonvoic-

<u>es.toastmastersclubs.org/</u>, find us on facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>BlackCanyonVoicesTM/</u>, or email blackcanyonvoicestm@gmail.com.

#### INTERPRETIVE PLAQUE DEDICATION CEREMONY PLANNED FOR HISTORIC JAIL JUNE 8

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE — The Robert Leroy Parker Chapter of E Clampus Vitus will dedicate an interpretive plaque recognizing the outlaw's stay in the former 1885 Montrose County Jail on Saturday, June 8, at 10 a.m. Robert Leroy Parker was better known as Butch Cassidy. The plaque dedication ceremony will take place at the historic jail located at 217 South 1st Street, on the alley just west of Abel's Ace Hardware in downtown Montrose.

Sally Johnson of the Montrose County Historical Society and Museum will provide tours of the jail until noon. Refreshments will also be served. Street parking is available on South Selig Avenue and South 1st Street.Butch Cassidy, who later became famous after robbing the San Miguel Valley Bank in Telluride in 1889, was reportedly arrested on June 27, 1888, for horse theft and sent to the Montrose County Jail. As it turned out, Cassidy owned the horse and after deciding not to sell it to a local rancher, removed it from the property. The rancher reported the horse stolen, and Cassidy was arrested. Charges against Cassidy were later dropped after the rancher changed his story.

The Robert Leroy Parker Chapter of E Clampus Vitus is one of 46 chapters across the western United States and is dedicated to the preservation of Old West history. The chapter has dedicated plaques in Mitchell Springs, Colorado, outside of Telluride, at the Veteran's cemetery in Grand Junction, and at the visitor's center and Vietnam Memorial in Fruita.

The City of Montrose purchased the former jail in 2016 and plans to return the building to public use as a heritage site. The Montrose County Board of Commissioners designated the jail as a local historic landmark in August 2018.

#### MONTROSE PUPPETEER CREATES BIBLE STORY SERIES ON YOUTUBE



Anna Sturgeon at the Straw Hat Farm Store, where she works on Fridays.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Many locals know Anna Sturgeon from the Straw Hat Farm Store, where she works on Fridays. But you may also know her for her past work with the Puppetree Theater, where Sturgeon's hand-made puppets and whimsical shows with Nancy Ballantyne brought a fresh touch to an ancient art form.

Now, Anna Sturgeon has taken the leap to YouTube, where she shares Bible story videos narrated by a new team of puppets.

"It took my kids about three months to teach me how to do it," she said. "I write,

rehearse, and present the videos from my phone, and I put them on YouTube the next day.

"I also add a link to Facebook."

In just over a year Sturgeon has created 59 videos. Though she has only gained a handful of followers so far, she is not discouraged; this is a labor of love, inspired by an experience she had years ago.

"Our little church in Olathe used to have a booth at the

Sweet Corn Festival," she said. "Kids could spin a wheel and answer a Bible question. We found that 80 to 90 percent of them knew nothing about the Bible!

"We were horrified."

The YouTube series is entertaining, and features Sturgeon's hand-made puppet family—Granny, Gramps, and a teenage boy and girl—as they talk, laugh, and sing their way through the books of the Bible.

"They talk about Bible stories, and they ask questions," Sturgeon said. "They carry on battles with the mice in the attic—the premise is that they are in the attic of a church.

"They want to be taken into service."

The videos begin with the Old Testament, hitting the "high points," she said.

"How can you know if you are interested in God if you don't know anything about him?" she asked. "So we start with who God is, and with highlights of the Old Testament.

"We are in Holy Week now, and then we will do the Gospels...I have no idea what I will do when I get to Revelations!" Sturgeon said.

Though the puppeteer is Mennonite, the videos take a non-denominational, Christian approach.

"The Scripture tells us to rejoice in all circumstances," Sturgeon said. "There are different takes on the scriptures, and nobody is 100 percent right or 100 percent wrong...it's about God's presence and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

"How would I get through a day without faith?"

Puppetry is an ancient art that goes back more than 1,000 years, said Sturgeon, who is also a skilled hand spinner and weaver. She hopes to eventually establish a faith-based puppetry group for adults.

Visit Anna Sturgeon's YouTube Channel here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJRusOxIQE1zMHYXEdS8MdA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJRusOxIQE1zMHYXEdS8MdA</a>

## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

#### CRUISE ON DOWN TO THE BLACK CANYON CLASSIC 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Thinking about a favorite ride is free. from days gone by? Car, truck, hot rod?
You might just find it at this weekend's car said Jo show in Montrose. Hosted by the Black Canyon Classics car club, the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Colorful Colorado Car, Truck and Rod show is Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7.
Friday evening starting at 4:30 p.m. is an informal street show on Main Street, which will be closed between Townsend and Park. The main show starts Saturday at 8:00 a.m., held at Cerise Park off of "Last said Jo "Last said Jo "Chart said Jo "With r from o be awa show is Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7.
Colorating Saturday at 8:00 a.m., held at Cerise Park off of "Cruise" in grant street show on Main Street, which will be closed between Townsend and Park. The main show starts Saturday at 8:00 a.m., held at Cerise Park off of "Cruise" in grant street show on Main Street, which will be closed between Townsend and Park. The main show starts Saturday at 8:00 a.m., held at Cerise Park off of

Chipeta Road and Shanes Way. Admission is free.

"Last year we had over 200 vehicles", said Joel Evans, Vice-President of the club, "with many from out of town and a few from out of state. Over 50 trophies will be awarded".

Other activities include a swap meet, a silent auction, a contest by the Western Colorado Pinup club, and a special showing Saturday night at the Star Drive-In theater. Sunday morning brings a car cruise to the train exhibit at Cimarron.



Courtesy photo.

For more information, contact Joel Evans at 970-596-4523.

# HELP Missouri & Oklahoma Flood Families

Not Dozens, Not Hundreds, BUT THOUSANDS of families have been evacuated and flooded out of their homes. Some families with just what was on their backs, some were able to grab a few items - others not. One family has 5 children we are in contact with.

America's Disaster Relief has decided to collect \$\$\$'s & Gift Cards to help with diapers, medications, clothing, formula, fresh milk & fruit. These items are needed NOW, a Gift Card requires no expensive shipping, no place to figure out storage.

AMERICA'S DISASTER RELIEF has boots on the ground in Missouri & Oklahoma



- A levee along the swollen Arkansas River breached early Friday.
- Residents in three towns were urged to evacuate after a levee breached in Missouri.
   Officials say flooding will not be over anytime soon

### **DONATE NOW PLEASE Web Site:**

www.WCDisasterRelief.org

MAIL to: America's Disaster Relief P.O. Box 354 Cimarron, Colorado 81220



All funds raised and GIFT CARDS Donations will be divided equal between the two states (History— Suggestion—\$10 Wal-Mart Gift Cards work the best = a little for more people)



### **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE**

### 19TH ANNUAL ANIMATION SHOW OF SHOWS SET FOR JUNE 21



### Courtesy image.

Special to the Mirror

PAONIA-The 19th Annual Animation Show of Shows, a night of shorts animation for the entire community, is coming to Paonia June 21 starting at 6pm at the Blue Sage Center for the Arts. The night is a collaboration between Arts 4 All, Aspen Art Museum, the Blue Sage Center for the Arts, Paradise Theater, and the Animation Show of Shows. Tickets are \$10 for adults and will be free to children

The night starts with a special showing of the Arts for All Kids Short Fest: Paonia and Aspen Art Museum Young Film Makers. Shorts will be presented from the Arts 4 All Digital Animation, Film and Motion Design Workshop sponsored by the Aspen Art Museum and taught by Katie Hadar. In addition, Kids shorts from the Aspen Art Museum's Stop Motion Animation Workshop will also be shown.

The night continues with a screening of award winning international animated short films curated by Ron Diamond at the Paradise Theater. Ron has been annually curating and producing this show for the past 20 years, seeking out over 1,000 international animated short films each year culling them down in an effort to package 11-16 of the most extraordinary

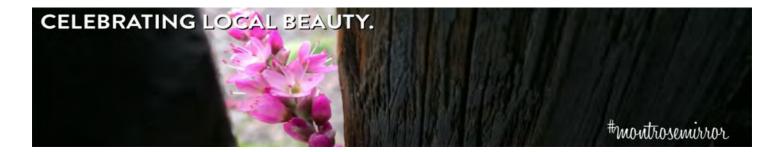
of them all into feature length programs and to introduce them to a much wider audience. Since its inception in 1998, of the over 200 films featured over the years, 40 of them went on to receive Academy Award nominations, and 11 took Oscars. But more exciting than that is the show has become a platform for people all over the country and in multiple other countries to discover beautiful narratives in these films mostly in art house movie theaters, museums, film societies and at colleges and universities from community colleges to elite universities including Harvard, Princeton, Georgetown and Dartmouth. "It's my goal to broaden people's awareness of great animated works in an effort to spread the good word that these are highly entertaining while also on occasion carrying bigger insights that are important to society as a whole and hopefully breed positivity and openness to people of all cultures and nationalities."

This is a magical event and a great community event that every child and adult should see. For more information or to buy tickets go to <u>bluesage.org</u> or call 970-527-7243. \*There will be additional showings of past Show of Shows at the Paradise Theatre Friday & Saturday at 11am.\*

# NEW ART SHOW OPENING @ THE ART CENTER IN JUNE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Center for the Arts presents an exhibition by Rich Sprankle and Lewis Williams, two very accomplished and unique artists. You're cordially invited to the Artist's Reception Friday, June 7Th, 5 - 7:30 pm. Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments.



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### **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

### MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL & PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL

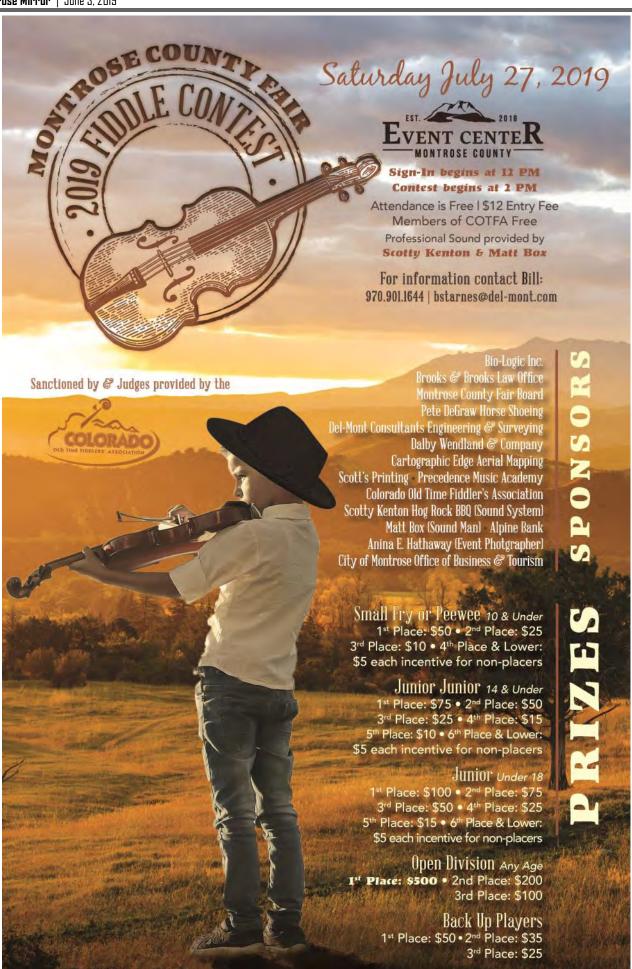
Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-The following students were named to the Honor Roll for the 2nd Semester 2018-2019 School year at Montrose High School. To be eligible for Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least five classes and earn a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74. 12th Grade 2nd Semester 2018-2019 Honor Roll Logan Ancell, Anna Burkick, Kennedy Canfield, Macadian Cordova, Annais Gonzalez-Perez, Samuel Hartman, Jeremy Iverson, Trevor Jackson, Tyler Lake, Monica Lopez, Jenna McGehee, Alexander Morris, Jaquelin Ochoa-Espinosa, Stephanie Perfors, Daniella Ridgel, Betania Romo, Montserrat Almanza Rosas, Landon Ruiz-Diaz, Carter Smith and Madison Vandehey. 11th Grade 2nd Semester 2018-2019 Honor Roll Gilbert Azevedo, Alejandro Cisneros, Jillian Conde, Beau Duncan, Marissa Esquibel, Santiago Flores, Shelby Gross, Paige Hauptmann, JayDen Kurr, Jonah Lamprecht, Kaylee Proctor, Edwviges Rivas-Ramirez, Christian Silva, John Thompson, Cole Thorn and Violet Tubbs. 10th Grade 2nd Semester 2018-2019 Honor Roll Henry Allison, Emily Arndt, Anthony Ball, Cora Blowers, Morgan Boyers, Morgan Carroll, John Casias, Jordan Copeland, Esteban Cortez, Janel Culver, Hector Diaz-Segura, Jack Dwyer, Tyler Eckerman, Asheley Flores, Ulysses Flores, Griselda Fuentes, Janae Granberg, Jackson Imus, Lizbeth Jaime-Mayorga, Katherine Kistler, Gabriel Lopez, Jadon Mangrum, Kreed Martinez, Kylie Morris, Matthew Oliver, Ayla Pierce, Jennifer Quintero-Carrasco, Gloria Ramirez, Trevor Reich, Zahid Romo, Madison Roush, Aiden Samuelson, Hailey Sella, Amber Stevenson, Jorja Wallace, Sage Wilber, Garhardt Wilder and Daniel Wittenberg. 9th Grade 2nd Semester 2018-2019 Honor Roll

Grace Ancell, Naphia Arnett, Caitlin Bailey, Jeremy Bohard, Wesley Booher, Danielle Brueggeman, Leo Burton, Amili Chavarria-Carballo, Grace Cross, Gus Dwyer, Annabelle Ensor, Brinlee Evensen, Luca Field-Licona, Jacob Hanson, Aiden Harrell, Abby Hauptmann, Blake Highland, Taryn Hill, Noel Huchel-Sullender, Mariah Iniquez, Julian MacFarlane, Madisen Matoush, Olivia Miller, Ashden Oberg, Sarah Packard, Michelle Padilla, Samantha Phillips, Savanah Piquette, Julian Ramos-Castillo,

Alexis Ray, Makayla Shreeves, Joseph Silva, JayDee Skees, Madison Smith, Caleb Thatcher, Carissa Walker and Corbin Whittington. The following students were named to the Principal's Honor Roll for the 2nd Semester 2018-2019 school year at Montrose High School. To be eligible for the Principal's Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least five classes and earn a grade point average of 3.75 and above. An asterisk denotes all A's. 12th Grade 2nd Semester 2018-2019 Principal's Honor Roll Angeline Alcaraz, Gabriel Benitez, Olivia Beshoar, Benedetta Bianchi, Ashley Bollinger\*, Kaitlynn Booth, Hannah Browning, Paul Burke, Jayden Cassidy, Miranda Ceniceros, Thomas Ceniceros\*, Angela Comstock\*, Maria DeLos Angeles Martinez Jaramillo, Joseph Donohoe, Elle Edeker, William Edger, Kallie Farra, Candra Gurney, Abbey Heide, Jenna Holyfield, Jacqueline Jaime-Mayorga, Dylan James, Janessa Jennings, Ryan King\*, Michaela Ladage\*, Indy Laird, Maggie MacHale, Margaret McHugh\*, Jared Millsap, Amber Mosher, Brenna Moss, Zoe Motley\*, Haley Nevarez, Alejandra Olea-Tapia, Tanner Oman, Isabel Ortega, Lisa Peterson, Abigail Rizzo, Giovanni Russo, Addison Saunders\*, Haley Schieldt, Dorian Serra, Katherine Sherwood, Maricela Silva-DelaTorre, Kyle Stevenson, Taylor Ullmann, Jessa Wilson, Alexa Yanosky and Jack Yarnell. 11th Grade 2nd Semester Principal's Honor Roll Emily Alcaraz, Jeremy Alcazar, Sean Alex\*, Lyndsey Anderson\*, Karla Andrade-Saenz\*, Teagan Bailey, Perrin Barnett\*, Riley Barnhill\*, Zachary Barrett\*, Mia Bartschi, Amanda Beaver\*, Kyle Blakley, Catherine Borner\*, Macy Boulden\*, Corwin Bravo, Caraline Burwell, Daniel Bynum\*, Clara Carrasco, Evelyn Castillo-Ceniceros, Gabrielle Chandler, Zoe Cleckler, Yoana Coronado, Dillon Crim, Andrew Deisig, Hunter Deltonto, Josephine Eccher, Danya Eggleston, Ryann Fife\*, Sean Graff, Caroline Graham\*, Hadley Greiner\*, Brian Grijalva, Eric Gutierrez-Camacho, Olivia Haga\*, Emily Hartman\*, Mariah Hokit\*, Jared Kennedy, Ellie Krull, Cameron Lee-Parker, Jasmine Lownes, Kaydee Lucero, Ashlyn Manuel, Garrett Marken\*, Tatum McHugh, Ashley Medina-Guzman, Calvin Merritt, Mark Metheny\*, Faith Meyer, Kennadie Minerich\*, Allison

Nichols\*, Katharina Pest, Alexis Petranovich, Bailee Phillips, Heather Prosser, Benjamin Robuck, McKayla Rothe, Sage Ryan, Kelsey Rycenga\*, Trey Schwerdtfeger\*, Cole Simmons, Emma Story, Sophia Tucker\*, Chante Valencia, Alexis Waltrip, Katelin Whitcomb\*, Claire Wilson\*, Ammon Woodland and Eric Yergenson. 10th Grade 2nd Semester Principal's Honor Roll Yaraby Arellano\*, Danielle Bishop \*, Brianna Bond, Kyler Bronec, Lily Burton\*, Marissa Cabrera, Zachary Cagle, Brady Cassidy, Melanny Castillo-Ceniceros, Isaac Cisneros, Amanda Clemens, Seydeanna Delgado\*, Lily Dunne\*, Keagan Goodwin, Jadyn Gorham\*, Jacob Green, Jordan Jennings\*, Tobin Lanford, Hannah Lee\*, Payton Lee-Parker\*, Jaiden Lewis, Josiah Lopez, Clairissa Lyon\*, Kelly Madrid\*, Nels Motley, Colton Mott\*, Caitlin Ogoe\*, Zachary Oldroyd, Carmen Puentes-Flores\*, Henry Radovich, Benjamin Rawlings\*, Tyler Reed\*, Eliram Reyes-Powell\*, Josiphene Shuda\*, Joshua Simpson\*, Katelynn Thompson\*, Zachary Vincent and Alexander Wheeler. 9th Grade 2nd Semester Principal's Honor Roll Diana Aguado\*, Charlie Andrade-Saenz\*, Ailianna Ayers, Flor Balderrama, Kate Barnett\*, Maddison Berry, Liam Berryhill\*, Julia Beshoar\*, Brooks Blackford\*, Trystan Blundell, Chloe Brokering, Ashly Brown\*, Alayna Bustin\*, Pragati Chaudhary, James Cheezum\*, Paige Coddington\*, Yoselin Coronado, Josephine Coulter\*, Madelyn Day, Titus Diaz-Ruiz, Lara Edeker\*, Matteson Embrey\*, Aiyanna Fabian, Taylor Foster\*, Bode Greiner\*, William Griffin, Lillian Hamilton\*, Ethan Hartman, Sarah Hartman\*, Qwynn Huntley-Gross, Jacob Kettell\*, Jaedyn Key, Hayden Langford, Westley Lucero-Escalante, Rachel Maddox\*, Israel Marquez, Abigail Martin\*, Mia Martinez\*, Dane McCoid, Amy McCracken\*, Ezequiel Medina-Estrada\*, Valerie Merritt\*, Siera Mihavetz\*, Gabriel Miller\*, Megan Neubaum\*, Josiah Nichols\*, Michael Nikolaev, Ashley Ortega, Benjamin Perfors, Samuel Preston\*, Jada Ray, Ethan Robertson, Kelsey Rocco, Isabela Serrano\*, Zeke Steenburgen, Jacob Thompson, Jonnie Trujillo-Johnston\*, Jaime Vanchaik\*, Eric Williams, Mari Wilson\*, Taylor Yanosky and Kassie Yeager.



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floor & large walk-in closet. Much here to love!



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## **MONTROSE ELKS LODGE: ELK TRACKS!**



Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Welcome to Elk Tracks, a periodic update of what is taking place at our local Montrose Elks Lodge, located at 801 So. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401.

BINGO! \$1,199 Must Go Jackpot - On Tuesday June 4, 2019

Progressive Game 4 has reached MUST GO status and will be awarded no matter how many numbers or balls it takes to reach Bingo!

Progressive Game #2 is worth \$325 and can be won by reaching Bingo in 37 numbers or less. Progressive Game 6 is valued at \$6,367 and can be won be reaching Bingo in 53 or fewer numbers.

For the best Bingo game in the area be sure to visit Montrose Elks Lodge every Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM to play Bingo. We are located at 801 South Hillcrest Drive in Montrose, CO 81401. It's a wonderful way to spend the evening having fun! Public is welcome, funds raised playing Bingo support local charities.

In 2019 we started serving hot fresh food in the kitchen during Bingo games that is getting amazing reviews. Dave and Cody, with our Youth Volunteers are turning out some great tasting food that is being enjoyed by all. Join us each Tuesday evening to enjoy a sandwich or food item prepared

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fresh during Bingo nights at the Lodge.
Food Entree' with Soda \$5
Menu: June 4 Hamburger or Cheeseburger (w Chips)
June 11th Chef Salad
June 18 Taco Bar

FLAG DAY

Please join us at the Montrose Elks Lodge on Friday June 14, 2019 at 2 PM for our public ceremony honoring the American Flag; the emblem of freedom and the symbol of unity for our great Nation.

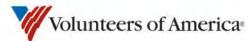


### You Can Count On Us To Be There, Always

If you are unsure about options to care for yourself or your loved ones, be assured we are here to help.

> Our network of services work together to meet you at the level of care you need:

- · Home Health, RN Care
- Independent & Assisted Living
- Injury or Post-Surgery Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy
  - · Long-term, Skilled Nursing Care
    - Secure Memory Care
  - Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
  - Community Dining and Homebound Meal Delivery



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

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## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE**

### **OURAY COUNTY MUSEUM PRESENTS NEW WALSH FAMILY EXHIBIT**



Courtesy photo Ouray County Historical Museum.

Special to Art & Sol
OURAY-A new exhibit at the Ouray County
Historical Museum features one of
Ouray's most celebrated and notorious
families.

"The Legendary Walsh Family of Ouray" tells, through photographs and artifacts,

the multi-generational saga of Thomas Walsh, his children and grandchildren. Thomas Walsh, the prospector who discovered gold above Ouray in 1896 and owned the Camp Bird Mine, was the patriarch of the famously wealthy but tragedy-plagued family.

The exhibit details the Walsh family's beginnings in Ouray through their lives in Washington D.C. where they moved in the highest echelons of society. Walsh was known for his humane treatment of miners and his philanthropy to the citizens of Ouray. Museum visitors will see the tuxedo he wore in 1904 in a display honoring his many contributions to the county and city of Ouray.

Enlarged archival photos and interpretive signs describe the lives of Walsh's children, particularly his daughter, Evalyn Walsh McLean, who was the

last private owner of the Hope Diamond. She married Edward "Ned" McLean, son of a wealthy publishing baron. The Walsh-Zanett Room, which houses the exhibit, is luxuriously furnished to replicate the McLean's ostentatious lifestyle. Sue Hillhouse, Ouray County Historical Society

member, curated the exhibit.

The most prominent display is an ivory satin wedding dress worn twice, once by Evalyn's daughter-in-law, and again by her granddaughter in 1960. Ann Carroll Meem originally wore the dress in her high-society wedding to Ned McLean Jr. in 1938. Ann was the first of his four wives and their marriage lasted barely five years. The display also includes a tiny organdy dress worn by the flower girl.

The exhibit provides little-known details about Evalyn's children, the tragic deaths of her young son and daughter, and the sad tale of the loss of her estate. It also tells the story behind the massive portrait of Evalyn and her two little sons, a painting by renowned Hungarian artist Philip de Laszlo. The painting has been in the museum's collection since 1972 and was nominated to History Colorado's "Most Significant Artifacts."

Pamphlets in the exhibit room summarize the history of the Walsh family. They are available at no charge to visitors.

The museum is located at 420 Sixth Avenue in Ouray.

Admission to the museum is \$7 per adult, \$3 to youth 6-15 years old and free to children under six. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4:30 p.m. Sundays. For more information call 970 325-4576 or visit

www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org

# The Mirror: many views, one newspaper.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE**

### **MORE PHOTOS FROM WESTERN SLOPE BURLESQUE...**





Graceful images from the June 1 Circus Burlesque show at Intrinzik. Photos by Cyllia Lynn Photography.

## THE RADIO ROOM PRESENTS HAYMARKET SQUARES



Haymarket Squares will be performing live in the KAFM Radio Room on Friday, July 26. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-Starting as a trio in Phoenix, Arizona in 2009, Haymarket Squares has since played more than 500 shows across the United States, Canada, and Europe. Known as purveyors of punkgrass, Haymarket Squares presents rabblerousing lyrics with a catchy melody. Mark Allred (vocals, slide guitar and harmonica), Jayson James (fiddle), John Luther Norris (vocals, guitar and kazoo) and Marc Oxborrow (vocals and bass) have found that they make their best music when they're angry about something. Haymarket Squares showcase upbeat, happy sounding songs with edgy lyrics that poke fun at the establishment. They want fans to dance and smile with the empowered feeling they can overcome anything together.

Haymarket Squares will be performing live in the KAFM Radio Room on Friday, July 26th at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity to see this talented and unique group perform!

Tickets are \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, or online at www.kafmradio.org.

### **GETTING IT WRITE: EVEN A DEMON NEEDS A DECENT STORY LINE**



Jack Switzer, 15.

By Jack Switzer
MONTROSEEvery movie
should start with
a solid, interesting, and easy
to understand
intro, build up,
climax, and conclusion. If it does
not have these,
you are likely to

have a movie the like of *Truth or Dare*, the 2018 horror movie directed by Jeff Wadlow, a movie that tells the story of a bunch of sweaty teenagers who do hard drugs throughout the first half hour of the movie, then get surprised when they go into a

creepy church with a strange man and they get taunted by a murderous truth or dare demon. Kids, this is one reason why you don't party in church.

The movie then follows up with the teens trying to figure out what caused this curse, and how to get rid of it. However, while doing so, the creepy party game demon possesses them and their friends and makes them murder and betray each other. And if they do not follow through with the dare or truth they are given, they die. So basically, if you do what the demon tells you to, you die. If you don't, you die. If you start questioning why every scenario ends in death, you die.

The movie is very lazy with the story, and the conclusion. Both are half-baked,

and make almost zero to no sense. Even the demon's story is lazily written and not at all interesting. Which really stinks, because even though the demon has nothing better to do than torture teens, he was still more interesting than the chick who let herself be shot to save a friend. And that should be enough of a reason to stay away from this movie, seeing that I wish the demon had a better story, when all the demon is, is a face distortion filter thrown onto the faces of the characters every now and again.

This movie had lots of potential to be fantastic and interesting, and ended up being a lukewarm pancake sitting on the table, with all the syrup absorbed by the once fluffy disc of cake.

### **MIRROR IMAGES...OUT & ABOUT!**



Well behaved and beautiful, local resident "Milo" takes owner Gary Robinson for a walk in Cerise Park on Sunday.



The Mirror:

Coverage with vision for the future.





# The Mirror

Making sure readers don't bury their heads in the sand.





Luxurious boutique hotel located on historic Main Street in downtown Ouray. This location has a rich and unique history and was once the site of the OK Stables formerly known as the Ouray Livery Stables. This iconic location was once the mainstay for gunslingers and gold seekers in the early 1900's. Among spectacular mountain views, the suites have been beautifully upgraded to include 3 separate apartments that are currently being used as vacation rentals. This building has been meticulously updated for your turn key business or home!

### **JUST LISTED!**

837 Main Street Ouray, CO 81427

\$715,000

Bedrooms: 4 3,400 sq. ft. on 0.08 acres Year Built: 1890



http://www.berkshirehathawayhs.com/



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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 <u>ourayarts.org</u> 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 <a href="mailto:info@bosombuddiesswc.org">info@bosombuddiesswc.org</a>.

**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 are the 2nd and 4th 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-

June 1 – Sept. 28--Ridgway Railroad Museum – free rides on RGS Motor 1 (Galloping Goose prototype) 9 am – 3 pm. 200 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway.

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-Montrose County Historical Museum will be offering this season's first Historic Walking tour of "Legends and True Tales" on June 4 starting at 7 pm. Please meet at the Museum (21 N. Rio Grande Ave) and space is limited, so RSVP by email or phone. There is a cost of \$10/person. If you have any questions or would like to join us please call 249-2085.

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 7-8-Black Canyon Classics car show, Cerise Park

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

June 7-Montrose Center for the Arts presents an exhibition by Rich Sprankle and Lewis Williams, two very accomplished and unique artists. Artist's Reception Friday, June 7, 5 - 7:30 pm. Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments.

June 6-At 7 PM, Theresa Childers, NPS Biologist will talk about nesting birds within Black Canyon National Park including years of Peregrine nest monitoring, and eagle, Great Blue Heron and Black Swift nest efforts. Montrose Field House. More info – call 970-688-0757

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 10-Basic Outdoor First Aid, taught by Ruth Stewart of Ouray County EMS, 6-8 p.m., UWP Office, Ridgway, CO. Learn skills and knowledge to help summer visitors to our area get help and help themselves when experiencing a health emergency due to weather, climate, terrain, etc. Info/registration: https://ridgwayriverfest.org/2019/05/29/basic-outdoor-first-aid/

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)

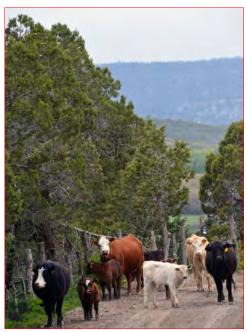


Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646 Editor@montrosemirror.com www.montrosemirror.com

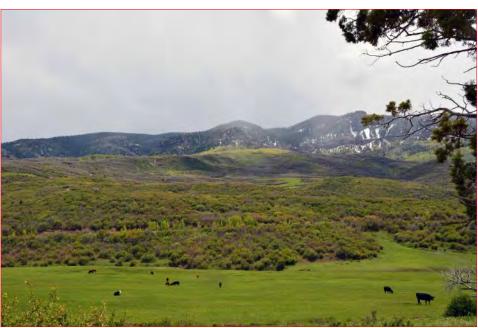
# MIRROR IMAGES...READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN!

Photographer Deb Reimann captured these images in Owl Creek recently...

Below, a pastoral view of cows in high meadows...



Above, a mountain traffic jam.









Fresh News for busy people...

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