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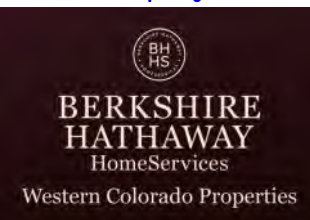


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# the Montrose Mirror

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Issue No. 339 Aug. 26, 2019

## MURA TO RE-BID RVER RESTORATION WORK



*The MURA Phase I River Restoration Project will be re-bid as a complete design-build team. Mirror file photo.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) Board of Directors convened for a [special meeting](#) on Monday, Aug. 19. All directors were present; the minutes of the Aug. 12 meeting were approved.

The purpose of the special meeting was to find a path forward on contractor procurement for the River Restoration project. At the Aug. 12 MURA meeting, the board voted against a staff recommendation to award a \$1.5M design-build contract to Tezak Heavy Equipment of Cañon City for the MURA Phase I River Restoration Project. Tezak also appeared to be the only choice acceptable to [Ecological Resources Consultants \(ERC\)](#), hired by the MURA in 2017 to design the project.

Local bidders Stonefly Earthworks/Haynes Excavation (Montrose) contested the contract award to Tezak, which resulted in a re-evaluation of the bid

[Continued pg 5](#)

## COUNTY APPROVES IGA WITH OURAY COUNTY, OLATHE COMPOST FACILITY

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All three commissioners were present for the regular meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on Tuesday, Aug. 20. The invocation was delivered by Pastor Buddy Cook of First Church of the Nazarene. Action items included approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Ouray County to lease six strands of fiber; and a two-to-one vote of approval to allow a special use permit for the Thunder Mountain Organics composting facility with added conditions and a six-month review.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were received on non-agenda items.

### COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Ken Norris pulled Item C-11 from the Consent Agenda, consideration of a resolution regarding the Delta County Public Library District ballot initiative.

[Continued pg 7](#)



*On Aug. 20, Montrose County Commissioners voted two-to-one (Vice Chair Roger Rash voted to deny) to approve a special use permit for the Thunder Mountain Organics composting facility with added conditions and a six-month review.*

in this  
issue

*Art Goodtimes'  
Up Bear Creek!*

*Carole Ann McKelvey's  
Rocky Mt. Cravings!*

*Reader photo spotlight with  
Deb & Gene Reimann!*

*A Fresh Point of View...  
With Jack Switzer!*



# A FRESH POINT OF VIEW...MAPA DOG SPLASH!

By Jack Switzer

MONTROSE-Walking into the air-conditioned building was a relief. Along with shelter from the blazing sun, entering the old rec center building sent a wave of nostalgia through me. I hadn't been here in a very long time, after they turned it

into a soccer field all that was left was the kiddie pool, which I had grown too big for. I remembered all the good times that were had here, and it made me feel a bit better that were still going to be good memories for new kids who come here. However, today I wasn't here to swim or



*A pet and owner enjoy the cool splash.*

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make memories, I was doing a photo assignment for the *Mirror*, and my objective was to take pictures of the Annual Dog Splash, a MAPA (Montrose Animal Protection Agency), sponsored event. There were going to be dogs taking their turns in the pool today.

Once I enter the doors, I am immediately greeted by four or five members of MAPA; all of them were very kind and had a clear passion for animals. It felt humbling to meet other animal lovers who had volunteered their time to helping pets in need. Once I entered the pool area, my hunch that this would be adorable was indeed proven correct. All sorts of dogs, whether small or big, were enjoying their hot summer day in the cold, refreshing waters of the Field House pool. Owners were playing games and throwing toys, and puppies soon chased after them. Golden retrievers sat back and laid in the sun, while shih tzus dominated the shallow end. I do wish I could've joined in on the fun, had I only brought my dogs instead of a camera. I took many pictures and smiled while doing it.

If you want to support MAPA and their mission to help decrease the number of unwanted pets by promoting spay/neutering with public education and other methods, you can attend their events and donate. Here is the link to their website:

<https://www.montroseanimalprotectionagency.com/#>



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### RETURN PETITIONS BY AUG. 30 TO RUN FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE - Petitions for Montrose County School District RE-1J Board Director Positions are available at the District Office, located at 930 Colorado Avenue. Petitions must have 50 certified signatures for placement on the ballot. The last day to return the petitions is Friday, Aug. 30 at 3 pm.

Director Districts that will be up for a four-year term in the Nov. 5, 2019 Elections are:  
District B - currently represented by Jacob Suppes  
District D - currently represented by Tom West  
District F - currently represented by Phoebe Benziger.

The Director District that will be up for a two-year term in the November 5, 2019 Elections is:  
District G - currently represented by Stephen Bush.

MCSO Board of Education Directors are limited to two consecutive terms. Elections are held during odd-numbered years.

Please contact Laurie Laird at (970) 252-7902 or [laurie.laird@mcsd.org](mailto:laurie.laird@mcsd.org) for further information.



*Petitions for Montrose County School District RE-1J Board Director Positions are available at the District Office, above, located at 930 Colorado Avenue.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CHAD STEWART NAMED NEW FOREST SUPERVISOR FOR THE GMUG

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce Chad Stewart as the new Forest Supervisor. Chad has worked with the Forest Service and BLM for the last 26 years in Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, and Oregon.

Chad will take the helm as Forest Supervisor on September 9, 2019, after serving as the Deputy Forest Supervisor since May 13, 2018. Previously, Chad served as the District Ranger in Steamboat Springs, CO and Fire Staff Officer on the Lincoln National Forest.

Chad completed his education with a Bachelor's degree from University of Oregon and Master's degrees in Forestry and Business while gaining considerable fire experience - including all levels and types from hotshot, engine captain, Fire Ecologist, FMO, and Fire Staff.

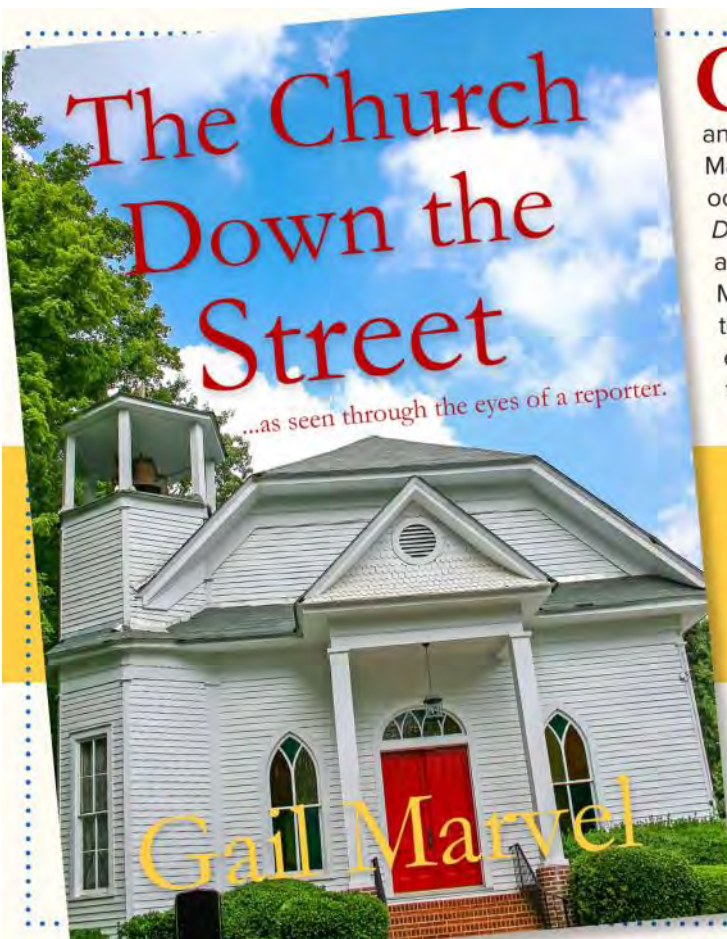
"I am excited to lead the GMUG as the new Forest Supervisor," Chad said. "I'm looking forward to the challenges and opportunities in leading land management efforts. Local relationships and collaboration are extremely important to me and building and fostering those relationships is a core principle of mine. Local relationships

provide the foundation for effective partnerships," he said.

Chad is married to Amy and they have a two kids in middle school. Family pursuits include camping, geocaching, basketball, Girl Scouts, biking, skiing, fishing, and travelling.



**Chad Stewart.**  
*Courtesy photo.*



**O**n the Western Slope of Colorado, within a 20-mile radius of the City of Montrose, there are more than 70 churches and houses of worship. Over a 2½-year period, reporter Gail Marvel visited most of these congregations on two separate occasions, resulting in approximately 120 visits. *The Church Down the Street* is a compilation of these visits organized in a topical format — Hospitality, Program & Source Material, Music, Meditations & Invitations, and The Message. Similar to the Apostle Paul writing about the church through the eyes of an apostle, *The Church Down the Street* is about the church as seen through the eyes of a reporter.

Gail Marvel's new book, *The Church Down the Street*, is now available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [wingedpublications.com](https://www.wingedpublications.com).

**GAIL MARVEL**

*Montrose Author & Reporter*



The individual stories of these visits were published in *The Montrose Mirror* and the archived stories, *Experiencing the Church* series (issues 90–150); and *Houses of Worship* series (issues 197–250), can be found at [www.montrose.mobi/](http://www.montrose.mobi/).



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## ***MURA TO RE-BID RVER RESTORATION WORK From pg 1***

and of the bidding process.

MURA Executive Director Bill Bell said that the project has received grant funding and involves "a lot of partners."

"We are here to communicate with them on a path forward," Bell said.

City Engineer Scott Murphy, who provided the MURA board with a lengthy memo on the procurement process, said that since the Aug. 12 meeting, Tezak Heavy Equipment was no longer willing to participate in the contracting process.

According to the memo prepared by Murphy, "Tezak was initially selected as the preferred contractor, had that selection retracted following protest from the Stonefly/Haynes team, and was willing to reserve a team specifically for this project when notified they would be recommended for award after the cost vetting with Stonefly did not come in within budget as initially claimed. With continued protest from the Stonefly team and the associated uncertainty/contention surrounding the procurement, Tezak has indicated they are no longer willing to participate in the process." The local bidders are not as experienced in the type of work required, Murphy said. "This is not a typical project," Murphy said. "...with all this money, we

don't want to spend it wrong...if we wanted to, we couldn't even award a contract."

He outlined the remaining possibilities: to re-evaluate the project in 2020; to rebid the project with a qualifications-based contractor selection methodology as was done before; to re-bid the project with a conventional fixed-bid approach; to re-bid the project for a complete design-build team; or to do nothing. "Either way, 2019 is essentially out," Murphy said. "The contested procurement process added \$20,000." He recommended re-bidding the contract for a complete design-build team in January, with completion in the fall of 2020.

"Are there companies out of state that have these kinds of skills?" MURA board member Roy Anderson asked. Murphy replied that all of those who had responded to the Request for Proposals were based in Colorado.

MURA board member Brad Hughes expressed disappointment in the attitude taken by Tezak. "I don't like the fact that they can't stamp off on it if other contractors do the work, only their own people."

Bell said, "Scott went with the local contractor to Denver...we've given millions of dollars in contracts to those people. The

correct procedure would have been to table the contract award, but the board voted it down...that kind of sealed the deal.

"...Any time a designer wants to work only with one contractor, it makes me nervous," Bell said.

"Tezak was really patient with us since March," said Murphy, who acknowledged putting in more than 100 hours on the procurement effort. "Winter is coming; they have to go after credible projects... this protest isn't going to stop.

"They didn't want to be in the middle of a contentious thing."

MURA board member Dave Bowman expressed support for Murphy's recommendation to re-bid the project as a complete design-build team. "Let's get back on the right track as soon as possible," Bowman said. MURA board member Judy Ann Files suggested meeting more frequently.

MURA Chair Tad Rowan noted that the board had reached consensus to pursue option four, re-bidding the project for a complete design-build team.

Bell asked the MURA board to agree to meet more frequently, with work sessions every two months to discuss items more thoroughly prior to meetings.



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## COUNTY APPROVES IGA WITH OURAY COUNTY, OLATHE COMPOST FACILITY

From pg 1

### CONSENT AGENDA

The remaining Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously.

### GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

**Montrose Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees Vice President Joe Saunders** presented commissioners with a voluminous [semi-annual report to the board](#).

"This is the official presentation of the hospital budget and financial situation for the hospital," Saunders said. "They look like they're doing really well."

BOCC Chair Sue Hansen thanked Saunders for the hefty document. "We've read all of this," she said.

**Commissioners considered an [Intergovernmental Agreement with Ouray County](#)** for an irrevocable right-of-way permit for the installation of broadband fiber and for a non-exclusive, indefeasible, right-of-use agreement for fiber optic, for the lease of six strands of dark fiber between the Montrose Recreation Center and the Montrose County/Ouray County line for the amount of \$100,000.

Said Norris, "These agreements provide right-of-way access on Montrose County roadways to run a fiber optic conduit from the Rec Center to the County line."

Located east of Hwy 550 South, the six strands will serve as a "middle mile" to provide access to broadband for Montrose County residents to the east of 550 south, he said. Later, the fiber will be extended to tie into a broadband hub, providing loop service to the area and strengthening reliability of the overall system.

Speaking against the project were two representatives of Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA).

Mark Kurtz said that he represented DMEA, Elevate Broadband, and himself as a citizen.

"I would urge today that commissioners actually make a no-vote on this particular item," Kurtz said. He said that in January DMEA had learned of the project through Region 10 and had decided that they could do it more cheaply.

"They had chosen a route...it's a fairly

illogical route," Kurtz said. "A much more logical route would have been to follow Highway 550 all the way down to the County line."

DMEA has pole lines down to Colona, Kurtz said. "We suggested that we could build that and sell it back to them at a cost of about \$500,000...they were going to spend about \$1.3 million to construct it the other way...we thought this looked like a really good partnership between all of us."

A straighter route takes less time to build, and DMEA would offer lifetime operations and maintenance for 25 percent of the fiber, Kurtz said. "It would hasten this project because we could build it quicker...we see this as an important growth corridor...if you own those fibers...you will find them much more useful if they are on that corridor than if they dove off into the countryside."

Kurtz continued, "We can't see who it really helps going out through the countryside but we can certainly see who it would help going down 550. That would be the County of Montrose, and it would be DMEA and Elevate."

DMEA Board Chair Bill Patterson spoke as well.

"I second everything Mark has been talking about," Patterson said. "DMEA is working hard to bring Elevate and broadband service to all of our members, and we feel that not only do you get a better route, but it costs less."

"...It really would be in the County's interest to run this route right along 550," Patterson said. "We've got customers there, and we could do that in a way that will make it so we can build out other areas there in Montrose. If we spend all of the money going down a side route, that decreases our chances of being able to serve Montrose County."

Next to speak was Doug Seacat of Deeply Digital, the company hired to build the project. "Where we got started was really to find an alternate route to Ouray County," Seacat said, stating that CenturyLink is currently the sole service provider for the

communities of Ridgway and Ouray.

"...We wanted a redundant path to Ridgway; we're working on a path actually that comes from Silverton through Region 9," he said. "It will come down through the community as well."

"That's really where I see the value in this project," Seacat said, noting that Montrose County is currently served primarily by Tri-State fiber. "This would give us a south route of town...the main reason was to get some fiber between the communities for redundancy."

The highway route was also considered during the design phase, Seacat said, and Montrose County was involved in the planning process. "We all discussed the different pros and cons and we decided to keep it on County right-of-way the entire way...we felt like it was a good build and there are pros both ways."

This portion of the project must be completed by June 30 of 2020, he said.

Aerial construction is definitely faster, he said, but "When it's underground it's better protected, it's more secure in our opinion, it's longer lasting...we have the funding from the grant to put it underground."

Commissioner Roger Rash asked if the fiber must be used by government or accessed by citizens.

The builder cannot own or access the fiber, Seacat said, but can overbuild it to provide service to others.

Region 10 Executive Director Michelle Haynes spoke. "This is a project where Ouray County...actually applied for a grant from the Universal Services Administration...to put those monies into underserved areas to build to the Ouray County Public Health Center."

Ouray County will own the fiber and selected Deeply Digital as the contractor prior to applying for funding.

Region 10 does not own the fiber or administer grant funds for the project, Haynes said, but will own use of the fiber in return for match funds. Multiple internet service providers will ultimately be able to access the middle mile fiber to

*Continued next pg*



## COUNTY APPROVES IGA WITH OURAY COUNTY, OLATHE COMPOST FACILITY

### From previous pg

provide last mile services; Region 10 and Ouray County would be allowed to resell any overcapacity on the line, Haynes said.

Also addressing the BOCC was Ouray County Commissioner and Region 10 Board Chair Ben Tisdell. Tisdell called the project "a great example of cooperation between Montrose County and Ouray County."

"This has been a long process in planning...there's many valuable partners in the whole effort," Tisdell said. "...Over two years ago we set out the route that we are looking at today, a pretty diverse route that goes from Ouray County Public Health, through Ouray, through an unserved part of Ouray County, through Ridgway...up to Log Hill, which is almost completely unserved these days and unlikely to be through other, normal means...and then it comes down to Colona.

"The route we chose then was another area that we think is probably going to be underserved long-term," he said. Ouray County conducted a bid process and received two bids, he said, one from a large multi-national company and the other from a local contractor.

"The difference between those two was less than one percent," Tisdell said. "So we think we have a great competitive bid process that resulted in our selection of Deeply Digital."

Due to the receipt of Federal grant funds, making changes to the project at this point is very difficult, Tisdell said. "We are very cautious of making any changes at this point that would threaten that multi-year commitment."

The build will serve both the South end of Montrose County and all of Ouray County in a way that nothing else will he said, and thanked Montrose Commissioners for their help throughout the process.

Trenched fiber is essentially more durable, Tisdell said. "It's away from things like squirrels...we consider a trench build to be superior."

Montrose County IT Director Don Varey spoke, "I am in support of this project...I think the route's awesome...I like the fact that it's running on county roads and I like the fact that it's in the ground. I very much

appreciate the fact that it's buried."

BOCC Chair Sue Hansen asked, "Can you speak to the squirrel issue?"

"Well, I've got a gun, so I can help with that problem," Varey said.

Kurtz requested additional time to speak. "I just want to make sure everyone understands, I like the project but I don't like where it's headed." DMEA could build the project in six months, he said.

If durability of the fiber became an issue, DMEA would take on maintenance and operations, he said. "I think we can take that out of the argument...as far as animals, that's a new one on me," Kurtz said.

"...I just think it's an incredibly illogical route," he said. "It just doesn't go where you really need it to go."

"I think we could be a really good partner on this project," he said.

Said Hansen, "That illogical route was, I believe, requested by our county because we wanted to have access for our citizens."

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said, "One of our concerns was that if we run it down Highway 550 it would be a long time before that service got over across the river...there's a lot of residences down there that could use that high-speed internet."

[The IGA](#) was approved unanimously.

**Deputy County Manager Jon Waschbusch presented a [bid and construction contract for consideration](#), and commissioners voted unanimously to**

**award** the contract to Williams Construction Contractors for construction of the Rimrocker Trail OHV Extension Project, a budgeted expense of \$393,204. Montrose County was awarded a grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife in the amount of \$194,657 towards the project. "This was the highest scoring project in the state," Waschbusch said. Five construction bids were received; the low bid from Williams Construction is well under budget.

"...I am excited about this, to get that tak-



**Doug Seacat of Deeply Digital listens at the BOCC meeting on Aug. 20.**

en care of and get the contract going," Commissioner Keith Caddy said. "I am very pleased."

Rash said that the extension will take a burden from law enforcement by making a legal trail for OHVs along the river. "It's a beautiful area," Rash said. "...it will be wonderful when we get it done; and hopefully it will attract a lot more folks over to play in our neck of the woods, in the Nucla-Naturita area."

Commissioners approved **two items for Montrose Regional Airport**, [waiving the County's right of first refusal to purchase the hangar at 1900 Airport Road](#), owned by Rocky Beach Properties, Ltd., to permit sale of the hangar to No Quarter Trust and to approve the ground lease with No Quarter Trust contingent on closing of the sale; and [approving the Hangar Lease with Western Skyways Turbine, Inc.](#) dba Rocky Mountain Turbine Services, effective Aug. 21.

#### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Commissioners continued a Public Hearing for deliberation and decision on the **special use permit request by 3XM Grinding & Compost/Thunder Mountain Organics** to operate a compost facility at 59039 Amber Road. County Planning & Development Director Steve White listed nine new conditions to be imposed on the special use permit, [as listed in the staff report](#). Commissioners requested a six-month compliance check to assess possible impacts such as dust, trash, and odor.

The matter was discussed extensively in past meetings and was subject to planning

*Continued next pg*



## **COUNTY APPROVES IGA WITH OURAY COUNTY, OLATHE COMPOST FACILITY**

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

commission review.

"The applicant has been responsive in everything we have asked, and you have been responsive to the citizens," Hansen said, "But I am still concerned." There are 45 residences in the vicinity, she said.

"We are obligated by our citizens not to make dumb decisions," Hansen said. "I underscore the six-month compliance check...we've all lost a lot of sleep about this project...it's a very difficult decision because we'll impact others.

"I hope that you will be a good neighbor," she said to the applicants. "...And that means to me being responsive, and not just being good for the first six months, but maintaining that."

The six-month visit could be a surprise visit, Hansen said. Commissioner Keith Caddy suggested that the inspection could take place at any time during business hours.

Said Rash, "I still have concerns. It's a great business, wrong location. ...I have

not been convinced that we can mitigate odors, and flies, and birds, and mice, and other things that this could potentially bring to the site.

"I just cannot get behind this at this time," Rash said.

"...There are people who live in that neighborhood. I don't believe it's a proper location...I think it's a wonderful project, but those people are going to be living with this for a long, long time."

The six-month window will give commissioners an idea of whether the situation will work or not, Hansen said.

White reviewed all conditions item by item; the [Special Use Permit application](#) was approved with specific conditions set forth by the BOCC in a two to one vote, with Rash voting to deny.

The decision was not made lightly, Hansen said.

"I want the residents to know that this was a very difficult thing...please do the right thing in our community and make

sure we are mitigating anything that might be disruptive to the neighbors.

"Everybody has a right to live in this community and enjoy what we are all here for," she said, and closed the public hearing.

In other business, the BOCC unanimously approved [a proposal by Mile Marker Eight Minor Subdivision](#) to divide a 39.44 acre lot into three lots at 4263-364-00-003 off of Sanborn Park Road. The zoning is General Agricultural.

### **MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY**

Commissioners closed the regular session and reconvened as the **Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority**, approving a [Special Event Permit for P.E.E.R](#) Kindness to be held at The Ute Museum Sept. 14; and a [Special Event Permit for The Valley Food Partnership](#) to be held at The Ute Museum Sept. 8.

The Board reconvened as the BOCC; the meeting was adjourned.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### ON WHAT PET PROJECTS DID THE CITY SPEND \$17M?

*Editor:*

Last week I posted that the city council and the city manager might be guilty of "malfeasance." Our immediate past Police Chief, in his Press article, said that he had never seen any malfeasance. He is likely correct in that observation or lack of observation however you want to look at it. Malfeasance is "a person doing something that he has no right to perform." Like steal or embezzle. The recession ended in 2009. I should never expect Tom Chin to ignore such a crime should he be aware of it; that in itself is a crime. He is far too fine a man and public servant for that and has our highest respect.

In my opinion, our city fathers, mothers and manager may have been guilty of something very similar. NONFEASANCE (a legitimate legal term). Their first and foremost duty as elected civil officials is to protect the public and the public interest. And they have not, at least not as they were obligated to do with the ASSETS AVAILABLE. For the past five or so years this city has had an abundance of money to bolster our police force. Enough money on hand to make our police department the envy of the small towns of Colorado. I say that because in the last five years there have been exceptional city sales tax receipts (like from your groceries) in excess of \$17,000,000 of what was budgeted. Montrose has dumped money on Mayfly, a superfluous unnecessary expenditure of funds and other high cost projects. The city has spent an unknown

amount of money, (unknown to we who have tried to find out) on the Downtown Area Revitalization Team, (DART) amounts that have not been published. I know of a fly-shop business that has been pursued and moved to Montrose, with Montrose city tax funds, in direct competition with similar main street businesses. Why? How much? We have \$5,000,000+ budgeted this year for sidewalks. Huh? Why? And the beat just goes on and on and on.....

Every developer is required to install sidewalks for their development and have been so required for the last 30 years. Some in older sections of town might need repair but \$5,000,000! In one year? If they haven't existed or been fixed for that long another year or two will not matter.

Folks, what we were told by Mr. Chin and by Chief Hall and by your city council and by your city manager is that the city has been more than generous boosting the police budget by \$2,000,000 over the past six years. That sounds like a lot but it is a boost of only \$300,000 per year. At the same time, at least the police side of the equation, has said repeatedly that all that they needed was \$600,000 per year increase to put them where they need to be. Citizens this additional \$300,000 additional is "chump change" compared to what they are looking for in a public safety sales tax.

So for six years the police only needed an additional \$600,000 per year additional to

fix their situation and now they need a sales tax worth millions EVEN WHEN THE PRESENT SALES TAX HAS INCREASED \$17,000,000 in five years. Most of that should be in the city bank accounts, eh? IS IT?

A public safety sales tax is not needed. The money is there. Just where did the \$17,000,000 go? To what pet project? To what nice to have activity (concerts)? Into what "park potty"? To foster whose business? To modernize whose apartment building? For what 'DART' projects? That await public listing, to whom, and cost of each.

If it were MALFEASANCE we would ask who stole what. So far that thought has not come into play. Instead this is NONFEASANCE which means "The neglect or failure of a person (or persons) to do some act which he ought to do." City government's obligation is to protect the public, their community and their treasure.

Our city fathers, mothers and manager have not done that. And because they have failed to do as they were obligated by oath and/or position to do they want MORE SALES TAX REVENUE TO BAIL THEM OUT.

Do not give it to them! Make them do their job and do it properly! Or get replacements that will and that will listen to you, the citizen. Public safety has not been the city's top priority for a long time. If it had been, we would not be having this discussion.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

# LEARN TO DRIVE A BICYCLE

By Bevin Barber-Campbell

MONTROSE—We were in the final stretch of our tour of the city by bicycle, when Matt, my fellow classmate, turned to me with a huge grin and said, “This is so empowering!” We were enrolled in a one-day course on traffic skills for bicycles, offered by the City of Fort Collins, and we were out practicing what we had just learned.

The battle had become a ballet. We discovered that as cyclists, we could be confident and assertive, yet also cooperative and well-mannered. We could get our needs met while respecting those of fellow travelers. We could truly share the road in a way that worked for all road users.

Even after 25 years of bike commuting, I found this class, called Traffic Skills 101 (TS101), to be transformative and indeed empowering. For somewhat selfish reasons, I want every cyclist I know to take this class.

Before I took TS101, I was (I must admit) one of those cyclists that did not obey

some traffic laws, and who felt a sense of entitlement just because I was on a bicycle.

I was also a “curb hugger,” the cyclist who does not have an appropriate sense of belonging on the road. I felt and acted like a trespasser. The TS101 class taught me that this apprehensiveness — just like recklessness — actually makes me less safe on a bicycle.

The TS101 class is based on the concept of vehicular cycling: the idea that cyclists fare best, and are safer, when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles. It is the practice of riding bicycles on the roads in a manner that is in accordance with the principles of driving a car. It is being predictable, sensible and participatory. And obeying all traffic laws.

Being a vehicular cyclist is a way of behaving, and it is also a state of mind. It is a shift in outlook about your fellow travelers. It is a switch in attitude and behavior from competitive to cooperative, from selfish to generous, from bad-tempered to

well-mannered.

It isn’t always easy being a good-humored participant in this vehicular dance. Sometimes I can lose my cool and become frustrated, impatient and angry, like when drivers are careless or aggressive. I get annoyed when my partners don’t appear to know the steps!

Traveling by any mode requires patience. We all — cyclists and drivers — need to remember that driving is indeed a group effort that requires mutual respect, deference and lots of cooperation.

Shall we dance?

(The TS101 class teaches safe cycling principles including responsive bike handling techniques and rules of the road. It will be offered in Montrose -- called *Smart Cycling 101* -- on Sept. 14; Register via the Montrose Recreation District.)

*Bevin Barber-Campbell is a member of the Montrose Area Bicycle Alliance. She is bicycle advocate and safe cycling instructor, who is eager to share her two-wheeled experience with Montrose, her new home.*



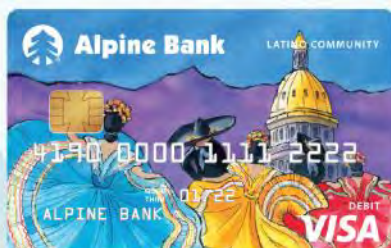
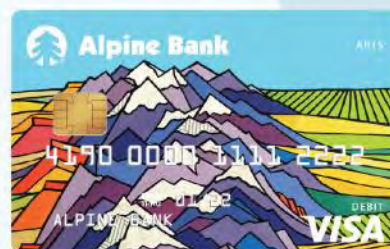
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# COUNCIL HEARS MCF GRANT REPORT; DISCUSSES PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX INCREASE, UPDATE ON RIVERBOTTOM DRIVE



*Public Safety Advisory Committee members Phoebe Benziger and David Stockton (background) listen as Police Chief Blaine Hall discusses a public safety sales tax increase with Montrose City Council and staff at the work session of Aug. 19.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Over lunch catered by The Stone House, Montrose City Council welcomed four new City staffers; heard an annual grants report from the Montrose Community Foundation; discussed the percentage to seek for a proposed Public Safety Sales Tax increase; and heard an update by Engineer Scott Murphy on the Riverbottom Drive Reconstruction Project at the [work session of Monday, Aug. 19](#).

All councilors were in attendance.

## INTRODUCTIONS-NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

Joining City staff are Facilities Maintenance Technician Rick Harris; Street Division Worker Jerry Jones; Information Systems Director Greg Story; Part-time Parks & Special Projects Worker Leah Schumacher; and Utilities Worker Justin Bacas.

Harris, who was born in Denver and attended college in Gunnison, said he and his wife are pleased to be in Montrose after living in Alaska and Portland. "We are happy to be back in Colorado."

Originally from Springfield, Illinois, Jones spent time in Blackhawk before coming to Montrose and buying a home. "We have been here since May 1."

Story has been telecommuting to Denver in recent years but is a lifelong Montrose resident. "I am looking forward to working in the city I grew up in...I am looking forward to working with all of you."

Schumacher has lived in Montrose since the late 1980's; Baca was not able to attend the work session and will be introduced next time.

## MONTROSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

Montrose Community Foundation Executive Director Sara Plumhoff presented the annual report on grants made through a partnership with the City of Montrose that was formed in 2013.

Last year the Foundation gave out a total of \$435K in grants, including \$30K from the City. Since 2013, the MCF has awarded \$130K in grants through its partnership with the City.

The top two Community Enhancement Grant recipients last year

were to the Hispanic Affairs Project, awarded \$5K, Plumhoff said, to support basic rights for immigrants; and the Center for Mental Health, awarded \$5K to buy ligature-ready furniture for the crisis stabilization unit.

Also awarded were: \$3K to the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club for field trip admission and transportation; \$3K to San Juan LEADS to provide equipment and operations for outdoor activities for at-risk youth in Montrose; \$2.5K to Northside Elementary for school library upgrades; \$2.5K to Partners of Montrose, Delta & Ouray for youth mentoring; \$2K to CASA of the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District for startup expenses at the Youth Access Center; \$2K to Haven House homeless shelter for educational services for children and parents; \$1.25K to Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid (UVLA) to provide legal assistance and education to seniors, low-income and at-risk individuals; \$1K to the educational coalition Bright Futures to implement the Pyramid Coaching Model in local schools; \$1K to RE-1J schools to fund a special education adult life skills program; \$500 to Christ's Kitchen for operational support to provide hot meals five days a week; \$500 to the Montrose Area Woodturners, Inc. to purchase a lathe to create veteran canes and wig stands; \$500 to the Magic Circle Players for a sound system upgrade; and \$250 to the Montrose United Methodist Church to maintain the community garden.

The 2019-20 MCF Impact grant cycle will

open in September, with a deadline of Nov. 1, Plumhoff said. "The activity must be aligned with our activity and our mission," she said. "We make sure there is a demonstrated need...we're big on collaboration."

The MCF has a partnership with HAP and the Montrose Regional Library to provide materials and applications in Spanish, Community Foundation assistant Ann Back said. "We're trying to get the word out to more people," she said. "We have put the word out in the *Montrose Daily Press* and the Spanish language newspaper."

Grant requests will not be limited by a dollar amount this year; awards for general operating fund grants will be limited.

## PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX UPDATE

Council discussed the cost of a proposed public safety facility as well as the percentage of sales increase to seek on the November ballot. Public Works Manager Jim Scheid noted a "huge escalation of construction prices over the last few years—as much as 30 percent." Because a police facility is a category four building type, with very high use, costs per square foot could run in the \$435 per sf range for the structure alone. Tariffs on items like steel could lead to further escalation, so that a three-story public safety facility with a 12,500 sf footprint could ultimately cost in the \$18M range, Scheid said. A second option, priced at roughly \$16M, would be to separate the building into two structures, with the two-story police facility and an auxiliary structure that could be a category three building, also with a 12,500 sf footprint.

City Manager Bill Bell noted that the City owns the former Wells Fargo Drive-through as well as an empty office building on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. He discussed the possibility of moving municipal court operations to the former police department building to create a more secure location. "We would need to use general fund dollars."

Bynum asked if the current police building could instead be used as part of the new public safety facility rather than for Municipal Court. "I would hate to say that the money will be

*Continued next pg*

## ***CITY COUNCIL HEARS MCF GRANT REPORT From previous pg***

used for a police building if it also can be used for other things.” Said Councilor Roy Anderson, “Keeping the court thing out of the safety tax issue is a smart thing to do.”

Councilor Doug Glaspell asked if the former office building on south Second Street, scheduled to be torn down, could be used.

“It’s really, really outdated,” Bell said. “It has paneling from the 1970’s. It has no real access; it’s kind of a split level.”

Further discussion focused on how much of a sales tax increase to pursue; an increase of .58 (which would generate \$3,453,197.91) would suffice, but an increase of .59 (which would generate \$3,512,735.81) would offer more flexibility, Bell said.

Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee member Phoebe Benziger shared insight, “.59 shows due diligence...I don’t think that we could justify .60 to voters....59 is more suitable than .60 all the way around...if you are going to spend the money diligently, .59 covers those needs.”

Council discussed appropriate ballot language, and the percentage that would sunset in 25 to 30 years, before reaching tentative consensus on an increase of .58 percent that would sunset down to .44.

Bynum said, “If our goal is to ask for exactly what we need based on these numbers, that’s what it should be.”

### **RIVERBOTTOM DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

City Engineer Scott Murphy gave an up-

date on the status of the project, noting, “Now we propose to start next Monday... we’ll do the water line first and turn it over to the contractor in mid-September.”

### **COMMENTS**

Anderson said he had asked Montrose Memorial Hospital CEO James Kaiser to appear before Council. “He will come and give us an update on the status of the hospital.” Bynum pointed out that the hospital does not report to City Council; Bowman suggested such a report would be better suited to the City’s public forum at the CASA Facility on Wednesday mornings. Bowman said that he would like to convene a discussion on homelessness in the City.

“I think it’s something we ought to do.”

## **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

### **NEW LGA WINTER FLIGHT & ORD FLYING THROUGH THE FALL AT MTJ**

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – With summer winding down, Gold Season is just around the corner, and the Montrose-Telluride winter air schedule is live with a few notable changes for 2019-20.

For fall/Gold Season, the Montrose Airport (MTJ) will have three flights running daily through to winter, including Denver (DEN), Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) and Chicago (ORD). This is the first fall that ORD will run daily through October and November. Daily flights will also continue into the Telluride (TEX) Airport from DEN on Denver Air Connection until October 15 and Boutique Air until October 31.

Winter flight changes are led by the addition of New York/LaGuardia (LGA)-MTJ flights on Saturdays on American Airlines. American will also be increasing their ORD-MTJ flights to daily in February and March, and running a mainline jet on DFW-MTJ flights with a 27% increase in capacity. The LGA flights will take the place of American’s previous Charlotte (CLT)-MTJ service.

“Expanded winter and fall service to Montrose combined with continued direct jet service to Telluride is a significant enhancement for our region and visitors,” said Lloyd Arnold, Director of Aviation at Montrose Regional Airport. “In early December our customers will see terminal improvements and additional amenities to support that increase.”

United’s main addition is the expansion of ORD flights through fall to winter, with that service on the verge of going daily, year-round. New York (EWR)-MTJ flights will also run daily again during the holiday season and in February and March after a successful start last year.

Delta will be adding a day to Atlanta (ATL)-MTJ service, now running four days-a-week during the core season, taking steps towards daily winter service.

“Additional nonstop service into the New York metro, one of the world’s largest ski markets and a top market for Telluride, will continue to increase ease of access for our eastern visitors,” said Colorado Flights CEO Matt Skinner. “With 15

nonstop flights from 11 national hubs, the Montrose-Telluride region ranks among the best in mountain destinations for air access.” The Telluride Airport will feature the recently launched Denver Air Connection flights this winter, operated on a 30-seat Dornier Jet with a United Airlines interline relationship. Boutique Air will not operate at TEX during the winter months. Seat capacity at TEX will increase by more than 60 percent for the winter season.

The 2019-20 winter season will see an overall increase in air service of approximately 10% into MTJ and 13% overall into MTJ & TEX combined. The two airports serving the region now offer 15 nonstop flights from 11 major hubs, including seven daily nonstop flights from six major hubs.

For full winter schedule information, please visit [www.flymontrose.com](http://www.flymontrose.com) or [www.coloradoflights.org/schedule](http://www.coloradoflights.org/schedule), and for vacation booking and information, please visit [www.visittelluride.com](http://www.visittelluride.com), [www.tellurideskiresort.com](http://www.tellurideskiresort.com) and [www.visitmontrose.com](http://www.visitmontrose.com).



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TOUCH OF CARE EXPANDS SERVICES BY CREATING TOUCH OF CARE HOSPICE

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE- Touch of Care, a diversified home care agency, started in 2001 with the intent to serve their communities and provide meaningful employment.

Today, they are excited to announce that Touch of Care Hospice was founded to provide further continuity of care and provide an option to the communities they serve in Colorado. In July of 2018, the Governing Body acted to implement the creation of the separate hospice organization and are excited to announce that they have completed all licensing and accreditation requirements and are currently accepting new patients. "Touch of Care Hospice was founded to help folks remain in their homes when it matters most while professional providing compassionate care," said Touch of Care Chairman Steve Martinez. "As our community evolves, we felt that now was a good time to expand our ability to serve our patients and their families while giving back to the community we call home." Hospice care focuses on the patient at a critical time in their lives through a dedicated team of healthcare professionals. Touch of Care's hospice team is committed to their patients and their families, their inclusive and whole-

person approach to hospice insures the patient is cared for, meeting their physical, spiritual, and medical needs. For more information about Touch of Care please

call 1-866-874-6115.

And for Touch of Care Hospice please call 970-787-9988 or visit [www.touchofcarehospice.com](http://www.touchofcarehospice.com).



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**\*Touch of Care started in early 2001 in Delta, Colo;**

**\*Touch of Care operates in thirteen Central and Western Colorado counties;**

**\*Home care and Hospice agencies are separate organizations with same parent company;**

**\*Touch of Care's complement of agencies and programs now provides further continuity of care.**





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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### GMUG ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN CRESTED BUTTE CAMPING MANAGEMENT

*Special to the Mirror*

GUNNISON-In the fall of 2019, the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests will begin changing its camping management strategy in the Crested Butte area by shifting to a designated camping system in the following drainages: Kebler Pass, Lake Irwin, Splains Gulch, Slate River, Washington Gulch, Upper East River, Brush Creek and Cement Creek.

In recent years the rising popularity of dispersed camping on National Forest System lands surrounding Crested Butte has led to a marked increase in undesirable impacts. Rising levels of E. Coli in streams, creation of unauthorized routes, social conflicts due to congestion and issues involving trespassing on neighboring private lands are all indications that a management change is needed.

"The combination of significant year-over-year increases in visitation as well as new technology that allows campers to push

deeper and persist longer in the back-country has created a situation that under our current management strategy is not sustainable," said Gunnison District Ranger Matt McCombs. "Add in that there are currently different regulations in each of these drainages making education, enforcement and visitor compliance difficult, it's time for a shift to a more direct management approach." McCombs continued, "our goal is to maximize recreation opportunities while minimizing unwanted impacts moving us to a sustainable path going forward."

The move to designated camping will require people to stay only in pre-established sites in the affected drainages. These campsites will be primarily located in the hardened areas that already exist, unsustainable sites and those established too close to water will be decommissioned. This strategy will mirror other public lands that require camping in designated sites with the best example locally

being the BLM managed Hartman Rocks. The Gunnison Ranger District is seeking informal feedback on this proposal and is engaging local communities directly to discuss potential impacts or concerns. The public is encouraged to visit the project website where further details of the proposal and an opportunity to provide feedback can be found. That site is: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=56454>.

Full implementation of the project is expected to begin in 2020 and ongoing through 2021. The proposal would be implemented as an action that is categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or an Environmental Analysis as prescribed in Chapter 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations: 36 CFR 220.6(d)(5), 36 CFR 220.6(e)(1), 36 CFR 220.6(e)(6), and 36 CFR 220.6(e)(20). For further information or questions, please contact Gunnison Ranger District at (970) 641-0471.

### NORWOOD RANGER DISTRICT SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON WILDLIFE HABITAT PROJECT

*Special to the Mirror*

NORWOOD-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests', Norwood Ranger District is seeking public input on a number of proposed management actions for the South Tabeguache Wildlife Habitat Project. "The public's participation in this process is very important to us" said Norwood District Ranger Matt Zumstein "We hope to receive comments that will help us to identify any issues or concerns related to the proposed actions."

The project aims to restore wildlife habitat through the implementation of the 2002 Uncompahgre National Forest Travel

Plan Record of Decision (ROD). The project area will cover National Forest System lands south of Tabeguache Creek to 25 Mesa Road (NFSR 503) and northeast of Ray Trail (NFSR 614) and will include the southern Tabeguache Basin, Glencoe, Pinto Mesa and the Bucktail Trail areas.

To reduce impacts to soils, watershed and wildlife resources in the area, a combination of road closures, sign and gate installation, and road decommissioning of non-system and user-created routes will be utilized by forest service officials. No National Forest Service System roads or trails as identified by the ROD will be closed or decommissioned as part of this

project. According to Zumstein, "Upon completion of the project we will not only be improving wildlife habitat, but will also be helping to restore important watersheds and improving upon the overall recreation experience."

Comments must be received by September 5, 2019 and be submitted as follows: Mail or hand delivered to:

Norwood Ranger District, Attn: Luke Holguin, 1150 Forest Street, Norwood, CO 81423

E-mail: [comments-rocky-mountain-gmug-norwood@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-rocky-mountain-gmug-norwood@fs.fed.us)

Fax: 970-327-4854

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ALPINE BANKS COMMON STOCK NOW TRADING



*Courtesy photo Alpine Bank.*

Special to the Mirror  
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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### TRAVELERS URGED TO BE AWARE OF POTENTIAL CHALLENGES WHEN DRIVING DURING THE UPCOMING LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

**COLORADO** — Many Colorado drivers and visitors to the state will take to the highways for one last summer get-away this coming Labor Day weekend. The Colorado Department of Transportation and the Colorado State Patrol are urging travelers to do everything possible to stay safe — and that means being prepared.

#### ENCOUNTERING INCLEMENT WEATHER

The signs of summer are still here: afternoons get hot, clouds start to build, thunder roars — then the downpour! Heavy rains and summer storms can lead to challenging driving conditions. Colorado highways, particularly those in mountainous areas, can be vulnerable to the impacts of weather and the natural environment.

Some roadways have already experienced incidents of flash flooding, mudslides and rock falls over the past few weeks. These events can cause major dilemmas for the traveling public and CDOT maintenance crews.

It is important that the traveling public be aware of summer weather conditions and forecasts. Just as motorists prepare for driving in the winter time, during summer months, travelers should also be ready for heavy rain storms, hail storms and what can potentially occur *after* those storms — flooding, mudslides and falling rocks.

#### WHY CLOSURES ARE NEEDED

The safety of motorists is vital. When CDOT and CSP determine that a road must be closed, the decision is made to protect everyone including motorists and response crews. The need for some closures



**CDOT PHOTO:** A CDOT equipment operator responds to a mudslide on CO Highway 145 near Telluride. CDOT and CSP are encouraging drivers to be prepared for situations which may cause delays or closures of roadways.

is obvious — mudslides cover the highway, large boulders tumble onto the road, or a severe vehicle crash occurs.

But some closures may also be needed for an area that appears to be less impacted or less obvious of the required shutdown. The I-70 mountain corridor is a prime example. Some sections of the interstate curve through narrow canyons, the lanes can be divided by concrete barriers or portions of the roadway split with elevated levels. Because of these features, the closure may be needed miles away from the actual incident, so that exits and alternate routes can be accessed. It may also limit the possibilities to turn traffic around.

If you are stuck in a closure waiting for a road to be cleared of mud or rocks, do not leave your car unless absolutely necessary.

Never hang out in the grassy median located between lanes. If traffic is moving in the opposite direction, the median can be a hazardous area. Emergency response vehicles and heavy equipment may also need the median area to move about and access the emergency scene.

Lengthy closures on the interstate may also be the result of staged releases. As stopped traffic backs up, creating long lines, traffic will be let go in stages, allowing traffic queues ahead to clear, before releasing more traffic.



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## **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

### **PUC ISSUES PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TELECOM RULES TO PROTECT OPEN INTERNET**

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has issued proposed changes to its telecommunications rules to protect an open internet.

Senate Bill 19-078, signed by Gov. Jared Polis this spring, requires the PUC to take action upon learning that the Broadband Deployment Board has found that an Internet Service Provider (ISP) engaged in certain practices that interfere with the open internet. The proposed revisions to the telecom rules establish the process and direction for the PUC to comply with the new law.

The new law declares that an ISP is no longer eligible to receive High Cost Support Mechanism grant money if the broadband board determines the ISP interferes with net neutrality by blocking any lawful internet content, application, services or devices; engaging in paid prioritization; regulating network traffic by throttling bandwidth or otherwise impairs or degrades lawful internet traffic; or failing or refusing to disclose its network management practices.

If the broadband board finds an ISP has violated the law, the PUC must issue a written order requiring the ISP to refund any high cost fund money that the ISP has received in the prior 24 months. Interested persons have the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules, and to provide oral comments at a hearing scheduled for 9 a.m. on Oct. 21 at the PUC.

Interested persons may submit written comments by using the PUC's on-line comment form at [www.dora.state.co.us/pacific/puc/puccomments](http://www.dora.state.co.us/pacific/puc/puccomments) under proceeding number 19R-0458T.

Visit [https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/puc\\_legislation\\_implementation](https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/puc_legislation_implementation) to access the proposed rules and for updates on all PUC proceedings related to 2019 legislation.



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# MONTROSE ELKS LODGE ELK TRACKS



## Montrose Elks Lodge

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 Night Tuesday August 27, 2019

Come on by the Montrose Elks Lodge for a chance to win great prizes playing Bingo: MUST GO JACKPOT \$500! Progressive Game 2 has reached MUST GO status and \$500 will be awarded to the 1st person to reach Bingo, no matter how many balls or numbers are called.

Progressive Game 4 is valued at \$1,139 and can be won by reaching BINGO in 37 numbers or less.

MASSIVE JACKPOT APPROACHING \$10,000. The Big Game, Progressive Game #6 worth \$9,500 can be won by reaching BINGO in 53 numbers or fewer.

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! Public is welcome, funds raised playing Bingo support local charities.

[Open to the Public. All Persons must be 18 years of age or older to be eligible to play.](#)

Progressive Jackpot: The total prize Jackpot will continue to accumulate weekly until the QUEEN OF HEARTS is drawn. \$15,000 maximum raffle prize limit. When we reach the "Must Go" amount of



\$15,000 purchased tickets will be selected one at a time. The purchaser of the drawn ticket (must be present) is given the opportunity to select one of the envelopes containing cards. Tickets will be drawn until the Queen of Hearts is picked and the person selecting this card will be awarded the Jackpot. Once Queen of Hearts is selected, the game is over, and a new game will start with a new set of cards and envelopes the following week. All raffle tickets are \$1.00 per chance. Game Cards: Standard playing cards with two Jokers will be used (54 total cards). MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN! Each Friday (unless otherwise posted) at 7 PM, in the Montrose Elks Lounge, one ticket will be drawn from the tickets purchased.

Bingo September 10, 2019 6:30 PM – Hawaiian Bingo Night  
Join us Tuesday evening for a fun filled time with a Hawaiian theme. Each person will receive a free flower lei and free pineapple will be available to enjoy. Prizes will be given for Best Men's Shirt and Best Women's Outfit. Should be a great time!

## HIPPIE DAYS BINGO AUG. 13



*Bingo Hippy Days was filled with laughter, applause, and just plain fun!*

The first Annual Elks Karaoke Competition reigns in September at Montrose Elks Lodge! Sing for fun or sing for the cash prizes that will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Winners.

Registration for the event is at 6:30 P.M. on Sept 4th. Contestants will perform at 7 PM on Weds Sept 4th, 11th, and 18th, and the Grand Finale will take place on Sat Sept 21st.

A one-time \$20 entrance fee will be gathered that makes up the cash prizes. Drink specials will be available every night at the competition.

Join the fun and celebrated singing by locals rising to the occasion. This will be a fun-filled event! Open to the Public.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SMPA, COBANK SEEK PROPOSALS FOR GRANT FUNDING OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-San Miguel Power Association Inc., in conjunction with its national cooperative partner, CoBank, is again seeking proposals for funding opportunities that stimulate and enhance our local economies. In order to financially support projects, programs and organizations that are actively working to improve the financial stability of local businesses, expand entrepreneurial opportunities and bring revenue to our towns and counties, SMPA will be awarding grants to selected applicants.

Member organizations and businesses may apply for up to \$10,000 in \$1,000 increments depending on the costs of their initiatives. Initiatives may vary in size and scope but should aim to benefit the entire business community of a region, not just individual businesses.

The following definition of economic development will be used by the SMPA Board of directors for evaluation of all proposals:

Economic development is the development of economic wealth of regions or communities for the well-being of their inhabitants. From a policy perspective, economic development can be defined as efforts that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and/or retaining jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base. Interested parties should complete the application available at [www.smpa.com](http://www.smpa.com)>>Community Programs>>Sharing Success Grants. Supporting documentation such as cover letters, proposal text or action plans may be appended.

Qualifying projects should:

- Stimulate job creation in our area
- Promote economic growth
- Create/improve local commerce
- Maintain/strengthen existing businesses
- Enhance regional prosperity
- Offer sustainable progress; set the stage for economic development in the long run

- Build collaboration
  - Show off our communities attributes
  - Demonstrate ability to leverage funds
- Deadline for applications will be Oct. 17, 2019 please mail or drop off your applications to a San Miguel Power Office in either in Nucla or Ridgway or mail to San Miguel Power C/O Paul Hora, PO Box 1150, Ridgway, CO 81432. San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 13,300 meters and supports local communities with \$300,000 annually in property taxes and \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates. SMPA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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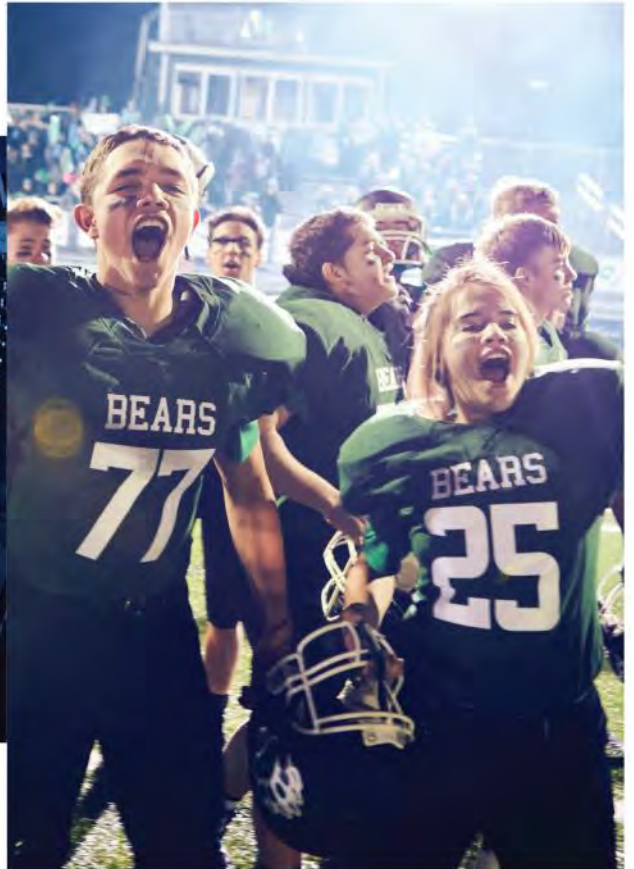
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# CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CONTRACT; RIVERBOTTOM DRIVE PROJECT TO START MONDAY

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present as Montrose Mayor Dave Bowman called the [regular meeting](#) of the Montrose City Council to order on Tuesday, Aug. 20. "Welcome everybody, I am sure we'll have a very stimulating meeting as always."

## CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments heard from the public on non-agenda items.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council approved the minutes of the Aug. 6 special and regular meetings.

## RESOLUTION 2019-21

City Grants Coordinator Kendall Cramer presented information on Resolution 2019-21, authorizing the filing of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) grant application for the Gray & Black Market Marijuana Enforcement Grant Program.

The program is funded through the sale of legal marijuana, Cramer said. The previous year's grant of \$70K was used to fund Police Department investigations of illegal marijuana, he said. The grant application is due Aug. 31; no matching funds are required.

Said Mayor Dave Bowman, "The money will go toward public safety concerns... here is another way we help fund our police department."

Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2019-21.

## RIVERBOTTOM DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT CONTRACT

Also approved unanimously was the award of a construction contract in the amount of \$988,458.79 to Skip Huston Construction, as well as an engineering support and survey stakeout contract in the amount of \$45K on an as-needed, time and materials basis to Del-Mont Consultants. The project will widen Riverbottom Drive between Rio Grande and the Gazebo Pond, City Engineer Scott Murphy said.

Skip Huston, now owned by Marty Guy, came in as low bidder out of eight bids, Murphy said. "We are looking to start Monday," Murphy said, noting that Riverbottom Drive will be closed Aug. 26 through March of 2020 due to construction.

## UNCOMPAHGRE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Council voted to approve a construction contract with Con-Sy, Inc., in the amount of \$397,570.80 for replacement of the pedestrian bridge over the Uncompahgre River at Ogden Road.

The current bridge is 60 years old, Public Works manager Jim Scheid said. "...Made out of rail cars, there's a lot of concerns with it...it's in unknown condition and is very old...there are many issues.

"It definitely needs replacement."

The new bridge will have a span of 100 feet, new abutments will be poured, and will include a 10-foot concrete path, Scheid said. The completed bridge will be similar to the pedestrian bridge behind ReclaMetals.

Said Councilor Roy Anderson, "I went out and looked at this bridge over the weekend...it's ingenious the people who built it and the fact it has lasted this long, but clearly it needs to be replaced.

"I didn't actually cross it; I was kind of afraid to."

The old bridge served a great purpose for 60 years, Anderson said.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Council unanimously approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between Montrose County and the City of Montrose for the 2019 Coordinated Election on Nov. 5, 2019. City Attorney Stephen Alcorn said that the City's portion of the election costs are not to exceed \$35K.

## STAFF REPORTS

Finance Department Assistant Chelsae White presented the [Sales, Use & Excise Tax report and Second Quarter budget report](#).

Mayor Dave Bowman had earlier expressed confusion over the fact that some figures in the Sales, Use & Excise Tax Report were presented in a year-to-date format, and White attempted to clarify the numbers. "If you are following along in your packet, on page 28 for hotel excise tax, the number for the prior year 2018, Year to Date, shows \$41,593; that's only January through June and that is how we



*City Engineer Scott Murphy spoke about the Riverbottom Drive Reconstruction Project at the regular Council meeting of Aug. 20.*

normally how we do the monthly report every month...I understand that caused a little bit of confusion. If you wanted to see the year to date 2018 total, you would have to add up the rest of the numbers... July through December," White said.

"...I think it's generally confusing," Bowman said. "Can you give me what the number is?"

"Around \$108,458," White said.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum said, "They have always been like that, so you can see at the end of June where you are relative to collections for last year... comparing the first six months of 2019 to 12 months of 2018 doesn't tell you anything.

"That's why it says, 'Year to Date.'"

Police Chief Blaine Hall reported as well. "It's been a long week, and it's Tuesday," Hall said.

He mentioned upcoming public safety presentations, and recent incidents, including a shooting on North Grand Avenue; a man waving a gun on Roma Court; and an incident in which officers were forced to tase a man who was carrying a handgun and "a lot of drugs" right in front of the new Columbine Middle School.

## COMMENTS

Bowman reminded all of his final Acoustic Tuesday event Aug. 27, featuring Donny Morales at the Pocket Park from 5 to 8 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### A CALL FOR RIPARIAN PROJECTS ON PRIVATE LANDS

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION-RiversEdge West (REW), formerly the Tamarisk Coalition, is a nonprofit based in Grand Junction that focuses on the advancement of riparian (riverside) restoration through education, collaboration and technical assistance across the American West.

REW has become well versed and successful over the years with regards to working on public land restoration projects throughout the Colorado River Basin. As time went on, however, REW identified the value of bringing in more private landowners on projects.

Fortunately, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has long offered programs for private landowners and has a great deal of experience contracting land improvements. Rather than reinvent the wheel, REW partnered with NRCS to increase project services to private landowners.

Now, Mesa County residents can learn how to utilize funding assistance and guidance for their riparian area projects by contacting Private Lands Biologist, Sarah Wilson. Riparian areas can include wetlands, ponds, drainages, ditches, creeks, reservoirs, and riverbanks. Projects can

include but are not limited to invasive species removal & revegetation, erosion control, wildlife habitat enhancement, grazing management with fencing & watering facilities, irrigation improvements, nutrient management, cropping system adjustments, orchard conservation practices, etc. To learn more about utilizing funding assistance and guidance for your riparian area projects, please contact Sarah Wilson, Private Lands Biologist, at: [swilson@riversedgewest.org](mailto:swilson@riversedgewest.org), [sarah.wilson2@usda.gov](mailto:sarah.wilson2@usda.gov), call 307-321-3363, or visit <https://www.riversedgewest.org/services/restoration-private-lands>.

### BLM PROVIDES EQUIPMENT TO EGNAR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Southwest Colorado Fire and Aviation Management Unit transferred 10 two-way radios to the Egnar Volunteer Fire Department in San Miguel County, to enhance their wildland firefighting capabilities. The radios were transferred under BLM's Rural Fire Readiness (RFR) program, which is designed to provide equipment to local wildland firefighting partners at no cost.

"The BLM works closely with local and rural fire departments to suppress wildland fires that threaten communities, property and natural resources," says Brandon Lewis, BLM Fire Management

Officer. "This equipment will improve the Egnar Volunteer Fire Department's wild-fire response capabilities as we work together to fight wildfires in southwest Colorado."

Cooperative partnerships between the BLM and local and rural fire departments are crucial to remote wildfire response on private, state and federal lands affecting grazing, recreational, wildlife and other values important to local economies. Every year, an average of 4,553 wildfires burn approximately 131,016 acres of land in Colorado.

The BLM accepts applications from local fire departments for available vehicles, equipment and supplies. To receive

wildland firefighting vehicles, equipment and supplies through the RFR program, local fire departments must meet a number of requirements.

They must:

- have an existing cooperative fire response agreement with the BLM,
- serve a rural community or area,
- have wildland fire protection responsibilities, and
- be in close proximity to BLM-administered lands and respond to wildland fires in support of BLM when available and as needed.

For more information on the RFR program, please contact Brandon Lewis at 970-240-5351 or [bclewis@blm.gov](mailto:bclewis@blm.gov).

### CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



ISSUE 225 Aug. 26, 2019

## ART &amp; SOL

## RESTORATION TO START @ ESCALANTE CANYON'S WALKER HOMESTEAD



*Above, Walker Cabin, exterior and interior. courtesy photos.*

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

DELTA-The Western Colorado Interpretive Association, Inc. was recently awarded a grant from the Colorado State Historical Fund to stabilize and restore the Walker Cabin located within the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area in Delta, Colorado.

Added to Colorado's Most Endangered Places List, a program administered by Colorado Preservation, Inc., the Walker Cabin is one of only two remaining homestead interpretive resources in the Area and is the only one left on public lands.

As a historic site listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Places, the Walk-

er Cabin is unique for its association with early settlement in the canyon area as well as its unique architecture as a non-typical, vernacular masonry cabin.

The Walker Cabin has been vacant for decades and was nearly demolished until a partnership with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (property owners), the Bureau of Land Management, and the Delta County Commissioners acted to protect this historically significant site in the remote Escalante Canyon area.

Following years of assessment and cleanup, the Western Colorado Interpretive Association raised the matching funds to apply for a State Historical Fund grant to

assist with a more complete restoration of the Cabin. With help from Colorado Preservation, Inc., the Western Colorado Interpretive Association, Inc. was awarded grant in April 2019 to perform site grading, roof restoration, masonry repair, windows and doors, and interior finish work on the Cabin.

Now with the pieces in place, work is set to begin in early fall. When complete, the Walker Cabin will contribute to the historical context of early settlement and agriculture in the remote Escalante Canyon in southwest Colorado. Future plans will be install interpretive signage and to complete other necessary interior finishes toward the restoration.

The project is set to begin in the early fall this year. Colorado Preservation, Inc. will be administering the project and the State Historical Fund grant in partnership with the Western Colorado Interpretive Association, Inc.

If you would like more information regarding the property or project, please contact Chris Miller with the Western Colorado Interpretive Association at (970) 640-7076 or Jane Daniels, Director of Preservation Services at Colorado Preservation, Inc., at 303-893-4260, ext 236.





# ROOSTERS: NEW WING BAR IN TOWN

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE – The name gives it away. The new bar/restaurant in Montrose is a familiar face in Colorado. If you are into bar food, that is.

Don't expect to find fine dining here, but a relaxing attitude and a variety of wings. Yes, wings. The place is called Roosters, after all.

My friend and I tried out the new game in town one evening and came away a bit disappointed.

It's a bar, folks, and it serves bar food. The evening we were there, with a side of flies. You read that right, flies. The door to the patio stays open straight into the bar and there are a few too many flying around to be appetizing.

You will find a plethora of wing dishes, from the hottest to the driest rub. And you may just find something you like. We didn't.

Oh, the drinks and the atmosphere are fine. There is even an outdoor patio with misting to keep you cool on a hot day, or night.

The service? Not so hot.

This evening my friend Michael decided on a French dip, \$11.99; I figured if I'm in

a wing place and that's the big draw, why not try some? So, I had sweet BBQ ribs, six only, thank you. Oh yes, let's wash those down with a Rita. Drink was good.

The meal was okay. But nothing spectacular.

The wings? You can get them as hot as you like. Signature sauces can be ordered on house-made, hand-breaded boneless wings, tossed in your choice of signature sauce and served with either ranch or blue cheese dipping sauce. The sauces run from fiery hot to hot to mild.

If you're into hot wings there is something here for everyone, from the hot sauce connoisseur to the sweet BBQ flavors. You can get orders of five for \$6, all the way up to 100 wings for \$84.50. Roosters offers wings in a variety of sauces, from very hot to hot, mild, sweet and dry rub. One hundred wings? Not my idea of a great time. You'd have to have a lot of drinks to down that many, which is probably the point. And drinks they do have. Plus, TVs for watching whatever sports are on that day.

The menu also features a variety of sandwiches, salads and burgers if wings don't fit your mood. Like I said, bar food. Not



bad bar food, but bar food.

Lots of burger choices too, from \$10.99 to \$11.99. If you're not in the mood for wings, you can choose from a variety of entrees including Philly Cheese Steak (\$12.99), French dip (\$11.99), Fish Basket (\$12.99) and various sandwiches running from \$9.99 – 11.99.

Not a place I'd go again, I hate to say. But you might, if you're in the mood for wings or appetizers and a drink.

The kids might just like it, they have a full children's menu running from \$5.50 – 6.50.

Roosters is located at 1135 E Main Street Montrose, CO 81401; phone [970-787-9898](tel:970-787-9898).



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# Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

## LIFE AFTER MUSHROOM



*The Amanitamobile leads the Telluride Mushroom Festival out of the Rocky Mountain box canyon, Imgram Falls in the background (Photo by Dean Rolley).*



*Free sign-making workshop with Seven Root of Portland in Elks Park during the festival (Photo by Erika Beck)*



*Tim and Mary Erdman huddle with the Shroompa at the Telluride Mushroom Festival parade (photo by Dean Rolley).*

**39<sup>th</sup> TELLURIDE MUSHROOM FEST ...** I wait all year for the Telluride Mushroom Festival to roll around. It means meeting up with friends of four decades – boys and girls I’ve seen grow up into men and women, immersing ourselves in mushrooms for three days at a time for almost 40 years. What a treat ... Plus, I’m on the board of the festival’s sponsoring non-profit, the Telluride Institute ... There was a time I ran the event. For the first 25 years. Lately I’d stepped back into the role of Poet-in-residence, hosting the MycoLicious MycoLuscious MycoLogical Poetry show and leading the parade. But after some management hiccups last year, I’ve stepped back into the saddle as coordinator between the TI board and our old/new management team. So, I was involved in lots of stuff in addition to poetry and parading this year. The work of debriefing, assessing, and making recommendations

for next year will be on-going over the next few months ... It was certainly a great year. The mushrooms were outstanding (and if we get a little rain in the San Juans, they will be again before the frosts set in). The talks by Heffter Research Institute founder Dr. David Nichols, *Fundacion Fungi’s* Giuliana Furci of Chile, Mushroom Mountain’s Tradd Cotter, Cauê Oliveira of Brazil, and Dr. Peter Hendricks of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, were outstanding -- as well as workshops by mushroom dye expert Alissa Allen and costume/sign-maker extraordinaire Seven Root, not to mention the forays with Chief Mycologist Britt Bunyard and a host of others. Katrina Blair’s Wild Foods Dinner was a huge success. As was this year’s late Friday night poetry show and Saturday afternoon’s “largest ever” parade ... Telluride has gone through lots of changes over the last almost 40 years. And the festival has changed with it. But it would seem, since the Telluride mushroom event has always championed the entheogenic use of mushrooms as medicine – in addition to the mycelial kindom’s [sic] many other uses, that the culture has finally caught up with the festival’s lead. In the past few years all the major media have headlined the medicinal value of mushrooms, including fungal entheogens. What used to be a daring exploration of a taboo subject has become a showcase for con-

tinuing research into this controversial area of mushrooms’ psychological and spiritual value.

**PULLED MUSCLE ...** The last few years it’s been great fun celebrating my birthday in the midst of the mushroom festival. But as the candles proliferate into the seventies, it becomes a bit of an unwelcome reminder of the short time left rather than a true celebration (although everyone is very kind to me and serenaded me more than once over the weekend) ... As for the body, aging means I can’t race around town on a bicycle much (although I did throw a mushroom party that started at midnight Friday night with Pisco sours and which didn’t close its doors until 4 a.m. Saturday morning) ... Of course, wouldn’t you know, I pulled a hamstring muscle moving supplies, sets and costumes into and out of town this year. It seems 74 is getting into the upper reaches of reasonable schlepping.



## Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes, continued

**GOOD/BAD** ... Seems things come in waves. Had a series of scares ... Thought my cell phone had been stolen by a weird hitchhiker (it hadn't) ... Thought my gas can and flashlight had been stolen by a stranded motorist who sought help at my door (they had) ... Drove up to Crested Butte in a car my mechanic had checked out for battery problems, only to end up with a dead starter -- which after tow and repair penciled out at over half a grand (But let me recommend Crested Butte Auto Repair -- great folks, good work and fast) ... And a series of lovely talks I got to give about my teacher Dolores LaChapelle -- at Shaman's Drum in Hotchkiss, Intersect's Science & Spirituality conference at Christ Church in Telluride, and the Grand Valley Literary Festival in Crested Butte and Gunnison.

**LONE TREE CEMETERY** ... The Cemetery Board is sponsoring a Remembrance Day to raise money to help preserve Telluride's historical burial grounds Friday Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> between 4 and 6 p.m. Donation is \$20 and docents will be at selected gravesites to talk about some of the memorable people, past and present, interred at the site east of town.

**WEEKLY QUOTA** ... "DNA testing is no longer a niche interest, it's a mass consumer market, with millions of people wanting to experience the emotionally powerful, life-affirming discoveries that can come from simply spitting in a tube." -- Howard Hochausser, chief executive of the on-line genealogy testing company *Ancestry* in 2017

## THE TALKING GOURD

### Susurrous

This Whispering Pines Fire District pen in my hand  
was left on my car in a ponderosa forest  
six years ago, a bad drought year,  
with the list of fire restrictions neatly tucked  
beneath my windshield wiper.

Now, another dry year, the same pen  
still whispers to me that fire is inevitable,  
dark orange blaze slashes through my home --  
what little security I had wrapped around myself  
like a gossamer shawl is burning to ash.

But I also feel of the stirrings of seeds that have  
evolved with fire, learning to open wide after the heat --  
I hear them softly murmuring that I can rise  
from the ashes of my own drought,  
I can be the rain that soaks into my parched soil,  
I can be the witness to my own re-growth.

-Kyra Kopestonsky  
On the Road

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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN KICKS OFF FOR WEST END TRAILS

#### *Special to the Mirror*

NUCLA-The public is invited to participate in a series of workshops regarding recreation on our BLM public lands. Montrose West Recreation (MWR), partnering with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC), the Trust for Public Lands and the Telluride Foundation, announce the first set of public lands stakeholder workshops. MWR was awarded a Trails Planning Grant from Colorado Parks & Wildlife earlier this year to create a community-based proposal for four areas outside the towns of Naturita and Nucla, which are listed below.

The meetings will gather information from user groups in order to identify current uses and opportunities for future outdoor recreation development on West End BLM public lands.

- Motorized Recreation and Ranch Leaseholder Discussion – Sept. 10 6:30-8:30
  - Non-Motorized Recreation and Equestrian Discussion – Sept. 11 6:30-8:30
  - Meeting Location: The Nucla First Park Community Center.
  - Facilitator: Public Lands Solutions
- Areas to be discussed include:  
Naturita Flats south of Naturita;  
The Sawtooth Area west of Naturita;

Areas north and east of Nucla surrounding the Paradox Trail.

The workshops will provide opportunities to identify current usage within the area. Existing trails plus conceptual trails and

other potential recreational improvements will also be discussed.

Opportunities to provide additional input will exist after the initial meetings for those unable to attend.



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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDS YOUTH APPRENTICESHIPS IN RIDGWAY

#### *Competing in the Ridgway Chamber Open pays for on-the-job training for local students*

##### *Special to Art & Sol*

RIDGWAY—This summer, Ridgway High School 9<sup>th</sup> grader Zach Sauer spent many days at the bottom of the Gunnison Gorge, but his adventures were not part of a family vacation nor an outdoor camp. Sauer was among the first five students hired by local businesses as part of the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce Apprenticeship Program.

The program is funded by \$3,600 raised by the 2018 Ridgway Chamber Open. The number of apprenticeships available for 2020 depends on the amount raised at this year's golf tournament on September 14 at the Divide Ranch & Club.

During summer 2019, the apprentices were Sauer at RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service, Ashley Medina at Cowgirl Creations Flowers & Gifts, and Kelli Donivan at Lucky Find Consignments. Mountain Girl Gallery and Beautifully Served by Jill applied for the program but funds were insufficient to pay for apprenticeships at their businesses. Increased donations at this year's Chamber Open would mean more opportunities for businesses and students alike.

The program grew out of the chamber's philosophy that local business success is

predicated on local talent, and that the town's first priority talent pool should be its existing residents and youth. The apprenticeships include training in real-life skills and valuable professional development, as well as providing extra staffing capacity to local businesses at no cost during the busy summer months.

"They taught me all sorts of things about fishing, guiding, preparing for trips, and working in general. Plus, working in the Gunnison Gorge is absolutely amazing," said Sauer about his apprenticeship. "On my first time riding into the Gorge, I white knuckled it down the road. It's 10 miles of the sketchiest road I've ever been on. But, I got used to it, and being able to spend my day working in such a beautiful place was the best."

RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service participated in the apprenticeship program "to fill a critical role for the company and tasked him with an accelerated rate of comprehension," said RIGS co-owner Tim Patterson. "Zach's dedication, impeccable timing and readiness were invaluable traits we look for from any of our employees. His developing attention to detail will surely help develop a strong work ethic and ap-

preciation for the end product that will be an asset to any employer," Patterson added.

"In a world of oversaturation of media and electronic devices, it's refreshing to see youth within our community reach out and get involved in apprenticeships that foster hard work and connections with traditional hands on skills."

Next summer's apprenticeships will again be funded 100 percent by the Ridgway Chamber Open, which is on Saturday, Sept. 14. The 2019 tournament at Divide Ranch & Club begins at 8 a.m. with registration and breakfast, followed by a shotgun start at 9 a.m. and 18 holes of golf on 7,039 challenging yards with some of the most extraordinary views imaginable. Following tournament play will be an Awards Celebration and a "Taste of Ridgway" lunch with food from chamber member businesses and live music with local favorite David Nunn. This year's event is sponsored by RiverSage Ridgway LLC and a growing list of more than 25 local and regional businesses.

To get information, donate or register to play, go to <https://ridgwaycolorado.com/things-to-do/events/golf>.

### DOWNTOWN COLORADO, INC. HOSTS CREATIVE INDUSTRY WORKSHOP IN MANITOU

##### *Special to Art & Sol*

MANITOU SPRINGS—In conjunction with Colorado Springs Start-Up Week, Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI) will be hosting a Small City- Big Ideas Workshop in Manitou Springs on Sept. 10th, 2019 from 9 AM – 4 PM at the Manitou Art Center (MAC). This event is geared towards small business and city builders interested in understanding the balance between tourism and local needs in a healthy business mix to support a creative economy.

The workshop will feature Manitou Springs entrepreneurs and leaders with an overview of tools and resources from Manitou Springs community leaders, tours of the Manitou Arts Center (MAC), an interactive discussion on creative placemak-

ing, and a happy hour. Attendees will get the chance to meet with notable creative entrepreneurs from the area and hear firsthand about the challenges, achievements, and business survival strategies used by these small-business owners and the role they play in the community.

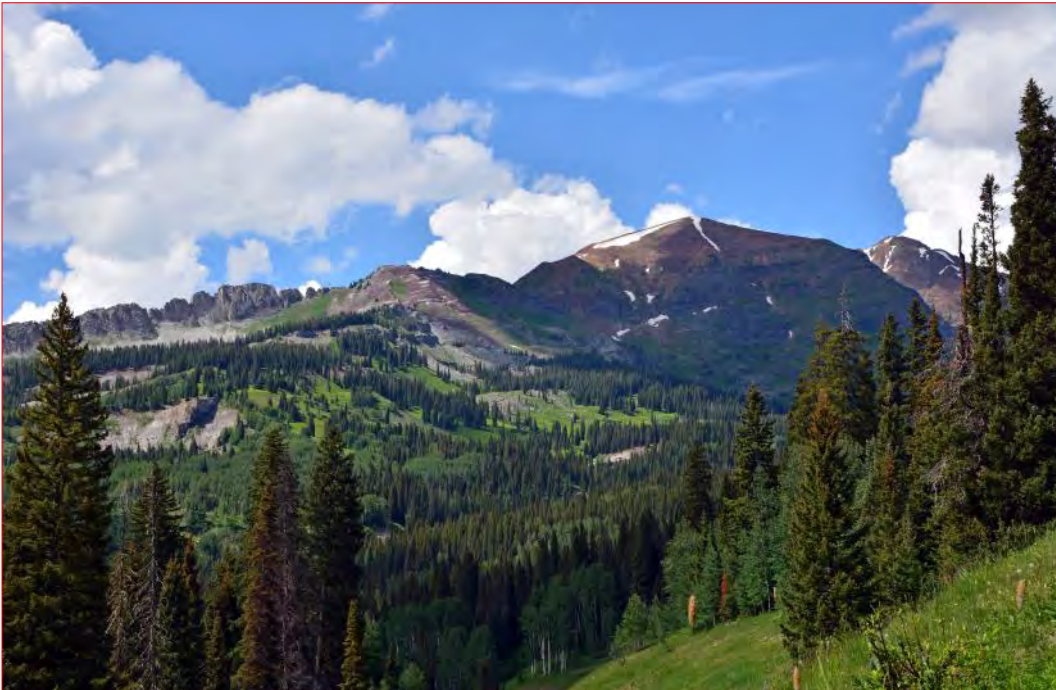
Participants will also take part in a case study discussion of the Manitou Art Center, a creative and community hub, as an example of these creative endeavors. Participants will work together to identify areas of improvement and how similar initiatives could be modified for their own communities. Following the discussion, attendees will tour the MAC, which boasts a makerspace, tool library, and co-working areas.

"For the past few years I have had the privilege of working with Manitou Springs' leaders," said Katherine Correll, DCI Director, "We are really excited to showcase the Manitou Arts Center as a unique and innovative place to incubate business, ideas, and creativity."

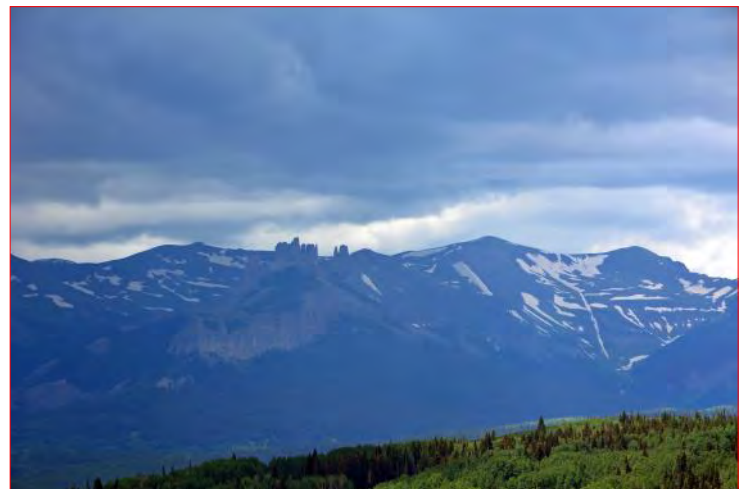
We invite you to join us for this unique workshop. Attendees include property and business owners, creatives, entrepreneurs, community leaders and stakeholders, City Council members, City Officials, and anyone interested in deepening their understanding of the growing creative and experiential economy. For more information about the event please visit <http://www.downtowncoloradoinc.org/event-3377642>



## READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB & GENE REIMANN



*Clockwise from top left, Kebler Pass by Gene Reimann; asters and stump, Irwin Cemetery, Kebler Pass; Castle Formation from Ohio Pass; aspen and ferns, Kebler Pass. Photos by Deb Reimann.*





# ACOUSTIC TUESDAYS

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## SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

### CURRENT/ONGOING-

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

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP** meets every third Tuesday of each month at the Centennial Meeting Room at 6pm, behind City Hall. New Watch Groups are formed and guest speakers alert us to safety issues. The public is encouraged to attend. Contact Chris Hebert at 970-901-5876 for details.

**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

Montrose Toastmasters meets every Monday at 6 pm with official meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. The other Mondays will be "working" meetings. They are held at Brookdale Sunrise Creek, 1968 Sunrise Drive, Montrose, Second Floor, Media Room.

**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 Wednesday 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.

**READING TO ROVER**-Montrose Library. Every Tuesday, Sept. 3rd – Dec. 10. 3:30 - 4:30pm. Read to a Morningstar Therapy Dog. Call 970.249.9656 option 2 or visit the children's desk to sign up for a 15-minute reading time.

**THE BOLD AND THE ITALICIZED (ST)**. Montrose Library. Every Wednesday, Sept. 4 – Dec. 11, 10am - 11am. Family-friendly story time featuring stories, songs, and activities. Toddler-preschool age appropriate.

### MONTHLY-

**Aug. 25**-MAPA Annual Dog Splash will be at the outdoor pool at the Montrose Field House 1-4 p.m. Aug. 25. Well-behaved, leashed dogs from St. Bernard's to chihuahua's. Co-sponsored by Re and MAPA. Dogs are \$5, people are free.

**Aug. 27**-DMEA Rate Hearing, 5 p.m., Delta-Montrose Electric Association Headquarters, multi-purpose room.

**Aug. 31**-Solo guitarist David Rogers performs Saturday, Aug. 31 at 7:30 pm at Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery, 68 S. Grand Ave, Montrose, CO 81401 (323) 270-6284. \$15 - \$20. To learn more visit <http://www.healthyrhythm.net> or <http://www.davidrogersguitar.com/>

**Sept. 3**-Chess Club, 4pm - 5pm. Join us in the Montrose library meeting room for once monthly chess club, chess boards and pieces provided. Children under age 7 must have an adult with them, no sign-ups required.

**Sept. 4**--Boomers & Bicycling 10. Sept. 4 @ 9 am - Noon Free. Montrose Senior Center, You are never too old to ride a bicycle... or get back on one! This FREE 3-hour class includes an indoor discussion on bicycle safety and rules of the road, tips for selecting the right gear, and time on your bicycle practicing bicycle handling and balance skills.

**Sept.7**-The 2019 Montrose County/City of Montrose Household Hazardous Waste Event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the City of Montrose Public Works Shop located at 1221 64.50 Road. Fee Schedule published at: [www.cityofmontrose.org/337/Household-Hazardous-Waste](http://www.cityofmontrose.org/337/Household-Hazardous-Waste)

**Sept. 8**-Savor the San Juans Home Tour: Local Foods, Chefs, Homes. The 6th Savor the San Juans home tour features Centennial Ranch. Taste your way through six inspiring properties, each with chef prepared gourmet bites from local farms and decorated tables by local designers. Toast the tour with local libations at the Ute Museum. More info and tickets at [valleyfoodpartnership.org](http://valleyfoodpartnership.org), Tiffany, Etc., Honey Acre Farm Stand, ElderAdo Financial, and San Juan Gardens. (781)264-1882.

**Sept. 10**-ROCK ART OF THE PARADOX VALLEY, 1 p.m. @ Montrose Senior Center (1800 East Pavilion Place).

Take this picturesque journey through the ancient lives in Paradox Valley through the rock carvings they left behind.

Presenter: Glade Hadden, geologist.

**Sept. 11**-Wednesday, Sept. 11th at 6 pm. Yoga for Cyclists, at the Brewery! Cost: \$10 (cash only). Experience a deep release for those tight legs, hips & back! This unique class will take place on the outdoor patio at 2 Rascals Brewing Co. All mats and props will be provided by Yoga House. All abilities are welcome! After class, grab a cold brew and talk cycling with us!

**Sept. 12**-Ignite Montrose. Join us for an evening of fast-paced presentations. Community members share their adventures, hobbies, travels, ideas or other passions in 5 minutes (20 slides). Be inspired, entertained and motivated! Sept. 12 at 7 pm at Intrinzik, 512 East Main, Montrose.

**Sept. 13**-Friday Flicks, Montrose Library. 4 - 5:30PM. Join us in the story time room! As the days get shorter, let's head to Hawai'i and celebrate the little monster in all of us by watching Lilo & Stitch.

**Sept. 14**- 'ALIVE AND STILL KICKIN' VARIETY SHOW, 11 a.m., \$5. This VARIETY SHOW is full of surprises, great talent and good BBQ along with all the fix in's. Start at 11 PM with BBQ and entertainment that includes Cheryl Clapton, Bruce Pollard, The Huck, Tim Veazey, a Magic Show, Barber Shop Choir, comedy skits and much more!!! JOIN THE FUN as All donations support our 'Pay It Forward' Senior Lunch Fund. Info: Marilynn Huseby 970 901 9914.

**Sept. 14**-Smart Cycling 101. Sept. 14 @ 9 am - 3 pm \$25. Montrose Rec Center. Become empowered to ride your bicycle on the road with confidence and competence! This course combines indoor instruction and discussion, a bike handling practice session, and a guided ride around Montrose to experience and discuss the principles of vehicular cycling.

**Sept. 19**-Art Club, Montrose Library from 3:30pm - 4:30 pm. We will be using pastels to create pop art inspired by Keith Haring's graffiti art; leave with 1-2 completed works. This program is intended for kids ages 4-12 and their caregivers, but families are welcome.

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

[Editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:Editor@montrosemirror.com)

[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)

## MIRROR IMAGES...LATE SUMMER SIGHTS!



*MHS Marching Band practicing on Saturday.*



*From top right, the Mattie's Produce stand is open at Main & San Juan; pets enjoy the MAPA dog splash (photo by Jack Switzer); kayakers are still enjoying the abundant waters of the Uncompahgre River.*



## READ THE MONTROSE MIRROR!



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