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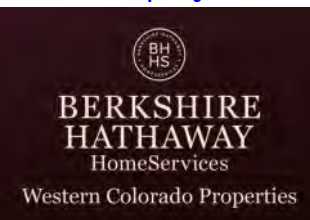


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the Montrose Mirror

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Issue No. 343 Sept. 23, 2019

CITY SAYS GOODBYE TO TURNER, DESIGNATES POTATO GROWERS BLDG AS HISTORIC STRUCTURE



The City of Montrose has designated the Potato Growers site at 39 West Main Street a historic property.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council convened for a [regular meeting](#) on Tuesday, Sept. 17. All Councilors were present. With Cherie Collins of the Daughters of the American Revolution in attendance, Mayor Dave Bowman issued a proclamation in support of Constitution Week.

Bowman also issued a proclamation in support of Virgil Turner Day, Sept. 19, 2019. Turner has worked for the City of Montrose since Sept. 16, 1988, and will now take a job with the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning. Turner thanked Council for the proclamation,

[Continued pg 8](#)

COUNTY APPROVES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, AWARD OF AIRPORT EXPANSION PROJECTS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 17. All commissioners were present. Pastor Karl Leuthauser of Grace Community Church delivered the invocation. First though, Leuthauser asked, "Do you like each other? Do you get along?"

BOCC Chair Sue Hansen thanked Leuthauser for the thoughtful invocation and said, "For the record, we do like each other."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments heard from the public.

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the meeting agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

[Consent Agenda](#) items were

[Continued pg 4](#)



At the regular BOCC rmeeting of Sept. 17, Montrose County Health & Human Services Director Stephen Tullos, above, presented information on four new TANF funded programs that offer mentoring and educational opportunities for local youth.

in this
issue

[Art Goodtimes
Up Bear Creek!](#)

[Letters to
the Editor!](#)

[Reader Photo Spotlight
with Deb Reimann!](#)

[Regional events
Calendar!](#)

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WILD FLOWER BISTRO ANNOUNCES MOVE TO HISTORIC AUSTIN LOCATION

Special to the Mirror

AUSTIN-Delta's Wild Flower Bistro has announced in a news release that it will relocate to Austin, Colorado at the end of October. Wild Flower Owner & Chef Gretchen Morfogen will move her popular eatery to 22018 Main Street in Austin, a historic location with a spacious kitchen and comfortable dining area.

"Just 7 miles from Delta, this destination eatery will offer all the delicious fresh fare that has been served for the past four years at our current location and will have production capabilities for much more efficient baking production, expanded sandwich menu options, soups, salads, desserts and weekend dinner events in the future," the press release states. Anticipated opening date is Nov. 4.



THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION ANNOUNCES TWO SEPT. MEETINGS

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) invites the public and all stakeholders to engage and provide comment on its current rulemakings: alternative location analysis, cumulative impacts, flowline and mission change.

On Wednesday, Sept. 25, the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission Hearing will have staff presentations, updates on rulemaking, and, in the afternoon, members of the public may comment regarding the Commission's SB-181 rulemakings on:

Alternative Location Analysis: SB-181 directs the Commission to "adopt an alternative location analysis process and specify criteria used to identify oil and gas locations and facilities proposed to be located near populated areas that will be subject to the analysis. This rulemaking will change the rules and regulations regarding siting and local governance of siting issues. **Cumulative Impacts:** SB-181 requires the Commission to "in consultation with the Department of Public Health and Environment, evaluate and address the potential cumulative impacts of oil and gas development." This rulemaking will change the rules and regulations governing the Commission to take into account cumulative impacts as they relate to regulating the development of oil and gas development

in a manner that protects public health, safety, welfare, the environment and wildlife.

Flowline: SB-181 directs the Commission to engage in rulemaking that will "allow the public disclosure of flowline information and evaluate and determine when a deactivated flowline must be inspected before being reactivated." This rulemaking will change the rules and regulations of the Commission regarding the oversight of flowlines within Colorado.

Mission Change: SB-181 changed the mandate of the Commission from fostering oil and gas development to regulating oil and gas development "in a reasonable manner to protect and minimize adverse impacts to public health, safety, and welfare, the environment and wildlife resources." This rulemaking will change the rules and regulations governing the mandate of the Commission. **Flowline:** to adopt amended flowline rules

Members of the public will also be able to provide public comment on the rulemakings, as well as ask staff questions and learn about COGCC and rulemakings, on Thursday, Sept. 26, from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Erie Community Center.

"COGCC is committed to having an open process, where we engage stakeholders and the public in our rulemaking process," said Director Jeff Robbins. "Your voice is important to us and we encourage every-

one to participate. We are offering many ways to stay involved - by attending in person at a hearing, using our online public comment portal, to attending stakeholder meetings. Visit our website for all updated information."

SB-181 ensures that oil and gas development and operations in Colorado are regulated in a manner that protects public health, safety, welfare, the environment and wildlife resources. The COGCC is in the midst of reviewing its rules and procedures to evaluate what changes are required to reflect the new law's requirements.

COGCC Hearing & Meeting Information:
COGCC Commission Hearing:

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019
Time: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Location: Margaret Carpenter Recreation Center, 11151 Colorado Blvd., Thornton.
Commission Listening Session and COGCC Information Night:

Date: Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019
Time: 4 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Erie Community Center, 650 Powers St., Erie.

The COGCC will host upcoming meetings in Denver and Weld County.

To learn more about participating in any meetings, the rulemaking schedule or comment using the online portals, visit the COGCC website: www.colorado.gov/cogcc.

COUNTY APPROVES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, AWARD OF AIRPORT EXPANSION PROJECTS From pg 1

unanimously approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Health & Human Services

"I like you guys too," County Health & Human Services Director Stephen Tullos said as he addressed the commissioners. "These first four (items) are...all sort of trials, to see how they work, to set up some budgeted things so...our TANF eligible children who are in the Colorado Works program can get access to these things that ordinarily they wouldn't."

Tullos presented the following:

- a Purchase of Services Agreement with Partners Mentoring Youth for the Colorado Works Program to provide Art Partners sponsorships to kids age 12 to 17, effective Sept. 17, 2019 through May 31, 2020, a budgeted reimbursed expense of \$350 per child, payable to the Contractor;
- a Contract for Internship Placement with Cherry Creek Media for the Colorado Works Program to provide vocational internship opportunities to low-income students between the ages of 16 and 18 in Montrose County as part of the Colorado Works grant-funded program, effective Sept. 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, a budgeted reimbursed expense of \$700 per month per assigned student, payable to the Contractor;
- a Purchase of Services Agreement with High Grade Silver Studios for the Colorado Works Program to provide silversmith courses for children between the ages of 16 and 18, effective Sept. 17, 2019 through May 31, 2020, a budgeted reimbursed expense of \$440 per child, payable to the Contractor; and
- a Purchase of Service Agreement with CASA of the 7th Judicial District for the Colorado Works Program to provide primarily in-home Parenting Classes related to parenting techniques, to clients en-

rolled in the Colorado Works Program, effective Sept. 17, 2019 through June 30, 2020, a budgeted reimbursed expense of \$200 per parent for 10 weeks of classes, payable to the Contractor.

The items were approved unanimously. "I think it's great," BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said, "to give some of these underprivileged children the chance to experience some of these programs."

"I like where we're going with this, getting some additional training and exposure to kids who may not otherwise have this opportunity," Hansen said.

For the past several years, HHS has not expended all TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) funds, Tullos said.

The new programs will be evaluated to see how successful they are.

Future offerings could include sports opportunities.

Rash thanked the program participants for stepping up to mentor youth. "That's pretty special."

Montrose Regional Airport

For Montrose Regional Airport, Commissioners unanimously approved the third amendment to the on-call aviation engineering services agreement entered into on Nov. 21, 2018 with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for terminal expansion schematic design, terminal floor assessment, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) update in the amount of \$598,992.73.

"...We amend that agreement for each project that we undertake with Jacobs," Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold said.

"The schematic design is so that we can quantify how much it will cost us for a terminal expansion, and start a 30 percent design on that; the terminal floor assessment is to assess the issues we have with what we think are expandable and con-

tractible soils underneath the floor; and the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise update is a Federal requirement for Federal projects."

All Federal projects include DBE goals, he noted.

The project is need-based, Arnold said. "We need to start planning for the terminal expansion."

Public Works

Commissioners unanimously approved the purchase of one backhoe loader from low bidder Wagner Equipment of Grand Junction for \$99,733. The backhoe will replace an existing 18-year-old backhoe loader that recently broke down and needs major work.

"We had a breakdown this summer, and looking at the cost to fix that and then sell it six months later, it was just wiser to buy a new one and sell the existing one as is," Public Works Director Keith Laube said.

County Management

Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of Linda Riba to the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning (Region 10 LEAP) Business Loan Fund Committee for a three-year term to expire Dec. 31, 2022. "Linda does an outstanding job," Rash said.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SEPT. 19 SPECIAL MEETING

On Thursday Sept. 19, Commissioners convened for a [special meeting](#). The sole item under General Business was consideration of the award of the Montrose Regional Airport [Passenger Holdroom Expansion project](#) to low bidder Stryker & Company, Inc., a budgeted amount of \$343,909.85. Two bids had been received, staff recommended the award to Stryker & Co..

The award was unanimously approved.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PUC OPENS PROCEEDING TO COLLECT INFORMATION PURSUANT TO COLORADO TRANSMISSION COORDINATION ACT

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) today opened a proceeding to gather input from stakeholders on the potential advantages and disadvantages of regional market participation by electric utilities.

The Colorado Transmission Coordination Act, passed by the legislature this spring, directed the PUC to open a proceeding by Jan. 1, 2020, to investigate the costs and benefits to electric utilities, other generators, and Colorado electric utility customers resulting from electric utility participation in energy imbalance markets, regional transmission organizations, power pools, or joint tariffs. As part of the investigation, the PUC must determine under what conditions the costs, benefits and consequences materialize, and whether such participation is in the public interest.

Commissioner Frances Koncilja was designated as Hearing Commissioner and will work with PUC staff, stakeholders and other interested participants to collect and organize information, conduct public comment hearings or workshops, and make recommendations to the full Commission as to the next steps in conducting the investigation required by the statute.

The PUC is requesting initial written comments related to the proceeding by Nov. 15, and reply comments by Dec. 15.

Interested persons may submit written comments by using the PUC's on-line comment form at www.dora.state.co.us/pacific/puc/puccomments under proceeding number 19M-0495E.

Visit https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/puc_legislation_implementation for updates on PUC proceedings related to 2019 legislation.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CITY HAS THE RESOURCES TO ADEQUATELY FUND MPD NEEDS

Editor:

In my letter of 9-16, I presented a chart showing City sales tax budgets vs actual receipts for the years 2013-18. That chart showed that, over those six years, the City collected \$17.2 million more than was budgeted. Over that period the average excess over budget was \$2.9 million annually.

Yet, with crime steadily increasing, the

MPD got an infinitesimal budget increase in 2018 of just .6% [\$47,600]. That is the equivalent of one quarter of the cost of one new police officer. That's a sad state of affairs if public safety is as high a priority as the City claims!

The 2019 sales tax budget increased by \$3.4 million to \$17.9 million. According to City Finance, as of the end of June, sales

tax receipts were running 3.7% ahead of 2018 collections projected to year end, the City will collect in excess of \$1.3 million budgeted. That equates to 7.2 new police officers sorely needed.

The City obviously has the current resources to adequately fund MPD needs if only they would put public safety first and foremost.

Dee Laird, Montrose

VOTING NO ON 2A: TOO MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Editor:

I join with the several others who have written letters to stop the special tax election in November. There are too many unanswered questions surrounding this issue. Full disclosure needs to be made by our city council and police departments as to why the City Manager seems to be in charge of everything in this town. I will vote NO on the initiative unless and until the reasonable requests for answers are met.

Tim Conner, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO EMPLOYMENT UPDATE-SEPTEMBER

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Employers in Colorado added 9,000 nonfarm payroll jobs from July to August for a total of 2,799,600 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 5,300 and government increased 3,700. July estimates were revised up to 2,790,600, and the over the month change from June to July was an increase of 10,800 rather than the originally estimated increase of 7,200.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from July to August to 2.8 percent. The number of people actively participating in the labor force increased 6,200 over the month to 3,155,500 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 8,400 to 3,067,200, causing the number of unemployed to decrease 2,200 and the unemployment rate to decline to 2.8 percent. The national unemployment rate was unchanged in August at 3.7 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.8 to 33.5 hours and average hourly earnings increased from \$28.90 to \$30.11.

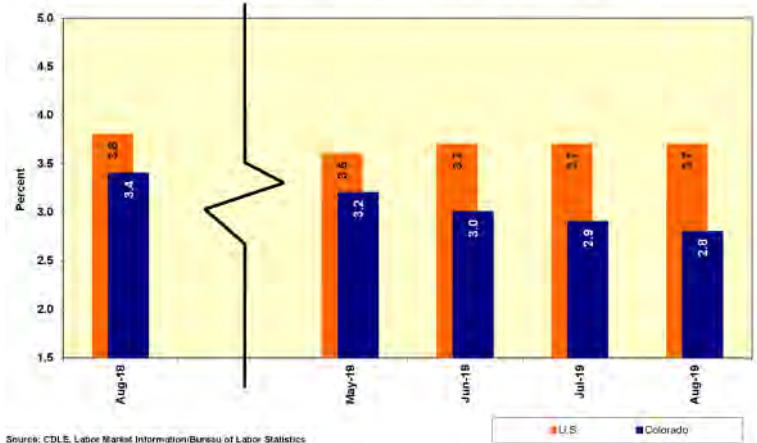
The largest over the month private sector job gains were in educational and health services, financial

activities, and trade, transportation, and utilities. The largest over the month decline was in information.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 64,900, with an increase of 54,900 in the private sector and an increase of 10,000 in government. The largest private sector job gains were in professional and business services, educational and health services, and leisure and hospitality. Information declined over the year.

Over the year, the unemployment rate is down six-tenths of a percentage point from 3.4 percent. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 44,200, total employment increased 62,800 and the number of unemployed decreased

U.S. and Colorado Unemployment Rate



18,500. The national unemployment rate declined from 3.8 percent in August 2018 to 3.7 percent in August 2019. All Colorado estimates from the establishment and household surveys, including greater geographic detail, are available at: <http://www.colmigateway.com>. Estimates for all states and the nation are available at: <http://www.bls.gov>.

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CITY SAYS GOODBYE TO TURNER, DESIGNATES POTATO GROWERS BLDG AS HISTORIC STRUCTURE From pg 1

and for the chance to serve.

"It has been a true honor," Turner said. "I am leaving at a great time...the team is so strong.

"You're not going to miss a beat...you make me proud. Thank you."

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Council unanimously approved the appointment of Danielle Godt to the City's Historic Preservation Commission. Turner explained that Godt was one of two applicants, and was chosen because she resides within City limits. Sixty-percent of the commission's members must be City residents.

NEW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

The owners of Himalayan Pun Hill Kitchen (710 North Townsend Avenue) were present to answer questions asked by Assistant City Attorney Rachel Allen. The restaurant has previously had a liquor license but had let it lapse. "We always check ID's."

Speaking in support of the application was city resident Wayne Quade. "I am proud to be a longtime friend of the restaurant and its owners...it offers good opportunities for various ethnic exposure and things like that."

The liquor license was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2485 SECOND READING

Turner presented Ordinance 2485 for approval on second reading, designating Montrose City Hall at 433 South First Street as a City of Montrose historic property.

Said Councilor Roy Anderson, "I think this is fantastic...this building is obviously worthy of being a historic site, the process is straightforward and easy to do."

Ordinance 2485 was unanimously approved on first reading.

ORDINANCE 2486 ON SECOND READING

Also unanimously approved on second reading was Amended Ordinance 2486, imposing a public safety sales and use tax, establishing the Public Safety Sales and Use Tax Fund, and limiting the use of mon-

ey from the fund to support for the level of service for public safety in the City, making conforming amendments to the Official Code of the City and requiring voter approval prior to the effective date of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE 2487 FIRST READING

Council approved Ordinance 2487 on first reading, designating the Potato Growers site at 39 West Main Street a historic property.

"This is very exciting," Turner said. "...we are already seeing great interest in our historic registry from the public...once it is placed on the registry the property owner has a lot of tools in the toolbox.

"The owners are able to get a tax credit, a pretty nice tax credit to help build equity into the building."

Preserving historic structures is important, he said. "When we lose a historic building we lose the fabric of our history."

Property owner David Fishing thanked Turner and Council for their support. "I am hoping our property can be used as a benchmark and a test case for more involvement in the process." Historic ledgers found in the building's cold storage area offer a glimpse into the past. When the original wood structure burned in 1908, the fruit and produce association constructed a new building of brick, he said.

Anderson thanked Fishing for taking the initiative on the project and for his participation as a citizen in the community.

Bowman thanked Fishing on behalf of himself and his wife Kathy, who always thought the building would make a great brewery, he said.

ORDINANCE 2488 AND ORDINANCE 2489

Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2488 on first reading, creating the Riverwood Estates Improvement District; and Ordinance 2489 on first reading, establishing the rate of assessment for the Riverwood Estates Improvement District. Both ordinances, which provide city water service to a county subdivision where the water system had failed, have been discussed at length in past work sessions and meetings.

City Engineer Scott Murphy did an excellent job of managing the project costs, Finance Director Shani Wittenberg said. "It actually came in under budget...everyone should be happy."

Costs of construction to provide water to 35 residents on Marine Drive will be reimbursed in full, she said.

Said Files, "I am really proud of the City of Montrose that we were able to do this...those people had a tremendous problem., not being able to consume or use their own water, nor could they sell their properties."

"...When you put it all together the story is really fascinating," Bynum said, "that the city could be part of the solution, for providing good water."

Glaspell noted that the entire cost of the project is being paid for by the residents of the district.

Said Bowman, "The City took the bull by the horns...we did most of the heavy lifting but we had help from the County."

BEAR CREEK SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT

In other business, Council unanimously approved the [Bear Creek Subdivision Filing No. 4 Final Plat](#). The project, which adds 32 lots and takes Bear Creek to half build-out, is good evidence that the housing market is strong in Montrose, Planner Garry Baker said.

STAFF REPORTS/ COMMENTS

Wittenberg gave a Sales, Use & Excise tax report for July of 2019.

Files said that all five councilors had received thank you notes from CMU students who had been awarded scholarships.

Anderson praised Montrose County Regional Airport's 2019 Tribute to Aviation. "...thank you to the county and everyone who worked so hard to put this together... great job and great contribution to our city."

Bowman expressed support for the Public Safety Sales Tax ballot proposal, now called Measure 2A., and said that the Hillcrest Miami Roundabout would open the following evening. There will be a ribbon cutting on Sept. 23 at 10 a.m.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THINK TWICE ABOUT RELOCATING BLM TO COLORADO

Editor:

Is the administration trying to divide and conquer again by moving detractors out West? The idea of moving the national BLM office to Colorado sounds good to some folks, but think again. The BLM is already well dispersed out West with State, District, and Field Offices well open for public input. The purpose of a National Office, however, beyond making national policy, is to engage with sister agencies, legislators, and various national organizations of concern.

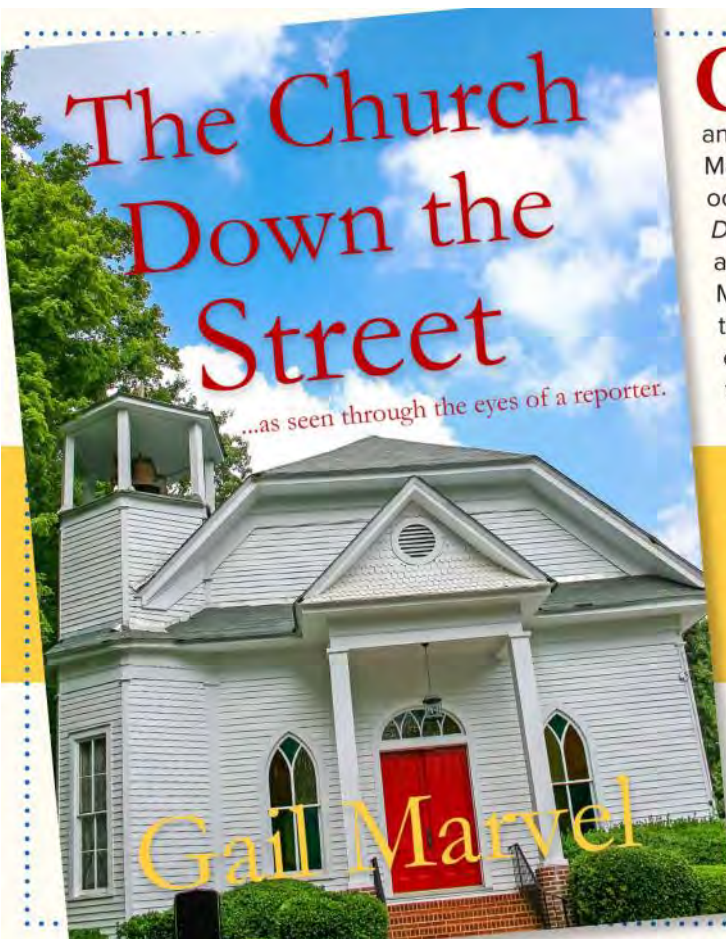
Why would we want to diminish our influence in the nation's capital? We need a meaningful place, not only in the Department of Interior, but the ability to rub shoulders with other resource and social agencies as well as various government officials. Let's not weaken both our enrichment and our influence in the nation's capital. We will always have an access for the public demands of our western citizens.

Wayne Quade, Montrose

THANK YOU FOR READING.



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On 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/.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM PLANS HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Southwest Colorado Fire and Aviation Management Unit will continue vegetation treatments on public lands managed by the BLM in Montrose County through 2019 and into 2020. “We plan to use a variety of methods to get the work done in a cost-effective and efficient manner,” said Rusty Stark, BLM Fire Management Specialist. “The projects are expected to provide environmental benefits such as reduced fire risk, restored native

plant communities, and improved habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife species and big game. Some of the projects will be done through local contractors generating economic benefits to the community.” The Sims Mesa project includes 220 acres of public lands where pinyon and juniper will be masticated (mulched) to provide a fuel break along Sims Mesa Road south of Montrose, and will be beneficial to adjacent habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife species and big game. The Dave Wood project

includes 560 acres of previously-treated public lands where pinyon and juniper will be lopped (cut) and scattered along Dave Wood Road near Montrose.

This treatment is a cost-effective method to maintain existing fuels breaks, protect private property, and improve wildlife habitat. The Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area tamarisk and Russian olive removal project will target these invasive species to be cut and piled in order to maintain and restore native riparian plant communities and reduce fire risk.





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MAYOR OBJECTS TO TIMING AS CITY CONSIDERS FACADE GRANT PROGRAM, INCENTIVES

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council convened for a [work session](#) on Monday, Sept. 16. All Councilors were in attendance; lunch for Council and staff was catered by Back Street Bagel. Three new City employees were introduced at the work session. Joining the City are Utilities Worker Justin Bacas; Animal Control Officer Shelly Robillard; and Fleet Mechanic John Amis.

Born in Montrose and raised in Wyoming, Bacas previously worked in the City's special events department and has a background in agriculture as well. "So far I am really loving this job," Bacas said. "...I don't know what I would do, sitting in an office like ya'll."

Robillard is now a full-time animal control officer for the City Police Department; Amis holds an associates' degree in auto mechanics and brings 27 years of experience to the job.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Façade grant Program

City Manager Bill Bell presented information on a façade grant program for local business. "We are talking about using the TIF monies left from dissolving the DDA." Funds are just shy of \$700K, he said, and can be used for infrastructure improvements.

"One idea we have talked about over the years is creating a façade improvement program."

The program could be set up to require a 50/50 match, Bell said.

Said Councilor Roy Anderson, "If there is a 50-50 match, the property owner has some skin in the game."

Because the grant program would be run by the City's Downtown Area Revitalization Team (DART), funds would be available citywide. "We might want to reserve the TIF for Downtown projects," Bell said.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum asked about setting up parameters to assist smaller businesses.

Bell said that the City's Main Street Program offers microloans up to \$20K. "We

have helped the Harmsen building and Guru's with that," he said. "...We are looking at preservation and beautification, to make sure our business district looks good."

Councilor Roy Anderson noted that the TIF funds were raised in the Downtown area. "Anyone who contributed ought to be eligible for the program."

Bell noted that the funds were raised through a sales tax rather than property tax. "Business owners didn't pay; shoppers did."

Bynum suggested that any improvements paid for with public funds remain with the property.

Bell noted that murals are allowed as improvements, and that the City can "pull from different pots of money" as needed.

"Our priority has to be passing the public safety sales tax," Mayor Dave Bowman said. "We need to put this on hold until we hear from our community that they are going to support our police department...I don't want to see us put any of the money that we have in reserves into a façade program now."

"I wouldn't want the property owner to use the loan fund to provide a match," Bynum said.

The 20 percent match ensures the owner has "skin in the game," Bell said.

"We definitely want that skin," City Director of Business Innovation, Tourism and DART Chelsea Rosty said.

Workforce Housing Incentives

Rosty presented information on a proposed incentive package of \$63,926 to property owner Martin McHugh as requested for asbestos abatement and remodel of the Eagle Building at 1500 East Main Street into residential units. Finished residential apartments would rent for around \$1,000 monthly.

"We have a rental vacancy rate of zero percent here," Rosty said. "We desperately need rental houses...this involves the renovation of a building that will create rental housing in our community."



Joining the City team are Utilities Worker Justin Bacas, Animal Control Officer Shelly Robillard, and Fleet Mechanic John Amis.

The vision is to transform a commercial space into rental housing, she said, and to rent that space at the rate of \$1 per square foot, or \$1,000 per month.

The costs would include \$350 for construction, and \$120K for the land, which is presently encumbered.

"We are here today to have a discussion about how we can make this project pencil for the owner," Rosty said.

She reviewed the items in the [incentives packet](#), which states that the owner estimates an approximate \$533k will be invested into the project with 20 percent of the project funded with personal cash.

Councilor Doug Glaspell expressed concern over the City paying for site demolition, concrete and asbestos removal.

"Those three items do concern me a little bit," he said.

Bowman questioned the timing of the incentives request, with a vote on the public safety sales tax ballot issue coming up Nov. 5. "If we announce we are going to give government money to a private business, we are not going to pass that." He asked that the request be put on hold until after the election.

Glaspell said, "It bothers me that we have to come in and do the demolition and asbestos. These issues come up all the time."

Said Anderson, "I think we can do both...if people can't find a place to live, they are not coming here for jobs. I think these sorts of things have to continue...this person has a project that needs done...it's a

MAYOR OBJECTS TO TIMING AS CITY CONSIDERS FACADE GRANT PROGRAM, INCENTIVES *From previous pg*

wonderful contribution to the Downtown area."

"I know the rental market is really tight," Bynum said. "...I think we can do something by helping developers." Still, "I think it's too far East (of Downtown)," she said.

Files said, "We've talked about housing for at least two years. We need to do something about housing...the Vine Project was the only one."

Bowman pointed out that there is a 72-unit affordable housing unit planned for the Colorado Outdoors development.

Files said, "'If we are going to keep talking about it, I think we need to do it.'"

Anderson said that affordable housing is an issue statewide. "It's something we need to keep in mind as our responsibility."

"I can see the article now," Bowman said. "Sixty-four thousand out of reserves spent on four apartments..."

"Those are negative arguments," Anderson said. "If we listened to those, we'd have a dead city...I hear the naysayers, but

most people are rational. This is something the City needs done."

Glaspell pointed out that the amount requested could fund a police officer's salary for a year.

Manager Bell said. "That's a flawed argument...the naysayers are wrong...they don't make any sense...here we are telling the applicants that, because there are naysayers on a separate issue, we can't help them." He cited the need for more 'workforce housing.' "The timing is difficult, we do understand...we have learned from the Vine...we prefer a flat dollar amount for rent rather than a percentage...all we need now is a head nod."

"I don't want to see this again until Nov. 5," Bowman said.

"I feel more inclined to help with residential than commercial," Bynum said. "I feel like that's where we can help....to me it makes sense."

COMMENTS

Files said there would be a meeting that week for supporters of the public safety

sales tax increase, and commended the Montrose High School Golf team for a junior varsity win.

Bynum noted the opening of the Hillcrest roundabout; "Hats off to the crews!"

Anderson praised the County's Tribute to Aviation. "It was a huge success."

Staffer Virgil Turner noted that of two recent candidates for the Historic Preservation Committee, only one met the City's residency requirement.

Police Chief Blaine Hall thanked Code officer Heidi Trimble for her work on weed issues. "She's doing a great job."

Also, "We continue to pull loaded syringes of methamphetamine and heroin off of individuals," Hall said. "It shows how our community has changed for the worse."

Bell updated Council on the Mayor and Manager's summit at the Ute Indian Museum, and a recent trip to Chicago for a symposium on public safety facilities. "It's good training for us...we will continue to travel, go to review police buildings around the state."

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

EVERYTHING LEADING UP TO THE 2019 BALLOT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The League of Women Voters of Montrose County Invites the community to attend **Everything Leading Up to the 2019 Ballot**: An easy-to-understand guide to everything from Gallagher to Prop CC and from mill levies to full-day Kindergarten

Guest Speaker: Chris Stiffler, Colorado Fiscal Institute Economist

Thursday, Sept. 26, at 6pm (Doors will open at 5:30)

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A COP: VOTE YES ON 2A

Editor:

My fellow Montrosians, you have a big decision facing you in November. That decision is whether or not to support your local police department. I'm asking that you do. Here is why: I went on a ride-along a few months ago in order to get a feel for what a day in the life of a cop was like. In the four hours I rode with this officer we responded to a neighbor threatening to kill another with a rifle. We responded to a possible burglary in progress. We responded to a "be on the lookout" call for a man walking around the streets with an axe. Those three calls all required multiple responses due to officer safety. Two of the incidents resulted in an arrest of the individuals. Those high-risk incidents occurred between 10 am and 2 pm. I can only imagine what it must be like after dark.

Our Montrose Police Department is understaffed. On any given shift, there are only four patrol officers and one supervising sergeant. They're assigned twelve-hour shifts but often work fourteen hours. Fatigue is going to set in, mistakes are going to be made.

Get to know a cop; see what he or she faces during a shift. The MPD welcomes those that are interested to participate in a ride-along. All you have to do is call the office ((970) 252-5200) and request to ride with an officer. You will be required to sign a waiver. But with that I guarantee it will be an eye opener.

I will support 2A on November's ballot. I'm sure you will as well.

Dave Stockton, Montrose

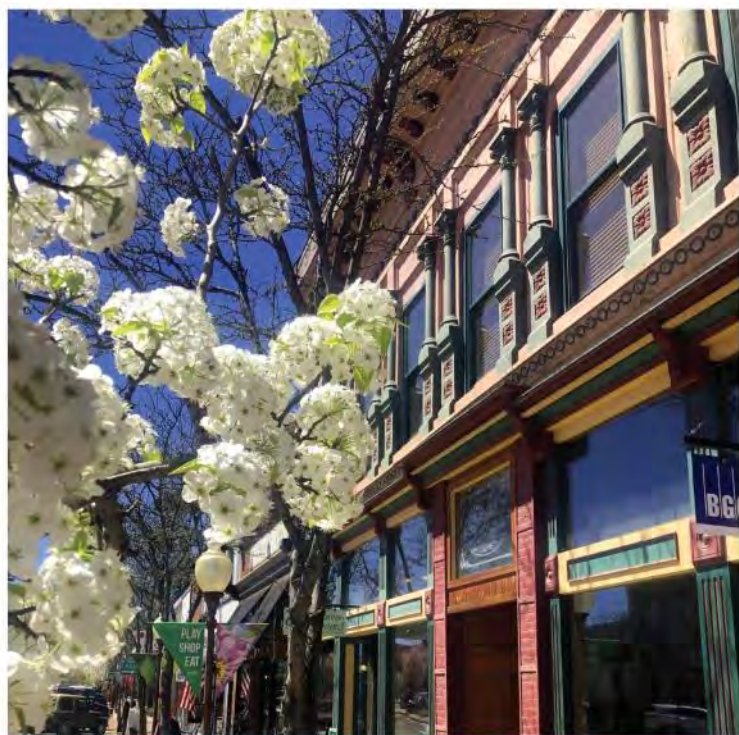


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WIMP 5 PRESCRIBED BURN A SUCCESS

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD— Last week, fire crews from the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Norwood Ranger District, along with the Payette National Forest's Hells Canyon Wildland Fire Module, successfully treated 705 acres of National Forest lands during the WIMP 5 prescribed fire.

Aided by optimal weather and ground vegetation conditions fire crews were able to effectively reintroducing low-intensity fire to the landscape. This slow-moving, non-torching fire helped crews accomplish their project objectives of improving vegetation regeneration, tree stand health, wildlife habitat, while reducing hazardous vegetation (fuels) build-up. Successfully meeting these goals has increased area wildfire resiliency reducing the chance of catastrophic, high-intensity fires that

could permanently alter the landscape and decimate nearby private property and infrastructure.

In an effort to reduce the risk to area infrastructure GMUG Fire Officials collaborated with the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) to ensure the protection of local powerlines, during and after burning operations. WAPA provided assistance and guidance on protecting powerlines, including advising crews on how much smoke the lines could have in their vicinity without impacting their performance.

"We are proud to build on our existing partnership with WAPA and our shared commitment of reducing threats to critical infrastructure and at the same time increase landscape resilience" said Norwood District Ranger Matt Zumstein.

The WIMP 5 prescribed fire project area

is located nine miles southeast of Norwood on the Uncompahgre Plateau, and consists of Ponderosa pine, Pinyon-juniper and Gambel oak. Fire crews will continue to patrol and monitor the burn area for the next several days.

For information and updates on prescribed burns, wildfires and fire restrictions on National Forest System lands and other areas, call the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Fire Information line at 970.874.6602, visit the GMUG Forest website

(www.fs.usda.gov/gmug), Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GMUGFireInfo>

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For more information on how smoke may affect your health, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO PUC JOINS WESTERN UTILITY REGULATORS' JOINT ACTION FRAMEWORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER — The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has joined four other western public utilities commissions in signing a memorandum of understanding that addresses climate change through cooperation to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. At its Aug. 28 meeting, the PUC unanimously agreed to become a signatory to the Western Public Utility Commissions' Joint Action Framework on Climate Change. As of Sept. 18, the four western state commissions welcomed Colorado into the framework. The other signatories to the memorandum of understanding are the California Public Utilities Commission, the Oregon Public Utilities Commission,

the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The group's goal is to share information and best practices to reduce carbon pollution and to expand the development of low-carbon technologies in the energy industry. The PUC is following the lead of Colorado Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado General Assembly in taking important steps to address climate change. In May, Gov. Polis signed nearly a dozen bills, passed by the legislature, to boost renewable energy and energy efficiency and curb greenhouse gas emissions, and unveiled a road map of the state's path to 100 percent renewable energy by 2040. In August, the governor

issued an executive order to help improve air quality, protect public health, reduce ozone pollution and address climate change.

The memorandum of understanding contains a statement of shared principles including: regional cooperation to address climate change; development and use of low-carbon technologies in the energy sector; promotion of conservation and demand response programs; a strong, continued commitment to renewable energy resources; and reliance upon Integrated Resource Plans to inform utility and commission decisions.

[Read Memorandum of Understanding here](#)



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GMUG ANNOUNCES FALL BURNING FOR GUNNISON RANGER DISTRICT

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON- Fire Management Officials from the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Gunnison Ranger District is planning to conduct prescribed burns this fall. Most of the burns will occur between late September and October, depending upon weather and appropriate ground and vegetation conditions.

The following are currently planned burns:

Los Pinos Burn: located 35 miles south of Gunnison in the Cochetopa Park area on National Forest System lands. The objectives for this burn are to reduce vegetation (fuels) and improve wildlife habitat improvement. Approximately 1000 acres are planned to burn.

West Elk Burn: located 14 miles west of Gunnison and about 4-6 miles north of Blue Mesa Reservoir on National Forest System lands. Approximately 600 acres

are planned to be burned to improve wildlife habitat and reduce accumulated vegetation in the area.

Safety of firefighters and the public are the most important factors considered when planning a prescribed burn. Fire managers have developed detailed prescribed fire plans that dictate conditions, staffing and safety requirements and obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for each of the planned burns. Ignition will only occur if conditions are ideal for a safe, effective burn with good smoke dispersal. The prescribed burns will be accomplished using joint-agency fire resources.

"We continue to collectively focus on areas where we can reduce fuel loading and improve wildlife habitat," said Pat Medina, Fire Management Officer.

"Prescribed burning is a cost-effective and efficient way to target areas for long-term benefits. We will only ignite these pre-

scribed fires if conditions are ideal for a safe, effective burn, as well as for good smoke dispersal away from area communities."

The objectives of the prescribed burn are to remove debris and vegetation (fuels) to help reduce the risk of larger wildfires. Prescribed fire in these areas will burn much less intensely than a wildfire and better accomplish the desired outcome on the land.

For information on prescribed burns, wildfires and fire restrictions on National Forest System lands and other areas, call the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Fire Information line at 970.874.6602, visit the GMUG Forest website (www.fs.usda.gov/gmug), or Twitter: https://twitter.com/GMUG_NE.

For more information on how prescribed burn smoke may affect your health, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

NUCLA STATION RETIRES FROM SERVICE

Special to the Mirror

WESTMINSTER-The Nucla Station, a 100-megawatt, coal-fired power plant in Western Colorado operated by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, officially retired from service as a coal plant Thursday, the cooperative announced. The end of generation occurred as the facility exhausted its remaining on-site fuel supply earlier in the month.

With the retirement, Tri-State meets its deadline for ending plant operations under Colorado's regional haze visibility State Implementation Plan. The facility, which had its final run of generation July 11 through Sept. 9, was set to be retired by the end of 2022.

As part of the transition to closure, Tri-State is providing \$500,000 over the next five years in community support during

the retirement.

"While our generating station has been a significant part of Nucla and Naturita communities for many years, it made the most sense to come offline at this time in a controlled fashion, while maintaining compliance with all of our federal and state environmental regulations," said Duane Highley, Tri-State chief executive officer. "We will support the remaining employees at the plant and the community during this transitional period of decommissioning and dismantling the facility."

Nucla Station, which began operations in 1959, currently has 35 employees who will continue at the plant and immediately commence work on pre-decommissioning activities. Dismantling of the facility is expected to begin during the first half of 2020.

Nucla Station has the distinction of being the world's first utility-scale power plant to utilize atmospheric circulating fluidized bed combustion, which achieved 70% capture of sulfur dioxide emissions and reduced the formation of nitrogen dioxide. The technology still is used today around the world to achieve lower emissions from power plants. Tri-State announced the early retirement of Nucla on July 17, as part of its transformative Responsible Energy Plan. Tri-State is aggressively pursuing its plan, which will transition the cooperative to a cleaner energy portfolio while ensuring reliable, affordable and responsible generation to its 43 member cooperatives and public power districts. The Responsible Energy Plan will increase member flexibility, with an overall goal to lower wholesale rates.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FOREST SERVICE SEEKS COMMENTS ON POWDERHORN MOUNTAIN RESORT

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Grand Valley Ranger District is seeking public comment on a proposal from Powderhorn Mountain Resort (PMR) to add a snowmaking supply line and connector trail from the Grand Mesa National Forest to the resort. PMR is proposing the following projects:

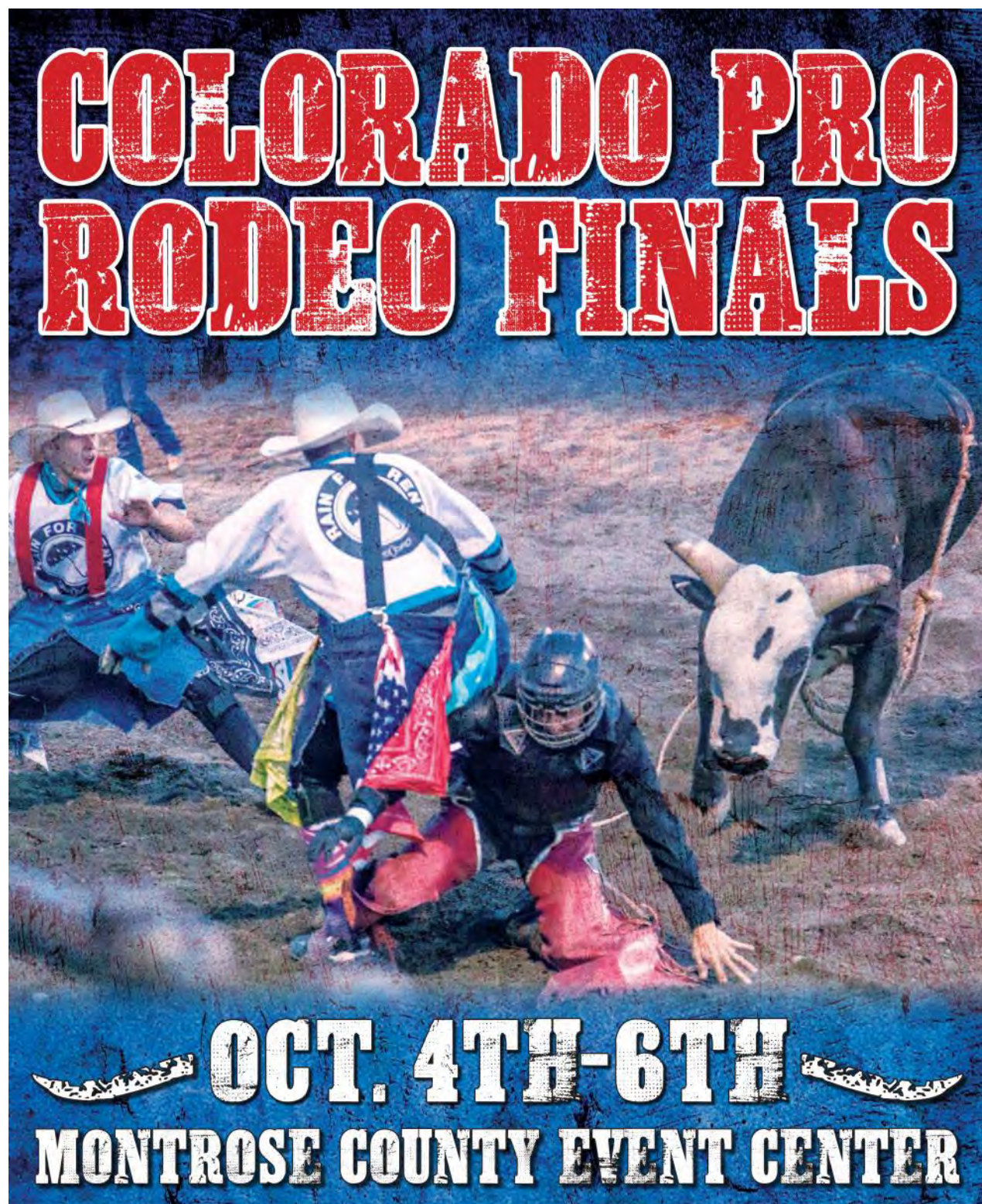
- Installation of a snowmaking supply line from Anderson Reservoir #2 on the top of Grand Mesa down near the top terminal of Lift #1.
- Construction of the Anderson Reservoir #2 Pump House and associated intake structure.
- Construction of the Rim Connector Trail to integrate PMR's mountain biking trails into the adjacent trail network on national forest lands. The snowmaking supply line would provide water for an expanded snowmaking system in order to meet [the long-term needs of the resort improving the reliability and consistency of the skiing surface](#). The addition of the Rim Connector Trail would connect PMR's existing mountain biking trail network with the Rim Trail, improving access to summer recreation opportunities between PMR and trails on the Grand Mesa.

How to Comment: Written comments will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of a legal notice in *The Grand Junction Sentinel*. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

If you wish to comment, please submit your written, facsimile, or electronic comments concerning this project by Oct. 18, 2019. Comments should be submitted to Loren Paulson, 2777 Crossroads Blvd, Suite 1, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Comments may also be submitted electronically via the project website at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56710>. From the website, click "Comment/Object on project" from the menu on the right side of the page.

For more information about this project, contact Loren Paulson at loren.paulson@usda.gov or (970) 242-8211 x4112

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR COLORADO'S DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARDS

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the Shining Star Award celebrating the contributions of workers with disabilities.

Nominations for the Shining Star Awards will be accepted online through 5 p.m. on Sept. 23. Awards will be presented to individuals and organizations in three categories: honoring workers with disabilities, employers who have taken steps to provide employment opportunities to people with disabilities, and finally, individuals or organizations that have made a positive impact on the quality of life for this community. Awards will be presented in October as part of National Disability Employment Month.

If you know a worker, a business or an

organization that has made a noteworthy contribution, this is an opportunity to recognize their achievements. Submit nominations at the website, www.colorado.gov/dvr.

Employee Awards

Nominees should be individuals who are achieving their employment goals and overcoming the challenges of an impairment (physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental, or some combination of these.)

Employer Awards

The average national unemployment rate was 3.9 percent in 2018. The unemployment rate for people with a disability that year was 8.0. The Employer Award recognizes those businesses that are addressing that disparity. These nominees have demonstrated an extraordinary commit-

ment to improving the availability and accessibility of employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Advocacy Awards

These awards are presented to individuals or organizations that have made major contributions to improving the health and quality of life of people with disabilities through research, teaching, advocacy, or practice.

This is the third year the Department of Labor and Employment and its Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has recognized the achievements of individuals and organizations in moving disability rights forward. Questions about the nominating process can be directed to jennifer.scilacci@state.co.us.

[Recipients of last year's awards are posted here.](#)



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CEDAR SHAKE FIRE MITIGATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM 2019 FUNDING EXHAUSTED

Special to the Mirror

MOUNTAIN VILLAGE-Mountain Village's Cedar Shake Incentive Program has ex-

hausted its funding for 2019 after a wildly successful summer, which saw 19 cedar shake roofs replaced with town-approved

fire-rated materials.

"In March of 2019, the Town of Mountain Village and Telluride Mountain Village Owners Association (TMVOA) decide to incentivize the cedar shake program, by uncoupling the program from the defensible space requirement and changing the program from a rebate to a building permit fee waiver," said Planning and Development Services Director Michelle Haynes.

"Participation hit an all-time high to the extent that we have exhausted all \$50,000 of the incentive funds this year," Haynes said. The Telluride Mountain Village Owners Association was a critical funding partner in the incentive program contributing \$25,000.

In total, 19 roofs were replaced this summer, totaling \$1.2 million in permit valuation. The program's budget of \$50,000 in permit fees was successfully waived.

"This is a big win to reduce wildfire risk in Mountain Village," Haynes added. Installing fire-rated roofing material is the "single most impactful step homeowners can take to reduce their home's risk," she continued.

Town Council and TMVOA will review next year's funding commitment this fall during the budget cycle.



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- Community Dining and Homebound Meal Delivery



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

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY OF MONTROSE YOUTH COUNCIL NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose is now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 Youth Council term. The deadline for applications is Thursday, Sept. 24, at 4 p.m.

The Montrose Youth Council was established by the Montrose City Council to encourage greater youth participation in the city's government. It is charged with actively advising City Council with thoughtful recommendations on issues concerning youth and assisting city staff in

considering youth perspectives in its planning efforts.

It also provides youth with opportunities to give back to their community in the form of community service projects.

The Youth Council is composed of 11 high school students between the ages of 14 and 18 years who represent a cross-section of youth attending school and/or residing within the city's boundaries.

Members must have and maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or greater. The

Montrose City Council will appoint members based on their application and an interview to be held at the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 1. The council will then appoint members at their Tuesday, Oct. 15 meeting.

Members serve one-year terms and may reapply until they graduate from high school. Scholarships of \$250 per year served are available to those who meet minimum requirements.

The Youth Council Manual and application is now available for download at cityofmontrose.org/YouthCouncil, or can be requested at City Hall, 433 S. 1st Street. Contact Mikayla Unruh, Youth Council coordinator at 970.240.1421 for more information.

San Juan Healthcare Foundation invites you to

"Hollywood Nights"

A Benefit Concert Featuring

The Jersey Tenors

November 2, 2019
MONTROSE PAVILION



Ticket Prices:

VIP Tickets \$100 • Includes dinner by the Lobby Grille and drinks
General Admission \$35

Ticket Locations:

VIP to Lark Jacobsen at 970-252-2580 or
ljacobsen@sanjuanhf.org or at the SJHF Office
General Admission: Online at events.ourtownmatters.net
or at 970-293-7929

Event Times:

VIP Reception at 5:30 pm
Doors Open at 7:00 pm
Concert at 7:30 pm



San Juan Healthcare Foundation

1800 Pavilion Dr. | Montrose, CO

BLUES-ROCKER COCO MONTROYA CELEBRATES NEW RELEASE WITH PERFORMANCE IN RIFLE

Special to the Mirror

RIFLE-Legendary blues-rock guitarist and vocalist Coco Montoya will celebrate the release of his new Alligator Records album, Coming In Hot, with a live performance on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019 at the Ute Theater in Rifle. Taught by the "Master of the Telecaster," Albert Collins, and schooled by a decade on the road with John Mayall, Montoya has a hard-edged sound and style all his own. He delivers instantly memorable songs, powered by his forceful, melodic guitar playing and passionate vocals.

The Ute Theater is located at 132 East 4th Street; Rifle.

Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25-\$40.

Website: www.brownsvillepresents.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE TAKES ACTION TO INCREASE CYBER SECURITY, ANNOUNCES INITIATIVE TO REMOVE QR CODES FROM BALLOTS

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold announced that Colorado will stop using ballots with QR codes. The removal of QR codes will increase the security of vote tabulation and ensure voters can accurately verify that their ballots are correctly marked. With foreign countries actively trying to exploit voting vulnerabilities, this is a first-in-the-nation added security measure.

"I am proud that Colorado continues to lead the nation in election cybersecurity," said Secretary of State Jena Griswold. "Voters should have the utmost confidence that their vote will count. Removing QR codes from ballots will enable voters to see for themselves that their ballots are correct and helps guard against cyber meddling."

Colorado will be the first state to require voting systems to tabulate all ballots using only human-verifiable information and not QR codes. Because of this initiative, an enhanced system is being developed and it will be tested and certified before it is deployed. Once fully implemented, all ballots voted in Colorado will be tabulated using the marked ovals on the ballot rather than information from a QR code.

The U.S. intelligence community has concluded that Russian operatives executed a campaign to influence the outcome of the 2016 Presidential Election, and warns that efforts will continue in the future. Cybersecurity experts and election integrity advocates have raised questions about the security and verifiability of paper ballots containing a QR code. Secretary Griswold is proactively leading the nation to reduce future vulnerabilities.

"We live in a constantly changing threat environment. Hostile actors will continue their efforts to discover vulnerabilities in the attempt to undermine confidence in our elections. We must continually assess all election systems to identify areas that should be improved. Our adversaries are not standing still, and neither can we," continued Secretary Griswold.

Currently, when a Coloradan votes at a polling location, they may use a ballot marking device that prints a paper ballot that displays both the voter's choices and a QR code embedded with the voter's choices. Although voters can see their vote choices, they cannot verify that the QR code is correct. These ballots are tabulated by machines that decode the votes contained in the QR code. QR codes could

be among the next target of an attack and are potentially subject to manipulation. Colorado will be the first state to require ballots from ballot marking devices to be tabulated using only human-verifiable information and not QR codes.

Unlike Colorado, many states do not have safeguards built in to catch manipulations. Colorado is the only state to have successfully conducted a statewide risk-limiting audit, in which bipartisan teams count randomly selected ballots and compare those results to the machine tallies of the same ballots. This statistically-proven method allows Coloradans to have confidence in our state's election outcomes and guards against QR code manipulation.

There is no evidence that any of Colorado's voting systems have been targeted or attacked by malicious actors.

By design, in Colorado the computers and devices that mark and count ballots and votes are completely independent from online systems. Colorado prohibits voting system components from being directly or indirectly connected to the internet, and imposes multiple layers of security to ensure that threats are not spread to a tabulation system by other means.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE NO ON 2A, REPLACE CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

Editor:

We, the citizens of Montrose, are just a little more than concerned about spending priorities that have affected the lack of police funding over the past eight years. We are asking questions and asking for answers. As voters we have a right to know from the mouths of our elected leaders where it all went and why our police department did not get enough of it. But, of course, eight years have passed and there is no chance to bring back what has been mis-directed, mis-spent and mis-accounted for. Going forward is what is important at this point, but to go forward with a plan that does not repeat the same old mistakes, mis-appropriations, mis-priorities and mis-accounted for funds. Referendum 2A will, as written, permit the taxpayer to fund just about any cock-a-mammie deal the city manager likes. 2A DOES NOT MANDATE THAT THE FUNDS GENERATED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY SALES AND USE TAX RECEIPTS GO TO LAW ENFORCEMENT. Not one cent! The way it is worded, it can be used for anything!

It is significant to note that with all the criticism of the text of 2A that I and others have written, not one word of 2A has been changed to restrict the use of the tax money collected therefrom solely to po-

lice use. Do you see what their goal is? I hope the Police Chief does.

Have we not spent enough of our city's precious funds on Montrose' 'fun park' attitude, like blowing big bucks to bring Mayfly to town when that company could have (and should have) easily funded its own move. And with no public accounting for what that expenditure has produced, no less! A boondoggle without accountability. Then we funded a private apartment renovation for a quarter of a million and just lately there is an offer on the table to fund the correction of an oversight made by a businessman when he bought a building full of asbestos that before it can be used for anything needs asbestos abatement! This in itself smacks of a backroom deal---i.e. "you buy it and we will make you whole." This is not a city responsibility. When private enterprise sees a profit in doing these things, private money will do them. We, the taxpayers of Montrose, who provided the money for this frivolous waste of the city treasury will NEVER see a return of our investments---it has been given away, plain and simple. The word is NEVER. That is why we will NEVER see an adequate accounting for the city budget expenditures; certainly not before the November ballot.

Our police department has paid the

price of city neglect and needs additional funding badly---there is no doubt about that. But 2A is not the way to get it fixed. It is a tax that will take too much from the citizens for too long. The way to correct this malodorous mismanagement of the past is to redirect some, if not all, of the city's wasteful spending on unneeded budgeted projects, to the Police Department until the stench of the city council's and city manager's mismanagement is staunch; until the city council is replaced with members with the public trust ingrained in them and the new council finds a city manager who knows how to MANAGE a city economically, who knows how to make good deals for the citizens of his city and whose main goal does NOT appear to be his own self-aggrandizement and deification.

Meanwhile vote NO on 2A, get your friends to vote NO on 2A and let those citizens who are interested in sound city government be heard above all the claptrap about what the 'poor cops need'. What they really need is Priority One funding, year in and year out in deference to being used to justify an unneeded higher tax burden on the public (in this case the working man and the retired people).

Bill Bennett, Montrose



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

"Eye of newt, and toe of frog ..."

THE MIRROR:
A classic in
the making.



ISSUE 229 Sept. 23, 2019

ART & SOL

THE RADIO ROOM PRESENTS STILLHOUSE JUNKIES



Stillhouse Junkies will be performing LIVE at the KAFM Radio Room on Friday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, or online at www.kafmradio.org.

Special to Art & Sol

DURANGO-Born in a distillery in Durango, CO, Stillhouse Junkies play a delirious, head-spinning mixture of original roots, blues, funk, swing, and bluegrass music. Stillhouse Junkies will be performing LIVE at the KAFM Radio Room on Friday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Stillhouse Junkies is a trio comprised of Alissa Wolf on fiddle and guitar, Cody Tinnin on bass and banjo, and Fred Kosak on guitar and mandolin. With all three band members sharing vocal duties and swapping instruments, the Junkies conjure a wide range of tonal landscapes that pay tribute to the iconic sounds of Gillian Welch, the Allman Brothers, Tim O'Brien, the Wood Brothers, John Hiatt, and countless others while breaking new musical ground with their genre-bending original material.

Tickets are \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501.



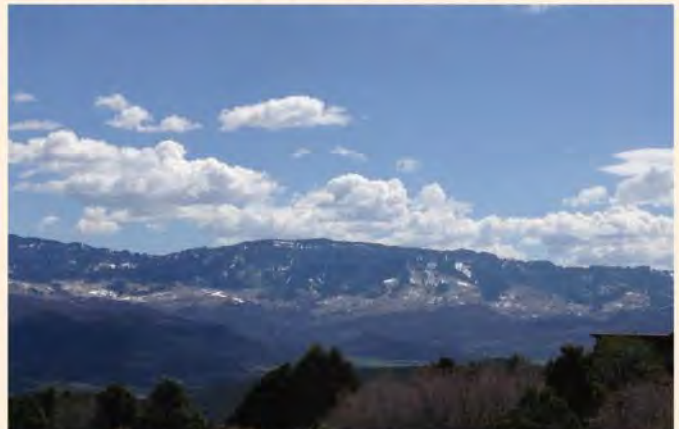
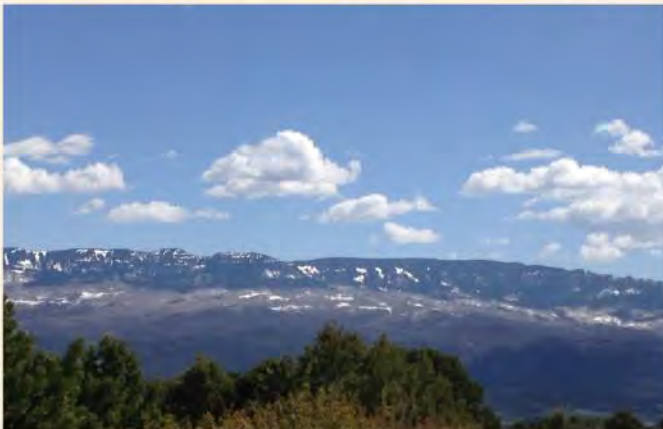
Brain food. Feed your starving mind.

The Montrose Mirror

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Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Finding the Way of the Mountain

DOLORES ... It's strange to find myself a devotee in an involuntary cult. Especially after narrowly escaping the confines of Christianity's Holy Mother Church. The Roman version ... But following Silverton-based Dolores LaChapelle's Way of the Mountain when she was alive was an incredible adventure. And celebrating her memory and trying to embody her vision since she left us has been my honor ... A handful of us gathered in La Plata Canyon near Hesperus last week to reassess her impacts on our own lives. We also did some brainstorming around what more we might do to make her historical analysis and suggested remedies more present in the public eye ... More than ever we need pathways towards reconnection to the earth we've lost touch with. Dolores offers us suggestions. Drumming. Chanting. Ritual ... If you're interested in participating in this discussion, email me at shroompa at gmail dot com.

HEADWATERS 30 ... This annual event in Gunnison has been a touchstone of my life here in Colorado. Water expert, author and columnist George Sibley gathered Western Slope progressives like Ed Quillen and Randy Russell once a year for a week-end of talks and discussions with amazing guest speakers like John Nichols and Dolores LaChapelle ... After 20 years he handed the event over to the Dr. John Hausdoerffer, who got the students at Western more involved and brought more amazing speakers (Robin Wall Kimmerer, Devon Peña, Gary Snyder, Vandana Shiva, Winona LaDuke). After heading up a new graduate program – the Master in Environmental Management (MEM) – and tying it to the Headwaters conference, Hausdoerffer handed off the event to Melanie Armstrong, who has continued the tradition of great speakers and important topics. This year she brought Joel Clement, senior fellow at Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center for Science and



Gunnison Climate March ends on steps of Taylor Hall at Western Colorado University at the start of the annual Headwaters conference (photo by Art Goodtimes).

International Affairs, to talk about Ecological Citizenship. Clement served as an executive for seven years at the U.S. Department of the Interior before resigning in 2017 after blowing the whistle on the Trump Administration for stifling science and ignoring climate change ... As if to emphasize the climate change crisis, Clement and Headwaters participants joined millions of young people and citizens around the world on Friday, Sept. 20th, in a march – in Gunnison from the center of downtown to the steps of Taylor Hall on the WCU campus. He then gave the keynote address. Telling of his firing for giving a climate change speech at the U.N, Clement explained how his research and that of many others has confirmed that we are in a crisis. And it's the young people who face a diminished future who are leading the charge in insisting our leaders take action. He added, "We can have hope. But it's not a time for hope. It's a time for courage" ... The conference included an



Citizens gather in downtown Gunnison for Climate March Friday Sept. 20th (photo by Art Goodtimes).

inspirational talk by Headwaters elder Alan Wartes on Finding Nowhere – how to be happier and healthier by living fully in the present moment; tour/workshops in the Gunnison Valley on Public Deliberation; Conservation Ecology and the Wildland Urban Interface; Weeds (particularly the cheatgrass invasion); Creating Your Own Land Ethic; master artist Amanda Sage of South Main Gunnison speaking of her Vision Train; Aaron Abeyta's video and his tradition of Letters from the Headwaters; a panel discussion of Intergenerational Citizenship with Brooke Hecht of the Center for Humans and Nature – a co-sponsor of the conference, biologist responsible for identifying the Gunnison Sage Grouse as a separate species Jessica Young, and MEM student from South Africa Danielle du Plooy; and a presentation by the Headwaters Kids Camp at Coldharbour Ranch of their posters exploring the conference theme ... I had the privilege of leading the Sunday morning wrap-up with the traditional

Continued next pg

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes, continued

Passing of the Gourd.

FOOTBALL'S DARK SIDE ... As more has become known about the effect of concussions on the brains of football players, the shine of America's favorite sport has been tarnished. Many former professional football players have been diagnosed, post-mortem, with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) – a neurodegenerative disease caused by repeated head injuries. Symptoms can include behavioral problems, mood problems, and problems with thinking. They typically do not begin until years after the injuries, and can result in dementia ... Heisman Trophy winner and former NFL All-Pro Bo Jackson said in a 2017 interview with *USA Today* that if he had known about the risks associated with CTE, he would never have played football, and he discourages his children from doing so ... A recent study published last month in *Science Advances*, notes that even routine head bumps, endured over just one season of college football practice and games, were linked to abnormal tis-

sue in players' brain stems ... Football may be an exciting sport to watch, but it's also a dangerous one. It has the potential to ruin players' lives.

The disturbing comparison with gladiators who died to provide spectacle for the Romans seems to bring that danger a little too close to home in the case of football, played as it is -- not just professionally – but in high schools and colleges all across the country.

THE CHAPROCKS ... Lots of friends joined Steve Schrock and Mary Chapman for their 40th wedding anniversary this past weekend at the old Fort Uncompahgre at Confluence Park in Delta. Steve and Mary have been sparkplugs for social action in the Delta/Montrose region. Their work with the award-winning Public Lands Partnership was exemplary. They certainly taught me a lot. Mary was one of the best facilitators I've experienced – keeping people of very different backgrounds and opinions focused and civil. And Steve did his share of collaborative lifting on the

Burn Canyon citizen science project.

CIVIC FORUM ... Had a lovely discussion with Colorado Mesa University's President Tim Foster last week for a video they're doing to promote an effort to bring civility back to social issues of our time on the Western Slope, a process they're calling the Civic Forum ... After years as a member of the Public Land Partnership, I know that civil engagement can happen. It just takes the right mix of attention, commitment and willingness to listen, as well as share ... For more info, go here: www.coloradomesa.edu/civic-forum/index.html

SIHASIN ... If you like your politics with salsa, come listen to this Navajo rock band Saturday night Oct. 12th for Indigenous Peoples Day weekend in Telluride at the Liberty Bar, starting at 9 p.m. \$5 cover. Featuring guitars, drums, saxophone, kids, elders, great music and soapbox indigenous rap.

Highly recommended.

THE TALKING GOURD

Omen

Red splash of a broken watermelon
tossed on the highway apron
just outside Montrose

A little further on
Same highway
Same day

An extended neon blur
of deer blood
staining the pavement

ASK ALPINE BANK ABOUT THE **TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM**

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

THE EVERLY SET COMES TO DELTA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER OCT. 1

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-If you like the songs from the 1960's, you won't want to miss this concert. THE EVERLY SET, A Tribute to the Everly Brothers, will be coming to the Performing Arts Center, 820 Grand Ave., in Delta, on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. to entertain and remind concert goers of the great history of the famed brothers. This concert is the outstanding season opener of the 2019-2020 Delta-Montrose Community Concert Association Concert Series.

In 1957, teenagers Phil and Don Everly released mega-hits "BYE BYE LOVE" and "WAKE UP LITTLE SUSIE" supercharging the vocal sound of Rock n Roll and unleashing the sparkling, brotherly harmony that would influence The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, The Beach Boys, The Hol-

lies, Peter, Paul & Mary, Bob Dylan, The Bee Gees and The Eagles. Their impact on popular music throughout the 60s and 70s is immeasurable. Now, six decades later, two highly acclaimed singer-songwriters have combined forces to become THE EVERLY SET. An honest approximation of the originals, Sean Altman (Rockapella founder), Carmen Sandiego (theme song composer), and rocker Jack Skuller (winner of the Songwriters Hall of Fame Holly prize and former Disney radio and record artist) bring the EVERLY'S sparkling hits to life with bravado and visual style. An affectionate humor and deep appreciation of this music and the brothers Everly, are clearly abundant and the basis of THE EVERLY SET. BYE BYE LOVE, WAKE UP LITTLE SUSIE, CATHY'S CLOWN, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DREAM, WHEN WILL I BE LOVED,

CRYING IN THE RAIN, BIRD DOG, CLAUDETTE and many more classic hits are on schedule for this supercharged performance.

Also included in the 2019-2020 Delta-Montrose Community Concert season are Prime Time Trio, Terry Barber Trio, Ty Galenbeck (Magician), and the Classic Nashville Roadshow.

Season tickets will be available at the door for \$45/Adults; \$15/Student; or \$95/Family. Doors will open at 6 p.m.. Single admission for this concert is \$20/Adult or \$5/Student.

For more information about the Delta-Montrose Community Concert Association, visit our website at del-tamontroseconcerts.com or call Bob Brown, 970-835-4480 or Elaine Baker, 970-249-3735.

CELEBRATE COLOR WEEKEND SEPT. 28-29

Special to Art & Sol

MESA-On Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 28 and 29, join the autumn adventure of Color Weekend, hosted by Powderhorn Mountain Resort and other local business on the Grand Mesa.

Activities include live music and dancing, \$14 Scenic Lift Rides through the vibrant yellow, red, and orange colors of fall, mountain biking, guided on-mountain photography workshops, hiking, the Care Flight Helicopter Ride Raffle, and painting classes by The Palette.

TOUR OF THE MOON CYCLING EVENT ROLLS OUT SEPT. 28

Special to Art & Sol

MESA COUNTY—The Tour of the Moon cycling event on Sept. 28 begins and ends in downtown Grand Junction.

The event is part of [Roll Massif](http://www.rollmassif.com), a series of eight Colorado cycling events that also includes longstanding cycling classics like Elephant Rock in Castle Rock and Copper Triangle at Copper Mountain Resort.

"We love orchestrating Tour de Vineyards and Tour of the Moon," said Roll Massif managing partner Scott Olmsted.

"Wonderful host towns, incredible volunteers and world-class riding and scenery make for two great weekends."

Riders registered to participate range from everyday recreational cyclists to former professional athletes who have repre-

sented the United States at international competitions like the Tour de France and world championships. The event is supported by Colorado State Patrol and the local Sheriff's Office. Roll Massif events always support local charities. Tour of the Moon benefits One Riverfront and Bicycle Colorado. For more information, visit www.rollmassif.com.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLLEGE STUDENTS CAN SKI MORE THIS SEASON WITH COLORADO SKI COUNTRY DEALS & DISCOUNTS



Powderhorn Mt. Resort. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER—Colorado Ski Country USA (CSCUSA) member resorts are offering steep discounts on skiing and riding for college students for the 2019-20 winter season. Season pass deals, multiday lift ticket packages, discounted lessons, discounted dining options and group activities are great for any college student, whether they are longtime residents who have grown up skiing and riding or are entirely new to the state and Colorado's winter sports.

Individual Resort College Student Deals and Discounts

Arapahoe Basin Ski Area

A-Basin is offering a college pass to students taking 12 or more credit hours per semester. For \$199, full-time students can get a 5-day pass with no restrictions or blackout dates, but this must be purchased by December 20, 2019. A-Basin also offers a midweek pass that is ideal for college students with flexible schedules and weekdays with no classes. For more information, visit www.arapahoebasin.com.

Aspen Snowmass

At \$709, the College Premier Pass is the best value for frequent visitors to Aspen Snowmass. Purchasers receive unlimited skiing and riding all winter long, dining discounts, rental discounts, summer discounts, and more. College students can enjoy two days of skiing and riding on all four mountains at Aspen Snowmass during

the X Games January 23-26, 2020 with the College X Pass. The pass also offer two additional days of discounted skiing and 35 percent discounts on rentals at Four Mountain Sports. For more information, visit www.aspensnowmass.com.

Cooper

The Cooper XP Pass, which is only on sale in October and November, is a 4-day pass for only \$139. The pass offers college students four days of skiing for less than \$35 a day. Cooper continues to have 2Fer Tuesdays

with two lift tickets for the price of one adult ticket starting January 7 through the end of February. Cooper also has \$30 Thursdays starting January 9 through the end of March. For more information, visit www.skicooper.com.

Copper Mountain

Copper Mountain offers actively enrolled college students an exclusive pass savings option. Starting at \$409, college students can enjoy unlimited access to Copper Mountain as well as a host of perks including three free days at Monarch Mountain, Purgatory, Taos Ski Valley, NM and Powder Mountain, UT as well as 15 percent off regularly priced food, beverages and retail at Copper-owned locations. For more information, visit www.coppercolorado.com.

Echo Mountain Resort

Echo offers an Unlimited College Season Pass which is currently priced at \$229 and offers unlimited discounted buddy passes and 1 free hour of tubing each month December through March. The Night Season Pass and Midweek Season Pass can also be purchased for under \$100 and are a great option for college students. For more information, visit www.echomountainresort.com.

Eldora

Eldora offers two season passes for college students. The College Full Pass is currently \$349 and offers unlimited skiing and riding, while the College Midweek Pass for skiing or riding Monday-Friday is \$249.

Students must attend school full-time, be under age of 26 at the time of purchase and must present current class schedule, valid college ID and government issued ID for verification. For more information, visit www.eldora.com.

Granby Ranch

Granby Ranch offers a 3-pack deal for as low as \$69, ideal for college students on a budget. Granby Ranch also offers season passes for \$329. New for 2019-20 winter season Granby Ranch Season Pass holders can enjoy three free days, without black outs, at each of these Colorado ski areas: Monarch Mountain, Loveland Ski Area, Sunlight Mountain Resort and Cooper. For more information, visit www.granbyranch.com.

Hesperus Ski Area

College students who ski and ride at Hesperus Ski Area can take advantage of College Fridays. College Fridays offers discounted tickets to enrolled students in Colorado and New Mexico schools on Friday evenings. For more information, visit www.ski-hesperus.com.

Howelsen Hill

Steamboat Springs skiers and riders can purchase Alpine, Nordic and Combo Full-Time College Student Passes to Howelsen Hill. The Alpine Pass is available to college students for \$155. Verification of enrollment is required. For more information, visit www.steamboatsprings.net/Howelsen-Hill-Ski-Area.

Kendall Mountain

Kendall Mountain's daily lift ticket, only \$25, offers college students a full day of skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, sledging, tubing and more at great price. Kendall Mountain also offers full season passes for \$150 through November and then for \$180 for the remainder of the season. For more information, visit www.colorado.gov/pacific/townofsilverton/ski-kendall.

Loveland Ski Area

Loveland Ski Area offers the Young Adult Season Pass, reserved for those between the ages of 15 and 22, for \$309. The pass also includes 51 days of skiing and riding at 17 partner mountains, plus additional on-

COLLEGE STUDENTS CAN SKI MORE THIS SEASON WITH COLORADO SKI COUNTRY DEALS & DISCOUNTS FROM PREVIOUS PG

mountain discounts and benefits. For more information, visit www.skiloveland.com.

Monarch Mountain

Monarch Mountain sells a discounted College Pass for \$289. It includes over 100 free and discounted days of skiing and riding at partner resorts, plus discounts on rentals, lessons and dining. Verification of enrollment is required. For more information, visit www.skimonarch.com.

Powderhorn Resort

Powderhorn Resort is happy to bring back Mission: Affordable. Young adult season passes are on sale for \$449 and includes free and discounted lift tickets at over 20 partnering resorts and two 20 percent off buddy passes to share with friends and family. For more information, visit www.powderhorn.com.

Purgatory Resort

All incoming freshman at Durango's Fort Lewis College can receive a free season pass. Season passes are also sold by age brackets, with special discounted pricing for young adults ages 19-24, 25-29 and 30-36.

For more information, visit www.skipurg.com.

Silverton Mountain

Silverton Mountain offers a special discount for \$99 guided skiing for college students throughout the winter with a valid student ID. Reservations are required. For more information, visit www.silvertonmountain.com.

Steamboat Resort

Steamboat offers several different 3-Day passes for any three days between November 23 and April 12 for \$249, November 23 and December 20 for \$169, January 13 and February 17 for \$199 or from April 1 to April 12 for \$149. This is the perfect fit for students looking to take advantage of winter vacations. For more information, visit www.steamboat.com.

Sunlight Mountain Resort

College skiers and riders at Sunlight can take advantage of a discounted season pass, paying \$289 for unlimited access to Sunlight plus free days at partner resorts. Sunlight also offers many other pass options including 3, 5, and 10-day passes. For more information, visit

www.sunlightmtn.com.

Telluride Ski Resort

College students who plan to ski at Telluride can take advantage of the discounted Young Adult Pass for those between the ages of 19 and 24. The Young Adult Pass at Telluride is \$910 and includes discounts on dining and lessons. For more information, visit www.tellurideski resort.com.

Winter Park Resort

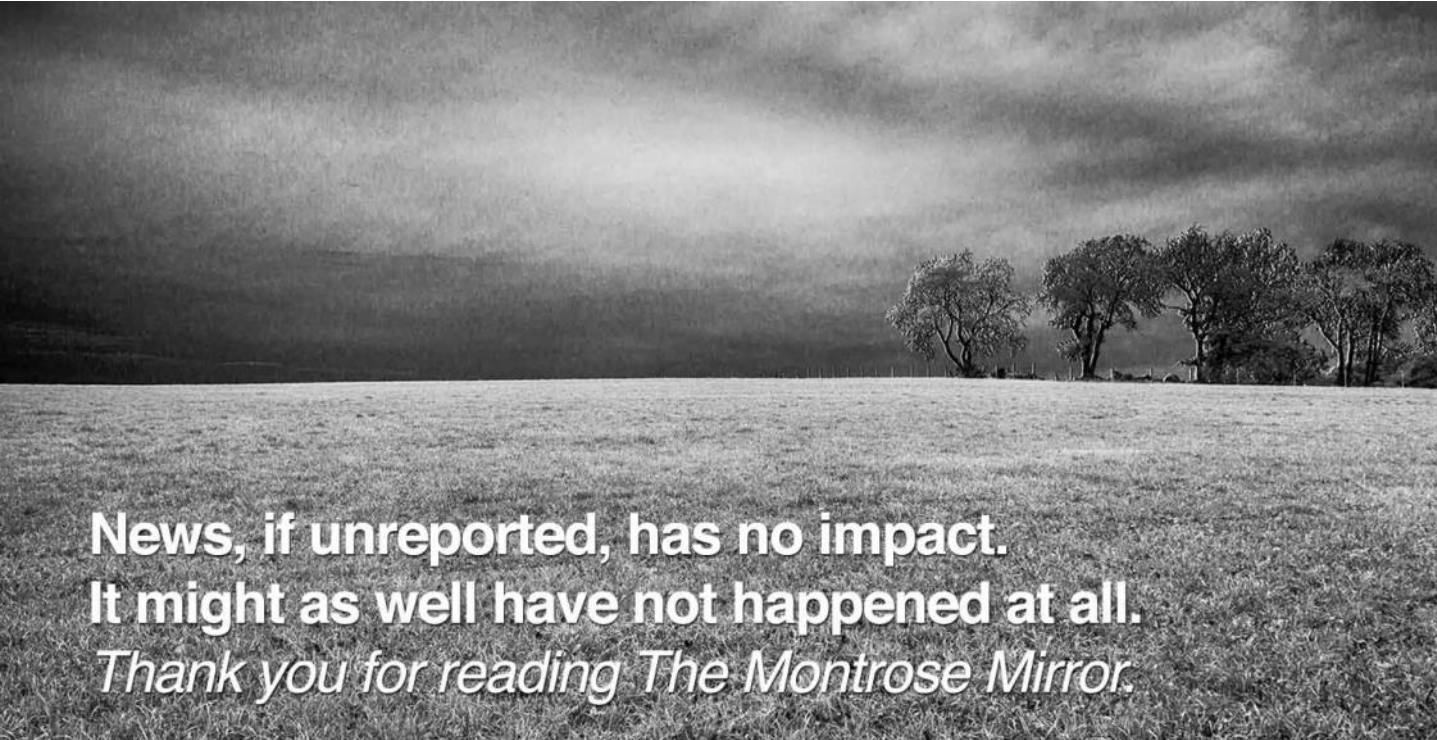
Winter Park Resort offers verified college students the Winter Park Season Pass for \$429. Students must have a valid student ID at time of purchase. Winter Park also offers four pack tickets for as low as \$65 a day. For more information, visit

www.winterparkresort.com

Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area offers college students a discounted ticket during College Days, which are scheduled throughout the ski season and offer a \$54 lift ticket. Students with a valid college photo ID and a current class schedule will save \$22 on a lift ticket.

For more information, visit www.wolfcreekski.com.



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

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MARA GABRIEL EARNS B.S.ED. DEGREE AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, NEBRASKA

Special to Art & Sol

SEWARD, NE-- Mara Gabriel of Montrose, Colo. earned a B.S.Ed. degree from Concordia University, Nebraska in August 2019. One hundred and seventeen undergraduate and graduate degrees were awarded. Concordia University, Nebraska, founded in 1894, is a fully accredited, coeducational university located in Seward, Neb., which currently serves over 2,500 students. Concordia offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate and professional programs in an excellent academic and Christ-centered community that equips men and women for lives of learning, service and leadership in the church and world. For more information, visit cune.edu. *About Concordia University, Nebraska. Concordia University, Nebraska, founded in 1894, is a fully accredited, coeducational university located in Seward, Nebraska, which currently serves more than 2,500 students. Concordia offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate and professional programs in an excellent academic and Christ-centered community that equips men and women for lives of learning, service and leadership in the church and world. For more information, visit cune.edu.*

LIBRARY PRESENTS BOOK SIGNING AND TALK WITH AUTHOR ANN DOOLAN-FOX

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Join us on Oct. 8-6:30 – 8:pm. For Library Voices: Ann Doolan-Fox. Montrose Library Meeting Room. Get Inspired! Enjoy this book talk about *Celtic Road Home*, by Ann Doolan-Fox. This is her story of embarking on a path of “most resistance” and dancing/surviving her way around seven different countries. Her very descriptive, dramatic and often humorous narrative takes you on a journey of constant life adventures. Book signing from 7:30-8 p.m. This is a free program.

The Mirror:

For coverage that never leaves
our readers out in cold ...



www.montrosemirror.com

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Bedrooms: 4 Bath 2
2,577 sq. ft. on 0.757 acres | Year Built: 2019



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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATE NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY SEPT. 28 *National Parks to Offer Free Admission & Special Programs*



Women hiking at Yosemite National Park. NPS Photo.

Special to Art & Sol

WASHINGTON – National parks will offer free admission, wellness events, and stewardship activities for [National Public Lands Day](#) on Sept. 28 -- the country's biggest celebration of the great outdoors!

"It is always energizing to see people, parks, and communities unite in support of public lands," said National Park Service Deputy Director P. Daniel Smith. "The variety of activities planned in national parks on National Public Lands Day will bring people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds together to help to raise awareness of these special places and foster personal connections to public lands."

Organized by the [National Environmental Education Foundation](#) (NEEF), National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest

single-day environmental volunteer effort. More than 100,000 people are expected to participate in thousands of events hosted by local, state, and national parks across the country.

Volunteers will build trails, clean waterways, remove exotic species, and restore native landscapes.

National parks, including Cape Cod, Everglades, Glen Canyon, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton, Herbert Hoover, Hopewell Furnace, Rocky Mountain, Timucuan, Weir Farm, Yosemite, and Zion, are among the sites hosting service events to improve and encourage shared stewardship of public lands.

Rock Creek Park in Washington, D.C., will be the site of NEEF's main National Public Lands Day event.

One of the oldest national parks in the country, Rock Creek Park's 3,000 acres of deciduous forests and meadows nestled in the middle of an urban environment provide necessary habitat for wildlife as well as recreational resources for people.

Volunteers will assist with five conservation projects in the park.

During the event, National Public Lands Day national sponsor Toyota Motor North America plans to announce a \$200,000 grant to support conservation projects in national parks in the surrounding area.

In addition to environmental stewardship activities, many events on Sept. 28 will encourage the use of public lands for education, recreation, and health benefits. Parks can play a vital role in personal physical and mental well-being. Experience it firsthand with a paddle trip, wellness talk, guided hike, bike ride, art therapy session, and/or yoga class in a park.

To encourage everyone to take part in National Public Lands Day, all national parks will [waive entrance fees](#).

Volunteers participating in work projects will receive a voucher that can be redeemed for free entrance to any national park on a day of their choosing.

The National Environmental Education Foundation coordinates National Public Lands Day in partnership with seven federal agencies as well as nonprofit organizations and state, regional, and local governments.

The federal partners are the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service.

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

CURRENT/ONGOING-

MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE-AN ABBA-SOLUTE MUST-SEE! Magic Circle Players present one of the most feel-good musical comedies ever produced – *Mama Mia!* Get your tickets now! Evening performances of *Mama Mia!* are at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays Sept. 27 and 28. Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sept. 29. Tickets are available online at www.magiccircleplayers.com, by telephone at (970) 249-7838, or in person at the Magic Circle Theatre box office, 420 South 12th Street, Montrose. Box office hours are 2-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays through September 28, and two hours before each performance.

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

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

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-

Sept. 23-THE HISTORY OF MONTROSE, 1 p.m. Trace the history of Montrose Co from the removal of the Ute Tribe to the development of the county and the building of the city of Montrose. Presenter: Zilla May Brown, Historian.

Sept. 24-26-San Juan Mining & Reclamation Conference and Innovation Expo, Silverton, Colorado. Historic, scientific and policy presentations, demonstrations, panel, roundtable discussion, field trips, film and more. Open to the public. For registration details, go to <http://www.mountainstudies.org/expo>.

Sept. 27-28-Bill Sycalik is a former management consultant who quit the corporate life in New York City to reconnect with nature. His goal: to run 26 miles in each of America's National Parks. Hear Bill speak at the Montrose Library at 6:30 on Friday, Sept. 27. Then join Bill and the San Juan Mountain Runners on a group run at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, Sept. 28.

Sept. 28-K-9 Storytime, 10 a.m. at Montrose Regional Library. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear a story from Sgt. Searcy and K9 Tigo and ask questions after!

Sept. 28-2nd annual Love Your Gorge volunteer event, Saturday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Ouray Ice Park, Ouray--Volunteer to make improvements to the riparian areas of the Uncompahgre River Gorge in Ouray. Then, enjoy a picnic and party to celebrate our efforts. Organized by the Ouray Ice Park and Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership with funding from the Frank L. Massard Trust. For more Information: <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/event/2nd-annual-love-your-gorge-volunteer-event> or contact UWP at 970-325-3010 or uwpcommunications@gmail.com.

Oct. 1-Montrose Regional Library Chess Club, 4-5 p.m. Join us in the 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.

Oct. 2-Bike/ Walk to School Day.

Oct. 2-Falling for Fossils at the Montrose Regional Library, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Explore actual fossils, learn about local places to find them, and make a fossil of your own. Join us in the library meeting room to get messy and have fun!

Oct. 8-6:30 – 8:pm. Library Voices: Ann Doolan-Fox. Montrose Library Meeting Room. Get Inspired! Enjoy this book talk about *Celtic Road Home*, by Ann Doolan-Fox. This is her story of embarking on a path of "most resistance" and dancing/surviving her way around seven different countries. Her very descriptive, dramatic and often humorous narrative takes you on a journey of constant life adventures. Book signing from 7:30-8 p.m. This is a free program.

Oct. 9-Wednesday, Oct. 9th 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!

Oct. 19-Lincoln Reagan Dinner, Montrose County Events Center. Buy tickets online (\$50 speaker and dinner, \$25 speaker only) at www.lincolnreagandinner.com. Dinner by Jimmers BBQ & Steakhouse; 5:30 p.m. cash bar, 6 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. Speaker: U.S. Congressman Scott Tipton.

Oct. 20-Terry Robb will perform Oct. 20 at Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery, 68 S. Grand Ave. in Montrose. Doors 1:30 p.m., Show 2 p.m. \$15-\$20 adv; \$17-\$22 door. <http://healthyrhythm.net>

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT...DEB REIMANN



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