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the Montrose Mirror

Issue No. 360 Jan. 20, 2020

Remembering the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

OLATHE TRACK MOVES FORWARD; RE-1J SCHOOL DISTRICT SEES INCREASE IN STUDENT MEAL CONSUMPTION

By Caitlin Switzer

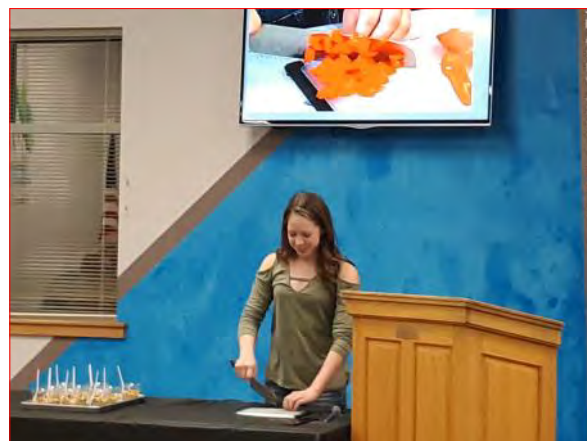
MONTROSE-Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education Vice President Sarah Fishing took the gavel for the regular meeting of Tuesday, Jan. 14, in the absence of Board President Gayle Johnson. With the exception of Johnson, all directors were present for the meeting.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Centennial Middle School Eighth Grader Allie Stambaugh and Life Skills Educator Kim Huchel conducted a life skills presentation on the culinary arts. Huchel said that teaching life skills to middle schoolers is a rewarding job; "You get to have kids in the kitchen."

Stambaugh put finishing touches on a meal of pineapple fried rice, all the while chatting comfortably about the things she has learned as a life skills

[Continued pg 15](#)



Centennial Middle School Eighth Grader Allie Stambaugh gave a life skills presentation on the culinary arts for the Montrose County School District RE-1J board of Education on Jan. 14.

FOOD, COFFEE, COMPANY: THERE ARE NO OUTSIDERS AT MADA



A river guide for more than 20 years, Martin came to Montrose after being unable to find work in Grand Junction. Despite his strong history of work experience and clean record, he believes that employers are not willing to look past his age, 56. "Right now I would take anything," he said, and shared his phone number for possible employers; 435-243-7778.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Step through the doors on a weekday, and the mood is friendly here, with a blend of Spanish and English speakers and a small, but dedicated crew of volunteers. With a mission that dates to 1972, the Mexican American Development Association (MADA) at 17 North 6th Street offers a multitude of useful services for people experiencing homelessness or insecure housing.

It's also a neighborhood gathering place. Janette White runs the kitchen at MADA; there are always people waiting in line when she shows up for work. "We love this place," she said. "We're not just for the homeless. There are senior citizens from the neighborhood who come here every day... Someone was playing the piano the other day, and somebody else got out his harmonica to play along."

On a recent Tuesday,

[Continued pg 17](#)

in this issue

[Art Goodtimes Up Bear Creek!](#)

[With closure of Russell Stover facility, Montrose loses primary employer!](#)

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

[Regional & statewide news briefs!](#)

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

NEW CONNECT INITIATIVE RECREATION TRAIL AND UNDERPASSES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



The West Main Street underpass of the Connect Initiative Recreation Trail is now open for public use (Photo by City of Montrose Public Works).

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Mainline portions of the new Connect Initiative Recreation Trail are complete and the trail is open to the public, according to a City of Montrose news release. Once warmer weather allows, workers will install a final decorative concrete face at the West Main underpass as

well as anti-graffiti coating on both underpasses. Some additional clean-up and landscaping work will also be taking place alongside the trail over the next few months, the release stated. The Connect Initiative trail project adds 2.25 miles of recreation trail to the city's trail network and includes underpass crossings of Townsend Avenue and West Main Street, the city's two busiest roadways. The city's trail network is now continuous from the Montrose Community Recreation Center north to the Colorado Outdoors project, with street crossings at the Ogden/Woodgate roundabout and at Rio

Grande Avenue. The original price tag for construction of the project was approximately \$3 million; out-of-pocket expense for the City of Montrose is \$350,000. Offsetting the cost were \$2 million in grant funds awarded to the City through Great Outdoors Colorado's (GOCO) Connect Initiative as well as contributions from other community partners totaling approximately \$450,000. A notable contribution of \$355,000 from the Montrose Recreation District, along with donations from Montrose County, Montrose Urban Renewal Authority, Valley Food Partnership, Colorado Health Foundation, Montrose Community Foundation, Montrose Recreation Foundation, Black Hills Energy, and the Gates Family Foundation, have all helped to make this project a reality. After a several-week closure in the spring to finish the anti-graffiti coating and decorative concrete wall, a grand opening celebration will be held and will include a fun-run and free admission to the Community Recreation Center along with a celebratory barbecue, games, and prize giveaways for participants.

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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MEDC TAKES LEAD ON COMMUNICATIONS WITH RUSSELL STOVER; *Closure of Montrose Plant means loss of a primary employer*



Stover closure are of a magnitude that Montrose has rarely, if ever, experienced before. "They pay an entry-level salary, with vacation time and insurance--total benefit packages," she said.

In addition to providing a number of high-paying, technically skilled positions, Russell Stover has also provided many locals with supplemental income. Because of the impacts to the community, the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) has been in contact, and has expressed support, she said, adding encouragement to current Russell Stover workers to "stay the course."

When the facility does close, "In a perfect world...we need more manufacturing," Head said.

"We have our contacts, and our thoughts on things that could go into that space, and we encourage people to share their own ideas with us," she said, "We want companies that pay live-able wages and offer benefits, if possible." Reach MEDC by email at SandyH@MontroseEDC.org or by phone at 970-249-9438.

In all employment sectors, according to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), there were 20,823 jobs in Montrose County in 2018.

Of those, there were 1,455 jobs in the manufacturing sector.

Russell Stover Candy will close its facility in Montrose in the Spring of 2021. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-With the announcement last week that Russell Stover Candy will close its facility in Montrose in the Spring of 2021, the local economy is about to lose a primary employer. With 450 jobs listed (as of June, 2019) Russell Stover is currently third on the Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) [list of major employers](#) in Montrose County, following the Montrose County RE-1J School District and Montrose Memorial Hospital. What defines a "primary" employer? MEDC's web site states that a primary employer is a company producing more goods and


services than can be consumed locally, and which exports a significant portion.

Though Montrose Mayor Dave Bowman did not return calls on the matter, he serves on the MEDC Board.

MEDC is taking the lead on communications with Russell Stover, which intends to keep its local facility running through March of 2021.


Russell Stover owns the 330,000-square-foot building, MEDC Executive Director Sandy Head said, and leases the land from the City of Montrose.

"There's a lot of logistics," Head said, noting that the job losses from the Russell



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UPCOMING EVENT-Pizza & Politics next event is Thursday January 23 on the new Red Flag Gun Law. Does it violate your Constitutional Rights or is it Common Sense Gun Control for Public Safety? Guest Speaker: Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard with Q & A to follow. 121 N 4th Street in Montrose. Program 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Pizza and beverage provided.. Sponsored by Montrose County Republican Party. Open to the public. All are welcome.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OURAY AVALANCHE/ICEFALL CLAIMS LIFE JAN. 18

Special to the Mirror

OURAY-At approximately 10:30 am, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020, a deadly avalanche caused by falling ice claimed the life of Van Le Little, age 44, of Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Little had been climbing with three other climbers on a guided climb on the Dungeon Ice Climbing Route

across the Uncompahgre River from Mile Maker 89 on Highway 550.

Mrs. Little was off to the side of the climb taking pictures of her fellow climbers when a large chunk of ice broke off and hit the ledge above her and the other climbers. The chunk of ice caused a slide of snow and ice to come down on the climb-

ers which took Mrs. Little to the river below.

Next of kin has been notified. Our thoughts are with Mrs. Little's family. Ouray Mountain Rescue, Ouray County EMS, and the Ouray County Sheriff's Department all responded to the incident. No other climbers were hurt.

NEW FISHING REG ON SECTION OF UNCOMPAGHGRE RIVER IN MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- A new fishing regulation is now in place on a two-mile long section of the Uncompahgre River that runs through Montrose. From Main Street to La Salle Road, anglers can only use artificial flies or lures and all fish caught must be returned to the water immediately. The new Colorado Parks and Wildlife regulation went

into effect on Jan. 1. Anglers are advised, however, that not all of the river in this section is open to public access. Those using this section should be aware of property boundaries. There are two large sections open to public access at Taviwach Park and at the Mayfly Outdoors property. Upstream from Main Street, standard fishing regulations apply – four-trout limit and

bait is permitted. Not all of this section of the river is public property, so anglers need to be aware of property boundaries. Fishing in the Uncompahgre River has been improving and nice catches of rainbow and brown trout have been reported. The best times to fish the river is from November through April when flows in the river are low.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SMPA REMAINS SUPPORTIVE OF TRI-STATE RESPONSIBLE ENERGY PLAN – Calls for Support to Coal Communities

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY—Early this January, Tri-State Generation and Transmission (Tri-State), wholesale electric power provider for local electric cooperative, San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) announced closure of Escalante Coal Generation Station near Prewitt, N.M., by end of 2020, and closure of the northwest Colorado Craig Station and Colowyo Mine by 2030.

These Major changes in generation portfolio will result in 100 percent reduc-

tion of coal emissions in Colorado and New Mexico. Tri-State claims it will be able to do this while increasing Tri-State's competitiveness with cleaner portfolio, and while maintaining stable rates for its member systems.

Collectively, the closure will impact approximately 600 power plant and mine employees, who have been integral to Tri-State's ability to supply reliable power to cooperatives for decades.

"We are very supportive of Tri-State's

Responsible Energy Plan," says SMPA CEO, Brad Zaporski. "yet we also understand very personally, the effect that these types of closures have on employees' families and their local communities.

Zaporski refers to the effects of the closure of the Nucla Generation Station, announced by Tri-State in July of 2019. Nucla, where SMPA is headquartered, has struggled to recover its economy following the job losses resulting from the closure of the generating station and the nearby

Horizon coal mine.

Tri-State has pledged to work with state and local officials to support affected employees and their communities during the transition. "Our focus is on making these changes with the care and respect our employees and their communities deserve – easing the transition whenever and wherever possible," said Duane Highley, chief executive officer of Tri-State. "Working together, we can meet the state's clean energy goals while preserving affordable, reliable and responsible energy for rural Colorado."

FORESIGHT 2020
FOR YOUR HEALTH

It is really important to take your yearly exams and to get tests done because that is how you're going to catch something if it pops up.

— Bill Hellman
Delta County Resident, Owner of Hellman Toyota and Ford Dealership in Delta

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CITY LOOKS @ AT BUSINESS INCENTIVES, FOOD TAX, SPECIAL USE PERMIT THIS WEEK



On Monday, Montrose City Council will discuss a Job Creation /Business Development Agreement/Incentives grant for Geyser Technologies . Courtesy photo.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-On Monday, Jan. 20 the Montrose City Council will host a work session at 10 a.m. and a public meeting on the Grocery Sales Tax at 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday, Jan. 21 Council will convene for a regular meeting at 6 p.m.

WORK SESSION

The City will welcome six new employees at the work session. Joining the City team are Community Engagement Specialist Bethany Maher; Animal Shelter Technicians Linda Sweanor and Chiyo Tirona; Police Officers Chelsey Payne and Jace Cline; and Community Marketing Specialist Caitlyn Love.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Council will hear a Police Department Facility Financing Presentation by Kyle Thomas of D.A. Davidson; a Job Creation and Business Development Agreement/Incentives grant for Geyser Technologies (hot, portable shower company); a Shared Services Agreement with Montrose Recreation District; the Franchise Agreement for Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc.; an Asbestos Abatement Bid Recommendation; and a Vehicle Purchase Recommendation.

Also up for discussion are a Municipal Code Chapter 3-6 Pretreatment Program Regulations Update; the 6530 Bridge Deck Replacement Contract Award; and Woodgate Realignment Design Contract Award.

UPCOMING

Items to be considered at future City Council meetings and work sessions include:

Feb. 3-HAP Photovoice presentation;
Feb. 4-Community Development Block Grant Hearing for Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club; 2019 Annual Grant report;
Feb. 18-Special meeting/executive session-contract discussion; Cobble Creek Golf Course Liquor License Transfer; Planning Commission Applicant Interviews;
March 3-Special meeting/executive session-City Manager City Attorney Evaluations;
March 17-Youth council report to City Council; As yet unscheduled are a Treatment Plant Discussion and Electric Vehicle Charging Station.

SALES TAX MEETING

An informational packet is available at www.cityofmontrose.org/tax

REGULAR MEETING

At the regular meeting on Jan. 21, Council will hold a De Novo hearing to consider a request for Conditional Use Permit CUP18-0359 to allow a 32-site RV park at 801 S. Hillcrest Drive.

Council will consider Ordinance 2493 on first reading, repealing and replacing Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 2, Definition of Manufactured Housing, adding Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 2, Definition of Modular Building, and repealing and replacing Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 24(C) of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding Zoning Regulations. Council will consider a Business Development Agreement between the City of Montrose and Lamont Companies for the development of a Fairfield by Marriott Hotel at the northern end of MURA's Colorado Outdoors development area. As discussed in work session previously, Council will consider the purchase of Faster Asset Solutions fleet management software for the total purchase price of \$84,590, and authorization to purchase a medium/large two-speed, hi flow skid steer and a 310 backhoe at auction for the total not-to-exceed amount of \$170,000. Following staff reports and Council/staff comments, the meeting will adjourn.

HEALTHfair

Early Blood Draws & Health Fair

<h3 style="color: #0072bc;">DATES</h3> <p>January 25 4H Event Center, Ridgway • 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>January 27 American Legion Hall, Olathe • 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>January 29-February 1 Montrose Pavilion, Montrose • 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>February 29: Health Fair Montrose Pavilion, Montrose • 6:30 - 11:00 a.m. Blood draws end at 11:00 a.m., Health Fair continues to 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>NO walk-ins allowed Wednesday, January 29 and Thursday, January 30.</p>	<h3 style="color: #0072bc;">SCREENINGS</h3> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>HealthScreen (Chemistry) & Lipid Panel</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hemoglobin A1C</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PSA for Prostate Health</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CBC (Complete Blood Count)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vitamin D</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vitamin B12 & Folate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male Testosterone</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$45</td> </tr> </table>	HealthScreen (Chemistry) & Lipid Panel	\$50	Hemoglobin A1C	\$38	PSA for Prostate Health	\$42	CBC (Complete Blood Count)	\$25	Vitamin D	\$45	Vitamin B12 & Folate	\$45	Male Testosterone	\$45
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Vitamin D	\$45														
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Male Testosterone	\$45														

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments begin January 6, 12:00 a.m. midnight at www.MontroseHospital.com
If you are unable to register online or need assistance with registration, please call 1-800-217-5866 Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning January 6.

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GROCERIES & LOCAL SALES TAX MEETING

JAN 20, 2020 | 6:30 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
(107 S Cascade Ave)

Presentation and discussions
about the role of local
sales taxes and how
they apply to
groceries.

See CityofMontrose.org/tax
for more information



COUNTY TO DISCONTINUE FAMILY PLANNING, IMMUNIZATION ADMINISTRATION

Change intended to prevent duplication of services, competition with private business

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15. Commissioner Sue Hansen and BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash were present; BOCC Chair Keith Caddy was not in attendance. The invocation was delivered by Pastor Eric Archuleta of the Abundant Life Church.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments from the public.

COUNTY MANAGER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved as presented.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Commissioners approved **Resolution 04-2020**, regarding a Grant Agreement with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Aeronautics Division Contract NO. CDAG 19-MTJ-01 to participate in the federally-funded Terminal Expansion Design and Repair at Montrose Regional Airport in the amount of \$37,899 with a County match of \$37,891. "This is for our 30-percent schematic design for the terminal expansion," Montrose Regional Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold said, noting the possibility of expansion and contraction soils beneath the terminal floor. The project will be completed under a five-year master services contract with Jacobs Engineering, in which each project is negotiated separately and brought before the BOCC in public meeting, Arnold said.

Also approved was the purchase of an Information Systems Storage System for storage of IT-related documents, email, as well as new systems coming online this year. The cost is \$286,113.72 and the purchase is a one-time, 2020-budgeted expense, Information Technology Director Don Varey said. He requested sole source approval to purchase the system from



The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15.

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE), for compatibility with existing HPE storage and HPE server infrastructure and the existing server and storage management system. The current system is running out of storage space, Varey said. The county runs automatic backups every hour. "Spam is rampant right now," Varey said. "We get hit 1,000 times a day by hackers trying to get in."

Public Health Director Jim Austin presented **Resolution 05-2020**, regarding the discontinuance of the public health clinical programs for family planning and administration of immunizations as of June 30. "We don't want to duplicate services unnecessarily or compete with private business," Austin said.

Commissioner Hansen said, "I appreciate the work you've done on that, and I want to underscore, no duplication of services. "If somebody else provides a service," Hansen said, "I think it's incumbent on us

not to compete with those folks."

BOCC Vice Chair Rash thanked Austin as well.

Public Works Director Keith Laube presented the 2019 Colorado Department of Transportation Highway Users Tax Funds (HUTF) report and requested consideration and adoption of **Resolution 06-2020**, for annual changes, additions, and deletions of roads to the County road maintenance system. Rash convened a brief public hearing at which no comments were received, then the hearing was closed.

"This resolution updates changes that were made in the past year," Laube said, adding that about 21 miles of paved road were added to the county road system in 2019. "We like gravel and we like paving," Rash said. "It keeps us out of the mud." **Resolution 06-2020** was approved. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned after 14 minutes and 37 seconds.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

GO CODE COLORADO TO KICK OFF ITS SEVENTH YEAR OF COMPETITION

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Go Code Colorado is a state-wide competition that challenges multidisciplinary teams to turn public data into useful business insights, analyses, and tools.

Now in its 7th cycle, Go Code Colorado kicks off next month and features two tracks to compete in, (Business Application track and Business Analytics track) with \$15,000 in available prize money for four winning teams.

"Go Code Colorado is the nation's only state-wide data competition, bringing entrepreneurs from every corner of our state together to help turn public data into useful tools for businesses throughout Colorado," said Secretary of State Jena Griswold. "I'm looking forward to seeing what the talented teams come up with in the

2020 competition!"

Apostrophe CTO and Co-Founder Kathy Keating, who was also a finalist judge in 2019, said, "Go Code Colorado inspires participants to solve problems to real issues. The missions, the social impacts these teams have is awesome. It's incredibly inspiring to see the way they take raw public data and turn it into something meaningful to the world."

This event is an initiative of the Colorado Secretary of State's Office's Business Intelligence Center (BIC). BIC promotes economic growth across the state by making business-relevant data accessible and useable for informed decision-making. To date, BIC has published over 292 datasets for convenient public use.

Over the past seven years, Go Code Colorado competitions have included over 900

team participants and almost 5,000 individuals from across the state including entrepreneurs, big thinkers, analysts, marketers, coders, and developers.

The Competition will host kick-off events in Grand Junction and Denver where participants can find teammates, learn about the Challenge Statement and network with a community of people who believe in the power of public data.

Kick Off #1

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020

From 6 PM – 8 PM at FACTORY at Maverick Innovation Center (CMU), 730 Mesa Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Kick Off #2

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020

From 6 PM – 8 PM at Great Divide Brewery, Bottling Hall, 3403 Brighton Blvd, Denver, CO 80216.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CDOT BEGINS DUI-ENFORCEMENT PERIODS FOR 2020 *10-day Winter Blitz DUI enforcement period is on*

Special to the Mirror

STATEWIDE — It's a new year, a new decade, and a new set of *The Heat Is On* DUI enforcement periods for Colorado impaired drivers. In coordination with Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and statewide law agencies, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will boost DUI enforcement with increased officers on duty to crack down on impaired drivers Jan. 17-27.

The Winter Blitz enforcement period is the first of 16 *The Heat Is On* enforcement periods held in Colorado throughout the year. Officers arrested 612 impaired drivers during the Winter Blitz enforcement last year.

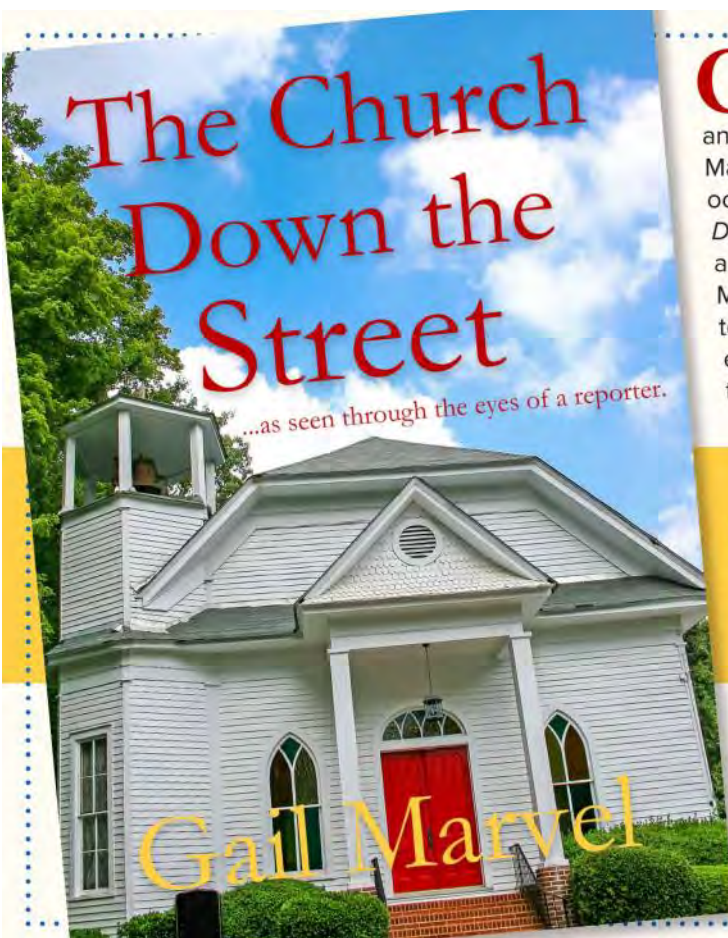
"DUI crashes continue to be a leading cause of fatalities on roadways," said Shoshana Lew, executive director of CDOT. "Always plan a sober ride home. There are many alternatives options to get you home and no excuse not to use them."

Even after only one or two drinks, some people may be close to or exceed Colorado's DUI and DWAI limits. Colorado's legal limits are .05% blood-alcohol content (BAC) for DWAI (Driving While Ability Impaired) and .08% BAC for DUI. Even if your BAC is less than .05%, you can still be arrested if an officer notices signs of impairment. The only absolute way to ensure you are safe to drive is to have a BAC of zero.

When considering fines, legal fees and increased insurance costs, a DUI can add up to more than \$13,500.

"We strive to keep impaired drivers off Colorado roadways throughout the year," said Col. Matthew Packard, chief of CSP. "These enforcement periods are meant to deter drivers from making the poor decision to drive impaired. Sadly, the data shows thousands of people still choose to drive impaired."

CDOT's Winter Blitz enforcement period and DUI-prevention campaign support CDOT's Whole System — Whole Safety initiative to reduce traffic injuries and deaths.



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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40 LOCATIONS IN COLORADO

OLATHE TRACK MOVES FORWARD; MORE STUDENT MEALS From pg 1

student and about the recipe she was preparing. "We learned knife skills...and basic skills like knowing how to heat the oven and how to mix ingredients...we use whole grain brown rice in this because white rice isn't good for you...this is our dish."

Said Huchel, "We brought samples for everybody to try."

DONATIONS

RE-1J Administrative Assistant Deann Balash announced that the following donations have been received:

-\$1,000 donation from Matt and Dorchia Boisen for the Johnson Elementary School GATE program;

-\$2,500 donation from WalMart for the sound system and other needs in the Olathe Middle/High School Collaboration Center;

-Amy Gutierrez, District Culture and Equity Coordinator, received donations from Dr. Rawlings, Colorado Smiles, and Peer Kindness to make more than 200 care packages to distribute to Montrose County School District's highly-mobile students.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Northside Elementary School Principal Dan Rosentrater honored Music Teacher Meghan Baker. "She goes above and beyond with our students to instill a love for music and an understanding of its importance in their lives.

Though Northside Librarian Lori Deines was to be recognized as well, Deines could not be present and will be honored at a future meeting, Rosentrater said.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District A Director Jeff Bachman said that he met with the Olathe Track Committee. RE-1J Property Services Director Philip Bailey has gotten a bid of \$575K on the concession stand/bathroom project, Bachman said. "We're doing some fund raising...we plan to continue moving forward." If the group cannot raise all of the money, Bachman said that they will request that the School District make up the difference. "We're excited; this is going to be a good thing," Bachman said. "It will be on the agenda in February."

COMMUNITY INPUT

There was no community input. In keeping with recent tradition, Fishing reviewed those with other business to leave the

meeting at this point. Breaking with tradition, she added, "You're also welcome to stay."

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Stephen Schiell updated the Board of Education on the **Vista Charter School contract renewal**, which remains a work in progress. "Next Tuesday Dr. Beller and I will meet with their Principal and their attorney...I hope by March we might have this thing wrapped up."

RE-1J Finance Director Emily Imus presented a **nutritional services update** and welcomed a new food service manager to nutritional services contractor Sodexo.

Total meals are up by 84,280 or 37 percent over last year, Imus said. Daily meals are up by 1,157 over last year. Compared to last year, on a daily average, lunches are up 473 or 19 percent per day. Breakfasts are up 383 per day or 36 percent. Free, reduced, and paid meals are all up over last year. A la carte programs will begin at the high schools this month.

"We are super pleased with the increase in the number of meals served," Imus said. "We've had feedback that it just tastes better."

Additional choices have likely helped to drive the increase, a representative from Sodexo said, in response to a question from Fishing. "With our garden bars, a student is more likely to take a fruit or a vegetable and then consume it."

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Imus presented the enrollment update. Overall student count is down by ten since last month, but up by 109 over last year at this time. Total student count is 6,229.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Imus presented the First Quarter Financial Report, reviewing funds and investments. Second Quarter Financials will be presented next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Fishing reviewed the following policies on Second Reading, all of which were approved by the Board:

BDA, Board Organizational Meeting - updated to CASB recommendations
EEA, Student Transportation - deleted; no



Northside Elementary School Principal Dan Rosentrater honored Music Teacher Meghan Baker.

longer supported by CASB

DIA, Online Schools and Online Programs - updated per CASB recommendations

EEAA, Walkers and Riders - new policy recommendation by CASB

GA, Personnel Goals/Priority Objectives - deleted; covered in other current policies

JHB-R, Truancy - deleted; covered in policy JH

JICED, Student Expression Rights - deleted; covered in other current policies

JIE/JIG, Pregnant/Married Students - deleted; no longer supported by CASB

JJIB, Interscholastic Sports - deleted; covered in policy JJJ

JJIB-R, Co-curricular and Interscholastic Programs - deleted; covered in policy JJJ

KCA, School-Community Relations Goals - deleted; no longer supported by CASB

KCD, Public Gifts/Donations to Schools - deleted; no longer supported by CASB

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Imus presented information on two resolutions: Resolution 01-2020 Amended Budget Adoption 2019-2020; and Resolution 02-2020 Fund 41 Supplemental Budget Adoption. \$900K will be transferred from capital reserves to the building fund for additional expenditures related to BEST Grant building projects. Both resolutions were approved.

Fishing reviewed revised board policy BEDH, concerning public participation at board meetings, on first reading.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Commercial Possibilities



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FOOD, COFFEE, COMPANY: THERE ARE NO OUTSIDERS AT MADA From pg 1



MADA Kitchen Manager Janette White in her office, which doubles as food storage space.



Waffles were on the menu on a recent Tuesday morning at MADA.

there was a crowd just after 9 a.m. “The first drop-off from the shelter,” White noted. “They have to be out of the dorm by 9 a.m.”

In addition to used clothing and food boxes for those who need them, “I have toiletries,” White said. She estimates that of the homeless people who come to MADA, roughly 60 percent have mental health issues, 20 percent have substance abuse problems, and 10 percent are just down on their luck.

Martin, who found his way to MADA last Tuesday, appears to be among that ten percent. He learned about MADA from shelter staff after spending Monday night at the Lighthouse Homeless Shelter. A river guide for more than 20 years, Martin came to Montrose after being unable to find work in Grand Junction. Despite his strong history of work experience and clean record, he believes that employers are not willing to look past his age, 56. “The people who don’t hire me have no intuition; I still have a lot of energy,” Martin said. “I was a river guide, but right now, I would take anything.”

“I would love to get into landscaping.” Martin does not drink or do drugs and helps counsel friends who would like to

become sober. “I quit those things when I was in my 20’s,” he said. “Everything for me now is a lesson...I know something will happen for me. I know what I can do. I never lose faith.” Martin was grateful to learn about MADA. “The minute I came in I was overwhelmed by the greeting I got,” he said. Martin shared his contact number for those who need a dedicated, hard-working employee. 435-243-7778. He was the very first person to volunteer to help on Tuesday, Janette said.

MADA Volunteer Kyrra said that on a busy day, MADA may see as many as 45 individuals. “Moms and kids come here to get breakfast,” she said. “One mom has started going back to school—she has three boys...I’m so proud of her.”

Best known for the free clothes closet, MADA also operates an emergency food bank; weekday meals for those in need; showers; a computer lab; a sewing machine; assessments; emergency assistance; assistance with paperwork; loans of medical equipment such as wheelchairs and crutches; and utility assistance.

For someone who has been doing without, the small things can sometimes seem like a miracle. “A clean pair of socks is the

most special thing to a person who has been living on the streets,” Kyrra said. There are also more intangible benefits to be found at MADA, she noted. “You can build relationships and get to know people here.”

Christmas was really special for MADA guests. “Sixty-eight people signed up to be Secret Santa’s,” Kyrra said. “We had 247 presents—27 requests came in at the last minute, but we gave all of our clients presents.” Gifts included new t-shirts, toothbrushes, and goodie bags. In addition, 17 donated turkeys were raffled off.

“What I love so much is how the community comes together,” Kyrra said.

In 2014, MADA, which is funded annually by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), became the “single entry point” for homeless individuals in Montrose. The Sharing Ministries Food Bank provides 75 percent of the food that MADA cooks and distributes. “And they deliver to us,” White said.

Still, there are many needs that the funding does not cover. When the Shepherd’s Hand non-profit left MADA last year, the kitchen equipment was removed, but local businesses have helped meet the need. “We were going to buy kitchen equipment, but then I went to Jimmers,” Kyrra said. “He had something we could use.”

Despite local generosity, there are some items that are almost always in short supply, items used frequently and greatly appreciated—including butter, syrup, and coffee.

Also, “I would love to get the building painted,” White said.

Volunteers willing to help with a painting project at MADA can call White at 970-596-8258.

Some things never go out of style.

#montrosemirror



**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 2020
BIRTH & DEATH CERTIFICATES ARE NOW ISSUED
THROUGH MONTROSE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

WHAT IS CHANGING?

Birth and Death Certificates will be issued from the Public Health Department effective January 1, 2020.

WHERE DO I GO?

The Public Health Department is located at:
1845 S. Townsend in Montrose.

WHEN CAN I GET A CERTIFICATE?

Birth and Death Certificates are issued
Monday - Thursday from 8:30am - 12pm and 1pm - 5pm
as well as on Fridays from 8:30am - 11am.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SHUTTING THE GATE AFTER THE HORSE IS OUT

Editor:

The big news last week was gigantic subsidies of cash, fee forgiveness and tax holidays to bring a Fairfield motel to town so Telluride visitors would have a place to bed down to await their early morning flight to bug outta here. They don't stay here upon arrival because they would miss their cocktails, dinner and carousing in Telluride. If it were me, I would not either.

The Telluride airline traffic through Montrose flies in, buys liquor, visits a john and go take the two hour ride. I guess since the ride is already there for them the only thing left after a "posh potty in the park" is a fancy flop. The profit from the ride and the liquor goes to the merchants, from the room goes outta town and the cost of the potty is on us (no profit there). When in Montrose, do as the Montroseans do---patronize our locally owned businesses. Of course we do not have enough cops to keep the 'park pottys' safe when open at night so I guess the only option is the Conoco station. Whatta travesty.

News today is that Russell Stover is leaving Montrose. I guess no one saw this coming or did not care. An empty factory and 371 employees out of work. A huge reduction in electricity demand from DMEA to support their high wages. Less property tax revenues. What is this going to do to our local economy? More poverty? More houses on the market? Surely the Fairfield motel janitorial force will not absorb the workers---or pay the taxes to replace the taxes on 371 workers. Oh yes and the tax holiday for Fairfield motel, don't forget that. And poof to all the money these workers used to spend in Montrose. Instead of looking for new industry maybe our government should be keeping what is here, here. Shades of Whitfield's dairy and all the jobs lost when they left town and all the hay and corn that they don't buy any more.

It should be more profitable and beneficial for the city to play kissy/huggy with businesses that are already here, than to

pay huge commissions to 'business finders' and humongous incentives to businesses to bring them here while established businesses, the people we know, leave. Why don't we try to preserve what we have rather than buy new? Is there more money for someone in the latter? The city council should put the emphasis on maintaining what we have rather than trading for new. Does the council even know the manager's name at Russell Stover?

Isn't there a power company packing its transformers, poles, wires and trucks and leaving town too?

Did our mayor get his commission on the latest concert? The goal was to at least break even and it was an exemplary effort. The concert supposedly broke almost even and without the effort the financial bath would have been a lot worse than the \$8,000 loss. Comments I have heard were mixed but a lot of folks that got the 'free' tickets said they certainly could not pay the \$35 to \$85 to get one no less two of them. The Event Center would need to be five stories high to get the cheap seats cheap enough for half of our Montroseans.

There is a partnership (?) in town that bought 25+ acres east on Sunnyside for a development of high-end homes. The city just installed a water pipe to service that acreage. Who paid for that and why? Will we next pay for sewer service, grading, sidewalks and curbs? Don't we have enough development ready land that is already serviced by water and sewage? Betcha can't guess who has their thumb in this pie!

Nine months ago our fair town claimed an urgent need for 2A to fund 18 more cops. Why have they hired a mere two? It appears that they worded the 2A initiative so they could spend the money anywhere so I guess the Police Department and the Chief were USED just to get 2A passed so the money could be piddled away on a motel or other frivolities. Two policemen URGENTLY hired in nine months! This definitely does not look like

or sound URGENT planning to me. Well if this Fairfield deal goes the way of the Marriot flop, the only thing the Montroseans will be out is the money! Only \$600,000 or a million. From Saturday Night Live----"HOW CONVENIENT"!

I wonder if the Fairfield people have even seen the lot yet? Any conscious (non-comatose) realtor knows that the three most important things to consider when buying Real Estate are LOCATION, LOCATION and LOCATION. The Fairfield lot is between a factory, a car dealership, a defunct funeral parlor, a courthouse, and a county jail. Not exactly an upscale location where the elite would like to stay, I'd say, would you?

Roughly 39 percent of Montroseans are living at least partly on Social Security. I am. This year I got a raise. The new tax will take most of it. Where is the equity in that?

And for the final observation of the day. Colorado exempts cattle feed from sales tax. (That means sheep, goats and horses get the same exemption.) So a cow's groceries are not taxed but our kid's groceries are. What a crock! Maybe that is why so many of us are eating corn tortillas.

Monday the 20th in Council Chambers at 6:30 there is an open meeting about the sales tax on groceries. I hope that EVERYONE goes. The more, the merrier. FILL THE ROOM AND THE BUILDING TO OVERFLOWING AND MAYBE THEY WILL GET THE IDEA THAT WE ARE SERIOUS. A few years ago when the county tried to tax home-based business, we filled Friendship Hall-----and the whole issue mysteriously disappeared----it went the way of the 'Wooley Mammoth' so to speak. Let us make this fabulous five and their waste manager do what they are elected and hired to do. That is, run our city properly and get off the tax and spend kick. And if they wish to persist in proving that they can do it their way because they can; lets do it our way, LET'S CAN THEM, because WE can.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. OFFERING FREE RADON TEST KITS TO COUNTY RESIDENTS

Special to the Mirror

DELTA — January is National Radon Action Month; Delta County Health Department is offering free radon test kits to help protect Delta County Residents.

Radon can be present at dangerous levels in your home without you being aware, as Radon is odorless, colorless, and tasteless. Radon claims the lives of over 20,000 people each year as it is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers in America. The EPA and U.S. Surgeon General urge all Americans to test their homes, schools, and other buildings to prevent unnecessary exposure.

"We urge all Delta County citizens to stop in and pick up a Radon test kit for their home," says Ken Nordstrom, Delta County Health Department's Director of Environmental Health, "there is no safer or less expensive way to ensure your home is free of radon."

Free test kits are available while supplies last at Delta County's Health Department located at 255 W. 6th St., in Delta. For additional information, Colorado residents can call the state's Radon Hotline at 800-

846-3986, or visit the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's website at colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/categories/services-and-information/environment/radon.

APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose is accepting applications for a vacant position on the city's Planning Commission. The term for the vacant seat expires on Dec. 31, 2020; the successful applicant may then reapply for a four-year term.

The Planning Commission evaluates matters related to planning and community development. Members of the Planning Commission serve at the pleasure of the City Council and are appointed for four-year overlapping terms. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 5 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 107 South Cascade Avenue.

Applications are available at City Hall, 433 S. First Street, on the City of Montrose website at CityOfMontrose.org, or by calling 970.240.1422. Applications and letters of interest must be submitted to the City Clerk by 6 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2020.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

TAXPAYERS BURDENED BY CITY'S SECRETIVE INCENTIVE PROCESS

Dear Editor:

\$800K hotel incentive package, this City's disgraceful public process

Here is the pre-City Council vote warning before you read the Wednesday news article "Private Hotel Developer Awarded Large Incentive Package from the City of Montrose". You may read that Wednesday article and say, "I didn't hear anything about that." Well, unless you pay close attention to the local wheels of government, you would not know. And, I could not blame you because based on what you could know, it's all happening in under two weeks' time. Why? Because the City of Montrose public process is a disgrace.

On the table right now (per the upcoming Tuesday City Council & MURA board meetings) are incentive packages of approximately \$800,000 to a South Dakota hotel developer to build the Marriott affiliated property Fairfield Inn (a fresh subsidy on the already heavily subsidized Colorado Outdoors property). Lamont Companies, the South Dakota hotel developer, is a private business involved with hotels brands such as Hilton, Marriott, InterContinental, casinos, and is at the doorstep of Montrose to close on \$800K worth of incentives from our community.

While the Montrose governance does not find urgency on agenda items such as exempting local sales tax on a family necessity like food (we are one of the rare cities in the USA that taxes food), this city is ready to ram through a deal that directly benefits a select few. Guess what, working class Montrose pays the taxes to fund the proposed irresponsible incentives.

The timeline of (no) public input

January 6th at a council work session the city provided a presentation outlining an

incentive package for a hotel developer.

Aside from attending the 10 am workday meeting, you cannot see the presentation because the city has suspended posting these meeting videos (unlike the transparency of Montrose County). The public is welcome to attend a work session, but there is no public comment allowed.

January 7th the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA), the board that includes council and the city manager and calls the shots on the Colorado Outdoors project, arranges a special meeting to discuss the hotel project. A MURA meeting is open to the public. After roll call the board motions to take this meeting into executive session. Moving into executive session means the public needs to leave the meeting. The public no longer is a part of this MURA meeting.

January 21st at 3pm MURA will hold a meeting to approve considerations related to entering an incentive driven business contract with Lamont Companies. This represents the final step for the MURA board to approve the deal and, of course, comes about with no public discussion.

January 21st this same hotel deal is on the City Council agenda for the 6pm meeting. At this meeting council may vote to finalize and bind this contract. This Lamont deal is a posted council agenda item before the MURA board has even approved on their side. During the City Council meeting is when the public may comment, thank you for the "consideration" well after the wheels of Montrose city government have spun. Montrose community member, do you feel your voice will be heard or considered?

Ram it through

Within 10 days of a work session presentation a finalized legal document is available to view and ready for a final vote on

January 21st. A business contract which would trigger the \$800K incentives is headed directly to council chambers, no agenda pre discussions, straight to the house. During this 10-day whirlwind, what has been the opportunity for the public to speak? Zero. Folks, of course the wheels of city government have been working on this project for a while, but they prefer that you do not know. I think the reason is rather obvious.

The very few who win

Lamont Companies is of course a winner, and the unfair advantage they are receiving over other hotel developments in this city is a joke. The bigger joke, your money goes directly to a private company. The Colorado Outdoors LLC owner (the land developer) wins, a city incentive closes the hotel deal which requires the sale transfer of one of his real estate lots. Folks, please keep in mind, the Colorado Outdoors project has already been provided over \$8M by the city to build out the streets, utilities, and landscaping. The Colorado Outdoors LLC owner & developer got that build out for free.

Carried on the backs

Who loses? The Montrose taxpayer loses, especially this community's working class who scrap by only to be welcomed into 2020 with an 18% local sales tax increase that benefits wealthy real estate land developers and hotels developers. Who loses?

Anyone who believes in community fairness and transparency loses through this disgrace of a public process. Who loses? The community members who will read the news on Wednesday loses, the community member who did not even understand what was going on until it was too late.

Scott Damman, Montrose

**WAKE
UP...**

and smell the ~~coffee~~ NEWS!

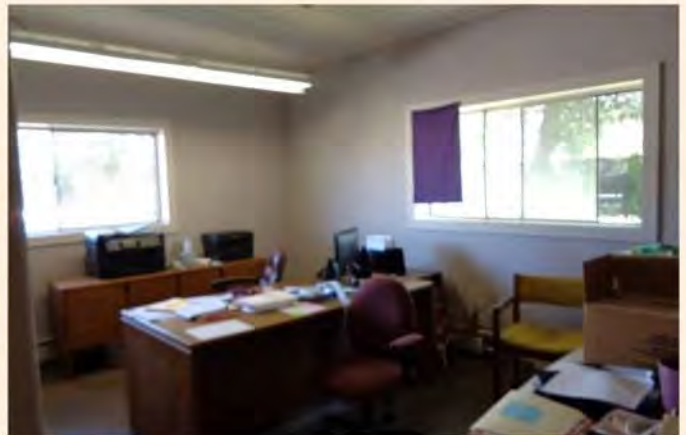
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. ATTORNEY, DEA, MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF AND MONTROSE POLICE CHIEF ANNOUNCE MAJOR DRUG ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Following a year-long investigation, thirteen Montrose residents were indicted by a federal grand jury in Denver and charged with the drug distribution crimes. State officers, county sheriff deputies and the DEA then arrested eleven of the indicted individuals.

The announcement was made by United States Attorney Jason R. Dunn, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent in Charge Deanne Reuter, Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard and Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall. The arrested defendants were transported to Grand Junction, where they are making their initial appearances before a U.S. Magistrate Judge. At that appearance they will be advised of their rights and the charges pending against them.

According to the indictment, from January 1, 2019 through December 18, 2019, the thirteen defendants, named below, conspired with each other and others known and unknown to the grand jury to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of actual methamphetamine, 500 grams or more of a mixture of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, and less than 100 grams of heroin. If convicted, each defendant faces a minimum of 10 years, and up to life in federal prison.

Those indicted include:

Omar Briceno-Quijano, age 29 FUGITIVE
Ofelia Lopez, age 49
Luis Alberto Ibarra-Tadeo, age 26
Romeo Lujan, age 28 FUGITIVE
Angelina Maestas, age 32
Joseph Davis, age 26
Naomi Vaughn, age 35
Jonte LeFlore, age 34
Dustin Debarris, age 31
Steven Keith Jones, age 33
Frank Arroyo, age 44

Amanda Lee Sumpter, age 49
Nicole Wickman, age 36

In addition to the conspiracy charges, the defendants face individual counts for the distribution of methamphetamine and heroin. Multiple defendants also face charges of using a communication device, a phone, to facilitate their drug trafficking.

"Montrose law enforcement, working with the DEA, has done an outstanding job identifying those who are trafficking methamphetamine and heroin to members of their community," said U.S. Attorney Jason Dunn. "It is a high priority of this office to support our rural communities facing large scale drug problems."

"The DEA recognized the increased availability of methamphetamine in the Montrose area two years ago. We worked closely with the Montrose Police Department, the Montrose Sheriff's Office and the Seventh Judicial Drug Task Force to target alleged distributors that were identified in the area," said DEA Special Agent in Charge of the Denver Division Deanne Reuter. "The success of this operation is the result of the strong partnership formed between law enforcement agencies, where all involved are deeply committed to working together to protecting the citizens of Montrose and the surrounding area from scourge of methamphetamine."

"On behalf of the Montrose County Sheriff's Office, I would like to commend the DEA for its leadership and assistance with this operation," said Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard. "The amount of drug trafficking that we are experiencing in the County of Montrose has been on the increase over the last decade. The Montrose County Sheriff's Office has been working and will continue to work proactively to combat the drug issues that are affecting the city and county of Montrose.

We are working side by side and will continue to work with the DEA, Montrose Police Department, 7th Judicial Drug Task Force, U.S. Marshal's Office, ATF, Colorado State Patrol and other state and local agencies. The drug problem in the County of Montrose is directly related to our crime rate of burglaries, thefts, scams and even domestic violence that we deal with on a daily basis. This operation has been a long time coming and we hope to see a ripple effect in the future to stop those who want to be drug dealers in Montrose County."

"These arrests should communicate that our community suffers from a major drug trafficking issue, and these arrests are critical in keeping our community safe," said Montrose Police Chief Blaine Hall. "The disruption, apprehension, and prosecution of these offenders is a high priority for the Montrose Police Department, and we value the partnership we have with the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The addition of the DEA gives the City of Montrose new tools to investigate suspected offenders committing drug crimes in our community. I'd like to commend and thank the current 7th Judicial Drug Task Force members, DEA, and the multiple other federal, state, and local agencies for their steadfast work in this multifaceted investigation. Their efforts will have long-term payoffs for our community in the realm of public safety and crime reduction." This investigation was conducted by the Denver Division of the DEA, the Montrose County Sheriff's Office, and the Montrose Police Department, as well as representatives from the 7th Judicial District Attorney's Office.

The charges contained in the indictment are allegations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LIVER CLINIC OPENS TO TARGET SILENT EPIDEMIC WITH COMPREHENSIVE CARE

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION—A new liver specialty clinic operated by Grand Junction Gastroenterology recently opened its doors in Grand Junction to offer comprehensive care for patients with acute and chronic liver diseases.

William Shields, D.O., FACP, FACG, is leading the Liver Clinic team. Shields has over a decade of experience diagnosing and treating liver disease.

"We saw a need to establish a liver clinic locally to better serve Grand Junction and the surrounding community. Now patients have the choice to receive their treatment close to home," adds Shields.

The clinic will focus care on the diagnostic evaluation and management of acute and chronic viral hepatitis (such as hepatitis C and B), alcoholic liver disease, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, autoimmune liver disease (such as autoimmune

hepatitis and primary biliary cholangitis), inherited and metabolic liver disease (such as hemochromatosis), cirrhosis, and pre/post liver transplant care.

Studies show that roughly 30 percent of the population has fatty liver disease. "Those numbers are staggering, but the good news is it's not only a preventable disease, but it's also reversible through diet and exercise," says Shields, who is leading the clinic with physician assistant Kirsten Boland, PA (ASCP), PA-C.

Boland received her Master of Health Sciences from Duke University and her Master of Physician Assistant studies from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has nearly two decades working in medicine. Prior to joining the Liver Clinic at Grand Junction Gastroenterology, she predominantly worked in academic medicine.

"Few areas of medicine have seen more

advances than hepatology. I'm looking forward to connecting with patients and working with them to best manage their care," says Boland.

The Liver Clinic offers FibroScan® technology, which is a non-invasive test used to assess liver stiffness.

The result is immediate, showing the condition of the liver and allowing physicians to diagnose and monitor changes. Exam results help to anticipate possible complications, as well as to monitor and assess the damage caused by liver disease. The FibroScan® examination is painless, quick, and easy.

The Liver Clinic is located at 1035 Wellington Avenue in Grand Junction. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (970) 242-6600.

To schedule a media interview, please contact Keira Bresnahan of The Lewis Agency at (970) 628-0827.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TRI-STATE ANNOUNCES TRANSFORMATIVE RESPONSIBLE ENERGY PLAN ACTIONS

Special to the Mirror

WESTMINSTER – In the most transformative change in its 67-year history, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association today announced actions of its Responsible Energy Plan, which dramatically and rapidly advance the wholesale power supply cooperative's clean energy portfolio and programs to serve its member electric cooperatives and public power districts.

"Our cooperative and its members are aligned in our transition to clean power," said Rick Gordon, chairman of Tri-State and director at Mountain View Electric Association in eastern Colorado. "With today's announcement, we're poised to become a new Tri-State; a Tri-State that will provide reliable, affordable and responsible power to our members and communities for many years to come."

Tri-State's clean energy transition significantly expands renewable energy generation, meaningfully reduces greenhouse gas emissions, extends the benefits of a clean grid to cooperative members, and will share more flexibility for self-generation with members, all while ensuring reliable, affordable and responsible electricity.

"We're not just changing direction, we're emerging as the leader of the energy transition," said Duane Highley, Tri-State's chief executive officer. "Membership in Tri-State will provide the best option for cooperatives seeking a clean, flexible and competitively-priced power supply, while still receiving the benefits of being a part of a financially strong, not-for-profit, full-service cooperative."

Accelerated additions of renewable projects drive 50% renewable energy by 2024

Tri-State today announced six new renewable energy projects in Colorado and New Mexico, which along with two projects previously announced and yet to be constructed, will result in more than 1 gigawatt of additional emissions-free renewable resources being added to Tri-State's power supply portfolio by 2024.

For the first time, four solar projects will be located on the west side of Tri-State's system, including near Escalante Station

and Colowyo Mine, which are scheduled to close by the end of 2020 and by 2030, respectively.

The eight long-term renewable energy projects of varying contract lengths to be added to Tri-State's resource portfolio by 2024 include:

- * Escalante Solar, a 200-megawatt (MW) project located in Continental Divide Electric Cooperative's service territory in New Mexico. Tri-State has a contract with Turning Point Energy for the project. The solar project is on land near Escalante Station, which will close by the end of 2020.

- * Axial Basin Solar, a 145-MW project in northwest Colorado in White River Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has a contract with juwi for the project. The project is located on land near the Colowyo Mine, which will close by 2030.

- * Niyol Wind, a 200-MW project located in eastern Colorado in Highline Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has a contract with NextEra Energy Resources for the project.

- * Spanish Peaks Solar, a 100-MW project, and Spanish Peaks II Solar, a 40-MW project, located in southern Colorado in San Isabel Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has contracts with juwi for both solar projects.

- * Coyote Gulch Solar, a 120-MW project located in southwest Colorado in La Plata Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has a contract with juwi for the project.

- * Dolores Canyon Solar, a 110-MW project located in southwest Colorado in Empire Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has a contract with juwi for the project.

- * Crossing Trails Wind, a 104-MW project located in eastern Colorado in K.C. Electric Association's service territory. Tri-State has a contract with EDP Renewables for the project.

The construction and operation of these projects will result in hundreds of temporary construction jobs and contribute to permanent jobs and tax base within Tri-State members' service territories.

"By 2024, 50% of the energy consumed

within our cooperative family will be renewable," said Highley. "Accelerating our renewable procurements as technology improved and prices dropped results in the lowest possible renewable energy cost today for our members, and likely of any regional utility."

Since 2009, Tri-State has contracted for 15 utility-scale wind and solar projects, as well as numerous small hydropower projects. By 2024, Tri-State will have more than 2,000 megawatts of renewable capacity on its 3,000-megawatt peak system, including:

- * 800 megawatts of solar power from 9 projects (3 existing, 6 to be constructed by 2024)

- * 671 megawatts of wind power from 6 projects (4 existing, 2 to be constructed by 2022)

- * 600 megawatts of large and small hydropower (including federal and numerous small projects)

Collectively, Tri-State's renewable portfolio can power the equivalent of nearly 850,000 average homes.

Greenhouse gas emissions significantly reduced to meet Colorado, New Mexico goals

Tri-State is significantly decreasing greenhouse gas emissions to meet state laws and goals, and with the closures<<https://tristate.coop/tri-state-announces-retirement-all-coal-generation-colorado-and-new-mexico>> of all coal facilities it operates, will eliminate 100% of its greenhouse gas emissions from coal in New Mexico by the end of 2020 and in Colorado by 2030. The early closures of Escalante Station, Craig Station and Colowyo Mine were announced last Thursday, following the early retirement of Nucla Station in 2019. By closing Craig Station, Tri-State is committed to reducing carbon emissions from units it owns or operates in Colorado by 90% by 2030, and reducing emissions from Colorado electric sales by 70% by 2030. Tri-State also is committing to not develop additional coal facilities, and has cancelled its Holcomb coal project in southwestern Kansas. The air permit for the project will expire in March 2020.

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TO LAUNCH FOURTH SEASON, UPSTART PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS 'TINY BEAUTIFUL THINGS' @ SHERBINO & WRIGHT



Heather Hughes stars as Sugar in *Tiny Beautiful Things*. Behind her, from left to right, letter writers Dave Olsen, Andrea Sokolowski, Mitch Hamilton, Heather Toth, Nate and Kate Kissingford, and Edward Cating. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY COUNTY—The first play of Ouray County's professional theater company's fourth season is *Tiny Beautiful Things*, adapted by Nia Vardalos from a book by Cheryl Strayed. It chronicles Strayed's experience as "Dear Sugar," an advice columnist who fearlessly, vulnerably, often hilariously advocated embracing life and love. "My favorite kind of theater-making is based in this sort of core humanity," said Heather Hughes, who will play Sugar. "This story is just people sharing their

deep truth and I think that just makes us all braver." She has long believed that theater is for truth-telling, for inviting audiences into an experience and then encouraging the conversation afterwards.

"When we listen to people bare their souls like this," she continued, "that makes baring our souls something we want to do, something we need to do, makes us more in touch with our own humanity. It helps us know that we are not the only one, we are not alone."

"It's a play that brings people together," added director John Kissingford. "And we're so excited Heather is joining us. She is a vibrant, truthful soul, someone you're just glad to be in a room with." After an acting career in NYC, Heather worked at the Denver Center and other metro area theater companies before moving with her husband Steven to direct and teach at Western Colorado University in Gunnison. A cast of seven local actors will play the various letter-writers. "The people in this play take this wonderful risk," said John, "to be fully honest and present and human with each other, and that brings them together. It's really moving." The production is a collaboration between the Sherbino (Friday, Jan. 31) and the Wright (Saturday, Feb. 1). "We always hope our

plays will bring our communities together," said artistic director Kate Kissingford. "This coming season is really focused on that."

Tiny Beautiful Things is the first of four UpstartART productions for 2020. Kate will direct *The Amish Project* by Jessica Dickey at the Wright in June, and John will direct Yasmina Resa's *God of Carnage* at the Sherbino in November. While one is a drama and the other a dark comedy, John said, "they both look unflinchingly on what it means for human beings to live with each other, to face our darker impulses, and to see some path towards compassion." In a departure from tradition, UpstartART will not present a No Holds Bard Shakespeare production this summer. In its place, Kate said, "we have found a play that is as irreverent and delightful as our NHB style!" Jessica Robblee, a Denver actor/director that local audiences will remember from her turns as the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* and the drunken butler Stephano in *The Tempest*, is returning to Ouray to direct *The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged)*. *Complete Works* will play at the Wright over Labor Day weekend. *Tiny Beautiful Things* has frank discussion of adult topics and is not recommended for kids.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

POMONA 3RD GRADERS AND SENIOR SHARING PROJECT

By Marilyn Huseby

MONTROSE-Where were you when you were in 3rd grade? Hopefully inside each of us still lives that curious, slightly used eight year old that would like to compare their stories with 3rd graders growing up now.

At that age life was full of things you either did or didn't want to do. Your parents insisted you do your chores and the teachers listed your homework assignments. After that you were free to explore the outdoors. The whole neighborhood, fields, streams, and trees were yours. You could ride your bike or roam around with your friends as far as you could go in those days and still be back for dinner. This isn't true for young people in the constraints of our society today.

Remember the pets, the puppies, ham-

sters, or horses that were such a big part of your young life? What chores did you do to help around the home or farm? Did you collect bottles and newspapers to recycle for two cents so you could go to the cinema matinee? How about stories of the first time you learned to do something new.

These are the stories we would all like to share with the youngsters of today. Their imaginations are still ready to explore what life was like for you at their age and share theirs as well.

Those warming pictures and memories of grandparents sharing tales of their lives around the kitchen table or in front of the old fireplace are fond memories that live in our hearts and scrapbooks. Do our young people have enough grandparents or older friends that their imaginations

can travel with? Come and enrich this season of giving with the experience of sharing with an eight to ten-year-old. Each child's eyes will widen around stories of growing up without cell phones or video games. Lots of us didn't even experience a TV back then. They will be inspired and want to share with us the stories of what they find interesting and involving in their lives. We are looking for seniors to meet with eight to 10-year-old Pomona 3rd graders. You will compare and contrast stories with them to encourage their interest in learning and sharing with older people. This is a wonderful opportunity to foster kindness, curiosity and understanding across the generations. The Montrose Pavilion Senior Center invites you to join us on Monday Jan 20 and Jan. 27 from 1 - 2 PM. Please RSVP to Cindy at 252 4884.

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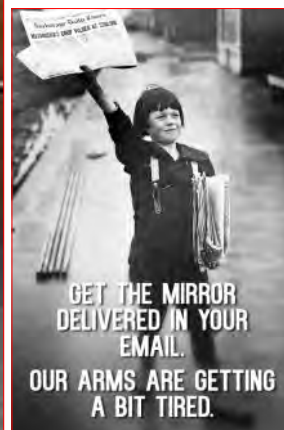
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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL NAMES JANUARY DIVISION AWARDS WINNERS



*Montrose High School
January Division
Award winners -From
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Brenton Widener, Abi-
gail Peterson, Megan
Norwood, Ethan Hall,
Byron Perez-Oxlaj.*



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

THE RADIO ROOM WELCOMES FEEDING GIANTS LIVE

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The Radio Room welcomes Feeding Giants live in concert on Feb. 2. Feeding Giants is the little band with a surprisingly big sound.

This acoustic trio performs covers as well as many originals ranging in style from Classic Country, Classic Rock, Indi Folk Rock and Americana.

With their acoustic melodies, smooth sweet harmonies, toe tapping beats and unique sound, Feeding Giants brings a fun, intense yet relaxing musical experience to delight the heart and feed the soul.

Come see Feeding Giants!

Tickets are \$20 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.

Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. Courtesy photo.



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Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

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Devil Dog book cover. Courtesy image.

AURORA ... Here's another bestseller from 2015 that I missed the first time around (Orbit Books, New York). But it's a sci-fi novel, and it's much more timeless in some sense. Kim Stanley Robinson is one of the best known sci-fi writers in America – having won dozens of awards, including the Hugo, the Nebula, and the Robert A. Heinlein Award ... I know Ursula LeGuin (whose mother Theodora Kroeber attended high school in Telluride) speaks of sci-fi having far more imagination than most “realist” fiction, and a freer hand to explore boundaries of science, of society, of technology ... When I was a young man, I read sci-fi religiously. It was perhaps my biggest inspiration. But I'd been away from it for a long time. What drew me back was Robinson's title: *Aurora*. That's the name of my three-year-old granddaughter.

A celebrated novel about the future with



Space graphic from the book cover of Aurora. Courtesy image.

the name of my youngest offspring. I had to check it out ... And it's a great read. Sure, I got bogged down in some of the techie engineering talk of the starship that's taking a couple thousand people to form a new colony of Earth's in the Tau Ceti system – actually taking them over the course of numerous generations, as their starship becomes their home for almost 200 years. But it gets lively.

The suspense of getting there and then finding their intended new planet is toxic to humans is a gripping story line ... And the decision of half the crew to return home to Earth is a powerful metaphor. All that tech used to mimic life on earth on a starship and what we end up seeing with the heroine and her group is the notion that people co-evolve with their place of origin, and separating from that is perhaps not a wise move ... I loved that even 700 years into the future Robinson has a group called “Earthfirsters” lobbying to stop spending money on starship expeditions and focus on restoration issues.

It's a strong indictment of our rush to colonize the heavens, while not paying good attention to our own native home. Something very pertinent to our own times ... Finally, the end segment description of the heroine learning to body surf on a Terran beach is some of the best writing of the book ... Recommended.

TOTALLY GREEN ... I love that our local energy co-op in San Miguel County, San Miguel Power Association, gives out capital contribution money by way of dividends to long-time customers. This year I got a dividend check for what amounted to a full month's winter power operation from capital contributions made in 1991, 1992 and 1993 ... And the latest SMPA newsletter, *Energy Wise*, details some of the 120+ members that have subscribed to SMPA's Totally Green program. That includes the Telluride/Mountain Village Gondola (operating totally green since 2008), Telluride Sports (since June 2018), Clark's Market (since Sept. 2019), Mountain Chill Radio (since Nov. 2019), and San Miguel County (since Nov. 2019). Give the co-op a call and learn more.

WAR IS A RACKET ... If you've never heard of Marine Corps Major General Smedley D. Butler, a two-time Medal of Honor recipient, than there's a large chunk of American history that you've missed.

David Talbot's lurid pulp history book about Butler fills in the gaps, *Devil Dog: The Amazing Story of the Man who Saved America* (Simon & Schuster, 2010). There's also Jules Archer's *Plot to Seize the White House: The Shocking TRUE Story of the Conspiracy to Overthrow F.D.R.* (Skyhorse Publishing, 2015). Or you can peruse Hans Schmidt's *Maverick Marine: General Smedley D. Butler and the Contradictions of American Military History* (Univ. Press of Kentucky, 1998) ... But to get the story straight from the horse's mouth, check out a short but potent chapbook -- based on a speech Butler gave on a nationwide tour after he retired in 1931 -- *War Is a Racket*. It's an anti-war classic.

Readers Digest even published a condensed version ... An inexpensive edition is currently available from Feral House Press in Port Townsend ... Highly recommended.

Continued next pg

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes, continued

WEEKLY QUOTA ... "A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects." —Robert A. Heinlein

MONTROSE MEMORIAL ... Been having a bunch of tests done – CT scan, MRI. So, I've gotten to see more of this small hospital than I have in years (my first born arrived in the world here, back in the last millennium). And it's such a joy. The people are super nice. The care is excellent. And the food in the cafeteria is outstanding. How lucky we are to have such a great facility here in the west central region of the Western Slope.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

WRIGHT WELCOMES EXHIBIT BY RIDGWAY WILDLIFE & NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-The Wright Opera House in Ouray along with the Ouray County Arts Association will host “*Wanderings in the Wild*,” a photography exhibit by Ridgway wildlife and nature photographer, Alissa Crandall, Feb. 1- March 13.

At the age of 13, Alissa built her own darkroom and began selling her photos to newspapers, magazines and individual clients. She has studied with Ansel Adams and other well-known photographers. Alissa holds an AS degree in Photography and a BA in Journalism. Her travels have taken her to every state and many continents, including; Antarctica, Asia, Africa and South America. Her work has appeared in *Alaska Magazine*, *Backpacker*, *National Parks*, *Outdoor America*, *Wildlife Conservation*, *BBC Wildlife*, as well as several of her own books and calendars.

“*Wanderings in the Wild*” will run from Feb. 1 through March 13, and will open with a public reception on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 4-6 pm at the Wright Opera House, 427 Main Street, Ouray. Refreshments will be served.

For further information: TheWrightOperaHouse.org. Ourayarts.com.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

JANE ALEX NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST @ UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Special to Art & Sol

BURLINGTON, VT-- Jane Alex, Class of 2022, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2019 semester at the University of Vermont. Alex from Montrose, Colorado is a Data Science major in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

About UVM Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine. [Visit uvm.edu](http://uvm.edu).

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our readers out in cold ...



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NOW ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS! *Wide Range of Scholarship Dollars Available for Local Students*

MONTROSE- The Montrose Community Foundation (MCF) is now accepting applications for a variety of scholarships available to local students, Montrose County and beyond, who are seeking post-secondary college and skilled training educations. The MCF added two new scholarships to its roster including a memorial scholarship in the name of beloved educator and long-time Olathe resident Maxine (Micki) Keller and a scholarship for book lovers.

"This year's scope of scholarships is broad and vast. These generous scholarships have just about something for everyone looking for financial assistance in their post-secondary future," said Sara Plunhoff, Executive Director of the Montrose Community Foundation. "The scholarships range from a focus on college and trade education, auto mechanics and even archaeology and include a \$750 one-time gift to the potential of \$10,000 for four years of college education."

Each scholarship has specific requirements. Applicants are encouraged to visit the Montrose Community Foundation website (www.montrosecf.org/Montrose-scholarships) and apply before application deadlines. Many of the deadlines expire February 28, 2020. A preview of each scholarship is listed below:

• **NEW - The Literature for Life Scholarship:** The Libraries of Montrose County Foundation Directors believe that reading opens a lifetime of information, inspiration and pleasure to those who make reading a lifelong habit. To encourage this discipline, the Foundation is offering a college scholarship to encourage reading great literature and thinking seriously about its content.

- o \$5000 for four years toward college tuition/fees
- o Must read three books from the [Library Scholarship Book List](#)
- o Three essays required
- o Montrose County Student can be high school senior, currently in college or university, or returning to college later in life.
- o More details including application and

deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **NEW - Maxine Keller Memorial**

Scholarship: Maxine (Micki) Keller, a dedicated teacher for 30 years and an educator for life, was taken from the Olathe community in a tragic accident in 2018. Now that she is no longer with us, the family continues her legacy through this scholarship in order to honor the life she lived and the impact she had on individuals through her educational and scholarship endeavors.

- o \$1000 annually for college, trade or vocational school tuition/fees
- o Must be Olathe High School senior and enrolled in Olathe system for 8 years
- o 500-word essay required
- o More details including application and deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **Automotive Enthusiast Scholarship:**

Long-time resident and car enthusiast David Langlois set up this scholarship before he passed away in 2017, to help pave the way for students to enter a career in the automotive industry by attending the 2-year Auto Technology program at the Delta-based Technical School of the Rockies.

- o \$6000 to fund most of the Auto Technology program
- o Must be attending or intend to attend Technical School of the Rockies
- o Application asks for history of applicant's car enthusiasm and favorite car
- o More details including application PDF and deadline available at montrosecf.org

• **Cobble Creek Men's & Women's**

Association Golf Scholarship: This golf scholarship will be awarded to two students who have been involved with the Montrose County high schools' golf program to pursue their goals of attending a two- or four-year college or university.

- o \$1000 nonrenewable scholarship
- o Students must be well-rounded, involved in their community and pursuing post-secondary education (college, technical or vocational schools)
- o Not needs-based or merit-based
- o More details including application and deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **DMEA Scholarships:** MCF is helping

administer \$40,000 in scholarships through Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA). DMEA along with wholesale power providers, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, and Basin Electric Power Cooperative offer scholarships to local students each year. Funding is made available through DMEA's Unclaimed Capital Credits Fund. Scholarships are available for graduating seniors from Delta and Montrose Counties, and Cedaredge, Hotchkiss, Olathe, and Paonia High Schools. As well as for students attending Delta-Montrose Technical College and Colorado Mesa University Montrose Campus.

- o Application deadline is January 31, 2020
- o More details including application available at montrosecf.org or dmea.com/scholarships

• **Karla J. Gilbert, Karl T. and Ruth C. Gilbert Family Scholarship:** This scholarship is established by the Gilbert family to encourage a deserving student who values education and has a commitment to succeed in a career in education or a branch of the natural resources field, and most importantly in life. Recipients will be chosen based on past academic history, extracurricular involvement, and perceived potential for future academic success as evaluated through the application and attachments.

- o Two students will receive \$1000 nonrenewable scholarship
- o Must be Montrose County high school senior or equivalent
- o Students must be pursuing a degree in a field related to education or natural resources.
- o More details including application and deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **Squint and Juanita Moore Archaeology/Anthropology Scholarship:** The Chipeta Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, the oldest continuing chapter of the state society founded in Montrose in 1935, established the Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship in December 2004. Carlisle (Squint) Moore was a

MONTROSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NOW ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

From previous pg

founding member of the local and state societies. This scholarship was created to honor Squint Moore's lifelong interest and dedication to the field of archaeology.

- o \$750 nonrenewable scholarship
- o High school, college or graduate students residing in or from the Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Mesa, San Miguel, and Ouray counties of Colorado
- o Funds may be applied but not limited to formal school study, field work, or on-going professional work
- o More details including application and deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **Montrose Rotary Club Scholarships:** Each year this club funds generous scholarships to students who are graduating from Montrose County School District High Schools including Vista Charter School, Passage Charter School, or a home-school program.

o **Montrose Rotary Club Vocational Scholarships** will be given to students who live in Montrose or Olathe and are planning on enrolling in or are already enrolled in a vocational school or technical college.

o **Montrose Rotary Club College Scholarships** will be given to a well-rounded Montrose County student with a 3.0 GPA or above to attend college or university.

\$ **\$6000** total in scholarships

• **Montrose County Merit Scholarship:** This scholarship was established in 2017 to help graduating seniors from a high school in Montrose County pursue a degree from a four-year college or university. The scholarship is intended to go to a student who is at the top of their class academically, as well as well-rounded,

involved in their community, and who is pursuing post-secondary education at a four-year college or university.

- o Student must be graduating senior from a high school in Montrose County.
- o Student must be top 5% of their graduating class and already accepted at a four-year college or university.
- o Merit-based, not needs-based
- o More details including application and deadlines available on MontroseCF.org

• **Ken and Marlene Townsend Scholarship:** This scholarship was established by Ken and Marlene Townsend to encourage the youth in this community to excel in years to come by helping Montrose High School students pursue their educational goals at a four-year university or college. This scholarship is granted to an exemplary student who is interested in education, passionate about their community and demonstrates financial need. The top candidates will be interviewed by the Townsend Family and a scholarship review committee. The interview and overall impression also factor heavily into the final candidate selection.

- o \$10,000 annual for four years to pay for tuition/fees
- o Montrose High School in the year of the application; attended Montrose High School for at least three years.
- o 3.0 GPA higher and need-based
- o Be accepted at a four-year college or university

• **Ada M. White and Luther B. White Memorial Scholarship:** Ada Madeline Moore White was born in 1906 in Delta County. After high school, she graduated

from Ross Business College in Grand Junction.

White was the Montrose city clerk from 1934 to 1950, later she opened White Realty and purchased and operated the White Motel. After attending the University of Colorado, she earned a license in real estate appraisals and was one of the first qualified MAI real estate appraisers in western Colorado. She remained active as a real estate broker and appraiser until her retirement in 1987. This scholarship was created to honor one of the most successful female businesspersons in the post war era in Montrose County. The student who receives this scholarship must be hard working, demonstrate financial need and show involvement in many activities in addition to schooling.

- o \$1500 nonrenewable scholarship
- o Montrose High School senior
- o Be accepted at a four-year college or university in Colorado

About Montrose Community Foundation: Founded in 1989 to help fund community projects, the Montrose Community Foundation (MCF) is a charitable 501(c)3 organization with the long-term goal of building permanent funds for the public benefit of the residents in the Montrose community.

MCF serves the community as a non-profit resource, it grants funds, administers scholarships for local students, collaborates with community groups and fosters a compassionate community that is focused on the future through planned giving. For more information visit www.montrosecf.com



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

GUIDED SNOWSHOE/SKI TOUR OF THE RED MOUNTAIN MINING DISTRICT

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Join Ouray Historian Don Paulson for a fun, informative adventure on snowshoes or nordic skis to historic mine sites including the Yankee Girl Mine frame. Moderate difficulty level (elevation: 8,000-plus).

- Date & Time: Saturday, Feb. 22, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Meeting Place: Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427 (from there we will carpool to CR 31)

- What to Bring: snowshoes or nordic skis, poles, appropriate clothing & accessories to keep you comfy & happy, lunch, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, small binoculars, a camera (smart phones work fine), friends, kids, but please leave your furry friends at home
- Registration: spaces are limited to 20. Do not delay, sign up now! We kindly request a \$30 donation to support our nonprofit tour hosts, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership and Ouray County Historical Society. Email name(s), phone number and email address to Tanya at uwpcommunications@gmail.com or leave a message at 970-325-3010.
- More information: www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events

GUIDED SNOWSHOE/SKI TOUR OF WINTER WILDLIFE UP RED MOUNTAIN PASS

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Join Wildlife Biologist Steve Boyle for an adventure on snowshoes or nordic skis to a winter wonderland where you will discover animal tracks and winter wildlife. Moderate difficulty level (elevation: 8,000-plus).

- Date & Time: Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Meeting Place: Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427 (from there we will carpool to Iron-ton)

- What to Bring: snowshoes or nordic skis, poles, appropriate clothing & accessories to keep you comfy & happy, lunch, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, small binoculars, a camera (smart phones work fine), friends, kids, but please leave your furry friends at home
- Registration: spaces are limited to 20. Do not delay, sign up now! We kindly request a \$30 donation to support our nonprofit, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. Email name(s), phone number and email address to Tanya at uwpcommunications@gmail.com or leave a message at 970-325-3010.
- More information: www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events

BENEFIT FOR THE UNCOMPAHGRE RIVER – RETURN OF THE FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Come out to enjoy fun and inspiring films about outdoor adventure and conservation through the love of fly fishing, and support projects that protect and restore your local river. 100 percent of proceeds go to the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership for maintenance and improvement of riparian areas, fish habitat and recreation areas. Sponsored by RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service.

Date & Time: Saturday, March 14, 6:30-9 p.m. Doors open at 6.

Place: Sherbino Theater, 604 Clinton St., Ridgway, CO 81432

Tickets: \$20 online in advance; \$25 event day at the door. <https://shop.fishrigs.com/film-tour-tickets/>

More information: www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events, uwpcommunications@gmail.com, or 970-325-3010



SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

CURRENT/ONGOING-

READING LITE STORYTIME-Every Wednesday, Jan. 15 - May 6, 10am - 10:30am. Enjoy Singing, playing, reading, and a craft all in about 30 minutes. Ages 2-6.

READING TO ROVER-Montrose Regional Library, Every Tuesday, Jan. 14 - May 5, 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.

MONTROSE LIBRARY-CHESS CLUB Every Tuesday, Jan. 14 - May 5, 4pm - 5pm. 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.

MONTROSE FREE THINKERS meet the first Sunday of each month. Call 417-4183 for more information & location.

MONTROSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS welcomes FIRST FRIDAY STROLL on Main Street in Montrose. Montrose Center for the Arts is exhibiting a *WINTER themed Members Art Show* for the month of December. Also, check out the Christmas Store at the Art Center. Appetizers and beverages available for your enjoyment. The Art Center is at the corner of Main and Park Ave., 11 Park Ave., Montrose.

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.

MONTROSE COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH Neighborhood Watch meets the second Wednesday of every month from 9:30-10:30 am in the Cascade Hall located at 336 S. 3rd St. at the corner of Cascade and 3rd St. ALL ARE WELCOME.

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 970-209-8173.

MONTROSE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEETING

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

MONTHLY-

Jan. 23-from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Montrose Library Meeting Room, readers are invited to a community book discussion of "Church of the Graveyard Saints," by Chuck Greaves. The title was selected for the first annual Four Corners/One Book literary program by the towns of Montrose, Cortez, Dolores, Mancos, Ignacio, and Moab. The evening will include a public book discussion and Q&A with the author, facilitated by Rhonda Claridge of Colorado Mesa University. Refreshments will be served.

Jan. 24-See Sir Kempson live in Concert at the Radio Room. Doors at 7, Show at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$15 Pre-sale \$18 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.

Jan. 24-25-The 8th Annual Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum will be Jan. 24 -25, 2020 at the Montrose Pavilion.

Jan. 25-Montrose Pavilion Dance Club with The Scones. Dance begins at 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 29-5-6:30, Montrose Library Meeting Room. Unwind, a monthly knit & crochet night at the Montrose Library. All ability levels welcome. Supplies provided, or bring your own project. Call 249-9656 for more information.

Feb. 3-Monday Feb. 3rd ,6:30 Citizens" Climate Lobby presents National Geographic "Years of Living Dangerously" with Sigourney Weaver visits China. Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan, all welcome

Feb 6-6:30-8:30 pm: Great Decisions Discussion Group, "Climate Change and the Global Order." -Montrose Library Meeting Room. 970-249-9656

Feb. 6-There will be a Disabilities/Inclusion focus group meeting at Over the Rainbow Behavioral Consulting on Feb. 6, 6-9 pm. The address is 18th N. Uncompahgre Ave Montrose, Colorado 81401.

Feb. 11-Play and Learn. Montrose Regional Library. Feb. 11. 0am - 12pm. Join us for an early literacy playdate! Stations and activities to promote early literacy. Designed for ages 0-6.

Feb. 12-On Wednesday, Feb. 12: Winter Bike to Work Day. Pedal over to the Montrose Visitor Center from 6:30-9 am for a free hot breakfast. After work, celebrate at 2 Rascals at our Love Your Bike Party from 4:30-7 pm.

Feb. 12- Montrose Neighborhood Watch meeting, presentation on Crime Scene Investigations. Neighborhood Watch meets the second Wednesday of every month from 9:30-10:30 am in the Cascade Hall located at 336 S. 3rd St. at the corner of Cascade and 3rd St. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Feb 13-6:30-8:30 pm: Great Decisions Discussion Group, "India and Pakistan." Montrose Library Meeting Room. 970-249-9656

Feb. 20-2pm - 4pm Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day. Montrose Regional Library. Calling all girls! Join us for a fun program that will give girls the chance to think like an engineer! Everyone welcome! Young children must have a caregiver present.

Feb 20-6:30-8:30pm: Great Decisions Discussion Group, "Red Sea Security." Montrose Library Meeting Room. 970-249-9656

Feb 27-6:30-8:30pm: Great Decisions Discussion Group, "Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking." Montrose Library Meeting Room. 970-249-9656

Mar 5-6:30-8:30 pm: Great Decisions Discussion Group, "U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle." Montrose Library Meeting Room. 970-249-9656

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Photographer Deb Reimann snapped the photo above after the recent ice/fog weather event.

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