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# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Free People...  
Issue No. 376 May 11, 2020

## BOCC EXTENDS LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION, ALLOWS SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR BLOW FLY SHOOTING GROUP



On Thursday, May 7, Montrose County announced that CPDHE identified an additional outbreak site in Montrose County—the Carniceria Sonora, above. Still, the State had not posted any details or outbreak data as of Press time Monday, May 11.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Masked and with sanitizer at the ready, all commissioners were present as the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met in chambers for a regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6. The invocation was delivered by Pastor Eric Archuleta of the Abundant Life Church. Commissioners removed their masks during the meeting to allow those watching at home to read lips as needed.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

### COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Ken Norris *Continued pg 17*

## MPD: MORE THAN 1.1 KILO OF HEROIN SEIZED IN RECENT WEEKS; DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE RISE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Four new City employees were introduced at the Montrose City Council virtual work session on Monday, May 4. Joining the City team are Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jackie Bubenik; Assistant City Attorney Matthew Magliaro; Competitive Sports Program Coordinator Chris Iversen; and G.I.S. Systems Analyst Zachary Musick.



Bubenik is the new Parks & Rec Superintendent. A landscape architect, Bubenik moved here a month

ago from Oklahoma, where he had retired after nearly 18 years with the City of Tulsa. "Montrose is a wonderful community," he said. "We've enjoyed it in the month we've been here...it's good to be here."

Magliaro has joined the City as Assistant City Attorney, working primarily with the Montrose Police Department as part of the 2A Public Safety campaign. He has lived in Montrose for three years and eight months, and previously worked for the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in Montrose and Delta. Originally from Spokane, Washington, Magliaro has lived in 13 communities, most recently Anchorage, Alaska. He was hired by the City of Montrose on April 13; "They gave me a mask and a computer and sent me

*With limits on seasonal workers, some City-maintained green spaces are trending toward tan this spring. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

*Continued pg 29*

in this  
issue

*Reader Photo Spotlight  
With Deb Reimann!*

*Paul Arbogast  
Visits Montrose Farmers Market!*

*City & County  
Government!*

*Letters to the Editor!  
Regional News Briefs!*



# SUMMER FARMERS MARKET OPENS IN MONTROSE



*With masks and social distancing measures in place, the summer market opened for the season in Centennial Plaza May 9. Photos by Paul Arbogast.*



## THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado by Caitlin Switzer to a readership of over 13,500 residents of Western Colorado.

We encourage contributions and commentary. Content may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher.

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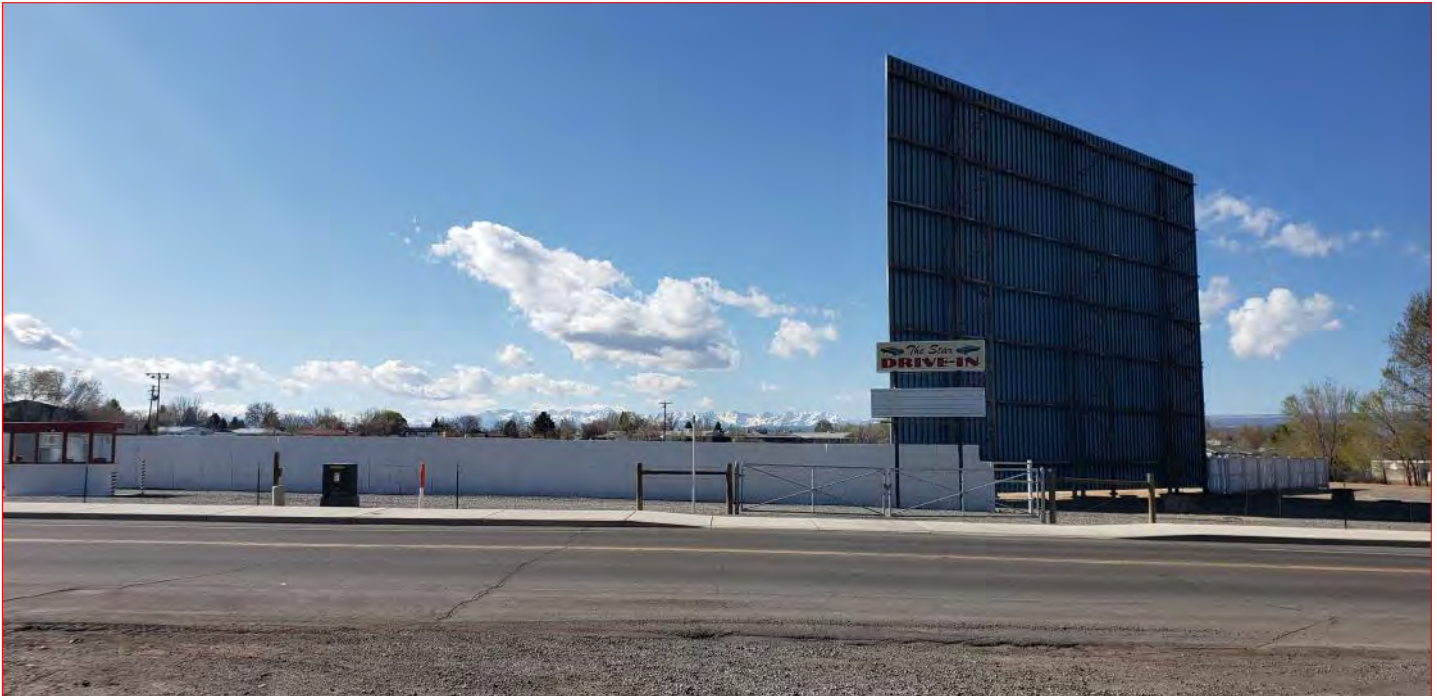


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## STAR DRIVE-IN THEATER OPENS FOR SEASON



*MONTROSE-The Star Drive-In Theater opened Friday, May 8. Social distancing rules regarding COVID-19 are available on the theater's website. Sonic the Hedgehog, starring James Marsden and Jim Carrey, was shown this weekend. The ticket office opens 45 minutes before dusk and movies begin at dusk. For information on upcoming shows visit <http://www.stardrivein.com/>. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: FIRE RESTRICTIONS ON THE GMUG

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-We remind visitors that fire restrictions are currently in place on the GMUG. The following is prohibited:

Igniting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, including charcoal grills and barbecues, coal and wood-burning stoves, and shepherd's stoves.

Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, trailer or building.

The following persons are exempt from fire restrictions:

Persons with a Forest Permit, Form FS-7700-48, specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order in the areas listed above.

Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty is exempt from Prohibitions.

Persons using pressurized liquid or gas devices (stoves, grills or lanterns) with shut-off valves in an area at least three feet from any flammable materials are exempt from Prohibition #1. Residents, owners or lessees within the areas listed above who are using a fire in a permanent dwelling with an effective and properly installed USDA- or SAE- approved spark arrestor, are exempt from Prohibition #1. Fire restrictions enhance public safety, protect natural and cultural resources and

help prevent human- caused wildfires.

Several criteria are used to determine when to implement fire restrictions, including fire activity levels, current and predicted weather, fuel moisture and the availability of emergency and firefighting resources. Additional restrictions may be required if conditions warrant.

Entering upon closed areas or igniting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or smoking on national forests and grasslands is a violation of Federal law and may result in consequent fines and possible jail time.

Fireworks are illegal on National Forest System lands every day.

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO FOREST ATLAS OFFERS ONE-STOP SHOP FOR FORESTRY DATA

*Special to the Mirror*

FORT COLLINS – Last week, the Colorado State Forest Service launched a new website for landowners, land managers and others to access data about Colorado's forests. The CSFS gathers and analyzes data about wildfire risk, priority areas for forestry work, on-the-ground projects and more related to forestlands and natural resources in the state. The Colorado Forest Atlas is the one-stop shop for the public, partners and CSFS staff to access this geospatial data and information when developing new projects, writing forestry plans or assessing wildfire risk for communities.

"As a service and outreach agency, the Colorado State Forest Service is committed to ensuring our data is available and easily accessible to all Coloradans, including our partners in forestry and wildfire risk reduction," said Amanda West Fordham, Manager of Science Information

for the CSFS. "The Colorado Forest Atlas offers a user-friendly interface for access to web applications that can be used to make informed decisions and develop plans that will make the greatest, positive impact on the health of our forests."

#### Wildfire Risk Apps

The first two apps included in the launch of the Colorado Forest Atlas are the Wildfire Risk Viewer and the Risk Reduction Planner. The CSFS developed these apps several years ago to offer access to data and reports concerning wildland fire risk in Colorado. The agency previously offered these apps on a stand-alone website called the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (CO-WRAP), but with new apps in development, it opted to develop a sole website for all its apps that do or will provide access to its data, Fordham said.

The Wildfire Risk Viewer (formerly called the Public Viewer on the CO-WRAP web-

site) is an app that anyone can use to learn more about wildfire risk, local fire history and additional resources that can be accessed to reduce risk. With more than half of all Coloradans living in the wildland-urban interface – about 3 million people – the CSFS is urging homeowners to visit the Colorado Forest Atlas and use the Wildfire Risk Viewer to assess their neighborhood's risk during Wildfire Awareness Month in May. The Risk Reduction Planner (formerly called the Professional Viewer on the CO-WRAP website) is an app for partners and professional users to generate reports that they can use in planning efforts. With its move to the Colorado Forest Atlas website from the CO-WRAP website, the Risk Reduction Planner has a new design and is now compatible with mobile devices. The Colorado Forest Atlas is available at [coloradoforestatlas.org](http://coloradoforestatlas.org). For more information, please contact Fordham at (970) 491-8443.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### CITY COUNCIL: PLEASE CONSIDER HEALTH AND SAFETY OF MONTROSE COMMUNITY BEFORE ALLOWING COVAXX TO OPERATE HERE

#### *Letter to the Montrose City Council:*

You are seriously considering allowing a company to come into the Montrose marketplace, which will be handling virus' and engaging in business in China. I hope you will consider the repercussions of such actions on your part, and the physical health of your community.

We have just gone through a 6 week shut down of area businesses, and your constituent's lives have been on hold, because of COV19 China virus.

I'm sure income from the local businesses has had a major hit for the Montrose sales tax income.

People are ordering what they need from outside vendors, and not paying any city tax. Some local businesses will not re-open.

This business will be utilizing our local airport to ship the virus' and whatever other business ventures they will be pursuing. How many locals are going to want

to use our airport and fly to their destination with a possible live virus on board. Grand Junction also provides service to Denver and beyond, with no risk of infection.

Much of our yearly income for the city comes from air traffic from both coasts, and other large metro areas. They do their shopping in Montrose before heading off to ski at Telluride. Do you think people will choose to fly into the Montrose airport with a lab that is creating live virus' right next door?

It wouldn't take much effort for Durango to expand their air service and offer it to those same folks who want to go to Telluride. What effect will that have on our local economy.

Word travels quickly on social media and beyond. People who regularly vacation in Telluride are not going to risk coming through an airport with an "active virus lab" next to the airport.

Have you looked at the positive cases of COV-19 in Montrose?

Gunnison County is the only other county on the western slope with more cases. 11 deaths for a county of this size is very questionable. We don't have more nursing homes than Mesa County, has our Public Health Department looked into this?

Tourists who ski Crested Butte and Monarch ski area (Gunnison county) also come through the Montrose airport to drive on to these locations.

Finally, consider local property values. Do you think our local properties will maintain their current value, or will they drop like they did in 2008.

I hope you will consider all of the above before making a decision which will bring in a business with far reaching implications to our quality of life and health in our county.

*Sharyn Bennett, Montrose*

## My Mask Protects You



## Your Mask Protects Me



MONTROSE COUNTY COVID-19 INFORMATION AT [WWW.MONTROSECOUNTYJIC.COM](http://WWW.MONTROSECOUNTYJIC.COM)



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO LAUNCHES “CAN DO COLORADO” CAMPAIGN TO HIGHLIGHT BUSINESSES & PROFESSIONALS FINDING INNOVATIVE WAYS TO SERVE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER — The Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) announced the launch of a new, statewide campaign that will highlight Colorado businesses and professionals who are taking the COVID-19 public health orders seriously and have found innovative, responsible ways to continue serving their customers and clients. The “Can Do Colorado” campaign released an [official launch video](#) today. “We know this is a difficult time for many Coloradans and I’m excited to see so many businesses rise to the challenge and get creative,” said Governor Jared Polis. “Despite challenges, many small businesses are stepping up with innovative solutions to help keep their customers and

clients safe. We want to recognize and applaud their creativity. It’s great to see responsible businesses and leaders in communities across our state setting an example by prioritizing the health and safety of their fellow Coloradans, implementing social distancing and safety measures.”

In the coming weeks, people visiting the [“Can Do Colorado” website](#) can view videos and read stories about local Coloradans who are creating new, safe ways to serve their clients and customers in light of COVID-19. Website visitors are also invited to share their own stories of innovation, as well as nominate others who they think deserve recognition. Additionally, business owners, professionals and consumers can

find educational resources and guidance about how businesses can safely and responsibly reopen on the website.

“The State of Colorado has always been proud of being resilient and innovative. Now, more than ever, Colorado businesses are showing their grit in the face of this crisis,” said DORA executive director Patty Salazar. “Colorado business owners are stepping up and transforming the way they operate to support their communities, and we are proud to celebrate those efforts.”

The Can Do Colorado campaign coincides with Gov. Polis’ Safer at Home efforts that are underway to gradually transition Colorado’s economy back open, and will be promoted as a business-specific initiative alongside the #DoingMyPartCO efforts. Follow along to see new highlights about businesses and professionals on the website and on social media at #CanDOColorado and #DoingMyPartCO. Denver branding, marketing and technology company Karsh Hagan is managing the website marketing and design pro-bono. For more information about the Safer At Home phase visit [here](#).

Please note: The featured practices are not an endorsement or recommendation of any one individual or business by DORA. Rather, the campaign is meant to highlight innovative and best practices used by businesses in the midst of COVID-19 restrictions.

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# COUNCILOR FRANK DONATES FIRST 3 MONTHS SALARY TO MCF; CITY MANAGER ADDRESSES COVAXX QUESTIONS



*City Manager Bill Bell discussed COVAXX's proposed vaccine development operation at the One Creative Place property (above) near Montrose Regional Airport, former site of Jetaway and STW Composites. Mirror file photo.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All Councilors were present as Mayor Barbara Bynum convened the Montrose City Council virtual regular meeting of Tuesday, May 5. Youth Council Representative Harrison Hall led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Bynum read the rules for public comment into the record, and then took time to explain the reasoning behind those guidelines more fully before giving up the mic to City resident Valerie Meyers. "With that, Valerie we'd love to wear what's on your mind tonight."

Meyers expressed concern over a CO-VAXX operation proposed for the One Creative Place property, as discussed in an April 27 BOCC work session. "Thank you for your service," Meyers said. "...I am not clear what kind of approval they need, but I understand that they need some type of City approval, they may need some type of County approval, maybe FAA approval... has the City already met on this topic...and is there something scheduled to be put on the agenda?"

Bynum asked Meyers to introduce herself with her first and last name and address; Meyers complied.

Said Bynum, "We do welcome public comment from people that live in the City

and outside the City, but just for our public records we require that. So, for all those reasons that I explained before you talked, we're not going to engage in a back and forth right now.

"We have not had any public meetings," Bynum said, "which is why you haven't seen it on the agenda, and it's not something that we're talking about tonight. But if you want to shoot the City some emails that's a really good way to get additional information, and a staff member or I will follow up with you.

"Again, I hope you can understand why we don't now talk about it, because it isn't on our agenda for tonight."

Meyers asked again when the matter would be placed on the agenda; Bynum said that the City Manager would probably talk about it later in the meeting during the "comments" portion.

"...I think that there's more information from our City Manager when he updates both Council and the community on things going on in our community tonight," Bynum said.

"...I just have concern about us rushing into something that...could be positive or could be negative for our community," Meyers said, noting that COVAXX has expressed a desire to make Montrose the "global peptide vaccine center."

"It could have really huge consequences," Meyers said. "...I would hope that we would do our due diligence thoroughly before any decisions are made, and that the public is made very aware of the situation, because it affects our livelihood."

Bynum explained that she was unable to respond and promised to follow up with Meyers.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council unanimously approved the minutes of the April 21, 2020 regular City Council meeting.

## ORDINANCES 2501 AND 2502-SECOND READING

As discussed previously in work session, Council approved Ordinance 2501 on Second Reading, for the annexation of the 4152 North Townsend Addition; and Ordinance 2502 on Second reading providing

for the zoning of the 4152 N. Townsend Addition as a B-3 General Commercial District. The items were presented by Planner Amy Sharp.

"Thank you very much Amy Sharp, and I hear Congratulations are in order," Bynum said, "...you are now the City's Senior Planner."

## STAFF REPORTS/COUNCIL & STAFF COMMENTS

City Manager Bill Bell shared information from the first 2A Report card, which shows how funds from the recent public safety sales tax initiative are being spent. The report card can be viewed in full in the meeting packet. A new 2A report card will be released on a quarterly basis. Highlights include implementation of the Intelligence Led Policing (ILP) model; the addition of the public safety assistant city attorney position; Officer Jeremy Payne will be assigned to the School Resource Division; and Sgt. Billy Stroup will direct the new law enforcement academy that the Police Department and Colorado Mesa University (CMU) have put together. The director position is shared with CMU; the City will get academy spots in return for helping to fund the salary. There will be a summer police academy in 2021. Classes will be held at CMU's Montrose Campus.

Officer Michelle Berry is now detective sergeant. A site lease and lease purchase agreement between the City and UMB Bank, NA to allow release of Certificates of Participation to fund a new police facility was scheduled to close May 7.

Police Chief Blaine Hall discussed the department's body cameras, "They are going to be a fantastic tool to protect our community and protect our officers." He thanked Chelsea Rosty and her team for taking on Public Information Officer (PIO) duties and improving the department's communications and messaging on social media.

City Manager Bill Bell gave a public information report. "...There's a lot of misinformation out there on social media," he said. "...the facts as far as the City understands it, COVAXX is a company from the Telluride area...they called us a couple of



## ***COUNCILOR FRANK DONATES FIRST 3 MONTHS SALARY TO MCF; CITY MANAGER ADDRESSES COVAXX From previous pg***

weeks ago...and asked if we would go out and have a meeting. Honoring social distancing and masked up, we went out to the hangar that's located at One Creative Place just adjacent to the airport taxiways...separated by a chain link fence."

The company shared its business plan with the City, Bell said, which was forwarded to City Council.

Under the plan, COVAXX would operate a facility to put together and distribute test kits out of the hangar facility, and they would work on vaccine development in a lab in the hangar as well.

"They really need the ability to work in a way that that's called 'through the fence' on airport property," Bell said. "Where the chain link fence would go away and they

could fly in supplies to build the kits...they would fly in the medical type stuff...they would be able to fly them in, take the airplanes right into the hangar facility, unload and load right there, and fly 'em out.

"I think they mentioned about six flights a day would come in and out of that facility."

The property is correctly zoned for the project, Bell said. "That's really the extent of the City's involvement in this project," he said. "We don't have the ability to tell a business they can't come to our community if the property they want to purchase is properly zoned for whatever activity they want to do."

The proposal will not come before City Council because there are no decisions for

Council to make at this point. No incentives have been offered or requested, he said.

Youth Councilor Harrison Hall updated Council on Youth Council activities; tutoring continues, Youth Council recently partnered with Rotary to create a banner thanking first responders.

Following further discussion, Councilor Dave Frank said he has donated his first three months' salary as a City Councilor to the Montrose Community Foundation Emergency Relief Fund.

Mayor Bynum said that area high schools will hold a drive-through graduation event on Sunday, May 17.

With no further business, Council was adjourned.

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### FOOD TRUCKS MAY OBTAIN PERMITS TO OPERATE AT HWY REST AREAS

*Special to the Mirror*

STATEWIDE – The Colorado Department of Transportation issued emergency rules establishing a process for food truck operators to obtain permits to serve food at highway rest areas. Commercial motor carriers moving critical freight and goods across the country are lacking many of their usual options for food service throughout the country, including in Colorado. Governor Polis [issued an executive order on May 2](#) to suspend a section of state statute and allow food trucks to operate at Colorado's rest areas.

"As Coloradans continue to take precautions including wearing masks and staying

home, we are all grateful for the hard work of Colorado's truckers, who are working hard to ensure that our supply chain runs smoothly and our grocery shelves are stocked. In addition to expressing thanks to truckers, we are taking action and removing barriers and regulations that get in the way of our truckers having access to freshly made meals," said Gov. Polis. "This action will help Colorado's truckers have access to fresh and affordable meals on the road and help our small food truck businesses continue to support themselves in a way that also supports our critical supply chain needs and our community. I encourage food truck

operators to help truckers who are helping all of us by getting out to Colorado's rest stops." Interested food truck operators can view requirements, rest area sites, and apply for a permit [at CDOT's dedicated page](#). The initial rest areas available for food truck service will be at the following sites:

Colorado City  
Cortez (Sleeping Ute)  
Edwards  
El Moro Trinidad  
Rifle Rest Area  
Shaw Creek (South Fork)  
Sterling  
Wiggins

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# ASK ME ANYTHING

**LIVE Q&A WITH CITY MANAGER BILL BELL &  
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MAY 13  
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## ***BOCC EXTENDS LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION, ALLOWS SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR BLOW FLY SHOOTING GROUP from pg 1***

had no changes to the meeting agenda.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent agenda items were approved as presented.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

Commissioners voted unanimously to **extend the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration of March 16** through Aug. 31, based on medical opinions and guidance. The BOCC has the power to rescind the declaration at any time.

**Resolution 18-2020** was adopted unanimously, concerning the Policy on Passenger Air Carrier Rent Deferral in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, which defers airline payment of passenger terminal fees for exclusive use areas, non-exclusive joint use areas, and landing fees for 90 days.

"I am glad we could be that flexible,"

Commissioner Sue Hansen said.

Said BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash, "It makes sense; the Federal money is not coming in as fast as our partners need it to, and this just gives them a little leeway...if it helps our partners weather this

storm, I think it's a good thing for our county to do."

BOCC Chair Keith Caddy opened a public hearing for deliberation and decision on the **Blow Fly Shooting Group proposal** to develop a shotgun shooting range at 9474 S. River Road in Olathe. County Planning & Development Director Steve White reviewed the application and the proposed conditions. The County Planning Commission had recommended denial based on noise levels, direction of shooting, and the uncertainty of things that cannot be answered. Public comments on the proposal were taken at a previous public meeting. A staff report is included in the BOCC meeting packet.

Commissioner Hansen expressed concerns. "My feeling is that we can't guarantee the safety...there's not a locked gate, there's not supervision 24 hours...I'm also concerned for surrounding neighbors; it's a significant, continual, impact to a lifestyle." She recommended that the special use permit trial period be limited to less than six months.

Vice Chair Rash suggested that shooting

not be allowed on Sundays. "I think that would be a good compromise...I think people on a weekend ought to be able to have some peace and quiet."

Still, proposed decibel levels are not that loud, he said. Also, if the applicants are going to bring the public in for shooting events, "I think they ought to be responsible for cleaning up."

BOCC Chair Caddy asked for limits on shot size.

The applicant's attorney James Plumhoff was present to answer questions. Following further discussion, commissioners voted to two-to-one to approve the special use application, with additions and deletions as discussed in the meeting. Hansen voted to deny.

In other business, Commissioners voted unanimously to approve **Resolution 19-2020, a proposal to rezone** from Residential to General Business for Summers Properties, LLC, at 49 6400 Road (Northwest Corner of 6400 Road and Buffalograss Drive).

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

# STAY APART IN PUBLIC

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CEDAREDDGE CELEBRATES NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

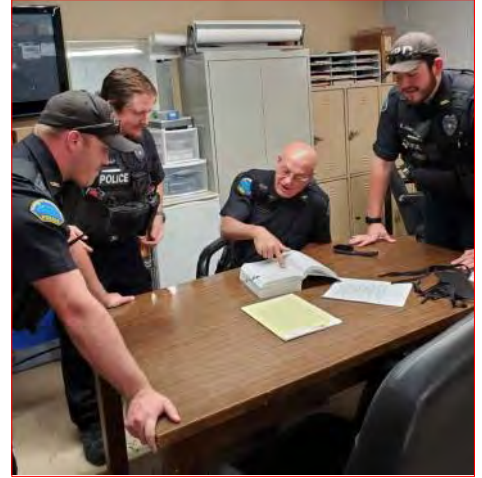
*Special to the Mirror*

CEDAREDDGE-The Town of Cedaredge Board of Trustees is celebrating National Police Week this week, May 10-16, joining with other law enforcement agencies across the country to honor and recognize the sacrifice and service Cedaredge police officers give to the community 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

Thankfully, the Cedaredge Police Department has not experienced the devastating loss of an officer. "Instead, we use this

week to honor our department and officers for the dangerous work that they do every day," said Mayor Raymond F. Hanson. "We are incredibly proud of our officers at Cedaredge Police Department and the job they do for all of our citizens," he said.

The Cedaredge Police Department is comprised of Chief Joe Roberts, Officers Monty McDermith, Stewart Byrge, Mike O'Reilly and Keydon Long; Administrative Assistants Troy Ann Gray and Carrie Gardner; and Victim's Advocate Sharon Grotrian, each of whom have a vital role in protecting citizens and keeping the community safe. Mayor Hanson issued a proclamation designating this week Police Week, and community members are invited to share their appreciation by either posting on the department's Facebook page or email Chief Roberts at [chief@cedaredgecolorado.com](mailto:chief@cedaredgecolorado.com).



*Officers of the Cedaredge Police Department at a recent training. Pictured (from left) are Officer Stewart Byrge, Officer Mike O'Reilly, Chief Joe Roberts and Officer Keydon Long. Courtesy photo.*

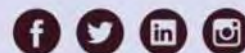


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**AMBER ANGLES, MD**  
DCMH Family Medicine



**HENRY LEWIS, III, MD**  
Premier Women's Healthcare of Delta



**MICHELLE REED, DO**  
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**SEAN REA, DO**  
DCMH Family Medicine



**CHRISTI ANDERSON, NP**  
DCMH West Elk Clinic Hotchkiss



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DELTA COUNTY  
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HOSPITAL



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION SETS SPECIAL COMMISSION HEARING TO ADDRESS COGCC'S READINESS TO RESPOND TO RECENT MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER - The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) invites the public and stakeholders to attend the Commission's Special Hearing, Monday, May 11. The special hearing is to address that the COGCC has the necessary resources and regulatory framework for the current oil and gas industry downturn. COGCC Staff will present a whitepaper which will be followed by a Q&A from the

Commissioners.

#### **May Special Commission Hearing Information:**

**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020

**Time:** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., or when adjourned

**Location:** NOTE: There will not be an in-person location meeting for this Hearing.

**Remote Access ONLY (Zoom):** NOTE: COGCC encourages attendees to join using the computer, not phone.

Phone: (669) 900-6833

Computer: <https://zoom.us/j/2761805299>

Meeting ID: 276 180 5299

**Further information & Agenda:** <https://cogcc.state.co.us/reg.html#/hearings>

There will be no public comment taken.

To learn more about participating in any meeting, the rulemaking schedule or comment using the online portals, visit the COGCC website: [cogcc.state.co.us](https://cogcc.state.co.us).

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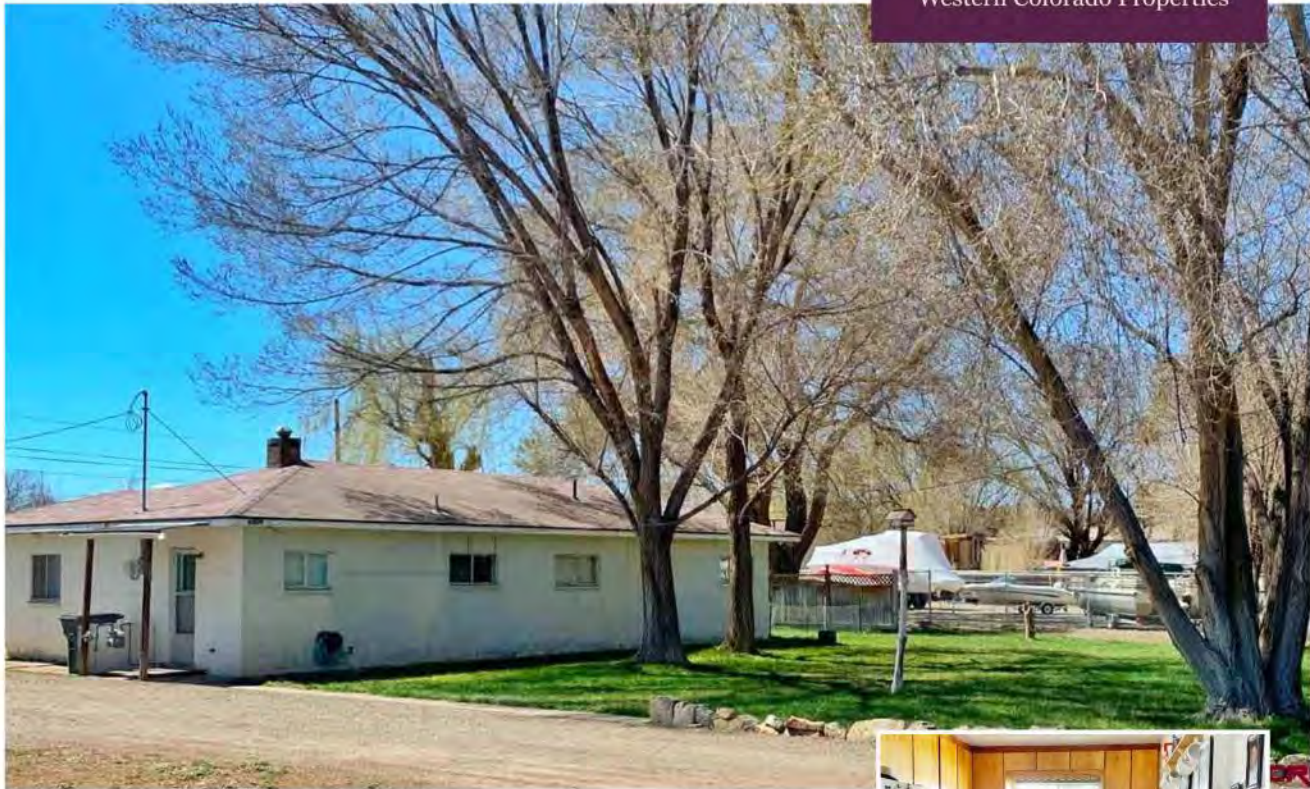
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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### CAMPING AT COLORADO STATE PARKS AND STATE WILDLIFE AREAS WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



*Colorado Parks and Wildlife is working with federal and local partners to determine a timeline for opening camping. Courtesy photo.*

DENVER – Camping at Colorado state parks and State Wildlife Areas will remain closed until further notice, as Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) works to implement system-wide safety protocols related to social distancing in campgrounds. Customer, volunteer, and employee safety remain a top priority. CPW is committed to providing park services at the highest level possible while also ensuring public safety. System camping cancellations will be sent via email. Currently, no definitive date is known for when sites

will reopen.

“We understand the strain these continued closures put on all of us, and we appreciate the public’s flexibility as we work through the process of reopening,” says Dan Prenzlöw, Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife. “Our staff is working hard to make sure we can provide safe and enjoyable experiences for everyone.”

CPW is working with federal and local municipal partners as well as the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to determine a timeline for

camping. This coordination can make predicting definitive opening dates difficult as each county faces its own unique circumstances.

State Park Rangers remain on duty protecting the parks and normal rules and regulations still apply. Park trail closures due to visitation or crowding will be reported on the [Colorado Trail Explorer \(COTREX\) App](#) and the [CPW website](#).

Colorado counties, municipalities, and land management agencies continue to update their COVID-19 guidance including travel restrictions, road closures, and access limitations on the Colorado Counties Inc. [Safer-At-Home map](#). Outdoor recreationists are responsible for researching and understanding park and county closures before participating in any planned local recreational activities. CPW encourages park visitors to follow [trail safety etiquette](#) and visit parks responsibly.

CPW asks all Coloradans to respect safer-at-home orders and stay close to your home and use local trails and parks for outdoor recreation.

Limiting travel for recreation helps minimize the strain of visitors on small mountain communities and creates less burden for our search and rescue and emergency responders.

For more information, visit the CPW [COVID-19 Response website](#) for updates on park closures, permits and licenses, and outdoor recreation policies

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE ENACTS EMERGENCY RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS DURING COVID-19

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER- Due to the COVID-19 national health crisis, the Colorado Secretary of State's Office, in conjunction with county clerks, has enacted a series of temporary emergency rules that outline the procedures for conducting elections during the pandemic.

The rules address many aspects of the election process in order to protect voters, elections judges, and staff. They are effective immediately and will be applied to the June 30 State Primary.

"The current national health crisis has

caused all of us to re-examine our election processes," said Secretary of State Jena Griswold. "These new temporary rules provide essential guidelines so voters can be confident that, regardless of the circumstances, they can cast a ballot as safely as possible. I would like to thank our Elections Division for their leadership on this issue and the county clerks for their assistance in providing feedback on these rules."

The new rules (*Rule 27, Conducting Elections During Public Health Emergency*) state that counties must follow guidelines

from the Colorado Department of Health, the Governor's Office, and local health officials. The rules outline the procedure for receiving and processing ballots, social distancing, and Personal Protective Equipment.

Voting equipment and voting booths are to be cleaned after each use and social distancing guidelines will be enforced.

All rules are subject to change as conditions dictate. The Secretary of State's Office will also issue further guidance in the coming weeks.

For the complete rules, please click [here](#).

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## GOP AND REPUBLICAN WOMEN HONOR FRONT LINE WORKERS

*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**-On May 8, Representative Marc Catlin, with State Senator Don Coram and the Montrose County GOP and Republican Women, convoyed around town bearing gifts to frontliners and saluting all community workers. The convoy honked and waved through town as they stopped and honored staff and volunteers at Montrose Memorial Hospital, Montrose Police Department, Fire Department, and Sheriff Departments. State officials presented the US and Colorado flags to each group, along with a sweet treat - Lifesavers.



*Representative Marc Catlin and Colorado Senator Don Coram presenting the US and Colorado flags and Lifesavers to Montrose Police Department.*



*At left, Honoring Montrose Memorial Hospital Frontline Workers.*



*Honoring the Montrose Fire Protection District.*



*Even 2020 Graduates were celebrated!*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ALL ABOARD! NEW JUNIOR RANGER RAILROAD PROGRAM AVAILABLE

#### *Special to the Mirror*

WASHINGTON – The National Park Service (NPS), Union Pacific Railroad and the National Park Foundation (NPF) today announced the release of the Junior Ranger Railroad Explorer activity booklet that can be obtained for free from NPS.gov. Issued just ahead of National Train Day and the Golden Spike anniversary on May 9 and May 10, respectively, the new educational booklet traces the journey of the first transcontinental railroad and brings the rich history of railroads to life in a fun and engaging way.

The Junior Ranger Railroad Explorer is one of many Junior Ranger programs available online. Each program is an intergenerational learning experience that focuses on a site or theme tied to public lands.

“Get ready to ride the rails from coast to coast and learn how the transcontinental railroad impacted the country,” said National Park Service Deputy Director David Vela, exercising the authority of the Director. “The program’s creative activities provide insight to the technology, challenges, people, and transformation associ-

ated with the iron horse.”

NPF also supports the Junior Ranger “Let’s Go Fishing!” activity booklet. Both of these Junior Ranger programs are part of NPF’s broader mission to connect people to and protect national parks.

“Children of all ages are naturally intrigued by trains, but the Railroad Explorer book helps them understand how the railroad connected the nation 150 years ago, changing the way Americans live, eat and travel,” said Union Pacific Senior Vice President of Corporate Relations and Chief Administrative Officer Scott Moore. “While gaining an appreciation for rail history and our national parks, Railroad Junior Rangers will also learn to always keep safety in mind – never walk on or near the tracks, and only cross at designated locations.”

Among the people who contributed to the development of the transcontinental railroad were Chinese immigrants. As we honor Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month throughout May, this new booklet serves as another educational resource that pays tribute to the generations of Asian Americans who impacted



**Golden Spike National Historical Park in Utah is home to two replica steam locomotives and re-enactments of the driving of the last spike. NPS Photo**

our country’s history.

Junior Ranger activity booklets encourage young explorers to discover the breadth and depth of the National Park System, learn about the outdoors and our collective history, understand the importance of preserving national parks and share their experiences with friends and family.

For more information about the Junior Ranger Railroad Explorer program and to download a copy of the booklet, visit this link. <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/05-08-2020-junior-ranger-railroad.htm>



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## ***MPD: MORE THAN 1.1 KILO OF HEROIN SEIZED IN RECENT WEEKS; DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE RISE From pg 1***

sent me home," he said.

Competitive Sports Program Coordinator Chris Iversen was hired to manage the City's baseball program, which is currently on hiatus, so he is helping at the Black Canyon Golf Course. Iversen is originally from upstate New York and worked for a minor league basketball team in Rochester. He was living in Oregon and coaching at a basketball academy before coming to Montrose. "...When things started to kind of shut down there, I was headed back East and figured I would stop in Telluride and see my sister and new niece," Iversen said, "I came across this job opening, and here we are—everything's been great so far."

Musick has worked with the City since the end of February and brings a strong background in geographic information systems (GIS), having started in the Marine Corps in 2006. He will focus on implementing cartography to the City's GIS systems, and comes to Montrose from Rock Springs, Wyoming. "We came and looked at the town; it was beautiful," he said, "...it looks like something out of a postcard...it shouldn't be that good in real life, but it is."

Montrose County Public Health Advisor Dr. Joe Adragna provided an update for City officials. The mission of the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been to save lives and as the mission unfolded, also jobs, Adragna said. "Those can go hand in hand."

He thanked City staff for support, and shared slides with Council as he spoke. Six weeks ago, there were many unknowns with the COVID-19 pandemic. All hospitals were expected to experience a surge, with Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) expected to need as many as 48 ventilator beds (normally there are eight) and up to 100 medical/surgical beds (normally there are 32). Beds at skilled nursing facilities were also expected to be overwhelmed, and the need for non-congregate shelters was anticipated.

"If you remember, the biggest factor here was that we wouldn't be able to get help,

because all of the hospitals would be surging at the same time," Adragna said.

"There was a lot of fear...worst case scenario, we could have seen over 120 people in Montrose needing a hospital bed at its peak, and that certainly would have overwhelmed our capacity."

Health care integrity was bolstered, with Tier 2 and Tier 3 care sites designated in coordination with the hospital; MMH also added a 500 percent increase in existing ventilator capacity, he said.

Now, "We see that our COVID possible hospitalizations peaked actually in early April, April 6," Adragna said, "with five confirmed cases at that time." Montrose County has been able to test more people than other counties; to date, there have been 11 COVID-19 related deaths in Montrose County. Testing sites have been expanded from two to seven and will continue to grow. Those with symptoms should be candidates for testing and should speak with their health care provider.

Councilor Dave Frank asked, "The presumptive cause of death...is that a state mandate that if they aren't sure...that they're calling it a COVID-related death?" Those who die within 30 days of a receiving a positive COVID-19 test are counted as COVID-19 related deaths, Adragna said. One Montrose County death is considered "presumptive."

Mayor Pro Tem Doug Glaspell commented on the number of citizens seen out and around Montrose without masks.

Masks can be helpful in spreading the rate of infection, Adragna said. "If we all wear our masks, we protect each other," he said.

Walmart has been offering disposable masks to shoppers, Frank said. City Engineer Scott Murphy asked about the ratio of confirmed cases in the population. About two-percent of the population is infected at this time, Adragna said, but if social distancing measures are relaxed that percentage could change.

Council discussed a contract award recommendation for pavement marking; an RFP was issued, two bids were received,

but only one qualified bid was received, Public Works Manager Jim Scheid said.

The not-to-exceed amount of \$135K was recommended for award to Stripe-A-Lot. A memo prepared by Scheid for Council states, "The contract that is being recommended for award with Stripe a Lot will be a Not-to-Exceed contract that is billed out as work is performed based on the rates provided in the bid sheet."

Council discussed a contract award recommendation for crack sealing as well. In 2020, 41.4 lane miles will be crack-sealed; the focus this year will be on streets at the South end of town. Half of the work will be done by the contractor and half will be done by staff in-house. An RFP was issued April 14; six complete and competitive bids were received. A memo prepared by Scheid for Council states that the proposed contract with Armor Proseal will be a Time and Material - not to exceed contract that will be billed as the crack seal material is used by the ton as proposed in the bid received up to \$120K.

A date was tentatively scheduled for a "big picture" budget meeting with staff and council, for June 2 from 3 to 5 p.m. A City Council retreat was set for Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The most recent Sales, Use & Excise tax report data was discussed, with sales tax results for early March down one percent from last year. April numbers may be different.

Police Chief Blaine Hall provided an update. The Montrose Police Department continues to be busy, he said. Domestic violence incidents have increased over 2019, as have crimes involving public peace and disorder.

"Over this last weekend we recovered a fair amount of drugs," Hall said. "Both heroin and methamphetamine, in several different incidents."

Working with the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and Montrose Drug Task Force, Montrose Police made a significant drug seizure the prior week, Hall said.

"It was 1,094 grams of heroin...1.1 kilo of heroin, which is a significant seizure

## ***MPD: MORE THAN 1.1 KILO OF HEROIN SEIZED IN RECENT WEEKS; DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE RISE From previous pg***

whether you're in our small community or Los Angeles or New York City or Denver," Hall said. Officers also responded to an aggravated robbery; one arrest has been made so far. "I think we have a pretty good case that we will be filing with the District Attorney's office." Police are once again taking accident reports rather than asking citizens to self-report online.

Director of Business Innovation & DART Chelsea Rosty updated Council on business support efforts. "...We're closing on average about four loans a week... applications have slowed down a bit," Rosty said. "Our hope is that we've helped the businesses that needed the help, and now things will start to get going again and they'll be able to make money." The City's marketing grants continue to draw interest, she said. The weekly business update calls will continue. The City has issued a call to artists for the new mural project for the West Main Bridge underpass. Applications will be accepted through May 22.

Human Resources Director Terri Wilcox said that City employees are returning to work slowly but surely; policies on social distancing and required temperatures will be maintained.

City Engineer Scott Murphy said the dam at Cerro is topped out. Still, the gate that controls the entire dam is certified by a person at a California company that is currently under lockdown. "Refilling everything hinges on that person being able to come out for three hours, fine-tune and

adjust the thing to allow us to operate it... we're hoping for the best." Finishing work continues on the sidewalks at Riverbottom Drive, and a flashing crosswalk will go in at Riverbottom and Rio Grande. Approval has been received for a flashing crosswalk at Selig as well.

City Manager Bill Bell said the city continues to maintain a reduced staff in accordance with the Governor's order, "We are still providing services...construction's booming in Montrose right now, we're really busy trying to keep up...we're really proud of the efforts of staff." Employees are slowly being reintegrated into the workforce, he said, but many will continue to work from home. "Thanks to IT for keeping things up and running."

In mid-May, the city may move from Tier Four to Tier Three, working behind glass for a month. In-person meetings are still limited. Event planning and the City Clerk's office are very busy this time of year, and COVID-19 has made it difficult to plan, Bell said. "Everything's in flux at the moment."

New police are being hired, but some have been lost to attrition. Seasonal hiring has been limited this year, Bell said. Still, "Golf Course seasonals are being hired." There is a light at the end of the tunnel, he said. "We're moving as fast as we can with the advice of the County."

Bell said that he and Police Chief Hall have been attending public health meetings. "Now we're included in all of those meetings...I just want to say I think the County's doing a great job," Bell said.

"Dr. Joe and Sue Hansen in particular have really just put a lot of their heart and soul into this project and as I get to work with them more...we just had a call on Friday with Jon Waschbusch and Sue Hansen, and Dr. Joe, me and Blaine, and a couple others...it's really nice to have these meetings together...we want to continue those even when COVID's over," he said, "...we're starting to get to know each other a lot more than we did before."

"That's fantastic," Bynum said.

She asked whether Montrose County had requested a waiver from Governor Jared Polis' COVID-19 restrictions. Bell said that activist groups have been petitioning, wanting to disregard the governor's and president's orders and open everything immediately. "We decided as a City and County that's not the right thing to do," he said.

A County cannot petition to have the restrictions waived unless there is a downward trend in positive test results for several weeks.

"...We're not there," Bell said. "So even if we want to do a waiver, most likely it wouldn't be approved for Montrose County...we have to do it in a slow and methodical manner that works for everyone."

City Councilor Dave Bowman shared a letter from a concerned nine-year-old with a suggestion for improving the fence around the mag chloride tanks at Ninth Street and North Townsend Avenue. "Even our nine-year-olds want to make Montrose better," Bowman said.

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## Recent activity in your neighborhood...

The real estate market in western Colorado is alive and well. Increasing property values and low interest rates are creating a vibrant atmosphere for both sellers and buyers. Here are a few properties that may be of great interest to you.



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**1776 S Apple Drive, Delta**

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**620 Main Street, Ouray**

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COVID-19 DELAYS OPENING OF MOUNT EVANS HIGHWAY UNTIL AT LEAST JULY

*Special to the Mirror*

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY — Due to the unique risks associated with COVID-19, the opening of Mount Evans Highway (Colorado Highway 5) will be delayed, and the roadway will not be open by Memorial Day weekend as it usually is. At this time, the Colorado Department of Transportation, the U.S. Forest Service, and Denver Mountain Parks — the agencies that jointly manage Mount Evans — have reached an agreement that Mount Evans Highway will not open until at least early July due to delays related to COVID-19 and public health orders.

The challenges COVID-19 presents for opening Mount Evans Highway include: Opening the highway would make it more difficult for tourists to practice social distancing, as more than 200,000 people

from all over the world visit the summit of Mount Evans while the road is open.

On weekends, thousands of vehicles pass through the fee stations, and visitors gather at the summit, visit the nature center, attend interpretive programs and wait in lines to use the restroom facilities in large numbers, creating a challenge in properly managing social distancing.

CDOT, the Forest Service and Denver Mountain Parks are carefully considering the economic feasibility of operating an abbreviated season on Mount Evans while mitigating health and safety risks in alignment with federal, state and local guidance.

There are no plans to prohibit nonmotorized use of Mount Evans Highway, such as hiking and biking. However, all involved agencies implore everyone to follow state

and local orders regarding recreation. Colorado Gov. Jared Polis has ordered the public to only recreate within 10 miles of home, and many roads in Clear Creek County remain closed. Avoiding travel between cities and regions is an important part of limiting the spread of COVID-19 between different communities.

Conditions on Mount Evans could be quite variable and unsafe due to weather and potential icy and snow-packed conditions on the pass over the coming months, and high-risk activities that increase your chance of injury or distress should be avoided.

Law enforcement and/or search and rescue operations may be limited due to COVID-19 issues. If plowing begins, the public may be asked to stay off the road for safety reasons.



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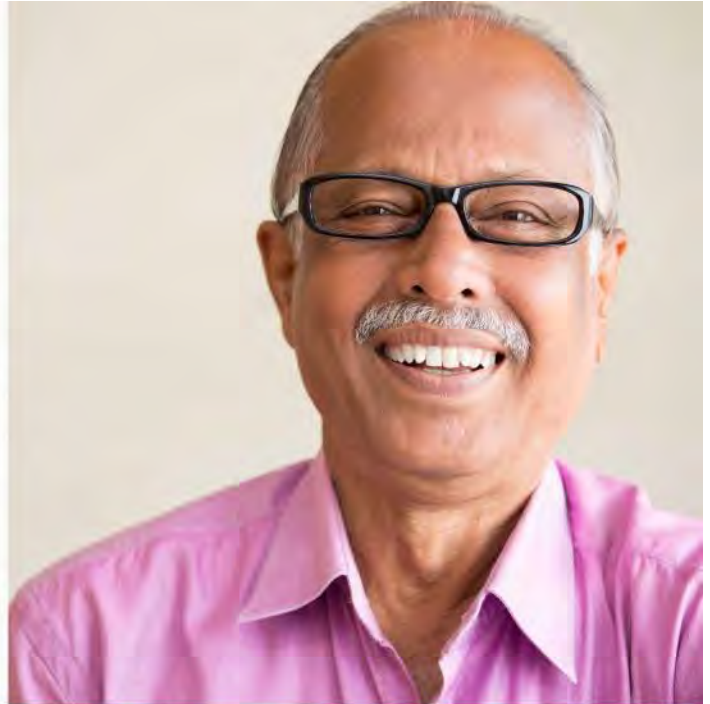
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### VALLEY FOOD PARTNERSHIP LAUNCHES FOOD BOX PROJECT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-New for 2020, the Valley Food Partnership is launching the new MFM Food Box Project, a service to get fresh, local produce to those unable to attend the Montrose Farmers' Market. Pre-packed \$20 boxes of seasonal produce will be available for curbside pickup at the market starting on Saturday, May 16. Home delivery service will begin in June. Customers will be able to pay for their box with cash, card, SNAP, and Double-Up Food Bucks. Anyone interested in a box can order by calling 970-249-0705 or filling out the online order form on the VFP website: [www.valleyfoodpartnership.org](http://www.valleyfoodpartnership.org)



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\*Services in partnership with Region 10, AAA and ADRC





## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### MORE THAN 41,000 UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FILED APRIL 26 - MAY 2

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER -- The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) has announced there were 28,164 initial regular unemployment claims and 13,149 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims filed the week ending May 2. Over the past seven weeks, a total of 419,547 claims (including PUA) have been filed.\*

#### **Claims by industry and benefits paid**

##### **Top 5 industries with highest claims:\*\***

Accommodation and Food Services:	5,283
Retail Trade:	5,092
Healthcare and Social Service:	3,775
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services:***	1,907
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation:	1,819

##### **Benefits paid: Regular UI**

Week ending May 2:	\$84.8 Million
Week ending April 25:	\$86.1 Million
Week ending April 18:	\$74.1 Million
Week ending April 11:	\$62.0 Million
Week ending April 4:	\$29.8 Million
Average 2020 weekly benefits paid for weeks prior:	\$8.7 Million

##### **Benefits paid April 20 - May 2:**

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (gig workers/self employed)	\$65.6 Million
---	----------------

##### **Pandemic Unemployment Compensation**

(\$600/wk - paid on all regular UI and PUA)	\$407.3 Million
---	-----------------

##### **Recession comparison of regular UI benefits paid:**

During the height of the Great Recession (2009-10), \$19 million in regular UI benefits were paid out on an average weekly basis. \$102.8 million in benefits were paid out in May 2009, the previous highest monthly total on record. Approximately \$315 in regular UI benefits were paid out in April 2020.

\* Initial claims are those claims filed to establish benefit eligibility. Initial claims are considered a reliable leading indicator of economic activity. All applications filed are those applications for benefits filed with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and may not have been through various eligibility determination e.g. wage verification, etc.

\*\* Most recent industry-level claims data is for the week ending April 18th.

\*\*\* Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services include temporary help services, telemarketing centers, janitorial and landscaping services, etc.



ISSUE 262 May 11, 2020

## ART &amp; SOL

## CHURCH 180 BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO SAY THANK YOU TO NURSES



*Courtesy photo Church 180.*

*By Pastor Bryan Lark*

MONTROSE-CHURCH180 strives to love the community and world in intentional ways. CHURCH180's Mission Coordinators, John and Dana Dygert, are also Registered Nurses at Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) in the Emergency Department and Acute Rehab Unit. They, alongside Pastor Bryan Lark, Administrative Pastor Wade Kallsen, and the CHURCH180 family, had a burden on their hearts to do something special for all of the nurses at MMH. Dana coordinated with Coral Ann Hackett, MMH's Chief Nursing Executive, for CHURCH180 to do something nice for all

of the nurses this year during nurse's week, which is May 6-12.

CHURCH180 got goodies for some gift bags for all 250 nurses at MMH. In addition to this, Dana and John began to reach out to local businesses to see if any of them wanted to provide gift cards, coupons, or discounts. They were overwhelmed by the eagerness of so many businesses around Montrose to bless the nurses!

So much so, that Dana reached out to another member of CHURCH180, Bill Caudle, to help reach out to some additional businesses. Nearly every establishment that CHURCH180 contacted were enthusiastic about joining in. There were 34 businesses CHURCH180 received contributions to these nurse's gift bags! Applebee's, Backstreet Bagel, Buckaroos, Chili's, Cold Stone, Crash Burger, Dunkin Donuts, Guru's, Jimmy John's, Horsefly, Looney Bean, McDonalds, Mi Mexico, Panda Palace, Pahgre's, Papa Murphey's, and Qdoba all donated coupons and/or gift cards to be included in the gift bags. Ace Hard-

ware, Amelia's Hacienda Restaurante, Camelot Gardens, Denny's, El Jimador, Fiesta Guadalajara, Freddy's, Jimmers, Murdoch's, Stone House, and True Grit Café (in Ridgway) are all offering discounts for the nurses through the end of the year. Chang Thai, Dunkin Donuts, and Trattoria Di Sophia all donated food on different days of nurses' week to spread out the love!

Home Depot surprised CHURCH180 by going above and beyond and donating hundreds of nice items for gifts for the nurses (such as ratchet straps, levels, flower seeds, work gloves, work lights, utility knives, and more.)

Safeway, Target, and Walmart donated store credit for CHURCH180 to purchase more goods, in addition to what the church members already donated. In fact, Walmart approved a very generous grant for CHURCH180 to use for frontline workers, and other ways that CHURCH180 shows love to the community throughout the year. Dana, Pastor Bryan, Pastor Wade, and Bill all delivered 250 gift bags on Wednesday, May 6, with gratitude in their hearts to show their appreciation for the nurses and to honor our front-line workers for going above and beyond.

It's incredible to see how our community can come together in difficult times to encourage one another!



## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### REGION 10 AREA AGENCY ON AGING SEEKS ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

#### Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE— Region 10's Area Agency on Aging and our community partners want to celebrate the accomplishments of elders who have made their mark. We are seeking article submissions highlighting each decade beginning in the 1930's through 2020 to be used to create a book. The finalized book will be gifted to the top 10 entries and offered at a reasonable cost to all others.

The articles will also be submitted to area newspapers to remind readers that we all can make our mark and that our elders have lived full lives. Submissions can be made by the individual, their family members, friends or community members. The person highlighted in the article may be deceased and honored in the article. Arti-

cles that highlight achievements that impacted communities in Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Ouray or San Miguel counties will receive preference, but all submissions will be included in the final publication.

"We wanted to do something special to celebrate the value of older people and their contributions to our communities," said Director of Community Living Services, Eva Veitch. "We believe sharing their stories in the local media and the finished book will help accomplish that goal."

The submission deadline is May 15, 2020 with the following guidelines: 12-point font not to exceed 600 words submitted electronically in word document to eveitch@region10.net and should include a

recent photo unless the subject is deceased. All submissions will be subject to editing for appropriate content.

Articles can highlight public service, inventions, accomplishments that impacted others, innovations that created change or stories of survival during difficult times. Region 10 has been building strong communities since 1972 by providing services and support for senior citizens, small businesses, and community development. The six-county non-profit organization is supported by both local and county governments, as well as state and federal funding sources. For more information on the Make Your Mark article submissions, contact Region 10's Community Living Services Director, Eva Veitch at 970-765-3127 or eva@region10.net.



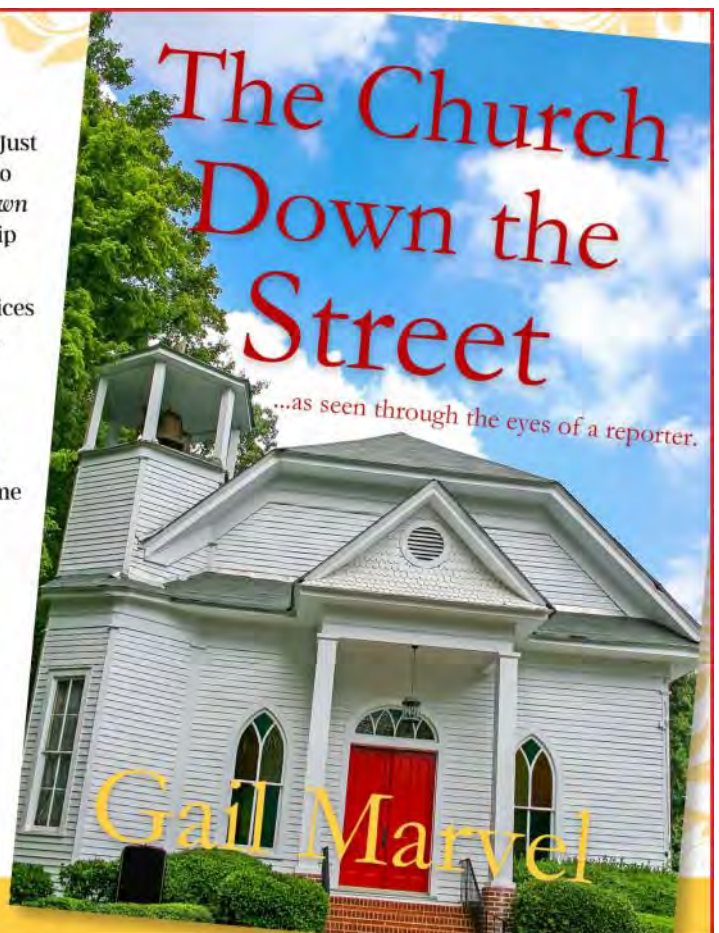
**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author  
& Reporter

**I**t is human nature to compare ourselves with others, and the church is no different. Just as Paul's Epistles allowed the early church to peer into the lives of each other, *The Church Down the Street* allows readers to peer into the worship services of other churches.

The presence of a reporter in the worship services produced mixed reactions. While many church leaders were grateful for the publicity and exposure for their congregation, others were uneasy. One pastor said, "The minute I saw you

I knew this wasn't my best sermon!" Another pastor said, "We didn't like everything you wrote...but we've made some changes." One elder defended his congregation's lack of friendliness, "Maybe no one spoke to you because of the perfume you were wearing."

Excerpts and anecdotes from approximately 120 church visits are organized in a topical format (Hospitality, Program and Source Material, Music, Meditations and Invitations, and Sermons) and include mainstream denominations, as well as Mormon, Jehovah's Witness, Christian Science, New Age, and Quaker Silent Worship. *The Church Down the Street* is unbiased and reports on the worship experience, not on the denomination.



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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### CPW URGES PADDLEBOARDERS TO BE SAFE ON & OFF THE WATER

*Special to Art & Sol*

RIDGWAY – As temperatures rise and Coloradans head to the state's rivers and reservoirs, Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds recreationists to be safe on – and off – the water.

Those eager to get out on the paddleboard must follow the state's Safer at Home orders, and only travel within 10 miles from your homes. Paddleboarders must also be aware of county restrictions and follow their local public health orders when planning a trip.

Paddleboarders living close to recreational waters must be especially careful when heading out. The spring run-off has started and the water filling reservoirs is very cold. If you fall into water that's barely 50 degrees, hypothermia can set in quickly and be life-threatening. Paddleboarders are urged to wear a personal flotation device (PFD), no matter if they're on a river, pond, or reservoir.

Colorado boating regulations require that adults carry a PFD on the paddleboard, but it's much safer to wear it, said Kirsten Copeland, manager of Ridgway State Park. During the last few years, rangers and private boaters have rescued several people who have fallen off paddleboards. At

Ridgway two weeks ago, a boater reported that he rescued a woman who had fallen off her paddleboard. She was not wearing a PFD and told the boater that she was barely able to hang on to her board before being rescued.

"So many people see paddleboards as low risk, but if you fall off your board into cold water you can get into trouble very quickly," Copeland said. "The water is really cold now, but at most other Colorado reservoirs the water stays cold enough throughout the summer season to be dangerous."

CPW urges all boaters, no matter what type of craft they're in, to wear PFDs when on the water. Regulations require that the number of PFDs on a boat match the number of people on board. Children 12 years old and younger must always wear a PFD when on the water.

The rules apply to all types of boats and watercraft.



*Paddleboarders are urged to be careful on the water -- wear a PFD and be wary of the ice cold water. Courtesy photo.*

Off the water, CPW reminds all recreationists that they are required to follow the rules of Governor Jared Polis's "safer-at-home" order while recreating. Maintain a distance of six feet from other people, and wear a mask when in a public location.

For complete information about Colorado's coronavirus response, go to: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/>.

For boating regulations and safety information, see <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/BoatingSafety.aspx>.

# SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



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ANONYMOUS CALL

## MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

## MIRROR IMAGES: GROWING SEASON...



*Above, nothing runs like a Deere...fire on the plateau Sunday night...at right, wild asparagus, irrigation. Photos by B. Switzer*

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE FARMERS' MARKET OPENS FOR 42ND SUMMER SEASON

*Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE-The Montrose Farmers' Market is a weekly gathering of vendors selling local fruit, vegetables, meat, crafts, and more, on Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm, May 9 – Oct. 31 at Centennial Plaza, 433 S 1st St. in Montrose. Delicious local fruit, vegetables, meat, and eggs will be available, as well as coffee, prepared foods, and wonderful crafts, soaps, lotions, CBD, and more. Most vendors accept credit card payments, and SNAP/Double Up Bucks can be used for food purchases. The MFM has been bringing farmers and community together since 1978, but 2020 is sure to be a notable season.

Amidst all of the questions and challenges brought by COVID-19 in mid-March, one thing was clear to the staff and board of the Montrose Farmers' Market and its host organization Valley Food Partnership

(VFP): people still need to eat, and local farmers have food to sell.

MFM Manager Julie King and VFP staff quickly got to work identifying what steps to take to keep the winter market running safely for vendors and customers. With help from Montrose County and the City of Montrose, a plan was developed including new precautionary measures following CDC guidelines. Precautions went into place on March 28, and everyone involved was very impressed by how considerate all customers were of safety measures, including wearing masks, standing 6 feet apart, using the provided hand-washing station, and (although it is difficult!) not lingering beyond the time it takes to shop. Details on the Market's COVID response can be found on the MFM website, <http://montrosefarmersmarket.weebly.com/>. MFM will operate the weekly outdoor

Saturday market May through October, with extended hours, music, and a variety of vendors. Booth space is still available; contact MFM Manager Julie King for details at [mfmmanager@valleyfoodpartnership.org](mailto:mfmmanager@valleyfoodpartnership.org).

This year VFP is launching the new MFM Food Box Project, a service to get fresh, local produce to those unable to attend the market. Pre-packed \$20 boxes of seasonal produce will be available for curbside pickup at the market starting on Saturday, May 16.

Home delivery service will begin in June. Customers will be able to pay for their box with cash, card, SNAP, and Double-Up Food Bucks.

Anyone interested in a box can order by calling 970-249-0705 or filling out the online order form on the VFP website: [www.valleyfoodpartnership.org](http://www.valleyfoodpartnership.org)





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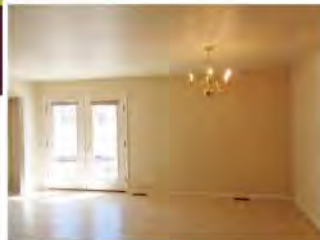
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## SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

**ONGOING**-The Montrose Farmers' Market is a weekly gathering of vendors selling local fruit, vegetables, meat, crafts, and more, on Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm, May 9 – Oct. 31 at Centennial Plaza, 433 S 1st St. in Montrose.

### MONTHLY-

**May 13-8:30 a.m. Zoom call, "Ask Me Anything"** with County Commissioner Sue Hansen and City Manager Bill Bell.

**May 17**-Montrose County School District RE-1J will celebrate the Class of 2020 with vehicular procession drive-through commencement events on Sunday, May 17 (Noon at Olathe High School and 2 PM at Montrose High School) in lieu of previously planned August ceremonies.

**June 13**-Adopt-A-Park Clean Up at Rollans Park, Ridgway, Saturday, June 13, 2020 @ 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Join UWP for a volunteer work morning at Rollans Park, picking up litter and branches along the Uncompahgre River, to make it a great place to visit. Contact to sign up: Tanya, [uwpcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:uwpcommunications@gmail.com), 970-325-3010 Information: <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events/>

**July 25**-San Juan Mountains Guided Wildflower Walk, Saturday, July 25, 2020 @ 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Walk among the native plants of the subalpine vegetation zone with guide Mary Menz. Co-author of *Common Wildflowers of the San Juan Mountains*, Mary will identify wildflowers, share historical uses of native plants, and talk about the role native plants play in the ecosystem—including areas with acid mine runoff. Contact to sign up: Tanya, [uwpcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:uwpcommunications@gmail.com), 970-325-3010 Information: <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events/>

**Sept. 12**-Love Your Gorge-Sat., Sept. 12, 2020, Uncompahgre River Gorge. Volunteer with the Ouray Ice Park and Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership to make improvements to the riparian areas of the Uncompahgre River Gorge in Ouray. Then, enjoy a picnic and party to celebrate our efforts. Funded by the Frank L. Massard Trust. Contact to sign up: Tanya, [uwpcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:uwpcommunications@gmail.com), 970-325-3010 Information: <http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events/>

**Sept. 25-27**-The Ridgway Old West Fest will be Sept 25-27, 2020



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## **READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT:**

### **BY DEB REIMANN**

*Photographer Deb Reimann shared these photos of a Sunday night fire and two beautiful, collared lizards on the Uncompahgre Plateau.*

A large advertisement for The Montrose Mirror. It features a black bear sitting on a wooden bench, holding a tablet computer. The background is a scenic mountain landscape with green hills and snow-capped peaks under a blue sky with white clouds. The text "Save a tree — Read the Mirror!" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below this, the logo for "THE MONTROSE MIRROR" is displayed, followed by the tagline "Your Source for Local Business News and Information". At the bottom right, the text "Call For Ad Rates: 970-275-0646" is written in a white, cursive font.

*Save a tree —  
Read the Mirror!*

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