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# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Free People...

Issue No. 386 July 20 2020

## RE-1J APPROVES UVEA NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT



**RE-1J Schools finalized a Negotiated Settlement with UVEA and announced the start of the Return to Learn planning process, with community feedback, at the Board of Education meeting July 14.**

### Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-In a special virtual meeting on July 14 that lasted less than seven minutes, the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education voted to approve the Negotiated Settlement between the District and Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA) for 2020-2021.

In attendance were Board of Education President Gayle Johnson; Vice President Sarah Fishering; Board Treasurer Stephen Bush, and District F Director Eric Kelley. Johnson called the meeting to order. With just four directors present to vote, the order of the two agenda items was reversed in the event Busch, who was at his place of employment, was called away.

### UVEA NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

The vote to approve the Negotiated Settlement between the District and Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA)

**Continued pg 3**

## COLORADO STATE PATROL HOSTS ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-This year's 2020 Colorado State Patrol (CSP) Annual Awards were delayed in order to accommodate social distancing, and local ceremonies were restructured to accommodate small group assemblies.

CSP Chief, Colonel Matthew Packard said, "What makes our organization great is our members. We save lives. Normally we go to Denver and have pomp and circumstance and put on a show of appreciation. Nominations for our "Of the Year



**Face masks, which were worn during 2020 Colorado State Patrol (CSP) Annual Awards, were dropped for a brief photo op. (L to R) CSP Chief, Colonel Matthew Packard (height 6'10"); Communications Officer Troy Marvel (height 5'9"); and Trooper Everett Neil (height 6' 7"). Marvel received the CSP Communications Officer of the Year Award and Neil received the CSP Distinguished Service Award. Photo by Gail Marvel.**

**Continued pg 7**

### in this issue

**City Gives 30-Day Notice to Prairie Dog Treats Factory!**

**Reader Photo Spotlight with Deb Reimann!**

**Op-Ed by Paul Arbogast- 'Make America Civil Again!'**

**Letters to the Editor! Regional News Briefs!**

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## MAKE AMERICA CIVIL AGAIN



**Paul Arbogast.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

*By Paul Arbogast*  
You are selfish!  
Cry babies! Idiot!  
Sheep! You only  
care about your-  
self! Keyboard  
warrior! Haters!  
Fear monger!

These are only a  
tiny portion of  
things you can read  
(or hear) in back

and forth of what people consider discussion/debate in 2020. Insults, name calling, wishing ill on others are just a few of the things that are common in interactions between humans now.

Is this really how people want to behave and interact with others? Is it the example they want to set for their kids? Is this how we bridge the divide and make the world a better place? No.

How we got to this point is really not important, and honestly that discussion could go on for endless pages. There is no doubt the rise of the 24-hour news cycle, less and less actual reporting of news and more bias injected into every 'story' has not helped the situation. Politicians do not provide a good example to follow, and one could rightly wonder if they actually want the anger, hate, divi-

sion and lack of civility.

Civility is not just being polite and good manners, it is engaging with those that who's opinions differ. Avoiding topics of disagreement is actually the antithesis of civility.

The Institute for Civility in Government defines civility as "more than just politeness, although politeness is a necessary first step. It is about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue about differences, listening past one's preconceptions and teaching others to do the same. Civility is the hard work of staying present even with those with whom we have deep-rooted and fierce disagreement."

Civility matters because treating one another with respect is a prerequisite to communicating effectively and building community. A lack of civility builds divides between people, fosters hate and anger, and most often leads to aggressive behavior and violence.

None of us is perfect, we all have our moments, but it is important to check ourselves and each other and call for more civility. How do we make the shift in ourselves and others? A few simple things to remember:

- Address ideas not people.
- Listen to understand others, not to re-

spond.

-Work to find common ground, regardless of what any party says we have more in common than that which divides us.

-Remember that it is OK if opinions differ, how dull would life be if everyone thought the same thing.

-Take a step back and try to understand why people think and believe as they do.

-Search out opinions that differ from your own; living in an echo chamber does nobody any good.

-Treat others how you would like to be treated.

-Avoid logical fallacies.

In trying times, what we need more than anything is people to come together, not grow the divide that exists. We need to make America civil again, and if we don't get there, it is our own fault. Let us not let the long journey of humanity, from scavengers and savages into civil societies, be a round trip.

As John F. Kennedy so aptly said, "So let us begin anew – remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate. Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us."

## THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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

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# RE-1J APPROVES UVEA NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

## From pg 1

was unanimous; there were no comments from the Board.

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL PLAN UPDATE

New RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson presented an update as well.

"First day of school is a little more than six weeks away, and we know that families are eagerly waiting plans for Back-to-School," Stephenson said. "As everyone knows, this continues to be a rapidly evolving situation, and within the next couple of days we should be receiving more specific guidance from the Colorado Department of Public Health as well as the Colorado Department of Education, which

should help us with the specifics of our Back-to-School Plan, our return-to-learn plan."

The plan for returning to school (with in-person learning and online options) will be complete Aug. 1.

K-12 students will return to in person learning five days a week Aug. 27, and preschool is expected to resume Aug. 25.

"There are lots of logistics that are going to go into this," Stephenson said. "...We are going to be hosting some focus groups coming up."

Information on focus groups will be available Monday, July 20 on the District web

site and social media (see also RE-1J news brief in this issue of the Mirror). Parents will be surveyed once the plan is published.

"We know that this is going to have to be flexible and agile, because this is a continually evolving situation," Stephenson said.

More details will be released in coming weeks as information becomes available, Stephenson said.

### PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board of Education voted to approve the Personnel Report as presented.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### WEAR SCOUT SCARF OR NECKERCHIEF TO CELEBRATE SCOUT SCARF DAY AUG. 1

Editor:

-In recognition of more than 33 million Scouts in virtually every country of the world the World Organization of the Scout Movement has recognized the Scout Scarf Day. The Scout Scarf (or in the U.S. a Scout neckerchief) is a universal recognition of being a member of the World Scout Movement. The Scout Scarf Day is honoring the first Scout camp on Brownsea Island off the coast of England in 1907. The Scout Scarf Day organizing committee is requesting that Scouts around the world wear a Scout scarf or neckerchief on Aug. 1 in recognition and celebration of the Spirit of Scouting and universal brotherhood.

Wayne Quade, Montrose



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Mark your calendar for the Tenth annual San Juan Mining & Reclamation Conference. Location: Online with local, state, national and international guests. Details: An interactive mix of networking happy hours, short presentations, and expert panels (1.5 to 3 hours daily over four days) bringing key stakeholders together to advance the science and policy of mining and mine lands remediation, as it relates to reducing non-point source pollution and addressing water quality impairments. Organized by Mountain Studies Institute, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, San Miguel Watershed Coalition, and Headwaters Alliance.

Cost: \$55 per person (scholarships and sponsorships with benefits available) Information & Registration: <http://www.mountainstudies.org/sjmr> Contact: Kelly Northcutt, [kelly@mountainstudies.org](mailto:kelly@mountainstudies.org),

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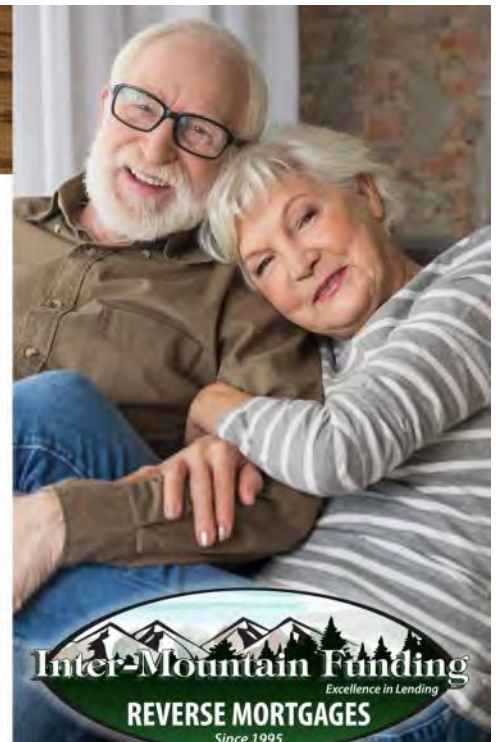


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## 2020 COLORADO STATE PATROL (CSP) ANNUAL AWARDS From pg 1

Program” come in after the first of January, but these awards are not only for their work in the year 2019, but also for what they have accomplished in their careers. Nominations don’t come from the Chief’s Office; they are nominated by peers.” The presentation for the Montrose district was made on July 16.

Trooper Everett Neil, Montrose District 5 Group C CSP received the Distinguished Service Award.

Neil, a 1990 graduate of Cedaredge High School, began his law enforcement career in 2007 with the Delta County Sheriff’s Office, and then the Delta Police Department. He has been a CSP Trooper for the last two-and-a-half years.

In 2019 Neil was called to an accident at the Gunnison River Bridge (Muddy Canal), where a motorist observed a truck leave the highway and go into the canal. Neil said, “If I can give an honorable mention you need to know that Heather Cook of Delta is the real hero. In her rearview mirror she saw the truck go into the canal. She called in the accident and stayed at the scene. If she hadn’t stayed on scene, I wouldn’t have been able to find the truck. It was in the weeds and submerged in the water.”

After stripping off his equipment and jumping into the canal, six-foot-seven Neil found himself in water up to his chin. He said, “The truck was driver’s side down. I didn’t know if it was a rescue, or a recovery. The truck wasn’t stable, so I yelled for someone to help me. Kent Eddy [Delta County Sheriff Office] leaped into the canal and stabilized the vehicle so I could get the window open.” The accident victim was a large man. Neil said, “I was able to get him out, put him on my shoulder and flop him onto the bank. I didn’t know until later that he had a handicap that required a wheelchair.” The victim, who could not remember anything about the accident or the rescue, survived.

Communications Officer Troy Marvel, District 7 Troop D, received the Communications Officer of the Year Award.

Marvel, a 1993 graduate of Montrose High School, began his dispatching career in Eagle, Colorado. A CSP Communications

Officer for 23 years, Marvel is also the local Computer Aided Dispatch Systems (CAD) Administrator and a Communications Training Officer (CTO).

CSP Communications Officers are not limited to dispatching Colorado State Troopers. Marvel said, “We dispatch almost a dozen other organizations like CDOT (Colorado Department of Transportation), the Forest Service, Brand Inspectors, BLM (Bureau of Land Management), Colorado Parks and Wildlife (DOW).”

Last week Marvel took a call from the Pagosa Springs area. He said, “A bear got in an unlocked truck and was honking the horn. The windows were all steamed up and it wasn’t until the owner got close enough to the truck that he could see it

was a bear causing the commotion. We called DOW.”

Marvel noted that not all calls are real emergencies, “The other day I took a call from an elderly gentleman who was frustrated because he couldn’t find phone numbers for Sears and Roebuck and Sherwin Williams in Durango. I like helping older callers. We don’t have a policy against helping people and at that moment there was no other emergencies, so I Googled the numbers for him.”

The Montrose Office is fully staffed with 14 dispatchers. Marvel said, “Currently we have 13, so we’re understaffed and we have an opening for a dispatcher. We are open 24-7 and have two dispatchers on at any given time.”



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**welcome**  
**Julie Fournier**  
FAMILY NURSE  
PRACTITIONER (FNP)

Fournier will be joining the Internal Medicine and Premier Women’s Healthcare of Delta teams, providing primary care services to patients. For Julie the decision to join the health care team at DCMH allowed her to connect with her rural community roots.

For over 30 years Fournier has been a Registered Nurse working in various departments including emergency, home health and hospice. In 2010 she became a Nurse Practitioner and worked in Farmington, New Mexico at a Federally Qualified Health Center. Fournier has worked in Delta County before and is excited to work with new patients and previous patients again.



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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### CDOT ASKS MOTORISTS TO PLAN FOR DETOURS ON CO 133 IN CARBONDALE NEXT WEEK

*Special to the Mirror*

CARBONDALE — Northbound motorists and pedestrian traffic on Colorado Highway 133 next week in Carbondale should plan for short detours as CDOT crews review the cause of a recent sinkhole. The goal is to identify what caused a large sinkhole in June and whether other sinkholes are nearby. On Monday, July 20, from noon to 6 p.m., crews will drill a hole in the paved bike and pedestrian trail on the west side of CO 133 just south of the intersection of CO 133 and Main Street.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, holes will be drilled in the northbound lanes of CO 133 near Euclid Ave. All work is anticipated to be complete by the end of Thursday.

On Monday, the paved bike and pedestrian trail will be closed on the west side of CO 133 near Euclid Avenue, starting at the intersection of CO 133 and Hendricks Drive and continuing north to the intersection of CO 133 and Main Street.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### RE-1J SCHOOLS SOLICITING COMMUNITY INPUT ON RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

By Matt Jenkins

RE-1J Public Information Officer

MONTROSE-Superintendent Dr. Carrie Stephenson announced this week that Montrose County School District (MCSD) leaders are soliciting input from parents, teachers, and all community members regarding the development of Return to Learn plans for the upcoming school year.

In addition to guidance from local and state Public Health officials, we must hear the voice of our Montrose and Olathe communities; MCSD welcomes any and all concerns or questions the public may have regarding a safe, successful return to instruction.

Presently, we intend to offer an in-person, five-day-a-week instructional

model to all K-12 students when school starts on August 27th (and August 25th for Preschool students), as well as a remote option for families who prefer online studies. In order to include community input in the development of plans, the following steps will occur in the coming weeks:

The week of July 20, MCSD leaders will meet with a focus group of local health professionals to discuss with local practitioners specific physical and mental health planning elements. On Monday, July 20, all MCSD parents will receive a survey link soliciting their participation in Community Focus Groups (providing the ability to ask the superintendent and school leaders questions and collaboratively discuss what should be included in the finalized Return

to Learn plan). Community members will be able to access the survey on the MCSD homepage and social media as well.

The week of July 27, MCSD will host Community Focus Groups (based on number of respondents and social distancing requirements, space may be limited and Community Focus groups may meet both in-person and remotely). Final MCSD Return to Learn plans will be published on or before August 1st. The Week of August 3rd, all parents (after reading the finalized plan) will choose their student's start of school instructional model (online or in-person).

We are eagerly awaiting a safe, healthy, and successful return to instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### RESPONSE TO SUE NALLY'S LETTER ABOUT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Editor:*

Gee whiz Sue, I am overjoyed that you are upset some of us seem to be 'monopolizing' the Montrose Mirror's letters to the editor. I am sure we are not 'monopolizing' but in your case, 'upset' is a good thing. Maybe you will take pen in hand and write your opinions and that would be super good. Letters to the editor are for the purpose of allowing folks to air their opinions. Now that I know you

are upset, you can write a letter to the editor either taking me to task or telling me that you like my opinion. Or you may write about a subject totally unrelated. I cannot speak for the editor but I really feel that she would be most pleased if you would write a 'letter to the editor' with some real meat in it and welcome you to the Mirror! All of that said, my 'letters' are well researched and well written. My goal is to

get our City Government (seven of them) who filch in excess of \$500,000 each year from us under the guise of doing the public's will to operate in an open, transparent and accountable manner so the public can see what they are doing for us. They do not do any of this (except take the money) and they do not answer our questions. They hide behind their elected or salaried positions, do what they want and keep mum about what they do and do not do. Not the American way unless you were Mayor Daily of Chicago a few years ago. Apparently the citizens read the Montrose Mirror. I understand that the circulation exceeds 10,000 considerably more than the Montrose Daily 'Pravda'. And the electronic response on Facebook is overwhelmingly positive for what the Mirror is doing.

So why don't you write a letter or two to the editor. I would bet that she would print your work providing it is a polite piece containing substance. And good luck to you. You might just like getting involved and not just sit on the sidelines.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### A CITY PARK AT THE OLD MORADA SITE WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TRULY EARLY AMERICANS

*Dear Editor:*

I would like to take the time to thank the City of Montrose for their historical sign work about the early settlers of the valley and the information about the old Morada chapel site. This site was used by the early settlers of the valley for religious and social purposes. People have to understand that the site was used by a group called the Hermanos or "The Society (Fraternity) of Jesus Christ."

These members of the Moradas are a society that is about 400 years old, started by freed Native American slaves called "Genizaro Indians," that were freed after serving the Spanish government as auxiliary soldiers.

American society has to wake up to the fact that America is not the color of cream cheese. There are lots of other colors that make up America; the Chinese, Africans, and Irish are a few of the colors of America.

The denial of Americans by other Americans does not make our country safe or united. This country that we call America is a concept of mankind that is thousands of years old.

The concept of a free society has always

been a dream and always out of reach for most, if not all, of the world. America has not always been correct and just. We may not be perfect, but we continue to try to correct our imperfections.

That is what is troubling some of our society, the constant change. But that is life, nothing stays the same. That is why we drive automobiles instead of horses. Change.

I am hoping that the City of Montrose is able to establish a park at the old Morada site, to acknowledge the contributions of the truly early Americans.

As I tried to explain to the City of Montrose government when the City took a Federal H.U.D. block grant, there are stipulations of protecting historical and cultural sites when using government money. This site meets those guidelines.

The City of Montrose government says they don't own the property; they have no control of the site. Maybe forgetting the fact that the site was purchased by City tax dollar funds and the property was transferred to Colorado Outdoors by funds provided through Federal H.U.D. block grant dollars.

But like people who can't see the forest

because of the trees, the City of Montrose government does not connect the getting government funds and the stipulations of the Federal Block Grant. The City of Montrose government only sees money, free money.

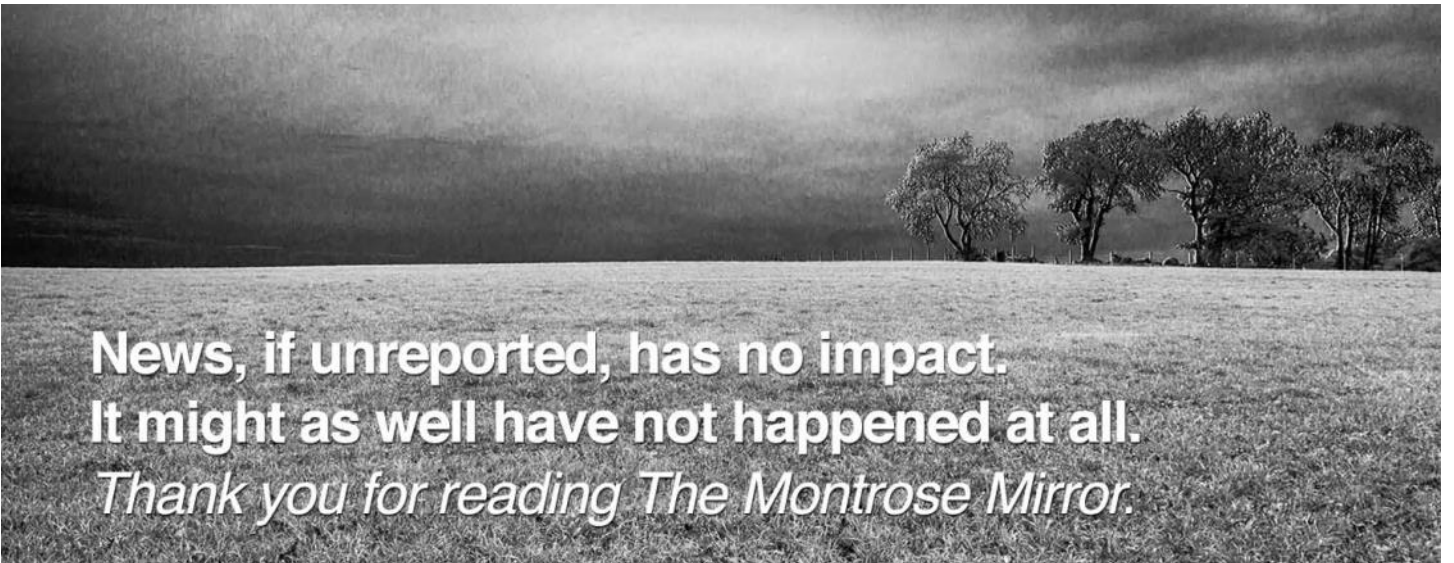
In closing I will also question the City of Montrose on their so-called repair of the North 4<sup>th</sup> Street railroad crossing. After the so-called repairs of the crossing, this railroad crossing is still the worst and most unsafe crossing in the County. People make fun of the work of City workers and this repair job justifies the jokes. It seems that the City of Montrose government is being intimidated by the Union Pacific Railroad.

According to State and Federal laws the cost of repairs on railroad crossings are to be shared by the municipality (City of Montrose) County (Montrose) State (Colorado), and the Railroad (Union Pacific).

This railroad repair is like running out of toilet paper and being told to use sandpaper, "It does the same job, but just a little rough."

Thank you,

*Chris E. Trujillo, Montrose*



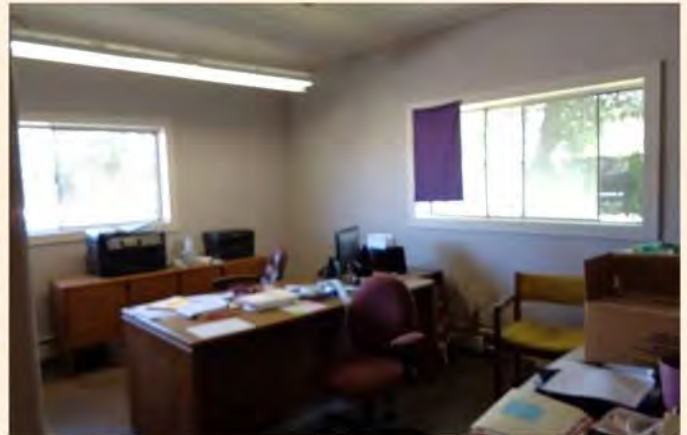
**News, if unreported, has no impact.  
It might as well have not happened at all.  
*Thank you for reading The Montrose Mirror.***



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Commercial Building Zoned Light Industrial. 7,560 square feet. Many business possibilities. Building is divided into 3 sections and includes 5 offices, manufacturing or fabrication space, warehouse space and restrooms. Two sections have hot water baseboard heating and the newer section to the north has in-floor radiant heat. 6 Evaporative coolers. One roll-up door. Three-phase power. Also includes a detached garage with 576 square feet. Great access off Park Avenue, very close to San Juan Bypass and Hwy 50 North. Nice grassy yard to the south side of the property, watered with HOA irrigation water. Irrigation pump is included. Business Elevate Fiber Optic internet is available at this location.

**0.85 acres | Year Built: 1962 & Addition on north side built in 1992**

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL #1 SMALL HOSPITAL IN COLORADO

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Montrose Memorial Hospital announced today it has been recognized by the Lown Institute as the #1 small hospital in Colorado. Receiving an A+ overall grade, the ranking is based on measurements from three categories, seven sub-components and 42 detailed metrics to form a comprehensive listing.

"It is an incredible achievement to be named the #1 small hospital in Colorado," said James Kiser, CEO of Montrose Memorial Hospital. "Rural healthcare is a challenging environment; yet Montrose Memorial Hospital continues to receive national recognition for our Friends & Family. Congratulations to our first-rate employees, our dedicated medical staff and our astute hospital board for this hard-earned achievement."

The Lown Institute is a nonpartisan think tank utilizing data from patient outcomes, including satisfaction, safety and mortality

rates. It also accounts for value of care measurements, and civic leadership metrics – for example how much a hospital invests in community health.

Montrose Memorial Hospital also ranks as the #6 overall hospital in Colorado according to the list. Earlier this year, Montrose Memorial Hospital was named a 5 star hospital by the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services - a status achieved by fewer than nine percent of U.S. Hospitals nationwide. It is also the only hospital in Colorado to be named a Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital for five consecutive years.

Other nearby small hospitals ranked include Community Hospital of Grand Junction (#6) and Grand River Medical Center of Rifle (#8). A statement from the Lown Institute website says, "The Lown Institute Hospitals Index is a new kind of hospital ranking, one that takes into account the full breadth of what hospitals do. It evalu-



**Montrose Memorial Hospital announced that it has been recognized by the Lown Institute as the #1 small hospital in Colorado. Courtesy photo.**

ates hospitals' performance based on how well they treat their patients, their commitment to providing high-value care, and their investment in community health."

For more information about the Colorado small hospital ranking, visit <https://lownhospitalsindex.org/rankings/?size=s&state=CO>



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*Paul Arbogast*  
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BLM SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON GAS PIPELINE PROJECT NEAR PLACERVILLE

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— As part of the Trump Administration's efforts to both responsibly develop our natural resources and be a good neighbor to local communities, the Bureau of Land Management Uncompahgre Field Office is seeking public comment on a proposal to replace and bury approximately 700 feet of an above-ground natural gas pipeline serving the communities of Placerville, Telluride, and Mountain Village.

This exposed section is vulnerable to rock and tree fall, changing weather, and impacts from recreational users and vehicles and may pose a risk to public safety.

"This natural gas pipeline provides a critical service to several of our local communities," said Uncompahgre Acting Field

Manager Amy Carmichael. "The public's timely and substantive comments will help us better address potential impacts to make an informed decision."

Rocky Mountain Natural Gas LLC, doing business as Black Hills Energy, is proposing to trench and bury one pipeline section located on BLM-administered public land near Placerville.

Although the pipeline was primarily buried when first constructed in 1987, a few sections were left above ground where the pipeline crosses rocky slopes. The proposed work area is on a steep rocky slope along Highway 145 within the San Miguel River Canyon. BHE has committed to design features to minimize impacts to the hillside and has submitted a complete reclamation plan.

Comments on the preliminary environmental assessment must be received or postmarked by July 27, 2020. Additional information and project documents are available on the BLM ePlanning website: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1505110/510>.

Please provide written comments via ePlanning or mail comments to the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, Attn: Telluride Leg-Off Project, 2465 S. Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO 81401.

Before including your address, phone number, email address or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time.



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3024 Outlook Drive | Montrose, CO 81401

**NEW  
PRICE**



Here's something that hasn't come along in a while.....new construction in The Preserve. This lovely community borders The Bridges golf community and is conveniently located only minutes from shopping, dining, Montrose Community Rec Center and so much more! Exquisite finishes including granite countertops, engineered hardwood flooring, tiled floors, tiled showers and backsplash and 9' ceilings throughout. Large corner lot! Back yard fence included! **PRICE IMPROVEMENT - NOW \$350,000**

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## CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER \$78K JANITORIAL SERVICES CONTRACT RENEWAL, MANHOLE REHABILITATION BID AWARD

### Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council will meet for a virtual work session at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 20 and for a regularly scheduled virtual meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21.

### WORK SESSION

Discussion items include a Manhole Rehabilitation Bid Award Recommendation not to exceed \$100,000 and Contract Renewal for Facility Janitorial Services in the amount of \$78,689.

Items to be considered in upcoming City work sessions and meetings include:

**Aug. 3-**DMEA Franchise Agreement Ballot Language; Commission Applicant Interviews; English Gardens 4 Subdivision Filing #5 Final Plat;

**Aug. 4-**Restaurant Voucher Program Update;

**Aug. 18-**DMEA Franchise Agreement Ballot Language; Hotel and Restaurant Liquor License Application - Tacos and Beer Montrose;

As yet unscheduled are the Montrose Dermatology Business Expansion Project; DMEA Update to City Council; and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Update to City Council.

The work session will be held electronically via Zoom: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NrJS2dGqTnqL3cZZJyprw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NrJS2dGqTnqL3cZZJyprw). The meeting can also be viewed live on the City of Montrose website, [www.cityofmontrose.org](http://www.cityofmontrose.org), on Channel 191, and on Channel 970.

### REGULAR MEETING

Council will consider approving:

- Ordinance 2504 on second reading for the annexation of the Hilltop Addition;
- Ordinance 2505 on second reading, zoning the Hilltop Addition as an "R-4" High Density District;
- Ordinance 2506 on second reading for the annexation of the River Crossing Addition;
- Ordinance 2507 on second reading, zoning the River Crossing Addition as a "B-3" General Commercial District;
- Ordinance 2508 on first reading, amending Title 5 -Chapter 15 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding sales and use tax;
- Resolution 2020-14 authorizing the City of Montrose Police Department to file a Victim Assistance Law Enforcement (VALE) Grant through the 7th Judicial District Victims Assistance Board for the total of \$28,000, to cover a portion of the Victim Advocate's Salary; authorizing the Chief of Police to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as required; and authorizing the City Manager, Chief of Police and Finance Director to sign the grant application and reporting documents;
- Resolution 2020-15, to submit a referred measure, "Granting a Franchise to Delta-Montrose Electric Association," to the electors in the November 2020 General



*Due to concerns over COVID-19, City Council meetings have not yet re-opened to the public in chambers at the Elks Civic Building, above.*

Election;

-A business expansion incentives package totaling \$30,000 for the establishment of Smart Start Daycare at 1840 E. Main Street as presented;

-the Unrein Division of Property, an Official Act of the City of Montrose as presented;

-a contract with SHAW Construction for construction management and general contractor (CM/GC) services of all phases of the new Public Safety Complex (PSC) Construction Project as presented.

Following staff reports Council will adjourn.

The meeting will be held electronically and can be accessed at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vQmUvMHURoyBSZZas6s0xw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vQmUvMHURoyBSZZas6s0xw).





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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

### TIME FOR THE CITY OF MONTROSE TO HONOR DR. KING'S HOLIDAY



Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was killed in 1968. His birthday is celebrated as a National Holiday in most communities. Courtesy photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Each year, the City of Montrose calendars the holidays that it deems “official.” At some point in recent years, one important Federal Holiday fell off that list, though it remains a national holiday and is honored by both Montrose County and the State of Colorado.

Because this national holiday apparently comes at a time when City officials do not wish to take a vacation—in January—the

birthday of Civil Rights Leader Dr. Martin Luther King is just another workday for the City of Montrose.

I object. As a small child in 1968, I witnessed Dr. King’s murder on live television, courtesy of a careless babysitter. Because I asked my parents questions about what I had seen, I was quite young when I learned about King’s legacy. And be-

cause I was also a native of Chicago, some of my first friends were little black girls—I can still remember laughing at age four, when a beloved friend and I compared the palms of our hands at a summer camp, delighting in our difference.

Black lives matter so much—even the smallest of them. And the greatest matter as well. Dr. King’s life was an example of how much one person can accomplish. His example of courage, sacrifice and engage-

ment lives on. In 2020, I hope that we can continue to respect the legacy of Dr. King and move forward toward equality, accountable governance, and a society that works for us all. King made a number of speeches that have become part of our nation’s history, but none touches me more than the one he delivered on the steps of the State Capitol in Montgomery, Alabama, after the successful completion of the Selma to Montgomery March on March 25, 1965. That speech has come to be known as the “[How Long,](#)” speech, and it remains as relevant today as it was then. “How long?” King asked the roaring crowd, before responding, “Not long, because no lie can live forever...”

“How long?”

“Not long, because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”<sup>1</sup> This year, when the Montrose City Council chooses which holidays matter for 2021, I urge them to “bend toward justice” as well. Do the right thing and recognize a great American by honoring, rather than ignoring, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King.

## My Mask Protects You



## Your Mask Protects Me



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



## DOG TREAT FACTORY GIVEN 30 DAYS TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT; NEIGHBORS CONCERNED OVER NOISE, ZONING “CREEP”



*When the Prairie Dog Treats Factory was granted a conditional use permit eight years ago to allow light industrial manufacturing in a B2A zone, the permit was for the building at 146 West Main Street. An additional lot purchased by the company is not included in the B2A zoning, but it is now being used as though it is. Photo by Paul Arbogast.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Those familiar with Sampler Square on West Main Street in Montrose know that the complex includes a popular coffee shop, a gallery, and an eclectic mix of boutique retail. Also located in the historic locale is one of the most popular restaurant patios in the city, with shaded seating amidst blooming red geraniums. Still, as a nearby manufacturer expands operations into the parking area that adjoins Sample Square, close neighbors and businesses are worried that the neighborhood's quality of life as well as livelihoods are being impacted.

Property owners have asked the City of Montrose to make good on the conditions required of Texas business owner Ira Goldfarb's Prairie Dog Treats factory when the non-conforming use was originally granted eight years ago. "We have tried to be good neighbors," Mike Thorpe of Summit West LLC told the *Mirror*. "But a couple of years ago things really started to deteriorate."

On Jun 8, Thorpe, whose company owns and leases Sampler Square, contacted the City of Montrose about offensive odors, spillage of animal waste, litter, flies, and potential health hazards generated by

Prairie Dog Treats. He outlined concerns in detail: "There are now three trailers which have been permanently located in the lot on the east side of the building," Thorpe stated. "Noise from the units can be heard on neighboring properties...They can even be heard inside the residential apartment of our building with the windows closed. These units run 24 hours per day, seven-days per week. They are much louder and continuous than the normal street traffic in the area.

"...A few months back, we confronted a truck-driver swapping out an uncovered, leaking dumpster by pulling it off the facility's lot and into our parking area to swap out with new dumpster," wrote Thorpe. "We asked that he not do it on our private property, so he pulled it onto S 1<sup>st</sup> Street and swapped it out there."

In an email dated June 10, City Manager Bill Bell asked Prairie Dog Treats to comply with the requirements of the Conditional use Permit within 30 days:

"Please know that it has come to my attention that your West Main location here in Montrose may not be operating in compliance with your existing conditional use permit issued back in December of 2012. Please review your conditional use



*An unsealed dumpster of animal waste being unloaded on a City street. Courtesy photo.*

permit in detail and take all necessary steps to bring your operations into compliance within the next 30 days," Bell wrote. The 30-day compliance period ended July 10.

What happens next is uncertain. Though the factory building on the lot at 146 West Main Street was rezoned in 2012 from B2, Highway Commercial District, to B2A, regional commercial district, City Code concerning B2A zoning states that, "manufacturing and storage associated with manufacturing shall be indoors." Also, "No use may create a nuisance to other property by reasons of dust, odor, noise, light, smoke, or vibration or other adverse effects which cannot be effectively confined on the premises."

Dated Dec. 12, 2012, the original Administrative Conditional Use Permit to Allow Light Industrial Manufacturing in a B-2A Zone at 146 W Main Street, Montrose, Colorado was signed by City Manager Bill

## ***DOG TREAT FACTORY GIVEN 30 DAYS TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS***

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

Bell. Among the conditions imposed are a requirement that any odors emitted from the subject property shall not be dissimilar to odors emitted from restaurants, and that disposal of animal byproducts not take place outside of the building. Animal by-products shall not be placed in an outdoor dumpster. Still, the manufacturing operation has expanded beyond the confines of the original zoning, outdoor dumpsters are open rather than sealed, and filled with animal by products. An additional lot purchased by the company is not included in the B2A zoning, but it is now being used as though it is. "None of that should even be there," Thorpe said, "Why is the City allowing this?" City Manager Bill Bell was asked to comment on what the future holds for Prairie Dog Treats. Though he has just returned from a family vacation and said he will need to follow up with staff, Bell said that the company's officers were removed from CEO and President responsibilities by the board of directors for the corporation. "We were contacted by their new owner two weeks ago saying that he was ready and willing to make any necessary improvements to their operations to maintain their facility here in Montrose."

## **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

### **SUMMER STRIKEOUT DUI ENFORCEMENT BEGINS JULY 17**

*Special to the Mirror*

**STATEWIDE** — Summer plans may be different this year with many large gatherings canceled, however, law enforcement will still be on the lookout for motorists who choose to drive impaired. To keep our roads safe, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and local law enforcement agencies will conduct the Summer Strikeout heightened DUI enforcement period from July 17-27. Last year, law enforcement agencies arrested 490 motorists for DUI during the same enforcement period.

"CDOT's top priority is to keep motorists safe from harm," said Shoshana Lew, executive director of CDOT. "This enforcement period is a good reminder to folks that consuming any amount of alcohol can impair their ability to get behind the wheel. Drivers should always plan for a sober ride home."

DUI enforcement periods can include sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and additional law enforcement on duty dedicated to impaired driving enforcement. More details about the campaign, including impaired driving enforcement plans, arrest totals and safety tips can be found at [HeatIsOnColorado.com](https://www.heatisoncolorado.com).

"We anticipate more drivers will be getting out to spend time in small groups with family and friends, participate in outdoor activities, and patronize local businesses this summer," said Colonel Matthew Packard, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "Drivers must make the choice to never drive impaired. Summer time means more vehicles on the roads and we want everyone to arrive safely at their destination."

Over the recent Fourth of July enforcement period, which ran from July 2-6, 171 impaired motorists were arrested — a decrease from the 311 arrests made during the same period last year. A total of 93 agencies participated in the five-day enforcement period, with the Colorado Springs Police Department (22 arrests), Denver Police Department (13 arrests), and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (13 arrests) recording the highest number of arrests. CSP recorded 23 arrests. Results for all law enforcement agencies across the state can be found at <https://www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-reporting-portal>.

This summer, Coloradans can expect to see CDOT's latest DUI prevention campaign across the state on billboards, buildings, in liquor stores, and on social media

reminding people to wait the appropriate amount of time between consuming alcohol and driving.

CDOT's new *Take Some Time* campaign aims to educate and raise awareness of the time it takes for a person's BAC to return to zero after consuming alcohol. View and download the campaign creative here: [dropbox.com/sh/d7xzbb8kd6j9sei/AACCAzHtXzPzJeSl6DMLHXzva?dl=0](https://dropbox.com/sh/d7xzbb8kd6j9sei/AACCAzHtXzPzJeSl6DMLHXzva?dl=0)

As part this year's *The Heat Is On* campaign, CDOT has partnered again with BACtrack, a leading personal and professional breathalyzer company, to urge Coloradans to check their blood-alcohol content (BAC) to confirm they are sober before they drive. Through the partnership, BACtrack Mobile Pro, Trace Pro, C8, and C6 breathalyzers will be offered at a 50% discount for Colorado residents until Sept. 15, or while supplies last. Residents can visit [codot.bactrack.com](https://www.codot.bactrack.com) to place an order. For more information about previous CDOT and BACtrack breathalyzer campaigns, visit [heatisoncolorado.com](https://www.heatisoncolorado.com).

For more information on CDOT's efforts this summer, including impaired driving enforcement plans, arrest totals and safety tips, visit <https://www.codot.gov/safety>.



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MESA COUNTY DISTRIBUTES MORE THAN 31,000 FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FACE MASKS

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION-Habitat for Humanity Mesa County distributes over 31,000 Federal Emergency Management Agency Face Masks to help solve shortages to local nonprofits in need, and plans to distribute more.

GRAND JUNCTION-Many nonprofits are being negatively impacted by COVID-19, while also trying to endure the crisis themselves. Organizations are seeing an increase in costs on their budget as they manage the coronavirus and a decline in contributions while they continue serving the public. These impacts are why the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) granted nonprofit organizations like Habitat for Humanity of Mesa County (Habitat Mesa) in-kind facial masks to distribute to nonprofit organizations in their communities.

Habitat Mesa hopes that by providing these masks will offset some of the impact.

The organization has already distributed more than 31,000 masks in Mesa County, and is preparing to provide another 13,000 masks to nonprofits in Delta and Montrose Counties. Community Options, Delta United Methodist Church with Abraham Connection, Sharing Ministries Food Bank, The Homestead of Montrose, TAILS Adoption Center, and North Folk Public Radio are some of the nonprofits scheduled to pick up their masks from Habitat Mesa on Wednesday July 22nd in the City of Delta.

"One thing that is really important about this donation, FEMA wants to make sure we're providing masks to the nonprofit's staff and volunteers to protect them and



**Salvation Army of Grand Junction picking up their FEMA Face Masks from Habitat for Humanity of Mesa County Colorado. FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency donated the masks to be given to nonprofits for their operations during COVID 19.**

the people they serve during COVID-19", said Janet Brink, Habitat Mesa Executive Director, "We are proud to be a part of this endeavor with FEMA in reaching out to local nonprofits and in keeping our communities healthy and safe".

Habitat Mesa follows a simple message, adhere to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Three W's to ward off COVID-19: 1. Watching your distance, 2. Washing Your Hands, 3. Wearing non-medical grade masks in public. "But of the three, the most important is wearing a mask," says Kirk Granum, Habitat Mesa Operations Director and Safety Officer. Health experts

say the evidence is clear that masks can help since anyone can unknowingly spread the virus.

The FEMA masks are 100% cotton and contain silver and copper which help prevent the spread of viruses and germs and inhaling droplets.

If you are a nonprofit organization, not of the Healthcare/Medical, First Responder, and Law Enforcement sectors, in need of FEMA reusable Cloth Face Coverings for your staff and volunteers, please contact Marie Mitchell, Communications / Development Officer at 970-216-1277 or [mmitchell@hfhmesa.org](mailto:mmitchell@hfhmesa.org).



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CAMPGROUND AND CAMPFIRE MEDIA ALERT

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-Forest Officials on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests ask for assistance from

campers. Forest Supervisor, Chad Stewart said, "As the summer camping and fire season progresses, GMUG fire and recreation officials are noticing increased visita-

tion and an increase of abandoned campfires, campsites filling up early in the week, and trash being left behind. We are asking folks to "know before you go" and practice good outdoor ethics - put out a campfire before you leave, be a courteous camper, and always pack out your trash." -Most of the GMUG is under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, yet people are still building campfires outside constructed fire grates in developed campgrounds, and campfires are being left unattended or abandoned before they are DEAD OUT!

-Forest visitation has increased this year and more people are looking for developed campsites, resulting in a limited number of available sites by the weekend. Campers who are planning on weekend camping in developed sites should arrive early for their best chance to find and occupy a site.

-Garbage facilities are limited.

Campground trash receptacles are intended for campground guests, only. Please take your garbage home with you for disposal.

For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, please visit:

[@GMUGFireInfo](https://www.fs.usda.gov)  
<https://www.fs.usda.gov>  
[www.westslopefireinformation.com](https://www.westslopefireinformation.com)  
 #KnowBeforeYouGo #RecreateResponsibly #BeOutdoorSafe #FireYear2020



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## CSP TROOPER TIPS: THE “MOVE OVER” LAW JUST ADDED A LITTLE MORE TO IT



*By Master Trooper Gary Cutler*

On November 26, 20016 my friend Trooper Cody Donahue was killed by a truck that failed to move over while he was investigating a crash. This is a story we hear all too often.

**CSP Master Trooper Gary Cutler**

Prior to that crash, there was a Move Over law already in effect. So why didn't it work in that situation or countless others? I believe there are several reasons for that. Fully knowing the law is one of them; the other is not paying attention to your surroundings.

The Move Over law is set up to assist law enforcement, fire and ambulance crews, maintenance workers and tow truck operators to be able to be safer when they are performing their duties on the side of the road.

I have always been a huge advocate of not just looking out for emergency work-

ers but including anyone you see on the side of the road. Whether they are changing a tire, taking a break, or just making a call, (thank you for that by the way.)

When are you required to move over? Anytime you see any in that first list of people. The move over law requires drivers to either move over or slow down. Simply put, Move Over requires the driver to move one lane away, giving a buffer lane between you and emergency workers on the shoulder or roadway.

When moving over is not available as an option, then you are required to slow down when going by emergency workers. One problem with that has been drivers not understanding what speed they should go when in these situations. New legislation this year added a defined speed which I think will help curb this problem. The new addition to the law simply states if you are going 45 MPH or faster you should lower your speed by 20 MPH. If the speed limit is less than 45 MPH, then you are required to slow to 25 MPH.

With an actual speed listed for these situ-

ations, it should take that guess work out of what to do and hopefully, make it much safer for everyone involved. These speeds also need to take into consideration any other factors that may require the speed to be even lower.

In a lot of rural areas you won't have two lanes going in the same direction very often, so it will come down to complying by lowering your speed.

I also want to touch on the subject of being prepared when you get to an emergency worker on the side of the road. A lot of people wait until the last moment to either move over, or slow down. If this isn't done far enough in advance, it can become a hazard within itself. Make sure you are looking beyond your hood. This means always be scanning for hazards. If you see something ahead on the shoulder, start to begin speed or moving lanes prior to getting there so it doesn't have to be a quick brake, or lane change. This will give others behind you a chance to react and less of a chance of a secondary crash.

As always, safe travels!

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# Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Fact Sheet



## Allowed

Fires in permanent fire pits, fire rings in private residences, or within developed recreational sites such as a campground or picnic area.



Fire features, chimineas and tiki torches at private residences supervised by a responsible adult.



Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices.



Target shooting in a safe manner is permitted.



## NOT Allowed



The personal use of all fireworks is prohibited.

Any fire or campfire, not within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area.



Smoking, EXCEPT within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.

Agricultural burning is not allowed.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame EXCEPT in cleared areas of at least 10 ft in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Operating or using any internal combustion engine, such as chainsaws, without a spark-arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.



Target shooting with explosive targets is not permitted.

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## 10,506 REGULAR INITIAL UI CLAIMS FILED FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 11

### Special to the Mirror

DENVER-The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) has reported that 10,506 regular initial unemployment claims were filed the week ending July 11th. There were also 5,420 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims filed for the same week. Since mid-March, a total of 493,571 regular unemployment initial claims have been filed and a grand total of 633,407 claims, including federal PUA benefits.\*

The Department also announced it has paid out approximately \$3.5 billion in unemployment benefits since March 29th. That amount includes regular unemployment benefits, and those filing Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (PUC) claims, which provides eligible claimants an extra \$600 in federal benefits each week.

In addition, Colorado county-level initial

and continued unemployment claims data released Tuesday for the week ending June 27th is available [here](#).

Benefits paid since March 29:

Regular UI: \$1.22 Billion

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (gig workers/self-employed): \$397.8 Million  
Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (\$600/weekly UI benefits to eligible claimants): Apx. \$1.90 Billion  
Total: \$3.51 Billion

Claims by industry and benefits paid  
Benefits paid: Regular UI

Week ending July 11: \$79.0 Million

Top 10 industries with highest initial claims for week ending June 27th

#1 Accommodation and Food Services: 825 (13.1% of claims for week)

#2 Healthcare and Social Service: 694 (11.1%)

#3 Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation

Services: 681 (10.9%)

#4 Retail Trade: 666 (10.6%)

#5 Construction: 456 (7.3%)

#6 Manufacturing: 425 (6.8%)

#7 Professional and Technical Services: 357 (5.7%)

#8 Education Services: 347 (5.5%)

#9 Transportation and Warehousing: 255 (4.1%)

#10 Wholesale Trade: 253 (4.0%)

Initial claims are 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.

COLORADO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CHARTS

THROUGH WEEK ENDING JULY 11, 2020



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## BOCC APPROVES STORM KING MOUNTAIN RANCH, LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL SPECIAL USE PERMITS AT REGULAR MEETING JULY 15

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) Chair Keith Caddy called the session to order and welcomed all to the regular meeting on Wednesday, July 15. Held in the county's meeting room, the session was open to the public with social distancing measures in place and was made available online via livestream as well. Caddy shared phone numbers for those wishing to call in during the meeting.

All commissioners were present; Pastor Eric Archuleta of the Abundant Life Church delivered the invocation. "...I pray for our leaders here on the board of county commissioners... give them insight and wisdom into every decision that they have to make..."

Commissioners said the Pledge of Allegiance; Caddy opened the floor to comment from the public.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

### COUNTY MANAGER

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

### CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously, with Resolutions No's 32-2020 and 33-2020 assigned to items Nine and Ten, respectively.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

There were no General Business items.

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

#### Storm King Mountain Ranch Special Use

Planning & development Director Steve White introduced a special use proposal by Storm King Mountain Ranch, LLC to develop a venue for various community events at 70753 Buckhorn Road. White said that he had received letters on the proposal within the past 24 hours; comments from neighbors are included in the BOCC meeting packet as well. A number of citizens including Applicants Neal and Tara Teeples were present, with seats left between for social distancing.

White discussed conditions to mitigate the top neighborhood concerns of lighting, noise, and traffic.

Caddy opened a public hearing.

A number of neighbors spoke to the proposal. Among those who addressed the BOCC was Frank Anderson, who said he lives about half a mile from the entrance to Storm King Mountain Ranch.

Anderson said he could not be more pleased about the Teeples' plans for the property. With an impending exodus of city dwellers expected to arrive here, the property could just as easily become a large-scale housing development. "I consider as a member of the neighborhood that we have ducked a bullet," he said. "...I am totally convinced that they will have a first-class operation, and their service will be first class."

Also speaking in support was Hannah Kemp. Though not a close neighbor, Kemp and her husband are local business owners and Kemp has worked in the wedding industry. "...Brides are looking for a venue that is modern and up to date," she said. "...This without a doubt will be an asset to Montrose...wedding planners are excited to start booking brides for this gorgeous venue."

Neighbor Randell Whitmire asked if decorative lighting would be extinguished after 11:30 p.m., and brought up traffic concerns, noting that the Hwy 550 turn lane coming from the north holds four cars. "How could traffic be better controlled in that area?"

Still, "It looks very good," he said of the venue.

Recent Bride Allyson Cotham said she is a friend of Tara Teeples' and wished the Storm King Mountain Ranch venue would have been available when she was planning her own wedding.

Said Jason Byler, who said he is the closest neighbor to the property, "...I didn't want to see it be developed into houses... when they bought it and what they're doing there, to me that's the best we could have...it's going to enhance our val-



*Montrose County Commissioners met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 15.*

ues out there."

Kurt Quadri, who said he is the second closest neighbor, asked for reasonable limitations to be put in place concerning guest numbers. "The traffic that would accompany these numbers of people would have a pronounced impact."

Applicant Neal Teeples said, "We've worked a lot with the Planning Board to mitigate the neighbors' concerns...We love the stars, we love the night light here...we want to keep all the lighting as low as possible to make the insurance company and the public happy."

The primary goal is to host weddings, family reunions, and craft fairs, Applicant Tara Teeples said. A DJ has been out to the property so as to check that decibel levels will not exceed those set by the County. "We did our due diligence...we really are taking it seriously."

Commissioners spent time discussing traffic issues. County Engineer Keith Laube said CDOT will be notified of the change of use; Buckhorn Road will be overlaid next year.

Also, "It's not that big an impact on the intersection at Buckhorn and 550, in my opinion," Laube said.

Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is currently looking at the Hwy 550 Corridor, BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said, noting that regular traffic counts drive improvements to the roadway. "As this business grows, traffic numbers will be counted yearly...if you see an influx of traffic at Uncompahgre and Buckhorn--probably the two roads going to be impacted by this--than they would start

## **BOCC APPROVES STORM KING MOUNTAIN RANCH, LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL SPECIAL USE PERMITS AT REGULAR MEETING JULY 15**

looking at improving those.

"Both of those intersections are pretty good intersections for high volumes of traffic."

Rash noted the impact to economic development. "...We live in a beautiful community and a lot of people are going to come here," he said. "...we look at spurring folks to come into our communities...so we keep our kids here, we keep the jobs here...it's kind of a win-win for our community."

After further discussion commissioners voted unanimously to approve the special

use permit.

### **Resolution 34-2020-Rezone of heritage estates filing lot 12**

Commissioners unanimously approved a request to rezone from Business to Residential at Heritage Estates Lot 12 3767-291-08-001.

### **Minor Subdivisions**

In other business, the BOCC approved minor subdivisions as presented by Planner Talmadge Richmond: the Tin Cup Minor Subdivision proposal to divide a 23.6-acre lot into three lots at 18275 6300 Road;

the Royce Minor Subdivision proposal to divide a 39.49-acre lot into three lots at 61900 Grand View Trail; the Cohan Minor Subdivision proposal to divide a 23.783 acre lot into two lots at 376914102001.

### **Lock, Stock and Barrel Revised Special use**

Commissioners also voted to approve Resolution 35 - 2020, for the Lock, Stock and Barrel Revised Special Use, as previously discussed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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ISSUE 272 July 20, 2020

## ART &amp; SOL

REMAIN "BEAR AWARE" WHEN CAMPING AND  
HIKING IN COLORADO BEAR COUNTRY*Special to Art & Sol*

DENVER - Colorado is home to a large population of black bears, with numbers estimated at 17,000-20,000 in the state. As humans venture into Colorado's great outdoors to spend quality time in nature, it is important to remember that bears and humans can and do live in harmony in our shared outdoor spaces when humans take proactive steps to avoid conflicts with bears.

Wildlife experts agree that bears are not naturally aggressive towards humans; in fact, most bears are naturally wary of people. Most conflicts between people and bears can be traced to easily accessible human food, trash, or other attractants with strong odors as a bear's natural drive to eat can overcome its fear of humans. When bears become too comfortable around humans, they can destroy property or even become a threat to human safety.

"The majority of the time, bears are not after you, they are after food," said Area Wildlife Manager Mark Lamb. "Understanding bear behaviors and being aware of what steps you can take to avoid bears from approaching you is an important part of recreating responsibly in bear country. Being smart about how you store your food, using bear boxes

and bear-resistant canisters, and locking your property keeps you safe and can save a bear's life." Colorado Parks and Wildlife recommend the following best practices to minimize encounters with bears:

**CAMPING**

When [camping in bear country](#), the easiest way to avoid bears is to ensure that nothing in your campsite has a smell that will attract them.

Safely store food, beverages and toiletries in campsite lockers called bear boxes (if provided), in bear-proof containers away from your tent or, as a last resort, locked in the trunk of your vehicle.

Stash your trash. Put all trash in bear-proof trash receptacles or bear canisters; treat your trash as if it is food - to bears, there is no difference.

Keep a clean campsite. Scrape grill grates after use and clean used dishes. Store used dishes and utensils just as you would your food.

Never bring food or anything that smells like food - which includes toiletries, sunscreen and even the clothes you wear when cooking - into your tent. All of these items with scents should be stored away from your tent.

Lock cars and RVs whenever you leave your site and at night. Ensure all windows are tightly closed.



**Staying bear aware while on trails and camping helps keep bears wild and reduces human-bear conflicts. CPW courtesy photo.**

What if a bear tries to enter a campsite? Try to haze it away with loud noises such as yelling, banging pots and pans together or use your car horn or an air horn to scare the bear away. Notify CPW park staff if a bear enters a campsite. As an extra precaution, carry bear spray with you when you go camping.

**BACKPACKING & HIKING**

Understanding bear behaviors and your surroundings can help [avoid unwanted encounters with wildlife on trails](#).

Stay alert at all times. Leave your headphones back at your campsite, be extra cautious at dawn and dusk, and pay closer attention to areas with noise from running water or heavy winds.

**Continued next pg**

## REMAIN "BEAR AWARE" WHEN CAMPING AND HIKING IN BEAR COUNTRY From previous pg

NEVER feed or approach a bear.

Double bag food and pack out all food waste (including apple cores or banana peels) to avoid encouraging bears to see trails as a food source

Respect forage areas. If your usual trail runs through berry patches, oak brush or other known food sources, be extra vigilant.

Make extra noise by periodically clapping or calling out to alert bears to your presence.

What if you surprise a bear on a trail? Stay calm, stand still and speak to it in a firm tone of voice. The bear will most likely identify you and leave.

Never run from a bear. If the bear does not leave, slowly wave your arms to make yourself look bigger. Continue facing the bear, slowly back away and keep slowly moving away until the bear is out of sight.



**Most conflicts between people and bears can be traced to easily accessible human food or other attractants with strong odors. Courtesy photo credit: Laura Kali**

If the bear gets within 40 feet, use bear spray.

If a bear attacks, do not play dead - fight back with anything available, including trekking poles, small knives, or even your bare hands.

Sharing outdoor spaces with wildlife makes Colorado a wonderful place to live.

Bear sightings from a safe distance can be a rare and wonderful experience for outdoor enthusiasts. Staying bear aware while on trails and camping helps keep bears wild and helps reduce human-bear conflicts.

For more information on how to be "bear aware," visit [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us).



**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author  
& Reporter

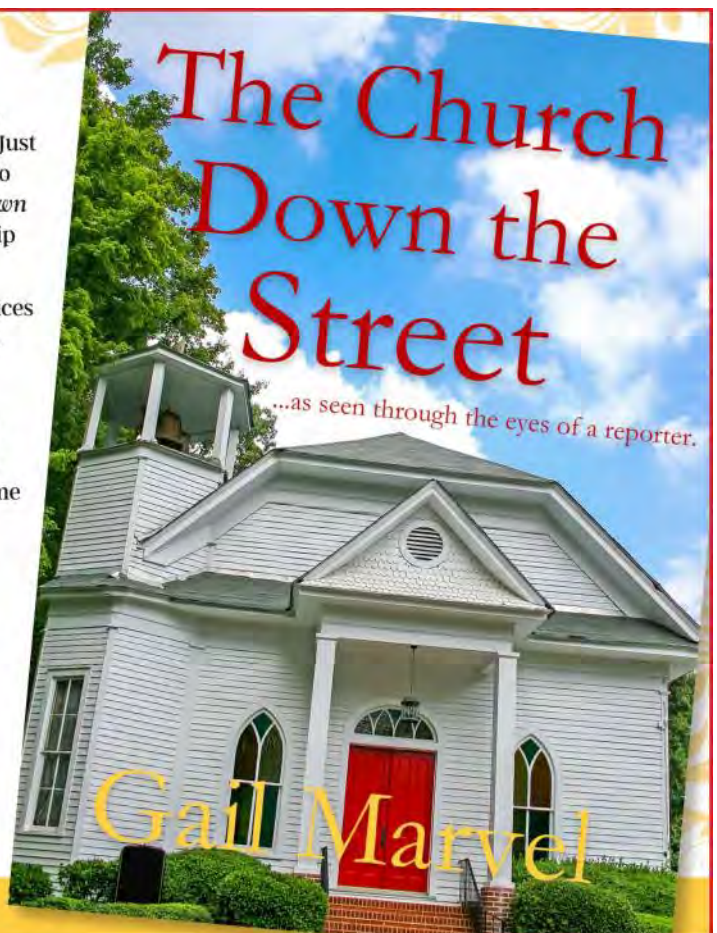
**I**t is human nature to compare ourselves with others, and the church is no different. Just as Paul's Epistles allowed the early church to peer into the lives of each other, *The Church Down the Street* allows readers to peer into the worship services of other churches.

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.

Available online at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and [WingedPublications.com](http://WingedPublications.com)





## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### FIND ONLINE, LIFELONG LEARNING COURSES THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

*Special to Art & Sol*

COLORADO-Are you interested in honing your persuasion skills or staying up to date on current events affecting the globe? Maybe you'd like to learn more about World War II or explore Denver virtually? Join your lifelong learning partner, the Enrichment Program at the University of Denver (DU), to dive into these topics and many more that will stimulate your mind, reawaken your curiosity, and fuel your love of learning.

The Enrichment Program connects intellectually curious adults to DU's outstanding faculty and programming, as well as Denver's rich cultural community, through non-credit courses.

This fall, more than 40 courses and one-night lectures, which explore a wide range of subjects, from history and contemporary issues to science, literature, and the arts, are being offered entirely online, via Zoom. There are no exams, grades, or admission requirements-- just learning for the love of learning and developing your interests.

"The strength of the program is due to an

outstanding faculty that has a great breadth of knowledge and experience. Courses consistently give interesting and informative material that appeals to a diverse group of students," said Enrichment Program Student Michael Reddy. Registration for the online fall course lineup is open now. You can find a course that meets your interests in the [Fall Enrichment Program Catalog](#).

Having trouble deciding which classes to take this fall? Get the inside story on what to expect when Enrichment instructors share a short presentation of what they have planned during the free Fall Sneak Peek Open House on July 29 via Zoom.

*Fall Sneak Peek Open House*

*Wed., July 29, 6-9 p.m. MDT*

*Fall Enrichment instructors*

[ENRICH 0434 / Register Here](#)

*Join us on Zoom with presentations starting every fifteen minutes. Try something entirely new and attend them all or just Zoom in for the ones of interest to you. The [evening's presentation schedule](#) will be updated throughout the month of July.*

The Enrichment Program will also be offering a free online course on Sept. 2 that is open to all who are interested. Make sure you register now to reserve your spot, as space is limited.

*Antonín Dvořák-From Prague to Iowa, With Love*

*Wed., Sept. 2, 2020, 7-8 pm MDT*

*Instructor: Marc Shugold*

[ENRICH 0382 / Register Here](#)

*Take a one-hour journey with University College Instructor Marc Shugold through the life and music of one of the world's most beloved composers, Antonín Dvořák whose early years in Prague and its folk traditions inspired him to compose music that ultimately captured the world's attention. Those bubbly chamber pieces and the immortal New World Symphony remind us how he, and others after him, found inspiration in the folk music that can be discovered all around us.*

Join us this fall to discover a new interest or reengage in an old one! For more information on the University of Denver's commitment to lifelong learning, visit the [Enrichment Program website](#).



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*see something, say something*

## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### INSURANCE LICENSING TESTING NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER - People needing to take Colorado insurance licensing exams can now do so online in the convenience of their homes. The Division of Insurance, part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies, has worked with its testing vendor Pearson VUE, so that online tests will be available through their platform, OnVUE.

All insurance licensing exams that are offered at test centers will be available online: Accident & Health, Casualty, Life, Personal Lines, Property, Credit, Crop Hail Adjuster, Public Insurance Adjuster, Surplus Lines and Title.

Online exam proctoring allows this certification testing to be done remotely, offer-

ing not just convenience, but safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Candidates need their own computer with a webcam, a reliable internet connection and a quiet room. They are monitored by a proctor through the webcam and microphone to guard the integrity of the exam.

"In this day and age, it's vital to make everything we do as safe as possible for Coloradans," said Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway. "Offering our licensing exams online makes sense for a number of reasons, but with COVID-19 still very much a concern, safety is at the top of that list." Candidates wishing to access the online insurance exams will use [Pearson VUE's Colorado Insurance testing website](#) and

when registering for an exam, choose "at home or office" when selecting an exam delivery option. They will be required to download the OnVUE application, which will prompt them to provide photos of the following: headshot, government-issued ID and the room where the exam will be taken. Please call Pearson VUE at 800-274-2616 or email [pvcoloradoinsurance@pearson.com](mailto:pvcoloradoinsurance@pearson.com) should you have any questions.

Exams are still available at testing sites, however to maintain appropriate social distancing measures, these sites are only operating at 50% capacity. Use the same link above to view testing center availability.



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**NEEDS YOUR HELP TO FIGHT COVID-19**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE REPUBLICAN WOMAN OF ACTION

*Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE-Montrose High School 2020 graduate Rosemary Wagner is named the Montrose Republican Woman of Action. Rosie is an excellent example of our Republican Women values for being actively involved in community activities demonstrating that Republicans are civic-minded and willing to put actions behind their words. Rosie was given a basket of goodies to start her freshman year at Adams

State College. She was also given a Colorado State flag and certificate which stated, "Little Rosie the Mouse that Roared."

A very shy MHS Sophomore, Rosie found her voice after a school shooting in Florida. It was important for her to make a statement to the entire student body by addressing the issues of school safety and the guarantee of our Second Amendment Rights.

Congratulations Rosie!



*Pictured at right-Rosemary Wagner - 2020 MHS Graduate. Courtesy photo.*

### MANAGER RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR PROMOTING CAREER ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN



*City Manager Bill Bell. Courtesy photo.*

*Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE — Montrose City Manager Bill Bell was recently recognized for his work in mentorship and advocacy for women in municipal government with a Career Development Award in Memory of L.P. Cookingham from the International City Managers Association.

Bell was nominated by city staff for distin-

guishing "himself as a true champion of the advancement of women in local government" during his tenure at the City of Montrose. Highlights of the award nomination include the hiring and mentoring of several women in Montrose who have advanced to leadership positions both internal and external to the City of Montrose. One such example is Erica Madison, former city employee and current executive director at Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans.

Each year, the International City Managers Association (ICMA) presents the Award for Career Development to an outstanding local government administrator who has made a significant contribution to the career development of new talent in professional local government management.

The award commemorates former ICMA President L. P. (Perry) Cookingham, who is credited with creating the concept of local government internships.

In nominating Bell for this award, his peers wrote: "The many accolades and accomplishments the city of Montrose has

seen are largely due to the exceptional leadership of Bill Bell. Bill is a consummate professional and incredibly smart. Bill hires right and is unbiased in his search for great people. He recognizes that not having women or minorities at the table actually costs an organization, as diversity brings value."

Bell is a past president of both the Colorado City and County Managers' Association (CCCMA) and of the Colorado Municipal League (CML) and a member of ICMA's Governmental Affairs and Policy Committee. An active Rotarian, he regularly volunteers to be part of the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and sits on the committee that interviews outbound exchange students. Through Rotary, Bell has connected with other community leaders and provided mentorship, collaboration, and strong leadership through many challenging times in Montrose. He has been elected Rotary president-elect for 2020-2021.

"Thanks to everyone who helped to nominate me for this awesome award," Bell said. "I truly appreciate it."

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spot on news.**



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## 12951 MINERICH RD-PAONIA, CO



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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices  
Western Colorado Properties  
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### 12951 Minerich Road | Paonia, CO 81428

What a spectacular home! This property is beyond compare with 2 acres of useable land plus 2,100 square feet of space, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. There is sufficient space outside to create your own hobby farm or build another garage. With the plenty of irrigation water and useable acreage, you could always start up that crop you've been wanting to plant. To the East of the home is a section of land, belonging to this property, that was once already designated for horses and is set up and ready for more. To the south of the property you'll find established raised garden beds ready to be utilized. Just a little further down the road is Lone Cabin Reservoir with hiking, biking, fishing and hunting.

**Bedrooms: 4 | Bathrooms:**  
**2,104 sq. ft. | Year Built: 1978**

**\$399,000**  
MLS# 764115

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

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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.

**MONTROSE ALTRUSA**-1st Tuesday of the month Program meeting; 2nd Tuesday of the month committee meeting; 3rd Tuesday of the month Business meeting. Meetings are held at the Hampton Inn conference room at Noon.

## MONTHLY-

**July 22**-Put your knowledge of random facts to use & challenge others in a game of trivia! Join the Montrose Library for a fun & engaging game of wits! Wednesday, July 22 at 6:30-8pm on Zoom! Contact Laura McLean at 970-249-9656 ext 3 or [lmclean@montroselibrary.org](mailto:lmclean@montroselibrary.org) to register!

**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/>

**Aug. 1**The Scout Scarf Day organizing committee is requesting that Scouts around the world wear a Scout scarf or neckerchief on Aug. 1 in recognition and celebration of the Spirit of Scouting and universal brotherhood.

**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. 21-24**-Tenth annual San Juan Mining & Reclamation Conference. Location: Online with local, state, national and international guests. Details: An interactive mix of networking happy hours, short presentations, and expert panels (1.5 to 3 hours daily over four days) bringing key stakeholders together to advance the science and policy of mining and mine lands remediation, as it relates to reducing non-point source pollution and addressing water quality impairments. Organized by Mountain Studies Institute, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, San Miguel Watershed Coalition, and Headwaters Alliance.

Cost: \$55 per person (scholarships and sponsorships with benefits available) Information & Registration: <http://www.mountainstudies.org/sjmr> Contact: Kelly Northcutt, [kelly@mountainstudies.org](mailto:kelly@mountainstudies.org), 970.387.5161

**Nov. 2**--Montrose Women's Giving Club meets at Bridges, 5:30 p.m. Open to all women; each member donates \$100 per quarter at each meeting.



## BUYING OR SELLING IN MONTROSE OR SURROUNDING AREA

### Autumn Barrett

The perfect real estate professional whether you're putting your home on the market or looking for your dream home. Give her a call today!

**970-318-0708**

[autumnbarrettrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:autumnbarrettrealtor@gmail.com)

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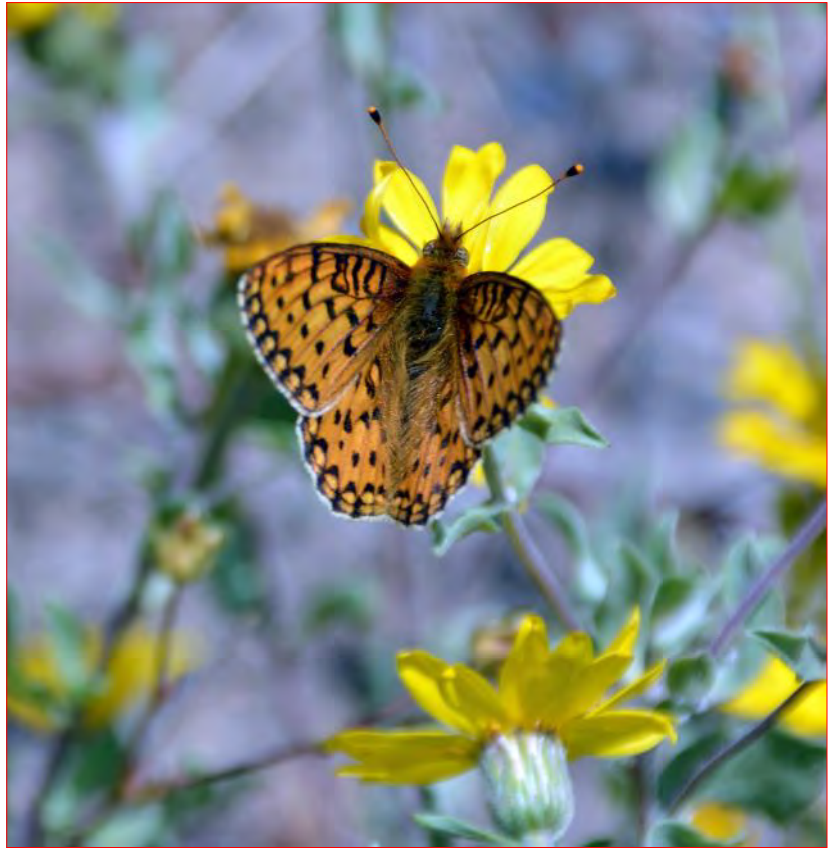
Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
970-275-0646

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

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

## **READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: BY DEB REIMANN**

*Photographer Deb Reimann snapped this photo of an  
Aphrodite Fritillary Butterfly on a Yellow Aster near  
Crested Butte.*

A black bear is sitting on a wooden bench, holding a tablet. The bear is looking at the screen. In the background, there is a scenic mountain landscape with green hills and snow-capped peaks under a blue sky with white clouds.

*Save a tree –  
Read the Mirror!*

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