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# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Free People...  
Issue No. 389 Aug. 10 2020

## MMH SPEAKS TO LOCAL EXPERIENCE WITH COVID-19



*Reporter Paul Arbogast spoke with Montrose Memorial Hospital officials last week to learn more about the local COVID-19 response. Photo by Paul Arbogast.*

*By Paul Arbogast*  
MONTROSE-We have been bombarded for months. Real numbers vs inflated numbers, this drug vs that drug, we were told masks do not help, then that changed as well. No wonder there is so much frustration when almost every day for months we have heard conflicting stories. I thought that instead of listening on a wider level, we should look locally at what our health care providers have had to do and what is working at Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH). So I sat down (online) with Leann Tobin

*[Continued pg 34](#)*

## NEIGHBORS KEEP THE HEAT ON CITY OF MONTROSE OVER FACTORY'S NON-COMPLIANCE

*By Caitlin Switzer*  
MONTROSE-Change has come to the leadership of a Montrose manufacturing company. On June 29, private equity firm Kinderhook Industries announced that it has acquired consumer products company Prairie Dog Treats LLC. Though headquartered in Grand Prairie, Texas the company has four manufacturing and distribution facilities in Texas and Colorado—including one in Montrose. As part of the transition, Kinderhook has named Operating Partner Ted Mischaikov as Prairie Dog Treat's chief executive officer, replacing company founder Ira Goldfarb.

Here in Montrose, neighbors of the company's local production facility are still waiting for promised changes to the operation itself, which many say has impacted the quality of life for neighbors and nearby businesses since a zoning change and conditional use permit allowed it to open at 146 West Main Street eight years ago.

An article in the *Montrose Mirror* last month detailed the ongoing concerns of nearby business owners and residents, following a 30-day non-compliance order issued by the City of Montrose,



*With new leadership at the top, the Prairie Dog Treats factory has agreed to comply with the terms of the conditional use permit granted eight years ago.*

*[Continued pg 9](#)*

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*[Reader Photo Spotlight:  
By Deb. Reimann!](#)*

*[Montrose County  
Fair Champions!](#)*

*[Rocky Mt. Cravings with  
Carole Ann McKelvey!](#)*

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## **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

### **RIO GRANDE AVENUE TO CLOSE MONDAY FOR CONSTRUCTION**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Beginning Monday, Aug. 10, contractors working for the Montrose Recreation District will be closing Rio Grande Avenue between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. for construction. The closure will be in place for the following day, Tuesday, August 11, with the roadway reopening Wednesday, August 12.

Rio Grande Avenue will be closed to all through traffic at Riverbottom Drive for the duration of this work. A detour will be set up around the closure area.

Soft-closure barricades will be installed at Colorado Avenue and Townsend Avenue at the intersection of East Oak Grove Road notifying drivers that Rio Grande Avenue will be closed to through traffic. Access to Apollo Road will remain open to traffic from the north.

The city asks motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution throughout the work area and to respect all coned-off areas. Navigate to [www.MoveMo.Co](https://www.MoveMo.Co) for more information and routine project updates.

Any questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at 970.901.1792.

# 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.

For additional information and advertising opportunities, please contact:

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### FIRST BATCH OF REVITALIZING MAIN STREET GRANTS AWARDED

#### Special to the Mirror

DENVER – Cities and towns working to begin or expand their efforts to promote public health during the COVID crisis have been awarded the initial six grants through the CDOT Revitalizing Main Streets program: Aspen – Enlarging the city's Roadway for Restaurant and Retail Recovery program to increase the number of customers served within COVID-19 health guidelines. Expanding e-bike capacity and increasing the number of downtown docking stations (\$50,000). Alamosa – Reducing its one-way Main St. (U.S. 160) from three to two lanes, repurposing the closed lane for public use, including dining and retail activities in downtown. It will provide permanent space that is more pedestrian friendly and accommodating for COVID-19 mitigation measures (\$50,000). Littleton - Increasing its Weekends on Main initiative – closing Main Street on

summer weekends to let restaurants expand table service and extending the program for several more weekends, while also helping the city adhere to and promote social distancing guidelines. (\$50,000). Frisco – Providing new parklets (a sidewalk extension utilizing parking lanes) to increase pedestrian activities and enhance business access along Main

Street (\$50,000).

Silt – Improving two sidewalk segments connecting residential areas to downtown and improve the walking spaces surrounding a senior living facility (\$32,421).

Oak Creek – Converting an empty lot into a park, providing outdoor eating space and constructing a resting and repair station for bicyclists (\$11,709).

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**1350 Birch St.**  
**Montrose, CO 81401**

## JUSTICE FOR JANECE

### Help Janece Fight City Hall

**Montrose community members, it is time for City Councilor Dave Bowman to be held accountable for his unethical actions.**

**We need your support to find Justice for Janece.** Please consider making a contribution to help Janece fight City Hall. Every small donation helps Ms. Culver pay for the legal work that is required to get the full story out and hold Bowman (and possibly others) accountable.

If you are fed up with the City of Montrose's political corruption, back scratching, and abuses of power that affect our CITIZENS, you can do something about it by helping support this cause. Your support is one step towards bringing accountability, fairness, and justice back to Montrose.

**Please send a donation check made out to JANECE CULVER LEGAL FUND and mail to the address provided.**

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### WATCH FOR MOWING OPERATIONS ON US 550 SOUTH OF DURANGO

*Special to the Mirror*

**SOUTHWEST & S-CENTRAL COLORADO** — The Colorado Department of Transportation is urging motorists to watch out for the crews performing the perennial task of mowing. For much of the summer and into the coming fall maintenance crews will be working on the sides of highways with large mowing equipment to manage the vegetation along the rights-of-way of highways.

This week and into the coming weeks, Durango maintenance patrols will be working on US Highway 550 south of Durango and on other US and state highways in southwest and south-central Colorado.

"US 550 is a very busy highway corridor, with heavy volumes of traffic traveling to and from New Mexico," said CDOT Maintenance Foreman, Philip Bergt. "Motorists need to be alert to the activity of our maintenance crews and their heavy equipment. Please slow down when you see work crews on the sides of the highway."

Mowing operations help to maintain a safe driving environment on rural highways. Mowing ensures roads signs are visible and clear of vegetation, controls noxious weeds, and reduces fire hazards.

"Clean shoulders help maintain clear sight distances for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. A mowed shoulder also helps motorists to see potential wildlife movements across the highway," added Bergt.

#### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Travelers are urged to "know before you go." Gather information about weather forecasts and anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions prior to hitting the road. CDOT resources include:

Road conditions and travel information: [www.COtrip.org](http://www.COtrip.org)

Sign up for project or travel alerts: [bit.ly/COalerts](http://bit.ly/COalerts)

See scheduled lane closures: [codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html](http://codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html)

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*New Listing*



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### LIFE SAVING MEASURES UNSUCCESSFUL FOR HIKER IN OURAY

*Special to the Mirror*

OURAY- On Thursday, Aug. 6, emergency personnel from Ouray County Emergency Medical Services, Ouray County Mountain Rescue, City of Ouray Police Department, and Ouray County Sheriff's Office, responded to a hiker in distress on the Box Cañon Trail in Ouray, Colo.

Life saving measures were attempted but not successful. Larry Vangelder, a 52-year-old male, of Canyon City, died while hiking.

The cause and manner of death are pending the results of an autopsy and the case is currently under investigation by the Ouray County Coroner's Office.

Ouray County Coroner's Office and the City of Ouray know that an event like this affects our entire community, family, and the hometown of Mr. Vangelder, and extend our condolences during this difficult time.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETERANS GET IN FREE TO COLORADO STATE PARKS

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers [active duty military, veterans and the National Guard free admission](#) to all state parks for the month of August.

Military members and veterans, resident and nonresident, can pick up a free August Military Pass at any [Colorado state park or CPW office](#) by showing [proof of service](#). Passes became available on August 1, 2020.

To begin planning a unique Colorado adventure, visit the [CPW park finder](#). CPW also offers [military benefits](#) for outdoor activities to active duty military, veterans, and disabled veterans. Programs include free admission to state parks on Veterans Day, year-round free entry to all state parks to residents with Colorado Disabled Veterans license plates and free small game and fishing combination licenses for qualified disabled veterans. CPW also offers a [Columbine Pass](#) which offers reduced park entrance fees to disabled Colorado residents.

For more information about Colorado's state parks, visit the [CPW website](#).

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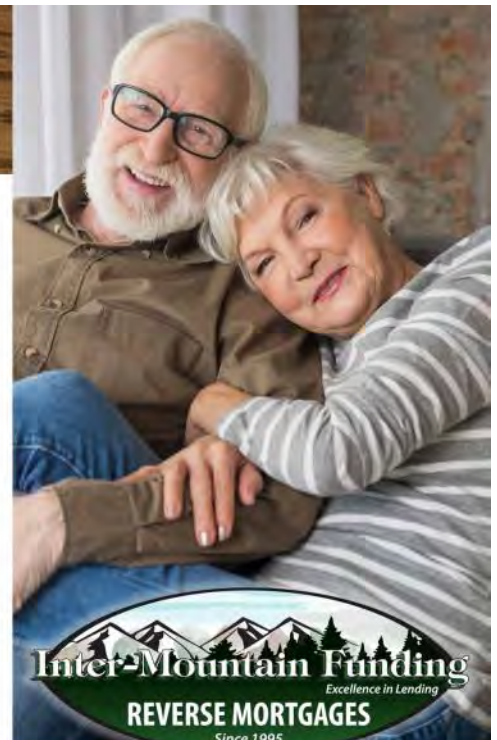


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## NEIGHBORS KEEP THE HEAT ON CITY OF MONTROSE OVER PET TREAT FACILITY'S NON-COMPLIANCE From pg 1

Mirror last month detailed the ongoing concerns of nearby business owners and residents, following a 30-day non-compliance order issued by the City of Montrose, and noted that conditions imposed when the non-conforming use was originally granted are being ignored.

On Jun 8, Mike Thorpe, whose company owns and leases nearby 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. 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: The 30-day compliance period ended July 10. Last week, Thorpe again contacted City Hall, listing the following ongoing issues and asking for a time frame for resolution and to set up a meeting between Bell and impacted property owners: "Odor from rotting animal by-product; Particularly rank on open dumpster swap-out (which they now seem to have moved to night shift); "Spillage of animal waste into parking and onto public roadway. Just last week

(7/27), a truck/trailer leaking waste pulled thru gravel parking and onto Main St. ... testimony/video was provided to code enforcement;

"Continued misuse of adjacent lots for manufacturing activities/storage in violation of zoning and conditional use stipulations. Just yesterday (8/3), observed truck (Star Chicken) unloading/loading on east of building; driver put on rubber boots to protect from spillage and then washed down pad after. 55g drums of ?? are being stored on the lot. Refrigerated trailers being used for storage."

Bell responded to Thorpe's concerns by email, noting that the Prairie Dog Treats company is under new ownership, that City staff and officials recently toured the facility, and that the City will attempt to find a more suitable location for the company.

"Many physical improvements and operations procedural changes have been made over the past two weeks by the new owner, whose name is Ted," Bell wrote. "Ted has also provided the City with a very long and very detailed list of changes to come in the next few weeks. These are significant changes that will cost him over \$500,000. He is very apologetic for the past actions of prior owners, but obviously he can't be held responsible for someone else's past behavior.

"...We understand the concerns of the neighborhood and empathize with your situation," Bell wrote. "Please know that we will continue to monitor the improvements very closely and we will take all necessary action to bring their business into compliance as soon as possible... When we first brought them in they were a much smaller operation with a few backyard sized smokers, but they have experienced significant growth, which is also making their compliance more difficult."

Still, any efforts toward remediation may come too late for some adjacent business owners. Last week, the Healthy Rhythm Gallery, a longtime tenant of Sampler Square, announced on Facebook that it will be moving to a new location at 238 East Main Street.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### NO INCENTIVE TO CONSERVE UNMETERED LANDSCAPE WATER

*Editor:*

I find it ironic that a few pages after the ad (in the 8/3 issue) for the Mayor's new water conservation effort, I see a real estate listing (Berkshire Hathaway) stating "Irrigation water included in the HOA dues, ample enough to keep your land-

scape lush..." I once wrote a letter about that 'landscape water' and how it goes unmetered and thus no incentive to conserve. So Mayor, and all those who keep their lawns wastefully lush with cheap landscape water, what say you about how to deal with this? I would also like to say I

agree with AJ Smith's observation about our community's COVID response. I have had the same experience at stores and doctor's offices. I foresaw a spike over a month ago based on those observations, and it has happened.

*Douglas Crawford*

### GARDNER FAILS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE

*Editor:*

A Senator's primary job should be promoting the health of our citizens. It is beyond belief that in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic, with millions losing their employment based health insurance, Gardner supports repealing the Affordable Care Act. Meanwhile thousands of newly unemployed Coloradans are without health insurance. It is disturbing, but predictable that Senator Gardner's campaign web site lacks a single word on women's

health care. As a Colorado legislator he voted against requiring health insurance companies to provide coverage for contraception or labor and delivery. He voted against providing workplace accommodations for nursing mothers, and against Medicaid coverage for family planning for low-income women. He voted to repeal funding for school-based health centers. He voted numerous times to defund Planned Parenthood, often the only affordable health care for gynecology and

cancer prevention for low-income women. Voted against allowing pharmacies to supply emergency contraception. He voted against allowing military sexual assault victims to have someone not in their direct chain of command to rule on their case. When will Gardner ever support women and their health care?

It does not matter what Gardner says, or what the flashy adds say, just look at how he votes. How will you vote?

*Scott Johnson, MD, Loveland*

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### INDEPENDENT LEGAL FUND TO HELP JANECE CULVER WITH EXPENSES

*Editor:*

The Bowman / Divots scandal has been front and center in the Montrose news since May 25, and in the eyes of many, has highlighted the corruption and total lack of transparency, accountability, and responsibility that plagues our city government.

In Janece Culver, owner of Divots, we have seen a lady of conviction, willing to stand up against City Hall!

Already she has incurred substantial legal

bills in her fight for redress, costs that were totally unnecessary if Bowman, Bell, Morgenthaler, and council had acted in an honorable and responsible manner.

Sadly, we all know now that didn't happen! Bowman, council, and top management all tried to sweep the entire matter under the rug!

Early on, several concerned individuals offered to help on legal expenses, but showing her character, Culver declined.

But with already incurred bills and future

legal bills looming for civil action, she really needs an outpouring of financial support from this community.

An independent legal fund has been set up to assist her in her fight to right a grievous wrong, perpetrated by multiple parties in city government. If her predicament raises your ire, you can help fight city hall by making a donation to the Janece Culver Legal Fund. [See Ad in today's Montrose Mirror]

*Dee Laird, Montrose*

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### 2020 GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE LIST WEBPAGE NOW LIVE

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – The Colorado Secretary of State's office has announced the launch of a [webpage](#) listing the names of candidates for federal and state offices who have filed candidacy paperwork with the Colorado Secretary of State's Office.

This is an active candidate list, and candidates will continue to be added and removed as the Secretary of State's office completes the processing of paperwork and candidates withdraw and are replaced. The list will be finalized and the

candidates certified to the ballot on Sept. 4.

The major and minor party candidates are listed in ballot order as they were chosen in the [lot drawing conducted by the Secretary of State's office](#).

State statute requires that unaffiliated candidates be placed after major and minor party candidates on the ballot, and they are so ordered on this list. RTD candidates are currently listed in alphabetical order by the last name of the candidates. They will eventually be ordered by a lot

drawing that will be held at the end of August.

State statute requires that presidential and vice-presidential candidates be ordered in three tiers: major party candidates followed by minor party candidates followed by unaffiliated candidates. Within these tiers, the candidates are ordered on the ballot by the last name of the presidential candidates.

Coloradans can update and verify voter registration or register to vote online at [GoVoteColorado.gov](https://www.GoVoteColorado.gov).





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### DELTA HOSPITAL OPENS NEW UROLOGY CLINIC TO INCREASE ACCESS TO MALE AND FEMALE UROLOGICAL CARE ON THE WESTERN SLOPE

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA- — Delta County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) announced earlier this week the opening of its newest clinic, Grand Mesa Urology, giving Delta County residents access to a range of male and female urological services.

The Urology Clinic is located in the Grand Mesa Medical Pavilion at 1501 East Third Street in Delta. The new clinic is home to Urologists who specialize in treating a range of problems that affect the urinary tract as well as the reproductive system in both men and women.

"Delta County Memorial Hospital is thrilled to be opening the new Grand Mesa Urology Clinic," said Matt Heyn, CEO for DCMH. "Grand Mesa Urology will offer a

range of services from world-class physicians who are ready to meet the Urological needs in Delta County."

The complete services will include: general urology care for men and women, urologic cancer treatment, bladder and kidney stones, prostate treatments, enlarged prostate, prostate cancer, reproductive testing, urinary infections and more.

"As we continue to grow, our mission remains to provide accessible, high-quality health care services that are close to home," said Heyn.

Grand Mesa Urology is currently accepting new patients. To make an appointment, call 970.299.280 or visit [del-tahospital.org/grand-mesa-urology/](http://del-tahospital.org/grand-mesa-urology/)



*DCMH Courtesy photo.*

 An advertisement for the "MAYOR'S WATER CHALLENGE!". On the left, a yellow and black Geysers portable shower is shown on a wooden deck. The shower has a black handle and a yellow body with a mountain logo. A yellow sponge sits in front of it. The background is a scenic view of a mountain range under a clear sky.
 

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CDOT TO INSTALL REMOTELY CONTROLLED AVALANCHE MITIGATION SYSTEM ON CO 145 LIZARD HEAD PASS

*Special to the Mirror*

**SOUTHWEST COLORADO** — The Colorado Department of Transportation will begin the installation of remotely controlled avalanche mitigation equipment above CO Highway 145 Lizard Head Pass, about 1 mile north of Rico (MP 48.5 - 49.5). Construction efforts will consist of installing five towers on the mountain and ridgeline above the highway. The towers will be used for the preventative, controlled triggering of avalanches at known snow slide paths in this area. CDOT's Avalanche Mitigation Program is overseeing the installation of the units, performed by Wyssen Avalanche Control of Switzerland. View a video about the Wyssen avalanche control system: <https://youtu.be/Ntv7ZVmbk7Y>.

As part of CDOT's Whole System — Whole Safety initiative this new remotely controlled system will ensure a safer avalanche mitigation program for both CDOT

maintenance personnel and the travelling public. Remote systems have proven more reliable and safer for avalanche mitigation personnel to operate. The new system will also provide more efficient and swift avalanche control operations, making travel in the area safer for motorists.

"CO 145 and Lizard Head Pass is the alternate route for travelers heading north when the US 550 mountain corridor is closed for emergencies," said CDOT Winter Operations Program Manager, Jamie Yount. "This new avalanche mitigation system will help us keep CO 145 open more readily, offering a higher, more dependable level of service for motorists, particularly when avalanche conditions and cycles are occurring in the San Juan Mountains during significant winter storm periods."

CDOT currently operates more than 30 remote systems at several locations on high mountain highways and the I-70

mountain corridor.

#### **WORK SCHEDULE & TRAVEL IMPACTS**

-The project will take place on CO 145 over a six to eight week period. Crews will mobilize August 4. Work is expected to end in the beginning of September, weather dependent.

-Regular work hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. No weekend work is anticipated.

-Generally, motorists should expect minimal traffic impacts since most work will take place off of the highway.

-Periodic full traffic closures will be required and will last for no more than 20-minute intervals, to facilitate rock scaling and helicopter operations. Otherwise, CO 145 will remain open as normal.

-A speed reduction of 40 mph will be enforced through the project work zone.

-Travelers are advised to visit [COtrip.org](http://COtrip.org) for updated information through the duration of the project.



# CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT, GRANT APPLICATION FOR ALLEY PROJECT

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council met for a "hybrid" virtual work session on Monday, Aug. 3. Councilors and key staff were present in chambers except for Roy Anderson, who attended from home via Zoom. Though social distancing measures appeared to be in place, masks were worn by those in chambers.

## PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Council interviewed Applicant Phoebe Benziger for a seat on the City Planning Commission. Mayor Barbara Bynum said, "We typically ask applicants to tell us a little bit about themselves."

Benziger said she has lived in the area for 40 years. "I've seen a lot of growth...had two kids here...my husband is a physician with the Montrose Hospital." She discussed her service on past boards and commissions, including eight years on the Board of Education, nine years on the Montrose Community Foundation, and serving on the committee that recently helped to pass the Measure 2A initiative.

Councilors expressed unanimous support for Benziger's application.

"We thank you very much for applying; thank you for your dedication to our community in taking on yet another volunteer role," Bynum said, noting that the application will be voted on at the Council meeting of Aug. 18.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Council considered the English Gardens 4 Subdivision Filing #5 Final Plat. Senior Planner Amy Sharp presented information from the work session packet. The applicant is Matt Miles, Hickory Land Company LLC. The developer's engineer, Steve Stephens of Delmont Consulting, was present to answer questions. On Aug. 18 Council will vote to approve or deny the plat.

**Background-**A memo prepared by Sharp for council notes, "The English Gardens 4 Subdivision Filing # 5 Final Plat proposes to create 30 new residential lots and dedicate rights-of-way and/or easements. Newly created lots will be 17-33, 43-52, and 78-80, all of which are accessed via Hickory Street. The land is zoned R-2 Low

Density District. The land is located north of Niagara Rd, south of Sunnyside Rd, west of 6700 Rd, and east of Hillcrest Dr. Construction of Hickory Street and Ash Way are in the final stages, with paving and City acceptance of the new roads planned for early August 2020."

Council considered updates to the Montrose Bucks promotion, presented by Director of Business Innovation and Tourism Chelsea Rosty. The program is going digital with cards; there will no more paper checks. The new cards will not expire and can be purchased online. Promoters would like to offer a "buy fifty-get sixty" promotion through year's end. Montrose Bucks can be used at participating retailers. "All the money stays local," Rosty said. This year's program budget is \$15K, organizers will ask for an additional \$10K.

Mayor Bynum asked for a formal request to be submitted for inclusion on an upcoming agenda.

Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler presented information on the renewal of Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)'s 20-year franchise agreement with the City of Montrose. The DMEA board has approved the draft agreement, Morgenthaler said. DMEA collects a franchise fee and passes it along to the City; the City collects roughly \$582K annually through the franchise agreement.

Present for this portion of the work session were DMEA staffers Virginia Harman and Jim Heneghan, and attorneys Jeffrey Hurd and Ken Fellman. Councilor Doug Glaspell asked specific questions on details of the franchise agreement. He also commented on DMEA's tree cutting aesthetics. The City can actually regulate the way that trees are trimmed, Fellman said. "Tree trimming is usually in the City code."

Councilor Roy Anderson asked about the language to be used on the ballot item; the title of the ordinance will become the ballot language, Morgenthaler said.



**At work session, City Council considered a grant application to fund Block 93 Alley improvements for the northern side of the the 300 Block of Main Street (above) in Montrose at a cost of \$350,000.**

City Grant Coordinator Kendall Cramer spoke about a proposed resolution authorizing the filing of a \$150K DOLA REDI (Rural Economic Development Initiative) Grant Application. The application process is expected to be highly competitive.

Funds awarded would be used for the first phase of a three-part project, to include art components of the Block 93 Alley improvements located on the northern side of the 300 Block of Main Street in Montrose at a cost of \$350,000. Improvements would include a food truck lot with built-in electrical outlets and outdoor seating. The resolution notes the improved alley will be a desired event space and destination for tourists. The grant requires a 50 percent match; applications are due Aug. 11.

At present, there are public safety issues in the alleyway, including inadequate parking and lighting, City Manager Bill Bell said. "We have some issues with intoxicated people that hang out in that alleyway...vagrants are going through that alley on a regular basis at night..."

Business owners have said they are scared to go out to their cars at night, Bell said. "Public safety is another criteria we're thinking about."

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

Councilor Dave Frank reminded staff that Council has asked for an educational presentation by the state Liquor board.



## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION ADOPTS MILL LEVY RULEMAKING *Increased Mill Levy Rate & Reduced Spending Balance COGCC's Budget*

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER - The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) has announced that the Commission has adopted the proposed mill levy rate increase during the Aug. 4 rulemaking Hearing. COGCC's main revenue source is the mill levy, or Conservation Levy, and has been directly impacted by current market conditions. COGCC has reduced its spending, in addition to increasing the mill levy rate, to balance its finances and to be able to meet its statutory requirements to protect public health and safety in oil and gas development.

"This rulemaking exhibited two critical components of COGCC's rulemaking process: responding to data and engaging diverse stakeholder discussions," said COGCC Director Julie Murphy, "COGCC relies on collaboration and current data to develop solutions to many complex issues, such as the mill levy rate change. In fact, after Staff updated its oil and gas price and production projections, Staff recommended that the original recommended change to 1.7 mills be reduced to 1.5 mills, which

revision was well received by stakeholders."

COGCC's mill levy increase from 1.1 to 1.5 mills will help to provide long-term stability for COGCC in a volatile market environment. Due to market conditions, the new mill levy increase coupled with reduced spending, allows COGCC to balance its finances and provide long-term sustainability. COGCC will monitor production and pricing to accommodate any changes in the marketplace.

"We want to thank all the stakeholders for their unanimous support of this mill levy increase," said COGCC Chair Jeff Robins. "COGCC must be good stewards of its finances - both revenues and spending, as local governments and neighborhoods count on us for environmental and public health protections, and operators depend upon us to review permits. The mill levy change and reduced COGCC spending will allow us to continue to provide services that are protective of public health, safety, welfare, wildlife resources and the environment as we continue to implement SB 19-181."

SB 19-181 ensures that oil and gas development and operations in Colorado are regulated in a manner that protects public health, safety, welfare, the environment and wildlife resources. The COGCC is in the midst of reviewing its rules and procedures to evaluate what changes are required to reflect the new law's requirements. The Commission has adopted three SB 19-181 rulemakings including the 500 Series allowing Administrative Law Judges (August 2019), Flowline rules (November 2019) and Wellbore Integrity rules (June 2020). The Commission will take up additional SB 19-181 rulemakings at future Commission hearings, including rulemakings around Mission Change, Cumulative Impacts and Alternative Location Analysis, which begins Aug. 24, 2020.

To learn more about participating, upcoming hearings, the rulemaking schedule, and how to comment using the online portals, visit the COGCC website:

[cogcc.state.co.us](http://cogcc.state.co.us).

Click [here](#) for the Cost-Benefit Analysis document or on this link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/>



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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### 2021 STATE TRAILS PROGRAM NON-MOTORIZED GRANT CYCLE NOW OPEN

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-The Colorado State Trails Program is pleased to announce the opening of the 2021 Non-Motorized Grant Cycle. The grant cycle is open now through **Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020**.

To continue the goals of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the State Trails Program to improve trail recreation opportunities while protecting wildlife, habitat, and cultural resources, we are offering three categories for this year's grant cycle:

**Construction:** Up to \$250,000

New Trail or Trailhead Construction – New trail or trailhead construction, including the installation or creation of new facilities where none currently exists.

**Maintenance:** Up to \$250,000

Maintenance, Re-route or Reconstruction of Existing Trails – Enhancement or improvement of current trails to address resource damage or visitor safety concerns. Enhancements or Upgrades to Existing Trailheads – Improvement of current trailhead facilities.

**Planning/Support:** Up to \$45,000

Planning – Trail layout, design, engineering, feasibility studies, inventory, use studies, analysis of existing and proposed trails and master plans.

Support – Building and enhancement of volunteer organizations, increasing volunteer capacity, and implementing trail training and education.

While funding is available for all three categories, the program is placing an emphasis on maintenance projects for this year's cycle to address the increased need to repair and improve existing trails in the state. Applicants may submit two applications for a State Trails grant: one can be for Construction or Maintenance work and the other one must be for Planning/Support.

All applicants must contact a Colorado Parks and Wildlife Area Wildlife Manager by **Tuesday, September 8, 2020** to discuss their project. Please email a basic project scope and site map to the appropriate Area Wildlife Manager and copy [dnr\\_trails@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_trails@state.co.us) by

that date to be eligible for project review and scoring. Please visit our website for grant instructions and requirements: <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/TrailsGrantsNM.aspx>. We will also be hosting two webinars in the coming weeks to go over our program policies, application requirements, and go over commonly asked questions. To register for a webinar, click on your preferred link below:

Thursday, August 13, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 17, 1:00 p.m.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant cycle is now open as well. This is a separate grant application for trail construction projects, trail maintenance projects, and land acquisition for trails. Please visit our website to learn more about the LWCF program. You can find the application for this year's cycle at [cpw.state.co.us](https://cpw.state.co.us).



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## COUNCIL ALLOCATES \$10K MORE FOR RESTAURANT VOUCHER PROGRAM



*City Councilor Dave Bowman spoke in favor of continuing the restaurant voucher program.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council convened for a virtual “hybrid” regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 4. Four councilors and key city staff were present in council chambers; Councilor Roy Anderson participated from home via Zoom call. Though social distancing measures appeared to be in place, masks were worn by those in chambers. There were no changes to the meeting agenda.

### CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council approved the minutes of the July 21, 2020 regular City Council meeting as amended (Anderson asked that a typographical error be corrected).

### ORDINANCE 2508-SECOND READING

Council voted to approve Ordinance 2508 on second reading, amending Title 5 Chapter 15 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose regarding sales and use tax. The ordinance has been discussed previously in work session and on First Reading; it results from a coordinated statewide effort to simplify the sales tax process for vendors and enable consistent collection of sales tax from online retailers.

“We are definitely set up to move right into this seamlessly,” City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg said.

### RESOLUTION 2020-16

Council unanimously approved Resolution 2020-16, authorizing the filing of a Colora-

do Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Grant Program application; authorizing a 50 percent matching contribution; authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant contract with the Department of Local Affairs; and authorizing City staff to act on behalf of the grant agreement.

City Grant Coordinator Kendall Cramer previously presented information on the grant application in work session (see article in this issue) and was available to answer questions. The recently an-

nounced grant program is intended to diversify local economies, and projects must create jobs. With only \$750K to be awarded, the grant process will be highly competitive, Cramer said. The City will provide a match of \$200K, or 57 percent of the funds requested. The City is hoping to receive grant funding for the Block 93 alley project.

“What a great, thorough presentation,” Mayor Barbara Bynum said.

Councilor Roy Anderson said, “...I want to thank Kendall for reacting to this opportunity very quickly...it’s critically important that we move fast...I think it’s really prudent that we act on this tonight, it’s for a fantastic cause for the community.”

Cramer thanked the City’s legal department and Director of Business and Tourism Chelsea Rosty for their assistance with the Resolution.

### RESTAURANT VOUCHER PROGRAM UPDATE

Community Engagement Specialist Bethany Maher presented an update on the City’s contribution to the Help4Hope Restaurant Voucher Program and asked that Council consider allocating additional funding to the program.

On June 16 Council approved \$25K in funding for the program, which is administered by the Montrose Community Foundation. So far 384 cards or 15,036 meals (\$19,200) have been redeemed. Community partners and restaurants have given positive feedback. “It’s been a really great

program helping not only individuals in need of food and cash assistance but also restaurants who are in need as well,” Maher said. The City has been tracking the cards closely; the deadline to use the cards was extended through July 31.

“I like that we are putting money into our local restaurant community,” Bynum said, adding that an expiration date on the cards would be useful.

City Manager Bill Bell said that \$50K was “earmarked,” and \$25K remains available. Councilor Dave Bowman said he was in favor of continuing the program with the “other half” of the funding. Following some discussion of how best to use available funds, Council voted to allocate an additional \$10K to the restaurant voucher program.

### CONTRACT AWARDS

In other business, Council voted to approve a contract with Concrete Conservation, Inc., (CCI) for the rehabilitation of manholes with severe H2S corrosion for the not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000; and a contract renewal for Aspen Enterprises LLC for janitorial services for the total contract price of \$78,689. The renewal was not put out for bid as contract prices were extended “in the interest of public health,” City Public Works Director Jim Scheid said. Aspen Enterprises LLC has been working with the City since 2016, has specialized training, and does a very good job, he said. Both items were discussed previously in work session.

### STAFF REPORTS/COUNCIL COMMENTS

City Manager Bill Bell said that budget season has begun, there will be a budget retreat in the coming month.

South First Street will be closed for 18 to 24 months as the police facility project continues.

Police Chief Blaine Hall said that soil sampling was underway for the new facility. An architectural firm will be chosen to plan the interior space. Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler gave an update on the Niagara Community Garden. “Our parks and recreation department often helps with labor and some materials,” she said, noting that this year the

## **COUNCIL ALLOCATES \$10K MORE FOR RESTAURANT VOUCHER PROGRAM**

*From previous pg*

parks department ordered irrigation supplies for the community garden. Camelot Gardens donated some vegetables for planting.

Councilor Dave Bowman said he got a phone call from a citizen on South 12<sup>th</sup> asking about a recent surge in traffic.

"...I got on Google...The directions in Google to go from Ouray to Gunnison is north on 550...up to 12<sup>th</sup> Street, take a right, go east to the roundabout, go north on Hillcrest and have a nice time in Gunnison," Bowman said. "...the area by South 12<sup>th</sup>...has been really, really busy with a lot of big RV's and pickups full of Jeeps and boats...the other negative part is that is a lot of traffic that doesn't go through our Main Street."

Chief Hall said there have been requests for speed trailers across the City. Turn signals are no longer required when enter-

ing or leaving roundabouts, he said. A school resource officer has been out on a motor unit helping to enforce traffic laws while schools are closed. "We have actually received a lot of positive comments for his presence," Hall said. "it's a good way to use our school resource officers in the summer."

Councilor Dave Frank thanked the IT department for making council meetings available online. "You guys are doing a great job, thank you."

Anderson said, "I want to comment the whole City staff for pretty much running city business as usual through a serious pandemic. I am proud that the work of the city is getting done and we are forging ahead. I think it's a real result of hard work of everyone and serious dedication. I just think it's really neat...I feel really fortunate that we are managing things the

way we are...thanks to all the staff."

Mayor Bynum said neighborhood kids came to her door, with a flyer asking Otter Pond citizens not to litter.

"They went around with little notes that they made reminding folks not to litter," she said. "They were going to come back through the neighborhood with trash bags, and they assured me they were going to wear gloves...they were going to do their part to pick up litter in their neighborhood."

"It really left the end of my day on a really positive note," Bynum said. "...We all play a part in loving our community and taking care of our community and finding a way that we can have an impact," she said. "The kids told me they were hoping to get on TV."

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

### WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE HOLD? KINSA QUICKCARE THERMOMETER OFFERS A GLIMPSE

By Paul Arbogast

MONTROSE-I was recently made aware that Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) had about 400 free Kinsa QuickCare Thermometers to give away. The Quick Care Thermometer connects via Bluetooth to an app on your mobile device. You can set up profiles on the app for each family member, and track temperatures. The app also provides maps of illness levels in your location. To date, the company has distributed 700,000 thermometers to users around the US.

Despite the convenience, the biggest concern many have with this 'tracking' is data privacy.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protects your health information, be it in electronic, written, or oral form. But do contact tracking and apps that share temperature data really protect your information? According to research from cybersecurity firm GuardSquare, out of 17 android contact tracing apps only one third had basic encryption in place to protect privacy. The Interna-

tional Digital Accountability Council (IDAC) found three apps that sent data to third parties, one of those being the Kinsa app.

After the IDAC report, Kinsa said it disallowed sharing on Android phones, but on iPhones user data including IP address and device information is collected. Even without personally identifiable information, what is collected could be used to create a digital fingerprint that can track users across unrelated apps.

We regularly see where major businesses, even government, are hacked into and personal information is stolen. No system is 100 percent secure, so will the push to track the health of everyone become our future or be pushed away due to security concerns?

The interest in contact and health tracking seems to be expanding.

The World Economic Forum is pushing for "CovidPass", which uses blockchain technology to store encrypted data from individual blood tests, allowing users to prove they have tested



Photo by Paul Arbogast.

negative for COVID-19. Sounds somewhat fine, until you see that the push is to REQUIRE users to use such a system to attend sporting events, concerts, fly on a plane, or even travel outside of the USA.

Requiring citizens to give their blood in order to return to a 'normal' life is certain to bring about many fights in the courts. The future is always uncertain; new technology seems to be making the future of privacy and freedom even more uncertain.

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### STATE LABOR DEPT: 7,138 REGULAR INITIAL UI CLAIMS FILED FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUG. 1

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER -- The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) reports that 7,138 regular initial unemployment claims were filed the week ending August 1st. There were also 7,585 Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims filed for the same week. Since mid-March, a total of 517,203 regular unemployment initial claims have been filed and a grand total of 679,255 claims, including federal PUA benefits.\*

For the week ending July 25th, a combined total of 310,912 continued claims were filed, including 223,097 from regular UI, 74,905 from PUA, and 12,910 from Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.\*\*

The Department also announced it has paid out nearly \$4.3 billion in unemployment benefits since March 29th. That amount includes regular unemployment benefits, those filing Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims, and beginning in early July, Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), which extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), the extra \$600/week federal benefit payment,

will be paid to all claimants eligible through the week ending July 25th (the expiration date set by Congress). Some FPUC payments may be received after the 25th depending on a claimant's payment request schedule. While regular unemployment benefits will continue unaffected, there will be a gap in payment of any additional benefits until Congress acts to extend the FPUC program, or passes a new program. Claimants will be back paid for any weeks that are owed, depending on the effective date determined by Congress. Benefits paid since March 29:

Regular UI: \$1.46 Billion

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (gig workers/self-employed): \$490.0 Million

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (\$600/weekly UI benefits to eligible claimants): \$2.33 Billion

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (extends unemployment benefits by up to 13 weeks): \$8.8 Million

Total: \$4.28 Billion Claims by industry and benefits paid

Benefits paid: Regular UI

Week ending August 1: \$85.0 Million

Top 10 industries with highest initial claims for week ending July 18th

#1 Accommodation and Food Services: 765 (12.1% of claims for week)

#2 Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services: 684 (10.8%)

#3 Healthcare and Social Assistance: 653 (10.3%)

#4 Retail Trade: 615 (9.7%)

#5 Manufacturing: 590 (9.3%)

#6 Construction: 478 (7.6%)

#7 Professional and Technical Services: 440 (7.0%)

#8 Education Services: 295 (4.7%)

#9 Other Services: 291 (4.6%)

#10 Transportation and Warehousing: 273 (4.3%)

Colorado county-level initial and continued unemployment claims data released this week for the week ending July 18th is available [here](#). \* 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.





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## Quality New Build in The Preserve

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**NEW  
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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**

**Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.0**  
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Associate Broker  
Holly Hensley



**\$35,000** • MLS 770234 • Sd: 1 | Bc: 0 • sq. ft. • 1.47 Apx. Total Acres  
59406 Lone Eagle Road • Offered by: Kerri Noonan-Inda



**\$330,000** • MLS 766906 • Bt: 5 | Bc: 3 • 2408 sq. ft. • 0.3 Apx. Total Acres  
100 Vista View • Offered by: Darrell Gilks



**\$349,900** • MLS 762786 • Bt: 1 | Bc: 0 • 7560 sq. ft. • 0.85 Apx. Total Acres  
631 N Park Avenue • Offered by: Don Bailey



**\$479,000** • MLS 769782 • Bt: 3 | Bc: 2 • 3324 sq. ft. • 1.106 Apx. Total Acres  
3590 West Court • Offered by: Jessamy Pressler & Jennifer Johnson



**\$567,000** • MLS 764724 • Bt: 4 | Bc: 4 • 3423 sq. ft. • 0.18 Apx. Total Acres  
2141 Painted Wall Lane • Offered by: Jennifer Johnson & Jessamy Pressler



**\$849,990** • MLS 772116 • Bt: 6 | Bc: 5 • 5774 sq. ft. • 0.33 Apx. Total Acres  
3331 Ivory Court • Offered by: Jeff L. Keehuss



**\$1,475,000** • MLS 771043 • Bt: 5 | Bc: 0 • 2220 sq. ft. • 230 Apx. Total Acres  
37661 Highway 145 • Offered by: Autumn Barrett



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HomeServices

## Your Forever Agents



**\$230,000** • MLS 768265 • Bt: 4 | Bc: 1 • 1975 sq. ft. • 0.34 Apx. Total Acres  
608 Spring Creek Road • Offered by: Betsy Fernandez



**\$330,000** • MLS 769116 • Bt: 3 | Bc: 2 • 1975 sq. ft. • 0.34 Apx. Total Acres  
1721 Moonlight Drive • Offered by: Jamie Carver



**\$350,000** • MLS 770430 • Bt: 3 | Bc: 2 • 1608 sq. ft. • 0.22 Apx. Total Acres  
3024 Outlook Drive • Offered by: Linda Stiel



**\$535,000** • MLS 757418 • Bt: 3 | Bc: 1 • 1600 sq. ft. • 160 Apx. Total Acres  
TBD County Road 22 • Offered by: Trena Unrein & Brian Unrein



**\$585,000** • MLS 767367 • Bt: 5 | Bc: 2 • 1600 sq. ft. • 29.86 Apx. Total Acres  
24125 Horseshoe • Offered by: Elizabeth J. Spitzer



**\$1,195,000** • MLS 767843 • Bt: 5 | Bc: 3 • 5604 sq. ft. • 0.919 Apx. Total Acres  
442 Badger Trail South • Offered by: Patricia M. Floyd



**\$1,599,000** • MLS 766500 • Bt: 4 | Bc: 3 • 5276 sq. ft. • 1.57 Apx. Total Acres  
67437 Oak Lake Drive • Offered by: Kree Christie & Jeff Keehuss



Listed from left to right: Henny Algacs, Autumn Barrett, Kerri Noonan-Inda, Sarah Guinan, Holly Hensley, Brian & Trena Unrein, Elizabeth Spitzer, Linda Stiel, Lisa Wood, Kree Christie, Jeff & Lark Keehuss, Amy Harmsen, Patricia & Troye Floyd, Jessamy Pressler, Michael Scott Dosch, Don & Ellen Bailey, Jennifer Johnson, Betsy Fernandez, Darrell Gilks, Jamie Carver.

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## UPDATE-UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FRAUD

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) has provided an update on unemployment insurance fraud and outlined steps individuals should take if they suspect their identity was used to file a fraudulent unemployment claim. As unemployment claims continue to sustain historic levels, there have been greater incidents of fraud reported in Colorado and nationally.

The Department reported an increase in reports from individuals who have never filed for unemployment receiving unemployment benefit debit cards (Reliacards) in the mail. During a weekly press briefing, department officials outlined five steps someone should take to both report suspected fraud and protect their information. The steps outlined at [coloradoui.gov](http://coloradoui.gov) are: Deactivate the card by calling U.S. Bank at 1-855-279-1678.

Contact the three consumer credit bureaus and put a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number (SSN). Regularly review your credit reports from each of the three credit bureaus.

File a police report.

Report identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission at [identitytheft.gov](http://identitytheft.gov).

Create a file where you can keep any records relating to this identity theft in one central place, in case you are notified of other fraud or breaches of your personal information.

There is also a form to report the suspected fraud to the Department at [coloradoui.gov](http://coloradoui.gov)

The Department has also announced the deployment of an enhancement to its Google Virtual Agent tool, the new online and telephone-enabled customer service system that provides automated answers to questions and an option to request a callback from an agent. Phase two of the Virtual Agent tool launched today provides claim-specific information to users following an identity verification process. Additional phase two functions include providing claim status, payment status and weekly benefit and benefits balance amount; confirmation of Workforce Center registration; notification of any issues holding up payment; and information on appeal status. The Department estimates these account for approximately 30 percent of all regular UI benefit inquiry calls.





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**3708 Scarlet Court**  
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Move in Ready

**\$395,000** | MLS# 759047  
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.0  
1,922 sq. ft.



**Tbd Cedar Road**  
Delta, CO  
Prime Hemp Location

**\$1,150,000** | MLS# 766932



**14847 6175 Road**  
Montrose, CO  
No Covenants!

**\$179,000** | MLS# 767917  
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 1.0  
1,100 sq. ft.



**Tbd Hwy 550**  
Montrose, CO  
So many Possibilities

**\$550,000** | MLS# 769472  
Bedrooms: | Bathrooms:  
sq. ft.



**3700 Scarlet Court**  
Montrose, CO  
Lock and Leave

**\$439,990** | MLS# 765564  
Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.0  
1,746 sq. ft.



**19250 Highway 550**  
Montrose, CO  
Cute home with mature Landscape

**\$239,990** | MLS# 768778  
Bedrooms: 2 | Bathrooms: 1.0  
891 sq. ft.



**4225 Waterfall Drive**  
Montrose, CO

**\$59,990** | MLS# 764109  
Build your dream Home



**Tbd One Bradley Way**  
Montrose, CO

**\$135,000** | MLS# 769032  
Breathtaking views



**59215 Spring Creek Road**  
Montrose, CO  
Spring creek property!

**\$109,000** | MLS# 766918



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**Jeff Keehfuss**

Broker/Owner-970-209-3825

Jeff@MontroseColorado.com and www.montrosecolorado.com

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## BOCC HONORS 19TH AMENDMENT, APPROVES BODY CAMERAS FOR MCSO



*In a screenshot from the BOCC meeting of Aug. 5, (from left) County Attorney Marti Whitmore, League of Women Voters member Nancy Ball and President Jan Edwards, Citizen Tricia Joy, Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hansen, and County Clerk & Recorder Tressa Guynes celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-BOCC Chair Keith Caddy opened the regular meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on Wednesday, Aug. 5. "Welcome everybody, this is largest groups we've had in months," Caddy said. All commissioners were present for the meeting.

Father Robert Munday of All Saints Anglican Church delivered the invocation. "Lord I thank you for a county commission that opens their meeting by invoking your guidance..."

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Local citizen Tricia Joy spoke to the BOCC. "Respectfully, I am addressing you today... thank you for this opportunity to express the sincere appreciation of my sisterhood of conservative voters for your all-encompassing efforts to represent the diverse voices and views of all our Montrose County citizens.

"Your objectives to preserve our civil society while protecting our individual freedoms of our citizens are evidence of your effective governance."

Joy expressed thanks for the right to vote, and for passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment 100 years ago.

She noted the impact of women voters, and of the duty of citizens to be informed

voters. "Our precious liberty is deeply at risk in these perilous times...with the indomitable grace of God, please, manifest your courage, and your commitment to unify our community and our country. For the peace and prosperity of all Americans, vote."

### COUNTY MANAGER

County manager Ken Norris asked that Item D-6, consideration and possible action on the Contract with print vendor Redstone Print & Mail (formerly Response Technologies) for the services of printing and mailing of ballots, envelopes, and voter instructions through July 31, 2021, be moved from General Business & Administrative Items to the Consent Agenda, where it became Item C-12.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously with changes noted.

### ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen Jim Churchill spoke to the BOCC. "I am here to talk about the coronavirus, COVID-19 distribution." He spoke about his own past difficulties in getting a flu shot while living in Delta County. "...I only succeeded in getting the super flu after four trips...it was such a difficult situation for me because I wanted the super flu shot and I couldn't get it for maybe eight

weeks.

"This COVID-19 is very tough on elderly people with secondary conditions," Churchill said. "...I wanted to urge the county to make a thorough distribution plan...the people that are in the most danger, they should get the vaccine first."

He suggested priorities should include rest homes and seniors. "...I wanted to urge you guys to put it in a Health Department calendar and maybe they could and should take a look at it."

Commissioner Sue Hansen asked, "Are you talking about flu shots?"

Churchill said, "No I am talking about the vaccine for the COVID-19."

BOCC Chair Keith Caddy asked staff to disinfect the dais following the speaker.

### GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Commissioners enthusiastically adopted a proclamation declaring Aug. 26, 2020 to be Nineteenth Amendment Day in Honor of the 100th Anniversary of Certification of the Nineteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. Commissioner Sue Hansen read the proclamation into the record. Hansen also commented on the proclamation. "...So many people take it for granted that we have the vote...and so many people don't exercise that right to vote. "...I don't understand if...a group took 72 years to get something done, why we wouldn't value it more."

She encouraged everybody to "do the right thing" and vote their conscience. "It's really important to be a participant. You can stand outside and tell everybody what they're doing wrong, or you can get involved and make a difference yourself," Hansen said.

"...It's easy to go out and protest a day or two; it's not easy to be engaged in the process, and sometimes it's not even all that much fun...it actually dictates everything that we do in our lives."

Montrose County Clerk & Recorder Tressa Guynes also spoke, "As a female I have personally benefited from the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and I am very grateful to those who did protest and worked really hard towards having the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment ratified...on Aug. 26, 1920."

The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment also paved the way



## **BOCC HONORS 19TH AMENDMENT, APPROVES BODY CAMERAS FOR MCSO**

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

for women to become elected officials, said Guynes, who has served as the fourth elected Secretary of the Senate in the State of Mississippi, and as the Fourth female Clerk & Recorder in the history of Montrose County. She shared statistics on women voters in Colorado, where females often outvote men. "Absolutely women have an impact in our election process, certainly in Colorado," Guynes said.

Jan Edwards, President of the Montrose County League of Women Voters, thanked the BOCC for issuing the proclamation. She said that the League is proud to be non-partisan and is always working on vital issues of concern to the public. "... We're grateful to the suffragists for their 72-year struggle, for their commitment to equality under the law for all Americans... they gave us a voice as equal citizens with the right to vote and the right to run for office..."

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said, "As a father that raised four daughters and has four granddaughters...this is so important for them as well...I think about my mom and her struggles raising four kids and coming out of poverty.

"It wasn't just about voting it was about opportunity as well."

The United States of America is a special place, Rash said. "It gives everybody the right to be free, the right to vote, and the right to speak their piece." He thanked the ladies who work for Montrose County. "Without them this operation would not function near as well."

**Commissioners approved a fifth amendment to the On-Call Engineering Services Agreement entered into 11/21/2018 with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., for a Hotel Development and Parking Garage Utility Study and Drainage Report** in an amount not to exceed \$31,305, with the cost 100-percent federally funded. A Request for Proposals for the hotel project was released Aug. 3, Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold said.

Commissioners also voted unanimously to approve the Seventh Amendment to

**the On-Call Engineering Services Agreement entered into 11/21/18 with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., for the Terminal Expansion Final Design** in the amount of \$1,422,315.05, also to be financed 100-percent with federal funds.

Commissioners voted to waive the County's right of first refusal to purchase the hangar at 1670 Airport Road, owned by Paul Engbring, to permit its sale to Charles Dignan/CND Aerospace, and to approve the ground lease with CND Aerospace contingent on the sale closing.

Montrose County Undersheriff George Jackson presented a request to approve the purchase of 55 Body Worn Cameras and 36 In-Vehicle Camera systems from AXON of Scottsdale, Arizona in the total amount of \$739,760.76.

"It's to protect the public, but more so to protect the county and the officers," Jackson said. "People tend to exaggerate their contacts with law enforcement for personal reasons and legal reasons.

"...I love this as a tool to protect our people and the county."

The main issue is keeping people safe and telling the story truthfully, Commissioner Hansen said.

A veteran of more than 27 years in law enforcement, BOCC Chair Keith Caddy said, "...I look at it as protecting our officers, protecting the county. We have some of the best trained officers in the United States right here in this valley...I think it's there to protect them."

Colorado's Senate Bill 2217 has already taken protections away from police officers, Caddy added. "I think it's horrendous...the State of Colorado is going to be making AXON very rich."

Said BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash, "...Even the name of the bill was disgusting to me, the 'Law Enforcement Integrity Act.' Most of the people who passed this in the legislature couldn't even pass the scrutiny that our officers go through to even become deputies."

"...For them to call out integrity of our police department and our deputies is

despicable to me," Rash said. "...in my opinion they acted on impulse because of a political situation in an election year. The governor who signed this ought to be ashamed of himself."

Caddy thanked the citizens who originally put the Public Safety Sales Tax funding together for Montrose County; "I thank that group of people profusely for what they did for us."

"I am grateful for the people who put the Public Safety Sales Tax together and allowed our department to become one of the most professional in the state," Undersheriff Jackson said.

Citizens who wish to see how county budgets are managed can find all the information online, Rash said.

Also approved was a VALE grant amendment with the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. The grant will pay part of the 2021 salary of the Sheriff's Office Victim advocate.

#### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

The BOCC approved two planning & development items as presented by Planner Talmadge Richmond:

A proposal to divide one lot from a 96.863-acre parcel at 66337 Landfill Road; and

A proposal to divide a 19.43 acre lot into three lots on 6175 Road.

#### **MONTROSE COUNTY LIQUOR LICENSE AUTHORITY**

Commissioners left regular session to convene as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority, approving a liquor license renewal for the Bedrock Store and a Special Event permit for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation on Aug. 27 at the Lock, Stock & Barrel Venue.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioners met in executive session with attorneys to discuss pending litigation and potential settlement discussions, returning to regular session at 11:12 a.m. No decisions were made; the session was not recorded due to attorney client privilege.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

# Just Listed



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**\$279,990**

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Want a new build without waiting. This Fantastic, Sandoval Built, custom home is less than a year old! It has been meticulously cared for! The entire Home has a welcoming charm. Don't wait to schedule your showing!

**Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2.0**

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### IT'S STILL WISE TO QUESTION AUTHORITY

*Editor:*

"Question authority" was an expression often used by Vietnam War protesters back in the 1960s.

It spoke to the legitimacy of a conflict led by President Nixon and his administration. This catch phrase is apt when applied to today's COVID-19 autocratic mandates from government.

During the past 100 years, COVID-19 is not alone as an epidemic disease affecting Americans.

Others include:

Spanish flu, 1918-1919, approximately 675,000 deaths in the USA

Polio, 1916 to 1952, 57,800 USA cases in 1952 alone

Asian flu, 1957-1958, estimated 116,000 deaths in USA

Hong Kong flu, 1968-1969, estimated

34,000-100,000 deaths in USA

Swine flu, 2009-2010, estimated 60 million cases and 12,400 deaths in USA

The 5 contagions alone affected millions of people with disease, paralysis and death.

These events were treated unlike the way COVID-19 is being handled today. There were no forced business closings with loss of paychecks for workers supporting families, no forced closing of schools, no mandatory face masks and no social distancing requirements.

There are no precedents for COVID-19 to be managed differently from its five predecessors.

Why is COVID-19 the exception to 100 years of established conduct?

The answer is because it's an election year. The shameless strategy is to ruin the economy, ruin peoples' lives (their suffering is not important) and blame it all on the President.

Hyped initially by a phony, never accurate computer model, COVID-19 was weaponized to prevent Donald Trump's re-election for a 2nd term this coming autumn. The incessant bickering with face masks versus no face masks plays into the ruse.

Such meaningless squabbles divert attention to tiny details while the larger, fundamental issue remains ignored: "Why is it different this time?" Should Joe Biden win this November's election, COVID-19 will quickly fade as a public issue.

*James Waugh, Montrose*



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970-252-1119

***DineOutMontrose.com***

## ***MMH SPEAKS TO LOCAL EXPERIENCE WITH COVID-19 From pg 1***

(MMH Chief Marketing Officer) and Dr. Drew Bolton MD.

"Things changed when the governor said you need to prepare for five times the amount of your normal ICU capacity," Dr. Bolton said, "Our intensive care unit at normal times is an eight-bed ICU ... so we needed to get up to 40 beds." This was accomplished by using the same-day surgery unit, since elective surgeries were no longer allowed by Government mandate.

"From an engineering and kind of on-the-ground logistics perspective, our engineering team was awesome and they rigged up a way to completely negatively pressurize that entire unit," said Dr. Bolton. Trusted nurses were put in charge of setting up a nurses' pool to care for patients, pulling from the ICU, Cancer Center, the surgical side, and anybody with ICU experience.

In addition to physical changes in the hospital, Dr. Bolton needed a two-tier system of those able to care for the critically ill. Once those teams were put together there was a crash course on critical care as well as one on ventilator management for all involved in COVID patient care. When all was done and ready, MMH had a facility that could have handled up to 48 patients.

Tobin and Dr. Bolton emphasized that another part of their success was being able to watch and learn from Washington and New York, seeing what was working and not working for treatments.

"So as far as flattening the curve our community did an amazing job that gave us two, three extra weeks to be able to prepare for what, thank goodness, didn't really come," Tobin said.

Dr. Bolton added, "I thought this planning stage was one of the coolest aspects of the entire incident command... all the people who just invested an incredible amount of time and energy into transforming something that was so prepared in in such a short time frame was pretty amazing."

Tobin said, "The ability to have a medical staff like we have that is so close and works so well together is huge." They credited the call for distancing at the start as one of the reasons the COVID unit was never filled to capacity, as it helped to slow the spread. So far, the highest num-

ber of patients in the unit were 16 at one time, with no more than three patients on ventilation at any given time.

The numbers for inpatient care are:

-49 patients treated.

-Average age was 60.

-Average length of stay was five days.

-59% were Male, 41% Female.

-53% were Montrose (city/county) residents, 12.2% Olathe, 10.2% Gunnison, 6% Delta, 4% Telluride, and a couple patients from Georgia and Texas.

-Inpatient mortality was 2.04%, which was one inpatient death of 49 treated.

-Transferred three patients out of hospital for other health services not provided at MMH. The inpatient who died had a do-not-resuscitate order as well as other health factors, but Dr. Bolton said that the patient's low oxygen levels were from COVID-19, so it was appropriate to count and label as a COVID-19 death.

When it came to what treatments to use, MMH had the benefit of loads of literature and studies from hot spots across the world, but even that was changing pretty rapidly. To keep things simple and everyone up to date, they actually used a whiteboard in the COVID-19 unit that was updated with best practices as new information came out.

Initially Hydroxychloroquine was used, but caregivers quit using it as it appeared to offer no mortality benefit. One of the big things that has helped in treatment is the use of "proning" (flipping patients on their stomachs) which studies have shown, properly done, can increase oxygenation in patients by four to six percent. MMH implemented proning early on and credits it with preventing many patients from having to be intubated.

Another important treatment has been steroids. Dexamethasone was used only on patients with a ventilator at first, but a study (DEXA-ARDS) came out showing that it was effective for individuals as soon as oxygen levels dropped, so its use was expanded. Based on a study on Vitamin C (Citris ALI), high-dose Vitamin C treatments are used as well, particularly for septic shock patients. Sepsis develops when the body has an overwhelming response to infection, as happens with some COVID-19 patients.

Because autopsies on those who died from COVID-19 have been showing a Hypercoagulable state (an abnormally increased tendency toward blood clotting), MMH was early to adopt an aggressive anti-coagulation protocol once a patient's D-dimer hits a certain level. (The D-dimer is a marker that indicates blood clots in a patient.)

MMH has just received some allocations for the drug Remdesivir, which Dr. Bolton said was often suggested for use with very sick patients, but research is showing it does not decrease morbidity, and is more effective in those not requiring intubation.

In addition to COVID patients, MMH has had to do testing, which has been steadily increasing. One factor is all those scheduled for elective surgery are required to be tested. This can lead to a heavy workload for lab personnel, and hospital is not reimbursed for the testing they do for outside entities. Still, Tobin said that even without reimbursement, it was the right thing to do for the community, as the more who get tested, the better off everyone is. MMH thanks and is very appreciative of everyone who stepped up, often outside of their normal duties to help get things put together and procedures in place, and of course care for patients in the COVID unit. In addition to a lot of above and beyond by the staff, they mentioned the help and support of the community. RE-1J Schools donated 20 iPad's for patient use so families could keep in touch and talk to one another in the COVID unit, as in-person visits were not allowed. The iPad's also allowed "virtual rounds" to happen, enabling providers to talk to patients and doctors while being distanced.

While the big COVID unit has been shut down, they do maintain a negatively pressurized area for COVID positive patients. As of the interview they had two patients, and said that seems to be the new normal, not just for MMH, but based also on what Front Range hospitals are seeing. In parting, Dr. Bolton said in addition to all those who were a part of this and helped out and worked so hard for the good of the community, he sends a big shout out to those working in the ER who are on the front line all the time, every day.



# MONTROSE COUNTY FAIR CHAMPIONS



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**Grand Champion Bred & Fed Beef and Reserve Champion Market Beef**  
Mary Friend  
Hartman Brothers



**Grand Champion Bred & Fed Goat**  
Gabby O'Donnell  
Guzman Energy Group



**Grand Champion Bred & Fed Swine**  
Maggie Gurule  
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**Grand Champion Broiler Pen of 3 Chickens**  
Quentin Wood  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply



**Grand Champion Duck**  
Rose Kelley  
Bolinger and Queen



**Grand Champion Market Goat**  
Hayley Reed  
High Country Hauling



**Grand Champion Goose**  
Rose Kelly  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply



**Grand Champion Market Lamb**  
Sydney McCullough  
Lone Eagle Land Brokerage



**At left, Grand Champion Market Beef**  
Amy Scriffiny  
Rounds & Brooks, CPA's & Grants Spraying



**At right, Grand Champion Poultry & Grand Champion Dual Purpose**  
Brisen Lewis  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply



# MONTROSE COUNTY FAIR CHAMPIONS



**Grand Champion Pen of 3 Rabbit**  
Aubrie Lewis  
Don Coram Family



**Grand Champion Market Swine**  
Rilynn Kimble  
Diamond Peak Cattle Company



**Grand Champion Roaster Rabbit**  
Wyatt Garrison  
Bolinger and Queen



**Grand Champion Single Fryer Rabbit**  
Aubrie Lewis  
DMEA



**Grand Champion Turkey**  
Evelynne Davis  
Bolinger and Queen



**Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Beef**  
Cassidy Shea  
JC Propane



**Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Goat**  
Mary Friend  
Montrose Implement



**Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Lamb**  
Miley Dessauer  
Turner GMC - Chevrolet



**Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Swine**  
Brayden Murphy  
20 Sleeps West Real Estate



**At left, Reserve Champion Dual Purpose**  
Aubrie Lewis  
Skip Houston Construction



**At right, Reserve Champion Duck**  
Aubrie Lewis  
JC Propane



# MONTROSE COUNTY FAIR CHAMPIONS



**Reserve Champion Market Goat**  
Ridge Smith  
Turner GMC – Chevrolet



**Reserve Champion Goose**  
Rose Kelly  
Bollinger and Queen



**Reserve Champion Broiler Pen of 3 Chickens**  
Becca O'Donnell  
Bollinger and Queen



**Reserve Champion Roaster Rabbit**  
Logan Dickerson  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply



**Reserve Champion Single Fryer Rabbit**  
Aubrie Lewis  
Bollinger and Queen



**Reserve Champion Turkey**  
Jasper Vigil  
Home Loan State Bank

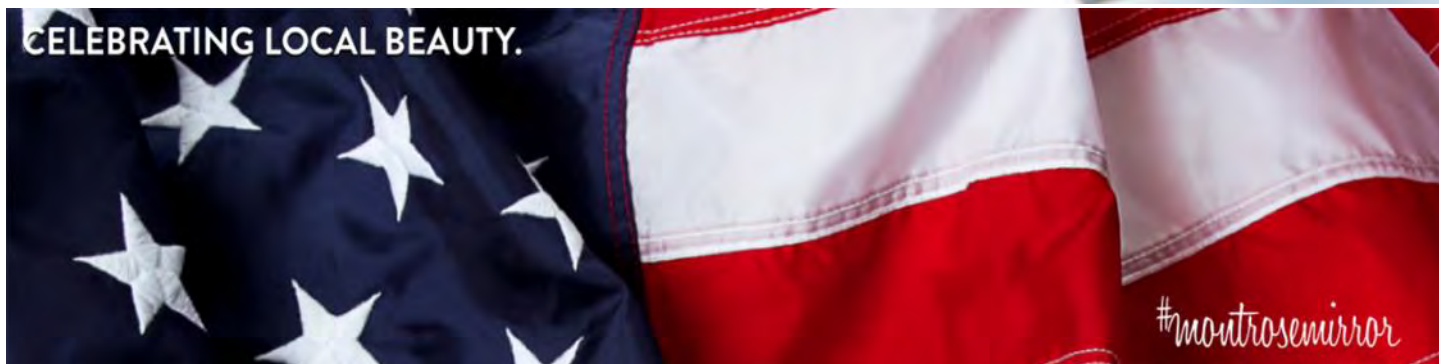


**Reserve Champion Market Swine**  
Lena Wilson  
Guzman Energy Group



**Reserve Champion pen of 3 Rabbit**  
Aubrie Lewis  
Keller Williams Colorado West Realty

Courtesy photos Montrose County  
Fair & Rodeo



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### IN MEMORY OF HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI AND PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN

*Editor:*

Most folks alive today have no idea of what WWII was like. The carnage both military and civilian on both sides was horrendous. So when it came to pass that Harry S. Truman was provided with 'the bomb' he chose to use it to end the slaughter. I am a dyed-in-the-wool Republican and Mr. Truman was a Democrat but even I must give credit where credit is due. He was a moral man, a great leader inculcated with morals and courage by his parents. Before he was a senator he operated a clothing store. He graduated from the eighth grade. By taking a few hundred thousand lives he saved millions of lives. By any rationale he was right.

After Germany collapsed the Japanese were provided with several invitations by the U.S. to cease hostilities even though Roosevelt had said he would accept nothing except absolute capitulation. After Truman was informed of the readiness of the bombs he initiated two more offers to them. They refused.

Knowing that the conquest of the Japanese home islands would take two years and a million American lives he decided to use bombs. The then recent battle for Okinawa made obvious what the home island fight would be like.

Just one bomb wiped out Hiroshima and resulted in no surrender. Two days later Nagasaki was wiped out. The Japanese sued for peace. The ruination of those

cities was great but nothing like the earlier fire-bombing of Tokyo or the fire-bombing of Dresden in Germany. The deaths in those fire-bombings were far greater than the lives lost in either Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

Through diplomatic channels Truman ever the master poker player had run a bluff. It was surrender right then or he would proceed to continue to level Japanese cities one bomb at a time. It was a bluff because we had no more nuclear weapons built. The sheer fear of having all of their cities laid waste in this manner was the deciding factor.

Harry Truman was a God fearing Christian. He held deep feelings about right and wrong. I am sure that he agonized greatly over the use of this devastating weapon against human beings. At the same time he knew better than to wage war for two more years as the leader of his war weary nation. He was reviled at the thought of wasting a million more soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines when he had the means to end it fast. He made the decision to obliterate two cities and because he took that responsibility I grew up with a live father and most of the kids in my high school class had live fathers too. Many women had husbands to earn a living and to help raise their families. My uncles were not just photos on my grandmothers dresser. New gold stars representing sons lost in war, stopped

appearing in homes across our nation. Harry Truman made a decision most Americans appreciated.

There has been a lot of Sunday morning quarterbacking about whether Truman was right or wrong. Soldiers who where poised to invade never had a doubt. Harry Truman never doubted his decision. Oppenheimer didn't doubt building it was right. The airmen who delivered those packages to the Japanese grew old and died confident of their act. Even my Japanese friends, while they did not like it, they admitted that it was the only way. It saved a lot of them and it saved a lot of us.

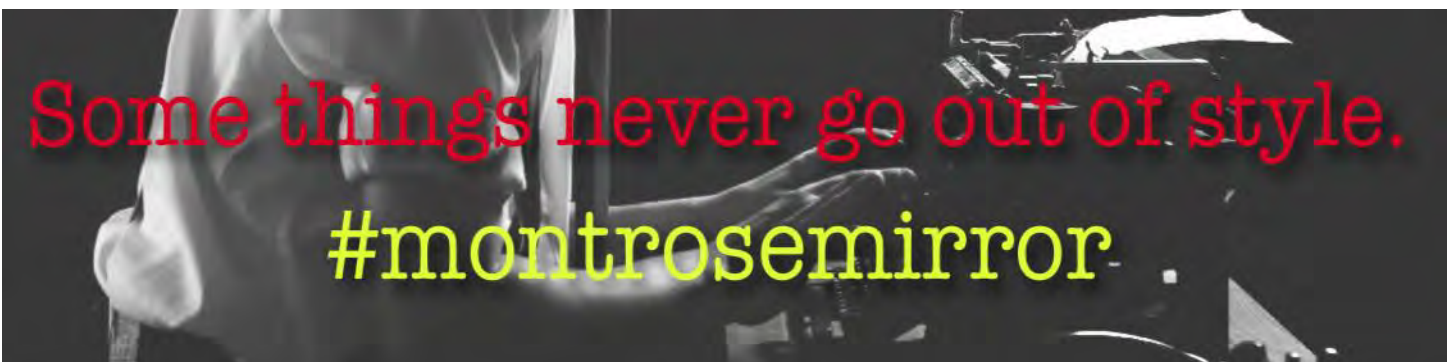
August 7th and 9th were the 75th anniversaries of the bomb's first and second use (hopefully the last). We should give thanks to the Almighty that we got it first. We should give thanks that we had the fortitude and good sense to use it when we did.

I know a lot of folks think using it was wrong. They will never change their opinions.

But I for one, having seen combat (from behind a rifle on the ground) in RVN but nothing like WWII.

I testify to all my readers that August 7th and 9th 75 years ago were the product of the right decision of a great man to halt a carnage. I give thanks for the fusion of it all.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE & OLATHE RE-1J SCHOOLS DESCRIBE IN-PERSON LEARNING MODEL

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-All Montrose County School District (MCSD) families will have had the ability to respond to our in-person or online instruction preference survey; MCSD has currently received enough responses to be able to accurately finalize plans for instructional models at each school.

Specific school plans will be published by August 14 with site specific details; all MCSD schools continue to prepare to be in-person on August 27. Families who selected the Learn from Home (online) model will receive communication about the online learning experience soon. The in-person model is described below.

ELEMENTARY students who chose in-person will attend school five full days a week.

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) have provided all Colorado schools guidance indicating that the number of students in a grade K-5 classroom won't need to be reduced, assuming schools implement screening and mitigation strategies, staff PPE, cleaning protocols, and strict cohorting (in order to reduce viral spread and prevent massive closure).

Due to the overwhelming request for in-person learning and in order to meet all safety protocols, MIDDLE and HIGH

SCHOOL students (grades 6-12) who chose in-person will attend school in-person using an A/B hybrid system. During the first full week of school (starting August 31) students in the "Group A" cohort will attend school in person, Monday through Friday. During this same first week, students in "Group B" will learn remotely. In-person learning at school and remote learning from home will alternate each week throughout the school year.

MCSD made the decision to format in-person secondary instruction into a hybrid A/B model based on recommendations from local pediatricians, doctors, and medical officials, and to also align with social distancing guidance provided by CDE and CDPHE. In addition, CDPHE, CDE, and the Center for Disease Control suggest that students grade six and older transmit the virus at roughly the same rate as adults and strict social distancing must be maintained in classrooms with limited square footage.

Limiting in-person capacities at middle and high schools make it possible for us to keep students and staff safer and prevents massive school or entire School District closure.

When a secondary student is learning remotely (on an alternating week schedule), they will engage in learning in a variety of ways:

- Hands-on learning

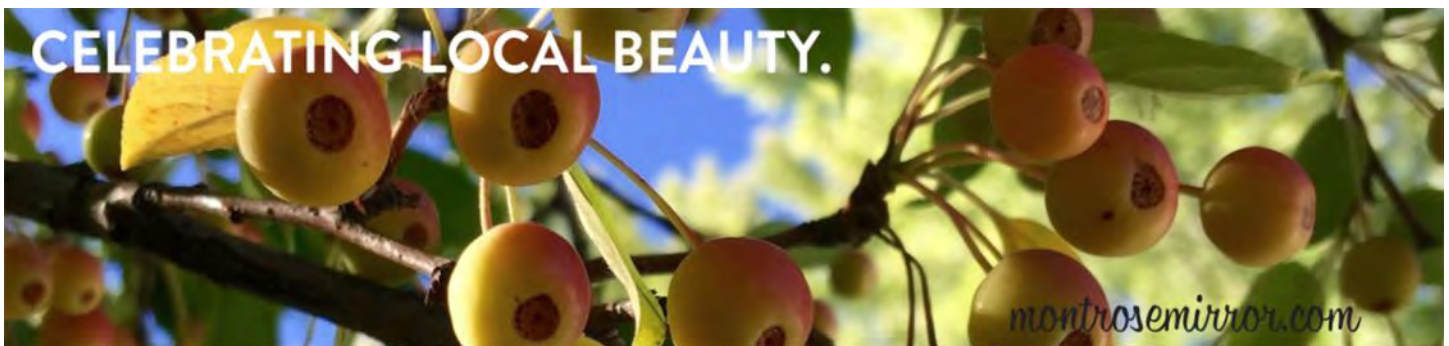
- Rigorous independent practice
- Project-based & STEM activities
- Have the opportunity to connect with their teacher at a scheduled time
- Complete curriculum and programming designed to include non-technology assignments and coursework, in order to plan for taking breaks away from a student device and limit the time spent sitting at a computer (our intention is that students learning from home remotely will not be sitting in front of a computer for seven-hours-a-day).

As much as is possible, schools may align secondary (middle and high school) student cohort rosters so that family members are in the same cohort together to aid in scheduling.

Likewise, implementing a hybrid alternating model at secondary schools (and not elementary schools) creates less of a strain on families in need of child-care for younger students.

We understand you may have additional questions regarding our secondary hybrid in-person model, and we'll soon be providing you with additional multimedia pieces simulating the remote (or learn from home) student experience, detailed descriptions of content, and more.

As always, you may call us at (970) 249-7726, email us at [Questions@mcscd.org](mailto:Questions@mcscd.org), or send us a message on our official Facebook page.





## EXTRAORDINARY NURSES RECOGNIZED AT DELTA HOSPITAL



*Shelby Wilson, RN. Courtesy photo.*



*Arienne Huff, RN. Courtesy photo.*



*Leah Borgman, LPN. Courtesy photo.*

### *Special to Art & Sol*

DELTA-Last week eight nurses at Delta County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) were honored with **The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses**® to recognize the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care they provide patients and families every day.

This quarter's DAISY nominees were: Leah Borgman, LPN, Wendy Maring, RN, Arienne Huff, RN, Colleen Zweigle, RN, Cassidy Austin, RN, April Bonata, RN, Meg Robinson, RN and Shelby Wilson, RN.

The overall DAISY Award Winner for this quarter was Shelby Wilson, RN from DCMH Home Health. Wilson was nominated by a patient with an application letter that highlighted her work with the wound VAC, her competence and high level of professionalism and caring.

"The Home Health department is extremely proud of Shelby and the extraordinary work and care she has provided our patients with in the Home Health Department," said Shane Clausen, Director for

DCMH Home Health. "She has exceptional clinical skills and is always patient and kind with her patients. We are proud to have Shelby on our team."

The award is part of the DAISY Foundation's mission to recognize nurses who go above and beyond in the care for their patients. Nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues, and the quarterly DAISY award recipient is chosen through a select Daisy Committee and DCMH's T.E.A.M. M.A.S.H through a scoring rubric recognizing the nurses P.E.T.A.L.S., (Passion, Empathy, Trust,

*Continued next pg*



## EXTRAORDINARY NURSES RECOGNIZED AT DELTA HOSPITAL

*From previous pg*



**Cassidy Austin, RN. Courtesy photo.**



**Colleen Zweigle, RN. Courtesy photo.**



**Wendy Maring, RN. Courtesy photo.**



**April Bonata, RN, and Meg Robinson, RN. Courtesy photo.**

presented four times throughout the year to celebrate the nominees.

"We are always proud to be among the healthcare organizations that participate in the DAISY Award Program," said Dawn Arnett, Manager for DCMH Med/Surg and Daisy Coordinator. "Now more than ever it is important that we honor our healthcare workers and the hard work they do every single day to keep our communities safe. We want our nurses to know that they are highly valued, and the DAISY Foundation provides a way for us to do that." The certificate that each honoree receives commends her or him as an

"Extraordinary Nurse." The certificate reads: "In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people." Honorees also receive a DAISY Award pin and a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called A Healer's Touch, hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.

DCMH will honor their next quarter nominees for July, August, September in October 2020.

Admirable attributes, Love and Selflessness). Applications are blinded to these committees and scored. Awards are then

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## **“Rocky Mountain Cravings”**

Carole Ann McKelvey, Food Editor



## **TAKEOUT?** **YOU CAN'T BEAT** **PANDA PALACE...**

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE – During this @#\$%X!@ pandemic Michael and I have been forced to resort to takeout. Now, when you think takeout, what is the first thing that comes to mind? Maybe Chinese?

Well, you'd be thinking right! The other day Michael and I called in one of our favorites to the Panda Palace in Montrose on Townsend. We forgot they have free delivery within three miles (which my little Victorian is) so stopped over – masked of course!

Ready and waiting was our scrumptious dinner of egg rolls (2) with sweet/sour sauce \$3.70; hot and sour soup, 2 cups \$2.25 each; steamed rice and our entree of bean curd with mushroom and veggies (enough for 2 dinners) \$9.75. Off we went with our hot and succulent dinner and once home we cracked open a bottle of white wine – Pinot Grigio, I believe – and dug in. Not the ambience of the restaurant (I mean all Chinese restaurants have about the same look, don't they?) but delicious and plentiful anyway.

Now, at the Panda Palace you have many, many choices. I won't list them all here, but you get the drift. All the dishes can be prepared spicy, less, medium or extra spicy. If you don't see your favorite dish on the menu, they will gladly prepare it for you. Staff is very friendly and accommodating.

The Menu (look it up online to order ahead):

Appetizers from \$3.70- 8.50, including classic cheese wontons (6) for \$5.00 all the way up to (4) BBQ spareribs for \$8.00; Salads up to \$9.25 for a Chinese Shrimp Salad; Soups ranging from our cups @ \$2.25, medium for \$3.70 and large, \$5.95 for the popular egg flower, hot & sour and wonton soups, plus they offer amazing sizzling rice soups and tofu soups up to \$8.95.

House Specialties are what you'd expect at a Chinese restaurant of some repute: \$13.50 for Kung Pao, sweet and sour combination and happy family (choice of steamed brown or white rice or fried rice); shrimp delicacies (5 choices) for

\$14.95; from there you can go up to \$15.95 for honey walnut shrimp, or \$16.50 buys Sizzling Three Flavor Meats with Vegetables or Panda Palace Special Seafood Basket (scallops, crab-

meat & shrimp sautéed with broccoli, snow peas, mushrooms & carrots in a special sauce, oh my!)

Then there is a choice of port dishes priced at \$10.75; Beef, \$12.45 - \$13.45 (how about Sizzling Beef with Vegetables?)

Of course, Family Dinner Combinations will run from \$15.95 - \$19.95 per person and include soup and appetizer, entrée, and fried rice.

Panda Palace is open for lunch Monday – Sunday from 11:00 am to 3:00 p.m. with plates ranging from \$8.10 to \$9.50 including soup, egg roll and fried rice.

Your fortune cookie is dessert!

Panda Palace is located at 531 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose. 970-252-3435.



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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## SUPPORT 5TH ANNUAL LOG HILL HUSTLE "VIRTUALLY" AUG. 30-SEPT. 8

### Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Fortuna Tierra Club, please join us for the 5th Annual Log Hill Hustle! This is a FUN fundraising event to support Ridgway high school graduates and the Ridgway schools.

This year's event will be changed to a "virtual" walk/run due to concerns for the health and safety of everyone involved. Racers may walk/run/jog a 5K/3.1 mile or 10K/6.2 mile course anytime from Aug. 30 through Sept. 8. Choose your own course or run the Log Hill Hustle courses. After completion of your race, report your time and receive a certificate of participation along with race results. There is also an opportunity for student racers to win a cash prize for gathering donations to the fundraiser.

For more information about the event and maps of the Log Hill Hustle courses, go to [www.fortunatierra.com](http://www.fortunatierra.com). You can also go directly to <https://tinyurl.com/loghillhustle> to register for the race. To make a donation go to [www.fortunatierra.com/donation-page.html](http://www.fortunatierra.com/donation-page.html).

## JR. LIVESTOCK AUCTION

2020 BUYERS  
*thank you!*



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American Ag Credit  
American Convenience- Olathe  
Black Canyon Aggregate  
Black Canyon Ranches  
Black Canyon Tickets  
Bolinger and Queen  
Castle Auto Sales  
City of Montrose  
Dalwhinnie Ranch  
Dave Gallegos Family  
Davis Service Center  
Devor & Plumhoff LLC  
Diamond Peak Cattle CO  
DMEA  
Don Coram Family  
EGR Ranch LLC  
Etchart Livestock  
Flower Motor  
Friend Farm  
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Kyle Martinez Family  
Lazy K Bar Land & Cattle  
Legg Appraisals  
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Recla Metals  
River Valley Family Health Center  
Rocky Mountain Aggregate  
Rounds & Brooks, CPAs  
San Juan Vet Clinic  
Serving Grace Catering  
Silver Back Industries  
Skip Houston Construction  
TEI Rock Drills  
Timberline Bank  
Touch of Care  
Turner GMC - Chevrolet  
Werner Farms  
Western Implement  
Western Slope Animal Hospital  
Whitey's Home Improvement

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

# NOMINATIONS FOR 2021 COLORADO AUTHOR'S HALL OF FAME OPEN IN AUGUST

### Special to Art & Sol

DENVER – The nominations for second Colorado Authors' Hall of Fame will be open to the public in August of this year. The induction ceremony will be held on September 18 of 2021 at the Renaissance Denver Stapleton.

Information about the upcoming Induction event, donations, events, board members and future inductees can all be found at [www.ColoradoAuthorsHallofFame.org](http://www.ColoradoAuthorsHallofFame.org).

The criteria for the nominations for the Hall of Fame are as follows:

- The author was born in Colorado, currently live in Colorado, or created one of their published works in Colorado.
- They write about Colorado or include a location or event in Colorado as part of their published work.
- Made significant and enduring contributions to their fields of work.
- Helped open new frontiers for writing

styles, ideas and concepts.

-Inspired others by the breadth of their writing and work.

-Advanced the status of authors.

Up to 12 authors will be nominated for the 2021 Hall of Fame before nominations close at the end of February 2021, with the next Hall of Fame being conducted in 2023.

The first Hall of Fame induction, held in September of 2019, was deemed a massive success by those that attended, with authors local and national, living and passed being inducted into the prestigious event. The 22 authors honored included the likes of international bestsellers like Stephen King and Clive Cussler, as well as award winners like sci-fi author Connie Willis and Christian fiction author Jerry Jenkins. Every author either lived in Colorado at some time or featured Colorado prominently in their works.

Judith Briles is the founder of the Colorado Authors' Hall of Fame. Her goal in creating the Hall was to acknowledge the countless author treasurers that have graced Colorado. "The breadth of impact these authors have is priceless. Their rich stories; their recognition as an influencer and problem solver with their written words; their residency in Colorado as a community member; and the measurable impact their words have had globally set the stage for an evening that is not to be missed." The Hall strives to educate the people of Colorado and the country about the stories of the authors who shaped their works using their personal presence and the environment of our State with courage, leadership, intelligence, compassion, and creativity. It wants to include authors who've made a major impact on others with their words. To make sure their legacies never die.



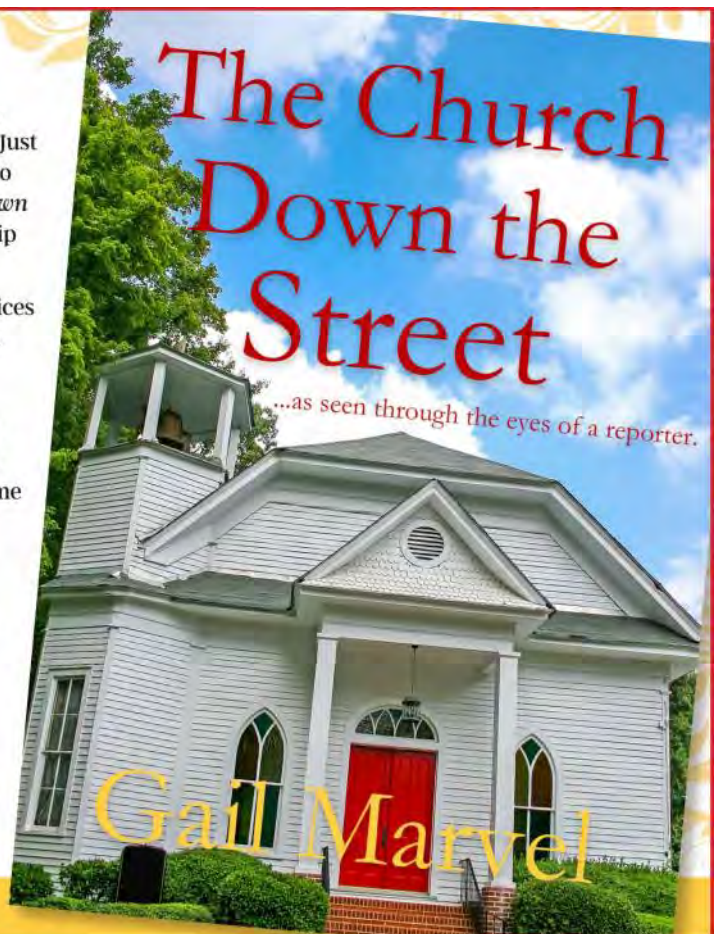
**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author  
& Reporter

**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

## GRAND MESA VISITOR CENTER TO REMAIN CLOSED FOR 2020 SEASON

### Special to Art & Sol

GRAND MESA-The Grand Mesa Visitor Center will remain closed to public use for the 2020 season.

-As we work through an unpredictable and changing situation, health and safety is our number one priority. We are committed to continuing to support our communities and fulfill our mission as we all work together to minimize the impacts and spread of COVID-19.

These actions have been taken to protect the health and safety of employees and members of the public during the COVID-19 outbreak in accordance with local, state and federal public health guidance and mandates.

-The GMUG asks members of the public to be safe. Avoid gathering in groups of more than ten people and avoid high-risk activities, like rock climbing, that increase the chance of injury or distress.

-Restroom facilities remain open and available.

-Visitors are encouraged to contact the Grand Valley Ranger District at (970) 263-5800 for more information.

## 2020 JR. LIVESTOCK AUCTION Add On CONTRIBUTORS



3 Acres Poultry

Alpine Bank

American Convenience Olathe

Anglers Earthworks

Bar Rafter N Enterprises

Bar Seven Slash Livestock

Bill Gray Family

Black Canyon Aggregate

Brent Johnson

Cameron Atwood

Christopher Nokes Memorial

Citizen State Bank

Dessauer Livestock

Devor & Plumhoff LLC

DMEA

EGR Ranch LLC

Fletch's Excavation

Flower Motor

Flowers Auction Service

Frigetto & Frigetto Farms

GCR Tire & Service

Grand Valley Bank

Grant Spraying

Gunnison Materials

Guy Gard Family

Guzman Energy Group

Hawks Express LLC

High Country Hauling

Home Loan State Bank

Horsefly Creek Veterinary

J & Ray Outfitters

Jackie Shea

Jane Francis Family

JC Propane

Jeremy & Kelsey Castle

Josh Gard

Keenan's Plumbing

Keith & Julie Laube

Keller Williams CO West Realty

Kim Manganello

Kip Davis Family

Kuboske CO INC

Lazy K Bar Land & Cattle

Liz McCannel

Loma Livestock Auction

Lone Eagle Land Brokerage

Master Petroleum

McDonald's Montrose

Meghan Tumlinson & Seth Kier

Melanie Medina

Montrose Forest Products

Montrose Implement

Mountain West Insurance

Next Home Virtual

Niagara Cattle

NRL Painting

Producers COOP - Montrose

RE/MAX Alpine View

River Valley Family Health Center

Rocky Mountain Aggregate

Rounds & Brooks, CPAs

Santa Rosa Ranch

Scott Field Insurance Agency

Serving Grace Catering

Sisson's Feed & Ranch Supply

Skip Houston Construction

Spaedt Cattle

Spring Creek Sod

TEI Rock Drills

Tim & Roxanne Paterniti

Timberline Bank

Ultra Iron Works

US Tractor & Harvest

Wes & Stacy Goza

West Slope Ag Center

Western Slope Animal Hospital

*thank you!*



# SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

## ONGOING-

**EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH OCTOBER**-Ridgway Railroad Museum – free rides on RGS Motor 1 (Galloping Goose prototype) 9 am – noon. 200 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway.

**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-

**Aug. 18**-New Moon Wig Cruiser Ride, Riverbottom to Storm King. 7 p.m.

**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/sjmrc> 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.



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



*Deb snapped this photo of the Pine Gulch Fire, above, from Glade Park. At right, she snapped this photo of the unusual, elusive and beautiful Elephant Head Flower from the Red Mountain area last fall.*



*Save a tree –  
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