

Like us on Facebook!
Visit us online at
montrosemirror.com!
Please Support our Advertisers!



the Montrose Mirror

Fresh news for free people!

Issue No. 399 Oct. 19 2020

BOCC REVIEWS COUNTY MANAGER'S DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2021



The County Manager's recommended 2021 budget includes \$50K to finalize the design for remodeling and reconstructing Montrose County's historic courthouse, above. The project is expected to be complete in 2023.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met for a special meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14 to review the County Manager's 2021 Draft Budget. All commissioners were present for the meeting, which was open to citizens and broadcast via the county web site as well.

There was no invocation; Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold led the Pledge of Allegiance.

"It looks like we have a large group here today," BOCC Chair Keith Caddy said, "Thanks for coming guys, we appreciate it."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public stepped forward to speak.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

County Manager Ken Norris presented the 2021 draft budget. The suggested

[Continued pg 30](#)

RE-1J EYES GRANT TO CREATE OUTDOOR CAMPUS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Except for District A Director Jeff Bachman, all directors were present when the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

Board of Education President Gayle Johnson called the meeting to order; all stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting agenda was accepted as presented.

DONATIONS

Administrative Assistant Laurie Laird shared information on recent donations, including two from the Dorchia and Matt Boisen family:

- A donation of \$10K to Johnson Elementary School (JES) to be used for technology (apps for devices), training for staff, and materials for the JES playground;

- A donation of \$5K to the GATE program, to be used to purchase favorite chapter books from the Colorado Children's Book

[Continued pg 25](#)



RE-1J Schools will apply for a RISE Education Fund grant to repurpose a 3.5 acre parcel behind Central Offices as an experiential learning campus.

in this
issue

*[City to change time
of Nov. 3 meeting](#)*

*[League of Women Voters
Announces Contest Winners!](#)*

*[Regional News Briefs
Letters to the Editor!](#)*

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

MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS



**HIRING
FOR LOCAL JOBS**

You are just a phone call away
from finding the job you've
been looking for
Give us a call at
(970) 242-4500

*No fee
to find
you a job!*



NAVIGATE OPEN ENROLLMENT TO PERSONALIZE YOUR BEST MEDICARE AND RX BENEFITS

**CHANGE OF PRESENTATION DATE AND
PLACE-Wednesday OCT 21 at 1 pm ,
Place: OUR TOWN MATTERS, 1245 E Main
St (Bypass and E Main)**

**UNDERSTAND your 2021 Medicare Benefits
and Open Enrollment-**

In this electronic age finding easy to understand information on your questions about 'Medicare Open Enrollment' can be daunting. First you need to find out the right questions to ask. Can you go to any doctor or hospital and how does a Plan cover Chemo therapy or recovery benefits? What companies allow you to get complete coverage even if you are faced with an illness? Know how to compare plans to choose the best plan for your health need. Know how to easily customize your Prescription Drug Plan. Know what to do with your guaranteed rights when Rocky Mountain Health Cost plans leave the Western Slope.



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:

Editor@MontroseMirror.com

970-275-0646

www.MontroseMirror.com

www.Facebook.com/MontroseMirror

www.Instagram.com/MontroseMirror



**ONLINE NEWS
ASSOCIATION**

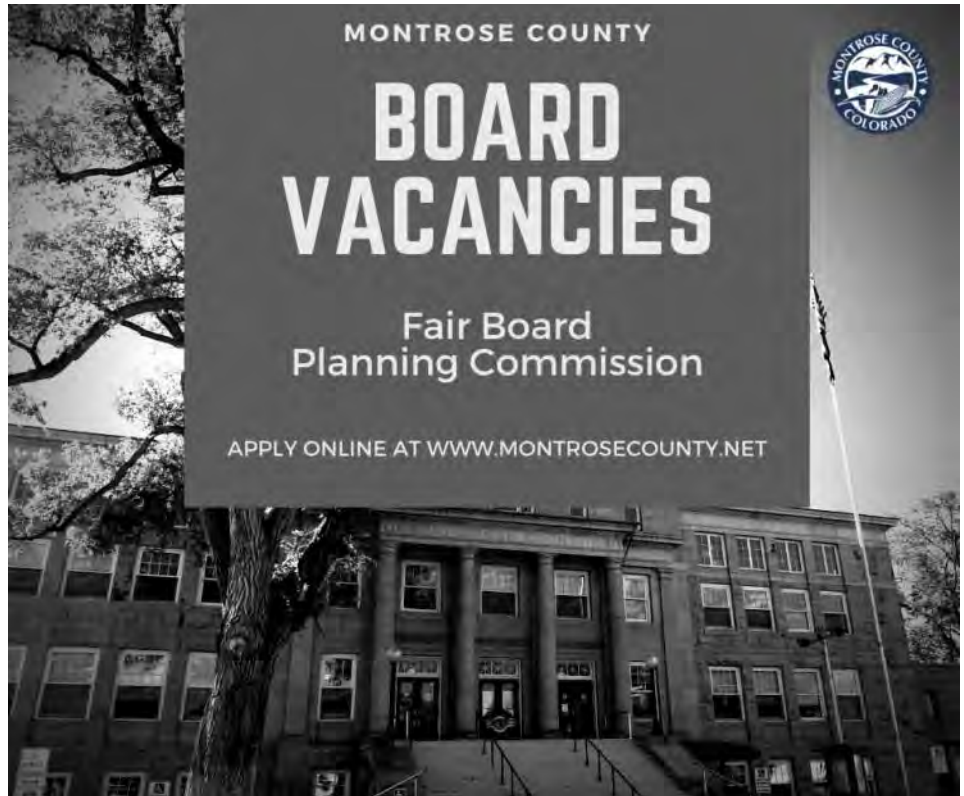
Copyright © 2010-2020. All rights reserved. Content may not be reprinted, distributed, or re-used without the permission of the publisher.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SAN JUAN WEAVERS GUILD SHOW & SALE CANCELLED

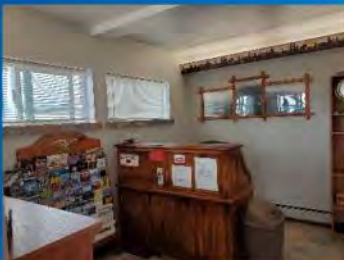
Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The San Juan Weavers Guild regrets to announce the cancellation of its annual Show & Sale, due to concerns about the coronavirus. This annual event, originally scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 at the Montrose Center for the Arts, has been a holiday tradition in Montrose for more than 40 years. Those looking for our selection of handwoven or handspun gifts and items for the home and personal use are invited to browse the Holiday Art Market at the Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 S. Park Ave. Some weavers' guild members plan to offer their quality items at this sale, scheduled for Nov. 1 – December 31. MCA is located at 11 S. Park Ave. Some members also sell through their Etsy shops online, and links to their sites may be included on the guild website, www.sanjuanweavers.org. The Guild anticipates returning to its normal Show & Sale schedule in 2021, the Saturday before Thanksgiving. For information contact Nancy deCastro, ndecastro55@gmail.com.



Own a Little Piece of Small Town America with Income - \$495,000

This 11 room motel has had some extensive updates and ready for you and your guests to enjoy. Located in the heart of Cedaredge, where they have seasonal festivals drawing repeat guests year after year. Manager quarters and an additional three-bedroom, two-bath home to use as a managers home. MLS 773657



Linda Charlick
Realtor ® Of the Year 2019
Serving all Your Real Estate needs since 2003
Quarterly Proceeds go to the local Food Pantry

970-209-3668



Macht-Liles Real Estate Group
645 S. Grand Mesa Drive
970-856-4425
linda@lindacharlick.com

I'm using Homesnap to connect with my clients.
Join me on the link below to see all Homes for Sale:
<http://www.homesnap.com/real-estate-agents/Linda-Charlick>
Find me on the web at: www.DeltaMontroseCountyRealEstate.com

Not Just a Better Deal. A Better Dealership!

Montrose Ford-Nissan SINCE 1986!



Chris Menz

Exciting Changes in the Works for our Service Department!

We are pleased to welcome Chris Menz as our new Service Manager. Chris comes in at an exciting time, as we are about to break ground on a shop expansion that will increase our capacity by 80%. This shop expansion will enable Montrose Ford Nissan to serve our customer base better, with faster turnaround times & more flexible scheduling. We are building to serve you!



Chris and his wife, Kimberly moved to Montrose in August, 2020, from Rochester, NY, along with two of their five children. Chris looks forward to meeting all of Montrose Ford – Nissan's customers and continuing to provide the top-notch service you have come to expect.



Jack Weyers

We would like to thank our outgoing Service Manager, Jack Weyers for his stellar service over the last 23 years. Jack retired in March, and we wish him the very best in the next chapter of life!

We know you have many options when it comes to where you service your vehicle, and we appreciate the chance to earn your service business. Come meet Chris and watch the progress of our new building!

**BEST New Vehicle Sales • BEST Used Vehicle Sales • BEST Oil Change Center
BEST Tire Center • BEST Auto Repair**



970-252-3673
MontroseFordNissan.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SOS COMMENCES PERMANENT RULE- MAKING, EXTENDS REMOTE NOTARIZATION EMERGENCY RULES

Special to the Mirror

DENVER- The Secretary of State's remote notarization emergency rules have been extended and will remain in effect through Dec. 30. These rules continue to enable Coloradans to have access to notary services without in-person contact.

Additionally, the Secretary of State issued a notice of permanent rulemaking to consider preliminary draft rules including proposed amended remote notarization rules necessary to implement Senate Bill 20-096.

A public rulemaking hearing is scheduled for Nov. 16 at 9 a.m. to receive testimony concerning the preliminary draft of permanent rules. This hearing will be conducted exclusively via webinar. The public is invited to register for the webinar rulemaking hearing at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1572827603488500751>.

FROM NAPA VALLEY TO NEW YORK CITY

WE STAND OUT FROM THE REST WITH

QUALITY & PRECISION

AWARD-WINNING CUSTOMER SERVICE

VOTED BEST OF THE VALLEY 13 YEARS RUNNING

SCOTT'S PRINTING & DESIGN

IS A SMALL PROFESSIONAL

PRINTING & DESIGN

FIRM BASED IN MONTROSE, COLORADO

WITH THE TALENT & TECHNOLOGY

TO HELP YOU PUT IT IN PRINT.



scott's

printing & design solutions

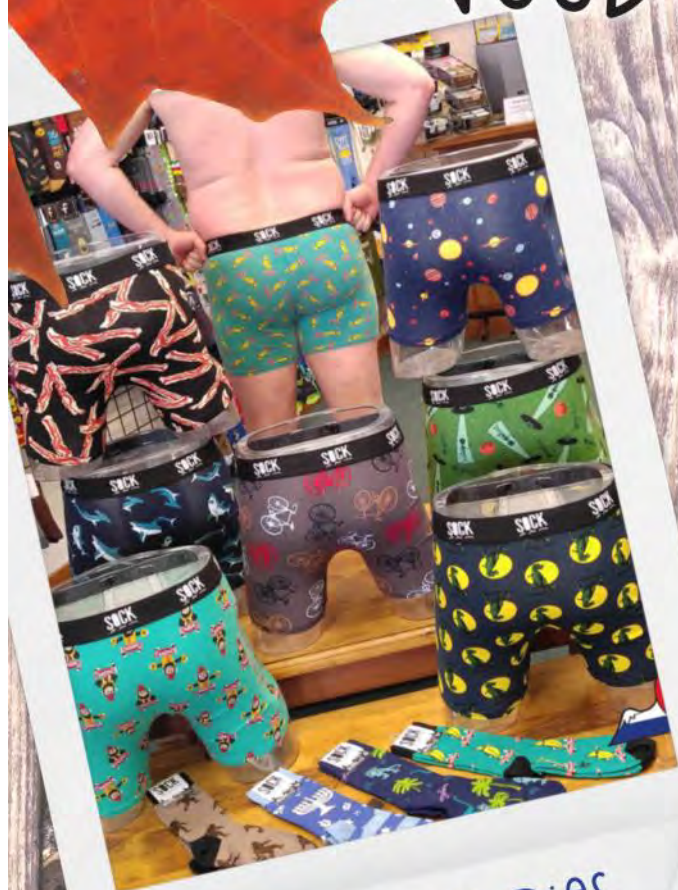
Like us on
Facebook

SINCE 1978

[tel] 970.249.2611 :: [fax] 970.249.7068

Look for the time and temperature sign at 315 South 12th Street – or visit us online at www.scottsprinting.com

NEED A LITTLE FUN
IN YOUR life?



NOVELTY UNDIES



NOVELTY SOCKS

COLORADO LOGO
CLOTHING & SO MUCH MORE



328 E MAIN • MONTROSE • 970-249-8323



Season
Outside
the Box
2020/2021

61st Season

MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS
EST. 1959

THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

BY KATHRYN SCHULTZ MILLER.
FROM THE STORY BY WASHINGTON IRVING.



Directed by
Casey Dukeman

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 @ 7:30PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 @ 7:30PM DINNER THEATRE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 @ 2PM

LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE | This production will be available IN-PERSON,
LIVE STREAM OR A DINNER THEATRE OPTION.

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

THANK YOU FOR RESPECTING ONE ANOTHER, WEARING
A MASK, WASHING HANDS & MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCE.

come *Play* with us

David & Gaynelle MIZE



420 S. 12th • Montrose, CO • 970-249-7838 • MagicCirclePlayers.com • mcp@montrose.net

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

DRUG TASK FORCE INDICTS 3 ON DRUG, FIREARMS CHARGES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — An extensive law enforcement operation involving numerous agencies and targeted members of a drug-trafficking organization responsible for the distribution of multiple kilograms of methamphetamine, resulted in three arrests late last week.

The indictment named Adam Livermore, Jonas Najjar Jr., and Angela Schmid on charges related to the distribution of methamphetamine, possession of firearms by prohibited persons, as well as conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Livermore and Najjar Jr. were taken into custody on October 8, 2020 without incident while Schmid was already in custody on an unrelated matter.

Cases such as these show the outcome of numerous agencies coming together to work toward a common goal in keeping our community safe. The Seventh Judicial District Drug Task Force would like to express our gratitude to the Colorado State Patrol, United States Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office for their partnerships and unwavering dedication to public safety in our communities.



Farmer - Businessman



The Catlin Family

VOTE
CATLIN
FOR COLORADO

House District 58 Representative

PAID FOR BY CATLIN FOR COLORADO



HD58 Representative

Western Slope native, family man, farmer, businessman, agricultural and water expert. Representative Marc Catlin serves the 58th District with common-sense, protects our values and guides policy that promotes our economy and our way of life.

Catlin is a strong voice for water, agriculture, transportation, property rights, public health, education, law enforcement, and the second amendment.

Keeping Western Colorado, the place we know and love.

Vote Marc Catlin for HD58 Representative.

Paid for by Catlin for Colorado



62108 Chu Chu Lane

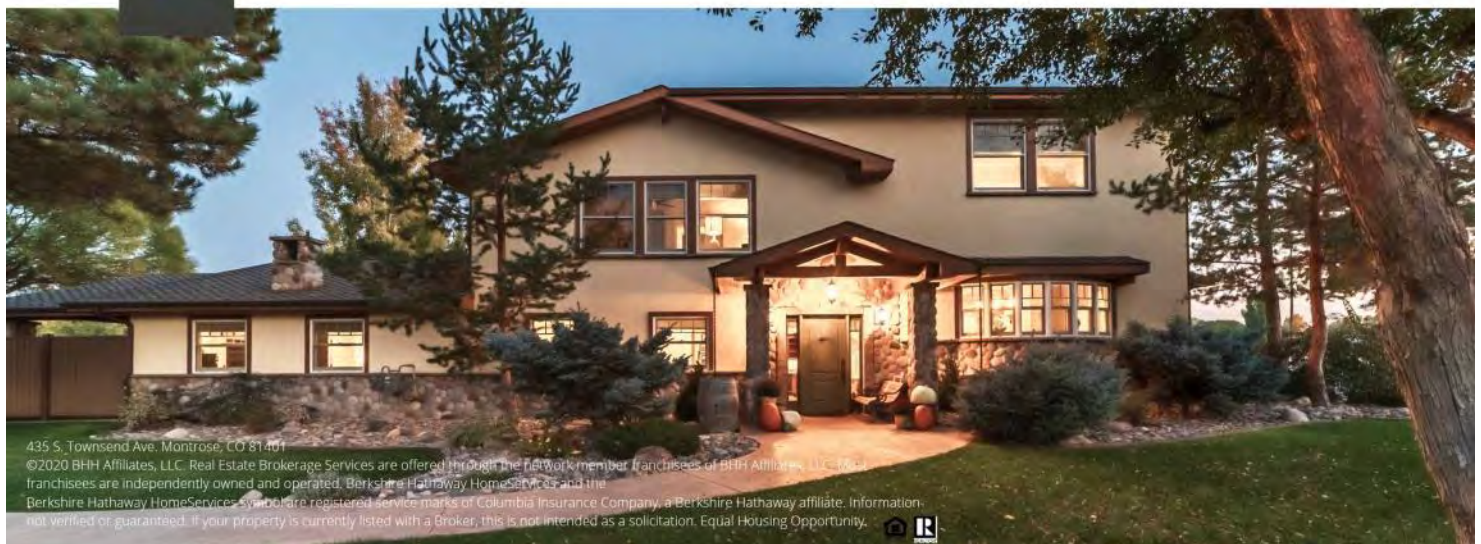
MLS#77501

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Western Colorado Properties

Kerri Noonan-Inda Real Estate Professional

970-275-1378 kerri@montrosehometeam.com

www.montrosecolorado.com



435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. All franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices logo are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.





1140 S Townsend Ave Montrose, Co 81401
970-240-1831
www.skytanllc.com

Services We Offer:

Insurance: Auto, Business, Home, Etc. - Taxes: Personal & Business - Payroll/Bookkeeping Services



Michelle Martinez
Owner, Ins Agent
& Tax Preparer



Madi Martinez
Ins Agent &
Tax Preparer



Tami Distel
Insurance Agent



Lizeth Silva
Tax Preparer
Hablo Español

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 113

Dear Editor:

If the citizens of Colorado cast a vote in favor of Proposition 113, the 2020 election will be the last in which we have any chance to have an effect on the election of a President. The winner of the 2016 popular vote was determined entirely by the State of California. Vote NO.

Jerry Weaver, Montrose

montrosemirror.com

801 S. Hillcrest,
Montrose CO 81401





DELTA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL **COLORADO WEST** OTOLARYNGOLOGISTS OF DELTA EAR, NOSE & THROAT SPECIALISTS



McKay Moline, MD



James Merrell, MD



Mark Griffin, MD



WE OFFER STATE-OF-THE-ART TREATMENTS FOR:

- Adult and pediatric ear, nose and throat disorders
- Malignant skin cancer treatment for ears, nose, mouth and lips
- Hearing loss
- Reflux disease care
- Nasal and sinus problems
- Snoring and sleep apnea
- Thyroid and parathyroid surgery
- Tonsil disease

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
GIVE US A CALL
970.874.5777

555 Meeker St
Delta, CO
970.874.5777
deltahospital.org

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

3RD DISTRICT CANDIDATE FOR U.S. HOUSE LAUREN BOEBERT UNDERSTANDS WESTERN COLORADO VALUES



Dear Editor:

Despite a quick change in location, more than 100 people showed up Oct. 10 at a Lauren Boebert rally west of Colona, Colo. Boebert headlined the rally which also featured a Cory Gardner spokesman, and GOP candidates Marc Catlin and Marilyn Harris.

"Lauren bases every decision on: Is it freedom or is it giving up freedom?" said one supporter.

Boebert shared her story about the path she has taken from being raised on welfare to being a successful business owner.

At left, Lauren Boebert at the Oct. 10 rally west of Colona. Submitted photo.

She talked to the crowd about voting down the National Popular Vote, which would take away the voice of lesser populated states. A protection carefully crafted in our Constitution.

Boebert spoke to hundreds in Grand Junction, Delta and Montrose before the Colona rally, while her opponent was having a "virtual" rally.

She understands Western Colorado values: family, freedom of speech and religion, right to bear arms, importance of water rights and being a good steward of the land.

She's good people.

Connie Williams, Montrose

Beautiful, lush & private, for you & the animals.
\$1,295,000 on 90+ acres



This 3 Bed, 2 Bath secluded single family home sits back off the road with Buttermilk Creek flowing throughout the property. With its huge back deck you will be able to enjoy listening to the creek and nature at its finest. Home has 2400 square feet on the upper and lower level. Basement is partially finished with a walk out. MLS 766901

Youtube video: <https://youtu.be/a0finzqegdiw>



Linda Charlick
Realtor® Of the Year 2019
Serving all Your Real Estate needs since 2003
Quarterly Proceeds go to the local Food Pantry
970-209-3668



I'm using Homesnap to connect with my clients.
Join me on the link below to see all Homes for Sale:
<http://www.homesnap.com/real-estate-agents/Linda-Charlick>

Macht-Liles Real Estate Group
645 S. Grand Mesa Drive
970-856-4425
linda@linda-charlick.com
www.DeltaMontroseCountyRealEstate.com



CITY COUNCIL TO CHANGE TIME OF NOV. 3 MEETING TO 10 A.M.



New City seating area. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council will meet for a work session at 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 19 and a regular meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20.

WORK SESSION

Four new employees will be introduced to Council. Joining the City staff are Trash & Recycle Operator Ray Martinez; Community Marketing Specialist Shannon McDonnell; Wastewater Treatment Plant Lead Operator Hyrum Webb, and Assistant Golf Pro Erik Lundberg.

Discussion items include a Workforce Housing Incentives Report for the Missouri and Block Building, presented by City Director of Innovation & Tourism Chelsea

Rosty and building owner Dr. Sarah Judkins.

Council will discuss the Rainbow Trout Addition Annexation; the Hilltop Addition II Annexation; an amendment to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Nutrient Removal Optimization Contract; and a resolution amending Defined Benefit System contribution rates.

Items to be considered in upcoming City work sessions and meetings include: Nov. 3- New Hotel and Restaurant Liquor License application - Sidelines Sports Bar; 2021 Budget Ordinance on First Reading; Nov. 30-Planning Commission applicant interviews;

Dec. 15-Planning Commission appointments.

REGULAR MEETING

Council will consider a motion changing the time of the Nov. 3, 2020 regular City Council meeting from 6 p.m. to 10 a.m.

Council will consider approving the appointments of Gunnison Clamp, Josie Coulter, Harrison Hall, Grace Hotsenpiller, Zack Oldroyd, Chyanne Storrs, and Mari

Wilson to the City of Montrose Youth City Council for the 2020-2021 term.

Council will consider appointing three of four applicants (Ian Atha, Patrick Dwyer, John Eloie, and Kenneth Huff) to three vacant positions on the City of Montrose Historic Preservation Commission.

Council will consider adopting Ordinance 2509 on second reading, for the annexation of the Unrein Addition II.

Council will consider adopting Ordinance 2510 on second reading, zoning the Unrein Addition II as a B-2 Highway Commercial District.

Council will consider adopting Ordinance 2512 on first reading, authorizing the disposal of real property (Adamson Family Trust #1 Gap Parcel) pursuant to § 1-9-2 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose.

Council will consider adopting Ordinance 2513 on first reading, authorizing the sale of real property pursuant to the 1972 Russell Stover lease and § 1-9-2 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose.

Following staff reports and general comments, Council will adjourn.



These days, photography is practiced by anyone with a smartphone, but it's mastered by few.

When it comes to those once-in-a-lifetime moments—when you've got ONE shot at getting it right—you better make sure the person behind the camera is a proven professional photographer.

There's no greater proof than when the letters 'CPP' follow a photographer's name. They designate a **Certified Professional Photographer**, someone who is putting in the extra work to stay above the rest.

They assure you of the photographer's professional knowledge and experience, while also declaring the photographer as one who has achieved and maintains a higher standard.

To schedule an in-person consultation or for more information about scheduling a session, please contact me at no charge to see how I might best be able to help you create the images that you want.

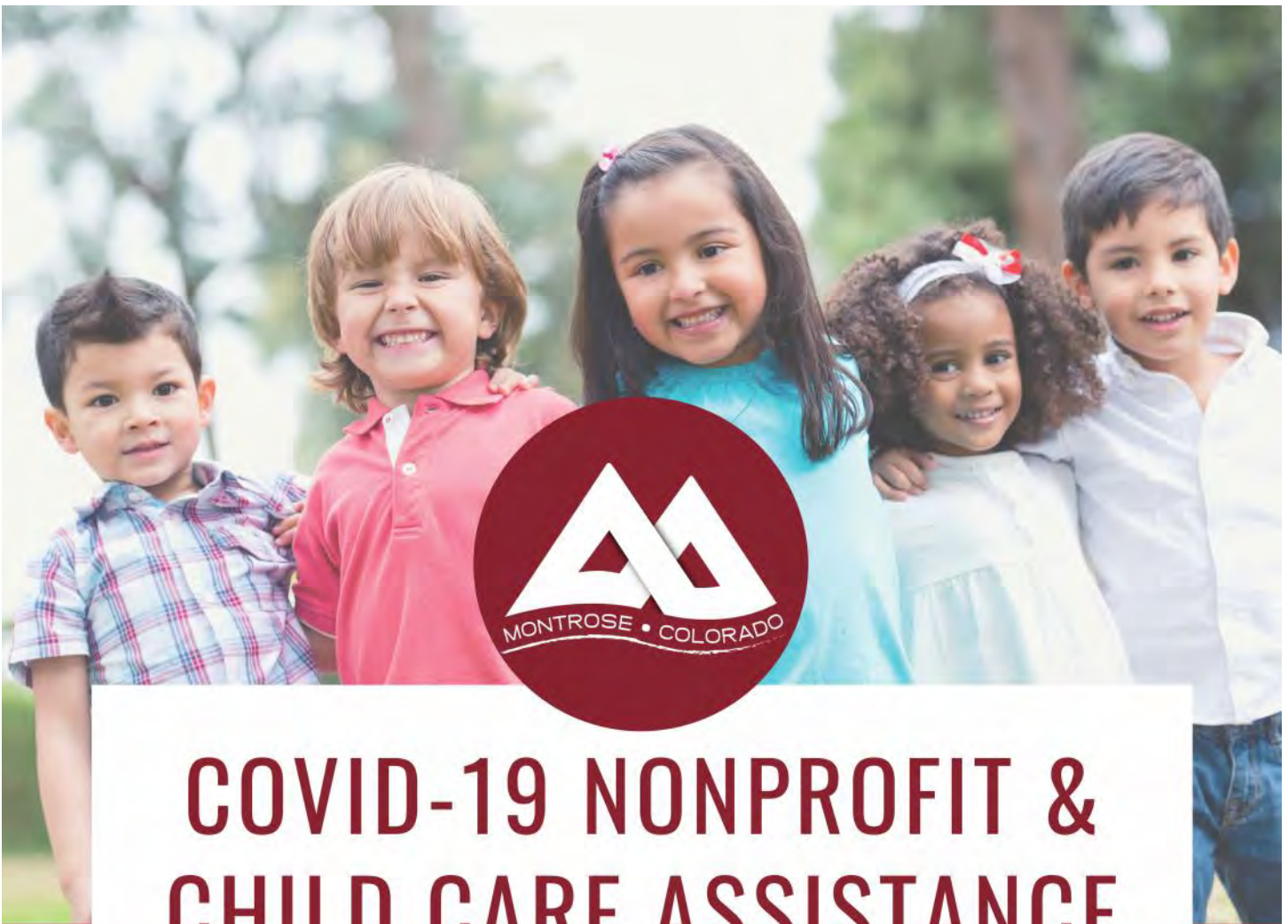
Paul Arbogast
PHOTOGRAPHY **CERTIFIED**
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

PAUL ARBOGAST PHOTOGRAPHY

(970) 318-1062 • WWW.PAULARBOGAST.COM

arbophotos@gmail.com • @paularbogastphotos

PORTRAIT, FAMILY, SENIOR, FASHION, PRODUCT, BOUDOIR, AND EVERYTHING ELSE...THE PHOTOS YOU WANT.



COVID-19 NONPROFIT & CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ELIGIBILITY INCLUDES:

- COMMUNITY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE THE RESIDENTS OF MONTROSE
 - ALL CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, INCLUDING PRESCHOOLS AND DAYCARE PROVIDERS THAT SERVE CITY OF MONTROSE RESIDENTS
- CITYOFMONTROSE.ORG/COVID19**

For additional information, please contact
Bethany Maher, bmaher@cityofmontrose.org or
Kendall Cramer, kcramer@cityofmontrose.org.

Alpine Bank's Teacher Reimbursement Program



In support of our teachers, Alpine Bank will reimburse teachers for school supplies up to \$200 before November 1, 2020!*

Please contact Jane Marie Amundson for details:
JaneMarieAmundson@AlpineBank.com

*In order to be reimbursed you must have an existing account or open a new account with Alpine Bank and currently be employed as a teacher with Montrose or Delta County School Districts. Reimbursement will be made within two weeks of presentation of valid receipts dated between 8/1/2020 – 11/1/2020.

ALPINEBANK.COM | MEMBER FDIC



Alpine Bank

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

COLORADO STATE PATROL SEEKS FEEDBACK WITH PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

Editor:

Colorado is a vibrant, diverse state – whether describing our residents or our terrain. As your Colorado State Patrol, we provide many services and programs in an effort to make our communities a safe place to live, work, play, and travel!

I wanted to draw your attention to an important opportunity. From October 27 to November 24, 2020, the Colorado State Patrol will conduct a Public Opinion survey to better understand how well we are serving our communities. I am inviting you to complete the survey by visiting

www.cspsurvey.com.

Our mission is to ensure a safe and secure environment for all persons as we provide professional law enforcement services that reflect our Core Values of Honor, Duty, and Respect. We want to know how safe you feel about traveling on Colorado's highways, the professionalism of our members, and our services at the State Patrol. Your answers will help us better understand how we can serve you now and in the future. Completing this survey takes 5-10 minutes. We appreciate you taking the time.

This is a state-wide survey, so the more people who participate the better the insights we will have going forward. Ideally, by the end, we will have feedback from each region around this diverse state. Please, share the link to this survey with your friends and family.

Thank you in advance for your participation. Your feedback is important to me and the future of the Colorado State Patrol.

*Sincerely,
Colonel Matthew Packard
Chief Colorado State Patrol*



MONTROSE COUNTYWIC

PROVIDING HEALTHY FOODS

GET YOUR WIC BENEFITS TODAY!

phone (970) 252-5088

email wic@montrosecounty.net

web montrosecounty.net/wic



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

TOGETHER IS BETTER: VOTE FOR DIANE MITSCH BUSH

Editor:

Our country is more divided today than anytime I can remember since the Vietnam War. Congress is at a stalemate, unable to pass legislation to help unemployed workers and small businesses. Healthcare is too expensive for working people to afford. Education beyond high school is financially out of reach for many. Numerous other problems are not addressed because Congress is too political.

Congressional candidate Lauren Boebert says she will not compromise. Diane Mitsch Bush is known for working across the aisle, and for passing bi-partisan legislation in her three terms in the State Legislature. If you want to see Congress accomplish something good for rural Colorado, join me in voting for Diane Mitsch Bush.

Nancy Ballantyne, Montrose



Michelle Martinez

GRI, SFR, CFA

Broker

michellelmartinez.realtor@gmail.com

1140 S Townsend Ave Montrose, Co 81401

970-901-9733



69905 HWY 50 100A

Montrose, Co 81401

List Price: \$90,000

4 Bed – 3 Bath – 2,016 SqFt



59469 Highway 90

Montrose, Co 81401

List Price: \$477,000

Vacant lot – 33.78 Acres

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT B; REPEAL THE 1982 GALLAGHER AMENDMENT

Dear Editor,

The Board of Trustees of the Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) asks that you vote Yes on Amendment B which repeals the 1982 Gallagher Amendment. Both parties in the Colorado legislature worked together to refer Amendment B to our ballot with a 71-21 vote. Gallagher is a complicated amendment that has a big impact on our library as well as our schools, the recreation district and other special districts.

Our library can only collect property taxes. We cannot levy or collect sales taxes,

excise taxes or any other kind of tax. In 2017, voters passed an increase in the tax rate for the library. We use this money to be open more days and more hours, have more books, set up high speed internet hot spots in Montrose and Olathe, provide up-to-date online resources, and repair equipment and infrastructure. We are proud to be a vital part of the Montrose Community.

If Amendment B passes, our budgets will be more predictable and stable. This will freeze the tax rates at current levels. If it does not pass we will continue to be sub-

ject to the whims of the complex Gallagher amendment. (For more information on Gallagher refer to - buildingabettercolorado.org/gallagher-interactive/)

The MRLD Board of Trustees, Caroline Evans, LeeAnn Riddoch, Emily Schneider, Ed Hagins, Dr. Robert Munday, Ana Maymi, and Dr. DoriAnn Adragna ask that you let the library continue to provide the services on which you depend.

We urge you to VOTE YES on Amendment B.

Caroline Evans,

President MRLD Board of Trustees

CALL US, WE'RE HERE

If you are 60+ and need assistance with:

Housekeeping

Personal Care

Transportation to Medical Appointments

Caregiver Respite

Home Delivered Meals

Find Out if You Qualify

ADVANTAGE
Health Resource Center



1 - 844 - 862 - 4968

WWW.VOA4YOU.ORG / ADVANTAGE@VOA.ORG

NOSOTRAS HABLAMOS ESPANOL

Perfect Retreat filled with the True Spirit of the West



Create your family sanctuary in Ouray County in a five-bedroom custom log home with spectacular views of Cimarron Peaks and starry night skies. Surrounded by piñon and juniper groves with historic Ute campsites, this wonderful home is set up for all ages with no steps to the main floor and an elevator to the second story, plus a large deck for get-togethers, plenty of outdoor activities for the young at heart, and lots of storage for your toys and treasures in outbuildings. The hilltop includes panoramic views of the whole Sneffels Mountain Range, and opportunities for building a guest cabin or other development.

Make special memories on this 135-acre haven nestled against a private hillside, among the deer, elk, eagles, and abundant wildlife, plus 12 acres of irrigated fields with senior water rights and facilities for horses, chickens and other pets or livestock. Your neighbors and Highway 550 are a mile away, giving you access to Telluride within an hour and Montrose Airport within 20 minutes, with shopping, dining and services in Montrose, Ridgway and Ouray all within 15 to 35 minutes.

Price: \$1,245,000 • View More Photos & Details: <https://crenmls.com/mls/residential/773433/>
Listing provided by Denice Niethammer, 303-995-4742, [The Resource Group, LLC](#);
Source: Colorado Real Estate Network, Inc.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SYMPTOMATIC COVID-19 TESTING RELOCATING TO MONTROSE COUNTY EVENT CENTER BEGINNING OCT. 19

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-COVID-19 testing for symptomatic people will relocate from Montrose Memorial Hospital to the Montrose County Event Center beginning Monday, October 19. The move will allow for sample collection during months associated with harsh weather conditions.

Currently, symptomatic COVID-19 testing is taking place at Montrose Memorial Hospital's designated drive-thru location at 800 S. 3rd St. As of October 19, this site will cease and testing will only be available at the Montrose County Event Center, located at 1036 North 7th Street.

Individuals needing a COVID test can receive their test Monday-Saturday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on a first-come, first-serve basis. Testing will only be done during this time frame. You must have a provider's order for the test.

The relocated testing site will continue serve nasopharyngeal swab COVID tests for patients who are symptomatic or receiving an elective procedure. There is no charge for the nasopharyngeal swab at this time due to the current state-supported lab process. Testing will maintain a convenient drive-thru format. Those being tested need to follow signage, remain in their vehicle and enter the building off the southeast end.

Individuals who do not have a provider's order - or need a test for travel or personal reasons - should contact their provider to receive a provider's order, or call Delta Public Health's testing site at (970) 874-2165. Tests may be available at this Delta site depending on availability and \$100 fee. Delta County Health Department will not bill your insurance.



MC-GOP 2020 Voter Recommendations Colorado and Montrose County ★ Ballot Issues Guide ★

- | | |
|------------|--|
| YES | Amendment B (Constitutional) "Gallagher"
Repeal Property Tax Assessment Rates |
| YES | Amendment C (Constitutional)
Charitable Bingo and Raffles |
| YES | Amendment 76 (Constitutional)
Citizen Qualifications of Electors |
| YES | Amendment 77 (Constitutional)
Voter Approval of Gaming Limits |
| ➔NO | Proposition EE (Statutory) Tax Increase on
Tobacco/E-Cigarettes for Health &
Education Programs |
| ➔NO | Proposition 113 (Statutory)
National Popular Vote Interstate Compact
Referendum |
| ➔NO | Proposition 114 (Statutory) Gray Wolf
Reintroduction Initiative |
| YES | Proposition 115 (Statutory) Prohibition on
Late-Term Abortion |
| YES | Proposition 116 (Statutory)
State Income Tax Rate Reduction |
| YES | Proposition 117 (Statutory) Voter Approval
in Certain Fee-Based Enterprises |
| ➔NO | Proposition 118 (Statutory) Paid Family
and Medical Leave Insurance Program |
| YES | Ballot Issue 7A: Colorado River Water
Conservation District |

More Information on Issues:

www.MontroseGOP.org
718 E. Main St., Montrose

www.MontroseCounty.net
Montrose County Courthouse
320 S First St, Rm 103

For Voter Information:

GoVoteColorado.com

Paid for by Montrose County Republicans

CLIP AND SAVE

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

HELP PROTECT OUR WESTERN SLOPE WATER

Editor:

One critical resource upon which the Western Slope is entirely dependent- water- is now in the center of a perfect storm of events. A decades-long drought, diminishing snowfall and rain amid warming temperatures resulting in decreasing river and stream flows, coupled with growing populations is driving unprecedented competition for our water between urban centers and rural areas like the water-rich Western Slope.

At stake is the most precious commodity on Colorado's Western Slope and in the Gunnison and Uncompahgre basins: the Colorado River and its many tributaries. Growing cities on Colorado's Front Range have a bullseye on this water, as do the cities and states of the arid Southwest and West Coast.

Since 1937 The Colorado River District has been our West Slope water watchdog, protecting and conserving the water resources of three major river basins in northwest and west-central Colorado. The District serves as our advocate, educating,

evaluating, and, when necessary, litigating to keep West Slope waters on the West Slope for our use and enjoyment.

From the Continental Divide to the Utah border, there are 15 Western Slope counties and 500,000 people in the District. The scope of what the District does has evolved. Early efforts secured water rights for West Slope use and advocated for federal money to support the West Slope's agricultural community.

More recent projects protect and improve our water supplies and support stream flows by making ditches and diversions more efficient, removing less water from our streams, and coordinating reservoir releases for stream health and enhanced recreation.

The District's mission is to protect community drinking water supplies, water for farming and ranching and ensuring adequate water quantity and quality, while creating healthy rivers for boating, angling and recreational enjoyment- the very essence of the Western Slope.

Declining revenue from reduced activity

and prices in the energy sector, and revenue declines from the effects of the state's Gallagher and TABOR amendments have heavily impacted the District's budget.

Expense cuts totaling 15 percent and significant staff reductions have already been made, but demands on our water are multiplying while the District's resources for dealing with them are dwindling.

That's why we're asking you to support ballot measure 7A. The District is asking for a modest tax increase of less than one-quarter of one mill. This will increase the amount you pay by \$1.90 per year for every \$100,000 of home value.

I cannot think of a ballot question in recent years more worthy of a "YES" vote than ballot measure 7A.

Our Western Slope water, economy and lifestyle is at stake.

Sincerely,

Sue Hansen

Montrose County Commissioner

Kevin Kuns,

Chair Democratic Party

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Western Colorado
Properties

JUST LISTED



Offered by



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Western Colorado Properties

Don Bailey

Broker Associate

970-209-8257

donbaileyrealestate@gmail.com

www.DonBaileyRealEstate.com

\$159,900

MLS# 775094

Lot 5 Ranger Road | Montrose, CO 81403

PREMIUM VIEW LOT Private and secluded 5+ acres on Spring Creek Mesa with fabulous views of the mountains, valley and city lights at night. Country living in upscale Escapment Overview subdivision close to town. Wooded with old-growth juniper, pinon and cottonwood trees. Gorgeous views from Grand Mesa to Cimarrons currently, with views of the San Juan mountains possible with the clearing of trees. Irrigation water through HOA. Driveway will need to be cut in from north boundary on Ranger Road. Electric and phone are installed to approximate building site. Chipeta Water tap is available, but not installed. West Canal runs along the west boundary of the property as well as West Canal access road. This is a very special offering with amazing unobstructed forever views. Check out the Virtual Tour by clicking one of the photos or go to my website and click the Featured Listings tab.

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.



just LISTED

\$479,000

MLS# 775452



62182 Tres Coyotes Trail
Montrose, CO 81403



Bedrooms: 3
Bathrooms: 2.0
2,800 sq. ft.
Year Built: 1999

Amazing 360 Views! Beautiful, well-maintained home situated on 41 acres 10 miles southwest of Montrose bordering large BLM tract. Tri-level home with open floor-plan. Spacious Great Room on upper level and bedrooms and baths on ground level. lower level walk-out basement family room could easily be converted to additional bedrooms. Enjoy the views from the many windows or outside on the balcony, the deck or the covered patio. Wonderful peaceful and serene high desert setting. Large detached 4-car garage with workshop area plus additional RV & equipment storage building and 8'x10' shed. Minimal covenants.



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Western Colorado Properties



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Western Colorado Properties
Don Bailey
Broker Associate
970-209-8257
donbaileyrealestate@gmail.com
www.DonBaileyRealEstate.com

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.



20 ★ VOTE REPUBLICAN ★ 20

CORY Gardner
for SENATE

TRUMP PENCE
KEEP AMERICA GREAT!
2020

LAUREN BOEBERT
CONSERVATIVE FOR CONGRESS

VOTE CATLIN
FOR COLORADO
House District 58 Representative

7th Judicial District Attorney Seth D. Ryan
Montrose Commissioners
Keith Caddy - Dist 1
Roger Rash - Dist 3

Joyce Rankin
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

f @MontroseCoGOP Web: www.MontroseGOP.org Paid by Montrose County Republicans

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY APPEARS TO HAVE MOVED TO THE 'FAR LEFT' AND BEYOND

Dear Editor:

I am a U.S. citizen living near Montrose and politically "unaffiliated". As a boy I grew up on a farm on the northern great plains in a household where politics were rarely discussed. My mother, however, was a card-carrying member of the Democratic Party and I was influenced by her to a large degree. She was a conservative Democrat and would have been 95 years old today. I carried these political values into my college years and well into middle age. Lately, I find the "party" of my dear mother to be almost "unrecognizable".

The Democratic Party appears to have moved to the "far left" and beyond. They have no patience for any conservative thoughts or opinions, and no tolerance for Americans who do not think and act exactly as they do. This is a disturbing realization to me, and certainly to millions of other proud and loyal citizens. Decades ago as a younger man, I did not consider

myself a necessarily "patriotic" citizen. Why? Because I did not fully understand and appreciate the "actual meaning" of freedom and liberty and frankly, was not worried about ever losing those privileges. Nowadays, I feel much differently...it is clear that certain unalienable rights that we enjoy today are threatened! Real-time examples of this are the following: 1) violating our safety and security through recent rioting, violence, and destruction of private and public property in many of our cities; 2) denying freedom of speech on our liberal college campuses to non-liberal academics and guest speakers; and 3) harassment and physical assault of innocent citizens in restaurants, shopping areas, and other public places in the USA. Has there ever been a greater need for law and order in America? No! Are we too complacent in allowing political extremists to disrupt our everyday lives? Yes...and most American citizens would agree with me! The truth is that most Democratic

leaders and the mainstream media are ignoring these nation-wide issues and apparently don't really care. What a lousy time to be "defunding" our police forces! I consider myself a very loyal and patriotic American. I have to be and I'm damn proud of it. I love and respect this country we call the United States of America now more than ever! I cherish the uniquely American ideals of "Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"!

Our current president, Donald J. Trump boldly represents and supports these ideals. He genuinely loves and supports all people that are proud Americans. That includes ordinary, everyday people like me! I am voting for President Trump and all other candidates that share his vision on November 3. Please join me on this vote...it will preserve and protect our great country and our American way of life!

Respectfully,
Kurt Kubik, Montrose

Welcome Home to your own Private Oasis



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Western Colorado Properties

Don Bailey

Broker Associate

970-209-8257

donbaileyrealestate@gmail.com

www.DonBaileyRealEstate.com

\$399,000

MLS# 773508



3151 6200 Road | Olathe, CO

LOG HOME ON 40 ACRES BORDERS BLM Your own personal oasis offering privacy and seclusion with no HOA or Covenants. 2 Bedrooms + Loft, 2 baths, built in 1993 and recently remodeled. Plus Log Cabin studio; could be workshop or guest quarters. Year-round pond. Horse set-up w/ electric fence, corrals, loafing shed. Root cellar, greenhouse, garden beds, drip system, xeriscaping. Awesome views. Room for shop, equipment, livestock, 2nd Home and all your toys. Sub-dividable. Off the beaten path, away from the crowds. but not too far from town.

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Western Colorado Properties

RE-1J LOOKS AT GRANT TO CREATE OUTDOOR CAMPUS FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING From pg 1

Award to become part of the resources that students can borrow.

In addition, Olathe Middle High School (OMHS) vocational teachers TeeJay Rose and Jaime Goza won an Airgas competition. OMHS is one of seven schools in the nation that were awarded a \$7K prize; the funds will be used to purchase Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to help students remain safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, RE-1J has been awarded a \$7.5K El Pomar Foundation grant to fund equipment, supplies, and professional development for teachers. The money is from El Pomar's Colorado Assistance Fund, which provides recovery efforts related to COVID-19.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District F Director Eric Kelley updated the board on the recent meeting of the District's building committee. RE-1J Director of Property Services Philip Bailey had given the committee an update, Kelley said. "He sure covered a lot...he talked about maybe getting a better master plan together...we went over some deferred maintenance projects he'd like to get funded for."

A link to master plan documents is included in the meeting agenda. Deferred maintenance projects include replacing a mower, doors, concrete, asphalt, and flooring, as well as adding new ramps for modular units. "I kind of got the gist from Mr. Bailey that he doesn't really care for the modulars," Kelley said, adding that Bailey has done a good job of saving money for the school district. Kelley also expressed concern over possible delays to safety and security updates because of a funding shortfall.

"I think it's something we as a board should be concerned about."

Bailey addressed the shortfall and possible impacts. A hoped-for grant will fund safety measures to Montrose High School, Centennial Middle School, and District offices, he said. "...It took more grant than we anticipated, we still have all of our campuses to do," Bailey said.

While some grant funds remain, whether those funds will be adequate to address safety issues is uncertain... "I'm not feeling a warm fuzzy right now."

A BEST grant may help pay for door replacements, Bailey said.

COMMUNITY INPUT

No comments were heard from community members.

MCGUFFEY AWARD

Johnson thanked Kelley for his committee report and nominated RE-1J Board Vice President Sarah Fishing for a Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) McGuffey Award. "She has taken on the job of watching over us and making sure we understand the changes in our policies...she reads, understands, and shares with us at every meeting ...She has been instrumental in helping us be a better board by bringing in a completely different perspective."

To Fishing Johnson said, "It's been really good to have you here...we want to acknowledge your hard work, thank you very much."

"Thank you so much," Fishing said.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson gave an update to the board. She acknowledged the challenges of keeping remote-learning students engaged and discussed the impacts of COVID-19.

"...We know that it is still a struggle for our students that are in remote learning to remain engaged, and our staff is continually trying to just kind of lasso those kids in and engage them even further," she said. "...I know that every school is working pretty hard to make sure that those kids are staying in touch with their teachers during their remote week."

Despite current restrictions, the District is looking ahead to a full return to the classroom. "...We are having those active conversations about what is our next step," Stephenson said. "...As you know, we've had some rolling quarantines throughout the district."

Cohort size will be a factor in re-opening, she said. "...We do need to make sure that

we are able to contract trace effectively. That's really one of the things right now that has kept our quarantine groups as small as they have been." The District presently has a six-person COVID response team, made of central office staffers who meet and work with leadership at quarantined schools to create a contact tracing strategy any time there is a report of a probable case.

"We want to make sure all kids are safe, but we also don't want to quarantine more students than is necessary," Stephenson said.

The decision to return to school full time will be a pretty complicated decision, she noted, and discussed timing and possible impacts.

"I am hopeful that we will not have this hybrid schedule all year," Stephenson said. "...We all want our kids back full time; we want to make that decision as quickly but as safely as possible."

She thanked local internet companies for their help in ensuring student access to online learning. "They have been tremendous to work with."

Director of Instructional Services Jessica Beller spoke about a RISE Education Fund grant application, which she hopes to use for implementation of an outdoor campus area and opportunities for experiential learning. RISE stands for "Response, Innovation, Success, Equity," Beller said. The program was created by Governor Polis for schools.

"The idea here is to establish an alternative educational pathway," Beller said. "...We live in such a great area for students to be able to experience the world around us. We really want to open up the outdoors for them."

A portion of the grant funds would be used to repurpose a 3.5 acre parcel behind the Central Office Facility as an outdoor campus for experiential learning. "We're really wanting to make it like a shot in the arm for our community," Beller said, "...so kids can experience everything that we have to offer."

Remaining grant funds would be used to

RE-1J LOOKS AT GRANT TO CREATE OUTDOOR CAMPUS FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING From previous pg

support students and families with established needs in behavioral or mental health. Grant awards will be announced in November, Beller said.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Superintendent Stephenson presented the Enrollment Report. Current district enrollment is 5,835, which is 159 students fewer than were budgeted for. October count numbers will not be official until month's end.

Fishing raised concerns that children are falling through the cracks. "Are we concerned that some students are not showing up in education at all?"

ECC UPDATE

Early Childhood Center Director Penny Harris presented an update and a list of members of the 2020-2021 Colorado Pre-

school Program and Education District Advisory Council. In a normal year HEAD-START enrollment is 102 students; this year there are 78. Still, enrollment count is not official until Nov. 1, and new applications are being received every day, Harris said. Though the Office of Head Start has suspended the submission of the annual report for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the RE-1J ECC will still complete the report to assist with program operation planning, Harris said.

Fishing thanked Harris for completing the annual report. "Thank you...it would be really sad to see a hole in the spreadsheet."

OLD BUSINESS

The board voted unanimously to approve the following revised board policies, as

presented by Fishing:

JFBB, Inter-District Choice/Open Enrollment - minor language clean up per CASB recommendation

JICDD, Violent and Aggressive Behavior - minor language clean up per CASB recommendation

JICEC, Student Distribution of Noncurricular Materials - minor language clean up per CASB recommendation

LBD, Relations with District Charter Schools - minor language clean up per CASB recommendation

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items, including the Personnel Report, were approved as presented.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



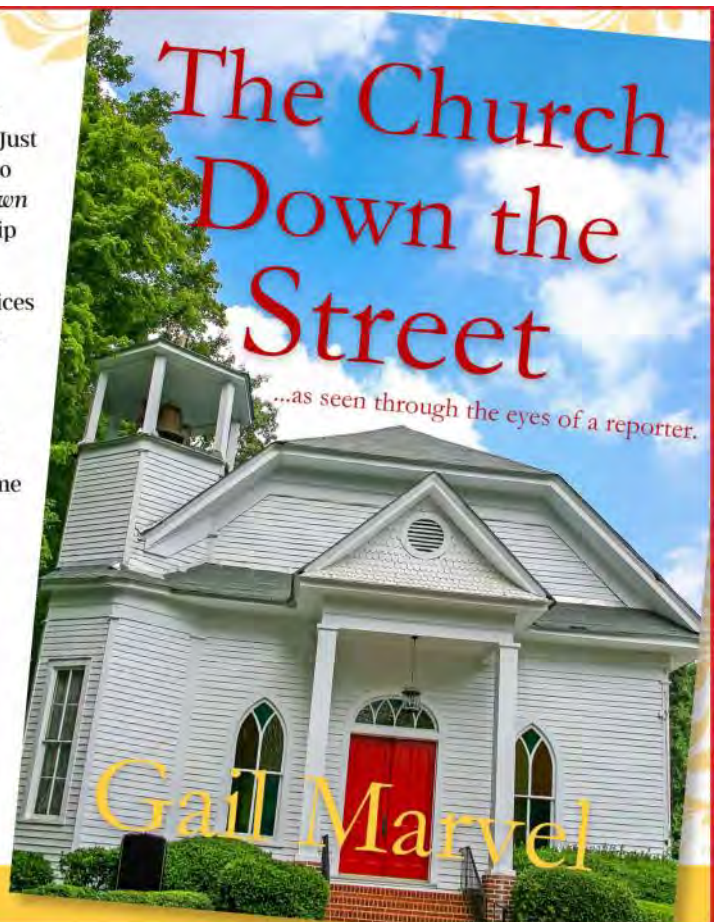
GAIL MARVEL
Montrose Author
& Reporter

It is human nature to compare ourselves with others, and the church is no different. Just as Paul's Epistles allowed the early church to peer into the lives of each other, *The Church Down the Street* allows readers to peer into the worship services of other churches.


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

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


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



Available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [WingedPublications.com](https://www.WingedPublications.com)



ANONYMOUS

Download The APP. **P3TIPS** 

**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**

see something, say something

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BOTH PARTIES AGREE VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT B

Editor:

At a time when it seems like partisan politics divide us on every issue, it's a breath of fresh air to have an issue on which both the Republicans and Democrats agree. Both Montrose party organizations are encouraging citizens to vote yes on Amendment B for good reason. Amendment B gives Coloradans a chance to repeal the Gallagher Amendment. Gallagher fixed the percent of total property tax collections that could come from residential properties at 45%, leaving businesses to pay the remaining 55% regardless of what was happening in individual real estate markets.

Due to rapidly increasing property values, primarily in Front Range communities, since 1982 when Gallagher was passed, the residential assessment rate has declined from 30% to 7.2%, while the rate

for all other property has not changed. In many rural communities on the west slope, such as Montrose, where the proportion of commercial to residential property is much lower than in large Front Range communities, this has resulted in flat or declining revenues for essential local entities. Declining revenues caused by Gallagher are a primary reason why the Library District and Fire Protection District had to ask the voters for a mill levy increase in 2017 and 2018 just to continue providing the same services.

Gallagher is a flawed formula that has resulted in a lopsided, one-size-fits all approach to property taxes that requires our coffee shops, restaurants, bakeries, day cares, auto repair shops, and family farms to shoulder a larger part of the tax burden while depriving our essential service providers, such as the Montrose Fire Protec-

tion District of necessary funding. Colorado homeowners currently enjoy the third lowest residential property tax rate in the country. Amendment B will not result in a tax increase for residential property because it not only removes this broken approach, but freezes property tax rates. It also will prevent a further decline in revenue for rural local taxing entities that provide essential services.

Amendment B's ability to solve a worsening problem for Colorado's rural communities, without raising taxes, is why it has received strong bi-partisan support. It makes sense.

Let's do right by our local businesses and essential service providers, keep our taxes low, and fix an approach that no longer works for our community by voting Yes on Amendment B.

Jason Ullmann, Montrose

THANK YOU FOR READING.



#montrosemirror

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Western Colorado
Properties

HUGE PRICE REDUCTION



Offered by



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Western Colorado Properties

Don Bailey

Broker Associate
970-209-8257

donbaileyrealestate@gmail.com
www.DonBaileyRealEstate.com

\$89,500
MLS# 768385

Lot #3 7250 Road | Montrose, CO 81403

SCENIC BEAUTY AND SERENITY Awesome mountain views from this 4.5 acre lot in an exceptional subdivision. Buckhorn Heights is conveniently and strategically situated midway between Montrose and Ridgway. A gentle sloping grade is perfect for a home with a walkout basement or build to the west where it is mainly level. Upscale homes on surrounding parcels, yet only 1600 sq. ft. minimum dwelling size is required. Parcel borders 700 acre Buckhorn Mountain Ranch on the west side affording pastoral valley views. Subdivision borders large tract of BLM land for unlimited recreational opportunities. Nicely wooded with juniper and pinon trees. Covenants in place to protect your investment. Horses are allowed. Irrigation ditch attracts wildlife. Buckhorn Lakes is just up the road. Hot springs and world class Telluride resort are all within easy reach.

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.



COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

CLINTON HEROD RELEASED FROM PRISON

STATEWIDE-Clinton Herod, 6-month-old puppy of State Representative Leslie Herod, was released back into society after a short, but important "sentence" with the Colorado Department of Corrections' Canine Companion Program run by Colorado Correctional Industries.

Clinton will reintegrate into society after a 4-week intensive socialization and basic obedience training. "I am so happy to have Clinton back home. He has learned a lot during his time away and I am hopeful for a successful reentry," said Clinton's owner/Mother, Representative Leslie Herod.

Clinton, a Labradoodle, served his time at Sterling Correctional Facility, housed among an incarcerated population of adult men and other canines. Dogs enrolled in the program are coached by an assigned trainer who spends 24 hours a day with their temporary canine companion. The trainers, who are serving a sen-

tence at DOC, benefit as much or more from the program as the pups they handle. Trainers can eventually qualify as master dog handlers after enough time and effort working in the program.

Since the program was created in 2002, inmates have trained nearly 13,000 dogs - most of them come from private families who help fund the program through boarding and training fees. The program is not supported by public tax dollars and serves as a catalyst for community building inside of several prisons across Colorado.

"Based upon the owner, we were worried Clinton might be difficult to manage," joked Colorado DOC Executive Director Dean Williams, "but he turned out to be a good doggie."

Rep. Herod is happy to have her pup home and is looking forward to helping Clinton stay off the streets, "unless he's on a leash," quipped Herod.



Clinton Herod, six months, has been released from prison. Courtesy photo.

WHEN YOU NEED THE BEST

CALL TODAY!
970-240-1872

GREG'S TREE SERVICE

Pruning
Tree Trimming

Removals
Stump Grinding

FULL-SERVICE TREE COMPANY • PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED • FULLY LICENSED & INSURED

WE DONATE ONE FREE TREE JOB EACH YEAR TO SOMEONE WHO TRULY NEEDS IT.
CONTACT THE MONTROSE MIRROR TO APPLY AT 970-275-0646.

BOCC REVIEWS COUNTY MANAGER'S DRAFT BUDGET From pg 1



Montrose County Finance Director Cindy Dunlap presents information on sales and use tax collections as Assistant County Finance Director Lanny Paulson looks on, during the special meeting on the 2021 County Manager's Draft Budget on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

goal was to cut two percent from all county budgets, he said, "I think we have a good, lean, and mean budget."

Norris thanked commissioners for their leadership. "Leadership starts at the top," he said. "And the results that we get as a staff are directly related to the leadership...we've had a good year in 2020, we're going to have a good year in 2021."

Unnecessary budget items were trimmed, Norris said, and the county is in good financial condition.

"With our five-year modeling, we show that with all of the projects we're going to do that in 2021, we will end up the year with a \$49 Million fund balance."

This year's budget includes a number of capital budget items, Norris noted, adding that the projects are reasonable and in the best interests of the county.

The historic courthouse renovation project is expected to be complete in 2023. "I think we have a great plan," he said.

Although there were a number of presenters, the overall budget discussion was fairly weighted toward Assistant Finance Director Lanny Paulson, Norris noted.

Norris himself presented the budget methodology, which continues to be based on long-range financial planning. Five-year financial models were developed for each of the major operating funds.

Also presenting, Deputy County Manager

Jon Waschbusch noted that the 2021 budget was very straightforward and mundane, even by county standards. "In the 4th quarter of 2020, we're happy with boring," Waschbusch. "I hope that 2021 is as uneventful as the budget."

The flashiest item in the 2021 budget is a \$10.9M terminal expansion at Montrose Regional Airport, he said. "There is \$10.4M in grant revenue that goes along with that project."

Financial projections have been difficult in 2020. "Nothing has trended gradually ever for the past year, it's been straight up, straight down...we're taking our usual conservative approach, in that we try to underestimate revenue and overestimate expenditures," Waschbusch said. "That way, the only surprises are good ones."

The County did pass along CARES ACT funds to other entities in 2020 as well, including \$400K for RE-1J schools; \$350K to \$400K for the hospital, and \$300K for Region 10. The expenditures will not be repeated in 2021 and will make a comparative difference year-to-year, he said.

The 2021 draft budget includes only a 0.9 percent increase in labor costs. "We were able to budget for three commissioners again," Waschbusch said, "It was tough and go for a while."

Total operating revenue for 2021 (exclusive of capital funding sources) is

down 3.9 percent, he said. When COVID relief funding is excluded from operating revenue, the comparative change shows a one-percent increase in operating revenue. "Comparative revenue is pretty much flat between the two years," Waschbusch said. Capital projects will include a \$1.5M remodel of the county administration building.

Presenting information on property tax was Assistant Finance Director Lanny Paulson. Property tax (approximately \$13M per year) is the county's most significant single revenue source, Paulson said.

Montrose County will issue a credit mill levy as a TABOR refund because collections in 2020 were \$1M over the TABOR limit; collections are expected to slightly exceed the TABOR limit in 2021 as well.

Because of TABOR limits the county will see a \$310K decrease in property tax revenue for 2021.

Finance Director Cindy Dunlap presented information on sales and use tax collections, "We're taking a conservative approach going into 2021...the August collections were relatively flat compared to collections of August 2019, that is a stark contrast to what we saw last month...that gives us a moment of pause." Dunlap said that ongoing revisions are very likely.

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash noted that the price of building materials has escalated by 15 percent since spring. "I appreciate you being conservative on the revenue side...good job...I think we're going to have some bumpy months ahead until we get past this COVID thing."

"...We have a lot to look at on the building side of what's going on in our county," Rash said.

The county will keep a close eye on revenues day to day, Dunlap said.

Noting the two slides presented by Dunlap and the seven presented by himself, Paulson said, "This seven-slide to two-slide thing is kind of an indicator of the workload in the Finance Department also."

He reviewed budgeted expenditures. "Overall the total expenditures for 2021 of \$75.8M are 6.1 percent more than the

BOCC REVIEWS COUNTY MANAGER'S DRAFT BUDGET From previous pg

the revised budget for 2020."

The 2021 budget includes a 6.9 percent decrease in Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff, 3.8 of which resulted from the transfer of the Title X grant program, which was transferred to River Valley Health Center. Rash commended staff for their efforts to conserve funding, "I am very proud of you guys for doing this...this is outstanding."

"I think it's an overall philosophy," Commissioner Sue Hansen said. "I don't think that this board is the board that wants to grow government. We want to make sure that we're providing the services that we have to, but without doing it in a way that puts an overburden on taxpayers."

"Our job is to serve the public," Caddy said.

Paulson provided an overview of capital expenditures by fund.

Norris credited Paulson for doing the Li-

on's share of work on the budget for many years. He said that the BOCC will now engage in detailed budget review meetings from Nov. 20-29.

"...We will meet individually with each of the divisions and departments and go through almost line by line to be sure that everything is good and accurate."

Changes will be incorporated into the budget on Nov. 15. On Dec. 10, following final certification of property values, the County will hold a public hearing on Budget Adoption and Mill Levy Certification. On Jan. 31, 2021 a balanced budget is due to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).

Norris thanked Dunlap, Paulson, and Waschbusch for their efforts. He opened the meeting to public comment; Citizen Dee Laird asked about an interfund transfer, the use of departmental decision packages, and performance-based bonus-

es. Paulson and Waschbusch provided detailed answers to each concern.

Caddy thanked Finance staff and Waschbusch, as well as department heads and staff.

"You guys knocked it out of the park again," Rash said.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SPECIAL MEETING/EXECUTIVE SESSION

All commissioners were present for a special meeting of the BOCC on Thursday, Oct. 15. Commissioners entered into executive session with the County Attorney to discuss negotiations and potential agreements related to the airport hotel project pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(a),(b) and €. No action was taken following the session; legal advice was given and direction was provided to staff.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Need Catering?

Holiday Parties
Birthdays
Weddings



DineOutMontrose.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM UNCOMPAHGRE FIELD OFFICE SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPRING 2021 SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Uncompahgre Field Office is seeking public comments on eleven special recreation permit applications for fiscal year 2021.

“The BLM uses a permit system to manage economic aspects of recreation and ensure sustainable and diverse recreational opportunities for all visitors,” said Uncompahgre Field Manager Greg Larson.

“Making public lands available to support local economies and provide quality recreation experiences is integral to BLM management objectives.” The BLM received seven new, two renewal, and two transfer special use permit applications to provide commercial activities on BLM lands within the Uncompahgre Field Office in 2021:

-City of Delta (Darin Hamm) – Ultra marathon running race in the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area.

-Far Flung Adventures (Will Blackstock) – Guided river trips (including rafting, kayaking, and canoeing) on the lower Dolores River.

-Four Corners Guides (Lizzy Scully) – Guided packrafting courses and tours on the

San Miguel and lower Dolores rivers.

-Grand Junction Stand Up Paddle Boarding Co. (Elizabeth Fortushniak) – Guided rafting on the San Miguel and lower Dolores rivers; guided mountain biking in Paradox Valley; guided rock climbing in Escalante Canyon.

-Hanging Flume 50k Race (Mason Os-good) – Trail running race in Paradox Valley.

-Peak Mountain Guides (Lance Sullins) – Guided rock climbing.

-Seeds Wilderness Therapy (Dean Reynolds) – Guided backpacking trips.

-Telluride Flyfishers (renewal; Kaitlyn Glennon) – Guided walk/wade fishing on the San Miguel River and lower Dolores rivers.

-Wilderness Aware (renewal; Brian Ellis) – Guided rafting and fishing on the Gunnison River within Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area and Wilderness; guided rafting and fishing on the lower Dolores River.

-Durango Rivertrippers (transfer from Animas River Company DBA 4 Corners Whitewater; David Moler) – Guided river trips (including rafting, kayaking, paddle-

boarding, and walk/wade fishing) on the San Miguel and lower Dolores rivers.

-Elite Motorcycle Tours (transfer; Steve Deines) – Guided motorcycle tours in Flat Top-Peach Valley Recreation Area within Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, and Dry Creek Recreation Area.

Written comments regarding the special recreation permit applications should be submitted by mail or email no later than November 12, 2020 to Tatyana Sukharnikova, Special Recreation Permit Administrator, Uncompahgre Field Office, 2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401, or tsukharnikova@blm.gov. Please be specific in your comments, including how the proposal could affect you.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.



ANONYMOUS

Download The APP. **P3TIPS** 

**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**

see something, say something

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DESPITE HEALTH INSURANCE, AIR AMBULANCE BILL TOO HIGH TO PAY

Dear Editor:

I am a 4th grade teacher in Montrose, Colorado. I have an amazing wife, two amazing children, and a little place we call our own. I work a summer job for extra income for bills, and also do handyman work on the side. As you read my letter about what my family has been through over the past fourteen months, I hope that it will inspire you to work towards changing our healthcare system and laws in regards to air ambulance companies victimizing families during their most vulnerable moments, specifically Guardian Flight, LLC. We hope to have our unfair and punitive claim paid, and most importantly, we hope to see changes made so that others do not have to endure what we have gone through with our insurance company and Guardian Flight for over a year.

My second son was born August 2, 2019. My wife had a normal pregnancy with no complications. My wife and son were discharged 24 hours after delivery with no problems found. However, after a week, we started to notice that our son was frequently making grunting sounds and grimacing facial expressions. It would take us hours to get him back to sleep after he nursed each time. Something felt different than our first experience with a newborn and we were concerned. Our son was initially misdiagnosed by a pediatrician who failed to identify the serious nature of his condition. After two different visits to the pediatrician's office without help, I had my wife set up a third doctors appointment and instructed her not to leave without getting an x-ray ordered. This time, we were able to see a doctor we had seen before with our older son. As soon as the doctor looked at our son, he immediately noticed that something was wrong and told my wife to go get a chest x-ray right away. The clinic had a different type of energy when my wife returned from getting the x-ray. The doctor explained that our son had something called a diaphragmatic hernia. He had a hole in his diaphragm that had caused everything under his diaphragm to be sucked up

through the hole. His large and small intestines and stomach had been pulled up into his chest, completely collapsing his left lung and shifting his heart over into his right lung. For the past month, our son had been breathing with one lung. The pediatrician told my wife that they would need to be flown out of Montrose to Denver immediately for surgery. My wife informed me while I was still at work. In shock, I found a fellow staff member to watch my class and immediately went to the hospital where they were going to prep Milo in the ER.

An air ambulance company called Guardian Flight was called to take my son and my wife to Children's Hospital Colorado Anschutz. We were not told which flight company was called. We were not offered any options for different flight companies. We were not asked about our insurance so that we could check to make sure that a trip on Guardian Flight would be covered. We were panicked parents wanting the best for our son. We were not thinking about any of this in that moment. We were scared that our 28 day old baby may die.

The flight team came and stabilized our son for the flight. My wife and son were then put onto the Guardian Flight plane and flown to Denver. I stayed in Montrose to make a week's worth of sub plans, arrangements for our animals to be taken care of, and to pack bags for my wife and older son. I left for Denver at 6 p.m. and drove through the night so I could be in Denver for Milo's surgery the next day.

While in Denver, Children's Hospital took great care of our son. We had a team of doctors who were world renowned for their expertise in diaphragmatic hernias. The doctors couldn't believe that our son had lived 28 days with this condition undiagnosed, or that he was still breathing on his own. Our son's team of doctors and nurses completed his surgery and answered all of our questions. They were friendly and so helpful. We were so grateful for what they did to help us. Our son stayed in the NICU for five days. During

this time, my wife and I took shifts staying at the hospital with him and taking care of our two year old. When we were released, we came back to Montrose to resume our lives, enjoy our now healthy and happy baby, and put this scare behind us. Unfortunately, because of the unprofessionalism and greediness of Guardian Flight, this situation is still a part of our lives fourteen months later.

Through this experience I have seen both how amazing the doctors in our healthcare system are, as well as how flawed our healthcare system is in regards to insurance and air ambulances. Our son's birth, ambulance to Montrose airport, stay at Children's Hospital, surgery, and anesthesia came to approximately \$450,000. We are fortunate to have insurance coverage through my employment in the Montrose School System. This is a self-insured arrangement administered by Employee Benefit Management Services, LLC (EBMS). All of our providers working with EBMS covered this expense except for the cost to us of \$9,970 for our out-of-pocket portion that I owed and paid. This was thirty dollars shy of our out-of-pocket max. All of these providers accepted EBMS's negotiated fees. This price did not include the plane ride with Guardian Flight. When we received a bill from Guardian Flight for \$81,901.55, I immediately started talking to EBMS. They said they were going to handle it. EBMS paid 250% of what Medicare would have paid per the plan agreement. EBMS paid \$17,747.45 towards the bill. Guardian Flight then balanced billed me the remainder of the bill, which came to \$63,901.55. This is more than one year of my teaching salary. Guardian Flight told me that they had appealed to EBMS, but EBMS denied their appeal. Guardian Flight told me that it was now up to me to appeal.

I filled out a form for Guardian Flight to appeal on my behalf again. After months, I was informed from Guardian Flight that the appeal to EBMS was not granted and they would be sending me the remaining bill. I was then put into the middle of the

Continued next pg

AIR AMBULANCE BILL TOO HIGH TO PAY *From previous pg*

of the EBMS and Guardian Flight negotiations. Neither company was working to communicate or solve this outrageous bill unless I called back and forth to get answers. I was constantly making phone calls between EBMS and Guardian Flight, asking about my son's bill and how it was going to be paid. My complaints were finally escalated with EBMS ten months later! The bill was taken to the EBMS "Navigator Team." I was told that this team would help negotiate our bill with Guardian Flight. After a month, I called to check in with the "Navigator Team" to see what was happening. I was not informed about any progress or offers that were being negotiated. I was told to wait. Soon after this phone call, I received a letter stating that nothing was going to happen with my bill and that I would be responsible for the balance. Once again, I was calling each entity to find out what had been offered and said during this "negotiation." All I heard was that each party was not returning calls and that an agreement could not be reached. I was back to square one, calling back and forth between EBMS and Guardian Flight.

At this point I asked my school district's benefits manager, Barbara, for assistance. She was immediately able to provide me with some progress towards getting this large bill taken care of. Barbara learned that EBMS had offered Guardian Flight a \$45,000 contract. Guardian Flight turned this offer down. It was suggested that I call the Insurance Commissioner of Colorado. After explaining our situation, the Commissioner told me that there was nothing he could do because EBMS was a self-funded insurance company, they had followed the terms of our plan, and that was all they could do.

Feeling hopeless and stuck with a \$63,901.55 bill, I called Guardian Flight again. It was at this time that they informed me that I could talk to patient advocacy. It had now been a year since our son's surgery. A patient advocacy employee told me they were going to reach out to EBMS and see if anything else could be done to reach an agreement. I waited a month. Another bill came from Guardian Flight. Once again, I called Guardian Flight to see what was happening with the bill.

The patient advocacy employee informed me that no agreement had been made and EBMS was not going to pay anything further. She told me proudly that they could offer me some discounts. The first discount that was offered was; Guardian Flight will take 65% off of the bill, making the bill around \$20,000, but only if we paid the bill in full within the next two weeks. The next discount offered to me was that I could make payments of \$400 dollars a month over the next six and a half years so that the bill would be reduced to \$33,000. Both of these amounts are unrealistic for me to pay as a teacher and completely unfair given that I have health insurance that should be covering these expenses.

I was frustrated to learn that with both of these discounts, Guardian Flight would be receiving substantially less money from me than they would if they had accepted the \$45,000 contract that EBMS originally offered to pay. When I brought this up with the employee at Guardian Flight, she said she was unaware of any offer from EBMS. I forwarded her the emails I had from Barbara and EBMS detailing the offers that had been made. She forwarded this information to her manager and called me the next day to discuss what she had learned. The employee told me, "Guardian Flight wanted more than \$45,000 and sent a counteroffer to EBMS, but Guardian Flight never heard back from EBMS." When they did not hear back from EBMS they discontinued negotiations. The employee at patient advocacy told me that if I wanted any negotiations to continue, I would need to call EBMS and ask them to call Guardian Flight to continue negotiations. I asked again why Guardian Flight was insisting that I, the patient, pay a substantially smaller amount than what they could have received from the insurance company. I was told that Guardian Flight, "Cares about their patient's well-being," they want to help lower costs but they expect more from the insurance companies and will charge them the max possible amount. This statement was absolutely ridiculous to me. If Guardian Flight cared about their patient's well-being, they would do more to negotiate with insurance companies to ensure that their

patients were not left paying ANY of the outrageously high bills at all. If Guardian Flight cared about their patient's well-being they would have accepted a contract from EBMS for \$45,000. By not doing so, they made it clear that they in fact do not care about my well being. They are more interested in taking advantage of people during some of the most terrifying, life or death experiences to get as much money as possible from their patients rather than the insurance company.

I have had my son's outrageous bill hanging over my head now for over fourteen months. I have learned that paying insurance with the idea that, if the worst happens I will be covered, is not true. I have seen a health insurance administrator, who I and my district pay monthly, not stand up to help me. I continue to be stuck in the middle of two unprofessional companies, Guardian Flight and EBMS, who have made it clear that they do not care about their patients, nor do they care about coming to any kind of agreement. Knowing what I know now, I absolutely would never recommend any hospital to use Guardian Flight as an air ambulance. I would never wish this experience on another family. We trusted our instincts and fought for our son when we knew something was wrong.

We were not offered alternative air ambulance options or asked about our insurance to make sure that Guardian Flight was in our network. When you think that your child could possibly die, those are not things that you think about, nor should they be. Guardian Flight knows this and takes advantage of people during some of their most terrifying and vulnerable moments.

It is impossible for me and my family to pay this bill. I want, and expect, to be taken out of the middle of this dispute. I want this claim to be paid. I want surprise billing to end. Most importantly, I want to ensure that others are not victimized by air ambulance companies in the future. I would appreciate any comments or questions you may have regarding these issues. Any suggestions on how to proceed would be thoughtfully considered.

*Sincerely,
Peter Stammler, Montrose*

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

PROPOSITION 115 WILL CAUSE HARM

Editor:

The ballot initiative Proposition 115 to ban abortions after 22 weeks offers a simplistic state imposed policy to a medically and ethically complex situation. Proposition 115 as written has a number of distortions and flaws.

The main exception to the ban is “to save the life of the pregnant woman” but does not include threats to the woman’s health. No exception for the diabetic whose eyesight and kidney function is steadily deteriorating? No exception for the woman with lupus with threats of stroke and kidney damage? No exception for the teenager incested by her uncle?

Of major importance, no exception for fetal anomalies, some fixable, some resulting in stillbirth, or neonatal suffering and death? The Center for Disease Control reports that approximately 120,000 pregnancies in the US each year are affected by fetal anomalies. Many anomalies are not detected until ultrasound at 21-24 weeks or later. The medical Journal Obstetrics and Gynecology of 5/24/2013 states that brain anomalies are often detected after the 21-24 week anatomy scan. The journal issue of 2/26/2009 followed 77 pregnant women who received a diagnosis of highly probable perinatal death. The majority were diagnosed after 22 weeks.

The Center for Disease Control notes that in 2016 just 1.2% of abortions in the United States took place after 21 weeks. The decision to terminate a previously planned and wanted pregnancy can be heart wrenching for the mother. The decision is best left up to the pregnant mother in consultation with her physician, rather than to a political ban imposed by the state, which will do harm.

Vote NO on Proposition 115.

Scott Johnson MD, Loveland CO

ELECT AN ENTERTAINER OR A LEADER???

Editor:

We in Western Colorado are facing a very important election – the 3rd Congressional District race.

The feisty Boebert sure knows how to throw some attitude! Her - pistol packin,’ no compromises, I make my own rules, thank you - style makes for dynamic and entertaining campaign stops.

I’ve been trying to imagine how Boebert’s approach might translate into effective leadership in Congress. Grandstanding on divisive hot-button issues is an easy way to stir up a crowd. Reconciling our differences is a more fruitful way to get things done in politics.

While Colorado and the USA face significant challenges, both are blessed with abundant resources to address those challenges. The path forward lies in shepherding those resources to address the problems at hand. In these polarized and divided times, we need someone with the experience and maturity to reach out to all her constituents, and to forge solutions that benefit all of us. As a former Colorado State Representative and Routt County Commissioner, Mitsch Bush has a long history of public service, a proven record of collaboration, and a willingness to address the flaws in our political system. She doesn’t shy away from the hard work of understanding the issues and getting things sorted out.

If we tire of Boebert’s entertainment, it won’t be easy to switch channels to the dedicated leadership we truly need now. In these uncertain times, let’s elect the proven public servant -- Diane Mitsch Bush.

Pat Kiernan, Carbondale



ISSUE 286 Oct. 19, 2020

ART & SOL

6TH ANNUAL TELLURIDE FIRE FESTIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE WITH SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN PLACE



A flaming sculpture at the Transfer Warehouse from 2019 called Tonglen. Courtesy photo by Matt Brooks.

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE-The Festival has a Covid-safe, three-day Festival planned, which will be mostly out of doors to offer art and culture this December 4-6 in Telluride. Face masks will be provided for those that don't have them and seating will be every other row at the one indoor event in the Palm Theater. Expect over-the-top fiery

art shooting flames high into the night sky at the Festival. There will be many activities including the family-friendly event at the historic Transfer Warehouse, which will enthrall visitors with interactive, flaming sculptures, fire dancers, music, and a cash bar, Friday and Sunday nights.

The Festival will be showcasing many interactive fire installations by artists from Telluride and the surrounding region at the event called *Hot Time in the Old Town* within the roofless Transfer Warehouse. Here below are just a few of the eclectic group of creators: Charlie Vierhout, from Arizona, will have his 10-foot tall street clock tower with buttons allowing people to control multiple types of flames blasts. The clock also has 1,300 LED's, which run an ever-changing, and wildly brilliant, color display. Dave Mechtly, a Denver-based artist, will have two flaming masterpieces on display. One fun installation, *Strictly Platonic*, employs a button that guests can press to create "poofing" flames. *Strictly Platonic* also boasts a wonderful fire pit around which people can warm themselves while enjoying the beauty.

Kristin Wesley, a community-based public artist in Phoenix, AZ, will showcase her *Fire Lotus*. She uses recognizable, repurposed metal components to create sculptural assemblages and fire features. Described as dynamic, colorful and rhythmic, Kristin's work often employs biomorphic

imagery, utilizing gardens and plants as a metaphor for life.

Other inspiring events include:

- Fire On The Mountain" atop the ski area will showcase spectacular wood sculptures on display during the day, which will ceremoniously burn to the ground Saturday night.
- A dance and acrobatic performance at The Palm Theater in collaboration with Telluride Dance Collective and Homestead Circus Productions. Limited seating due to Covid safety protocols.
- Free fire art performances along with flaming art cars on the public plaza in Mountain Village.
- Free flow arts workshops.
- Beginner Welding Workshop in an above ground nonworking Mine.
- Costume artist, Micki Flatmo exhibition of elaborate Burning Man-style outerwear at Slate Gray Gallery, with an opening reception on Thursday, December 3. Costumes will be for sale.

The Historic Transfer Warehouse

Before its roof collapsed in 1979, the stone building was a downtown garage and filling station. In 1906, before the advent of the automobile, the cavernous, two-story space was the barn for the local livery and the center of the Warehouse District that served the mining industry. The stone (roofless) building is a perfect backdrop for fire art!

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE JOURNEY TO D.C. BEGINS NOV. 6

Special to the Mirror

DELTA— Each year, a different national forest provides a tree to light up the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol building for the holiday season. The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests in partnership with nonprofit partner Choose Outdoors and Colorado Tourism will bring this special gift from Colorado to Washington, D.C. for the 2020 holiday season with special events in 10 communities along the way.

The tree's journey officially begins Nov. 6 when it will be cut on the Uncompahgre National Forest.

Before the cutting, a short ceremony will take place and include remarks by USDA Forest Service leadership, local elected officials and project partners. A livestream of the ceremony and cutting will be available for viewing online on the GMUG National Forests Facebook page.

On Nov. 10, the tree will visit 10 communities for a series of outdoor festivities hosted by local communities at fair grounds, schools, main streets, visitor centers, convention centers and retailers. Well-wishers will have a chance to take photos, sign banners on the sides of the truck, learn more about the GMUG National Forests and the great state of Colorado and more. Festivities are free and open to the public for all to enjoy. Beginning Nov. 10, the tree's journey can be

tracked in real time online at capitoltreetracker.com hosted by Spireon, Inc., with tour stops including:

Tuesday, Nov. 10

-10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MST San Miguel County Fairgrounds (1165 Summit St, Norwood, CO 81423)

-3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. MST Montrose Visitor Center (107 S Cascade Ave., Montrose, CO 81401)

Wednesday, Nov. 11

-9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. MST Ouray County Courthouse (541 4th St, Ouray, CO 81427)

-5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. MST Grand Junction Convention Center (159 Main St, Grand Junction, CO 81501)

Thursday, Nov. 12

-10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. MST Downtown Paonia (Grand Avenue, Between 2nd and 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428)

-2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. MST Gunnison Community School (1099 N 11th St, Gunnison, CO 81230)

Friday, Nov. 13

-11 a.m. – 1 p.m. MST Salida High School - Student Parking Lots (26 Jones Avenue, Salida, CO 81201)

Saturday, Nov. 14

-5 p.m. – 7 p.m. MST Bass Pro Shops (7970 Northfield Blvd, Denver, CO 80238)

Tuesday, Nov. 17

-3 p.m. – 6 p.m. EST Asheville Outlets (800 Brevard Rd Suite 805, Asheville, NC 28806)

-Friday, Nov. 20: Delivery to West Lawn,

U.S. Capitol Building

*Subject to change. Monitor website at www.uscapitolchristmastree.com/tour for the latest updates.

Safety of tour staff, event attendees and the tree are the top priority. Face coverings are required for all events and social distancing will be maintained. Along the way, we ask the public to be aware of the large truck's huge blind spots, wide turns, and longer stopping distances on our roads so we can all arrive safely to our destinations. The initiative made possible with cash and in-kind contributions from companies large and small as well as volunteers locally and across America, who provide vital support of time and resources. 2020 sponsors include Kenworth Truck Company, Apex Transportation, 42 Degrees, Spireon, Inc., Hale Trailer, Chuck Leavell, STIHL, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Truckload Carriers Association, Great West Casualty Company, Valley Crane, Red Wing Shoes, National Forest Foundation, Society of American Foresters, LexisNexis VitalChek Network, Inc., The Joy Trip Project, Loki, Montrose County, Delta County, Seirus, TravelCenters of America, Bass Pro Shops and Vesmir.

Follow along online at

www.uscapitolchristmastree.com and @uscapitolchristmastree on Facebook and Instagram.

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY MOVES FORWARD WITH MORE OFF-PEAK SEASON MARKETING AND RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL INITIATIVES



Night sky photo by Cutler Connaughton.

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Ridgway continues to multiply the impact of local marketing efforts with matching funding and technical support from the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO). The Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) is directing resources to market local businesses for this winter season through new content on RidgwayColorado.com, social media platforms, newsletters, and targeted online advertising.

"Educating visitors about Ridgway's assets and how to enjoy them responsibly is more important than ever this year when visitation has been increasing due to vacationers' focus on car travel and outdoor destinations. The chamber has been shifting its messaging to encourage sustainable year-round tourism in light of these evolving changes, and these new marketing efforts will support that," said RACC Board President Tim Patterson.

The RACC was recently awarded 50 hours of free technical assistance from a CTO advertising and marketing expert. Cham-

ber staff will use the technical support to create web-search optimized content to market the Ridgway area's winter season. The content will be used on RidgwayColorado.com, social media and newsletters, to highlight a wide range of local businesses and activities that visitors can enjoy safely without the spread of COVID-19. Other marketing messages will share RACC's responsible recreation and tourism philosophy.

The CTO is also partially funding a winter marketing campaign for Ridgway on state promotional channels. The CTO will provide \$2,000 worth of marketing services, while RACC has committed \$1,500 of additional funding. From December through February, digital marketing efforts will include in-state targeted emails and targeted online advertising.

Throughout 2020, RACC has been updating content on RidgwayColorado.com, which continues to be the top search engine result for Ridgway-related searches. New web pages focus on diverse itinerar-



Autumn photo by Tanya Ishikawa.

ies, many available year round, as well as responsible tourism tips and new promotional themes to highlight shopping, accommodations and local services.

"Ridgway offers a wide array of winter activities and an escape to solitude. Visitors can adventure by day in the surrounding mountains, fly fish on the Uncompahgre River, and snowboard or ski at Telluride Resort. Then, evenings can be filled with relaxation, enjoying performances and art shows, soaking in hot springs, stargazing under our Internationally Designated Dark Skies, and dining on quality local foods. Plus, visitors are ensured to have a safe experience, as our community is adhering to COVID-19 state and county guidelines," said RACC Marketing Director, Hilary Lewkowitz.

In partnership with the Town of Ridgway, the RACC also applied for a fourth year of state funding for promoting the Colorado Creative Corridor.

The Colorado Creative Corridor travels some 331 miles through a handful of state-certified Creative District destinations including Carbondale, Crested Butte, Paonia, Ridgway and Salida.

This marketing initiative allows the RACC to market Ridgway as a year-round destination, with an emphasis on supporting our local business community.

The grant award decision will be announced on Nov. 12.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

LWV MONTROSE COUNTY ESSAY/POSTER CONTEST WINNERS



Poster contest winner by Briar Cary.

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-The League of Women Voters of Montrose County, serving Montrose and Delta counties, (LWV) presented awards to Alexandra (Alex) Waxler and Briar Cary, who wrote the winning essays and created the winning poster for the LWV's Essay and Poster Contest. The contests' theme, "Why It Is Important to Vote and What Voting Means to Me", was open to young people ages 16-21, and highlighted the LWV's emphasis on the importance

of engaging young voters.

The first prize winner of the essay, Alex, receive a check in the amount of \$150.00, and the second-place winner, Briar, represented by her father, Jim Cary, received a check in the amount of \$125. In addition, Briar was awarded \$150.00 for the winning poster submission. The prizes were awarded on the steps of the Montrose County Court House next the Ballot Drop Box on October 15, 2020 at 12:15 p.m.

Alex's essay focused on the contrast between the freedom to vote in the United States compared to the manipulated "voting" in countries like North Korea and China. She emphasizes that "Every voice deserves to be heard, especially in local elections."

Briar's essay notes that, "The United States is home to a diverse collective of people that hold a wide range of social, political, and economic statuses. Despite these differences, all votes are held at equal value."

Alex is home-schooled; she will graduate

this year and is now applying for colleges in Nebraska and Colorado. Among her many activities, Alex leads a Sign Language Choir which uses American Sign Language to accompany current songs. The choir regularly performs at the Montrose United Methodist Church and has recordings posted on Facebook and YouTube. Alex's goal is to become a Special Education teacher. As an 18-year-old, this is her first time to vote and she will complete her ballot and place it in the Drop Box at the Montrose County Court House.

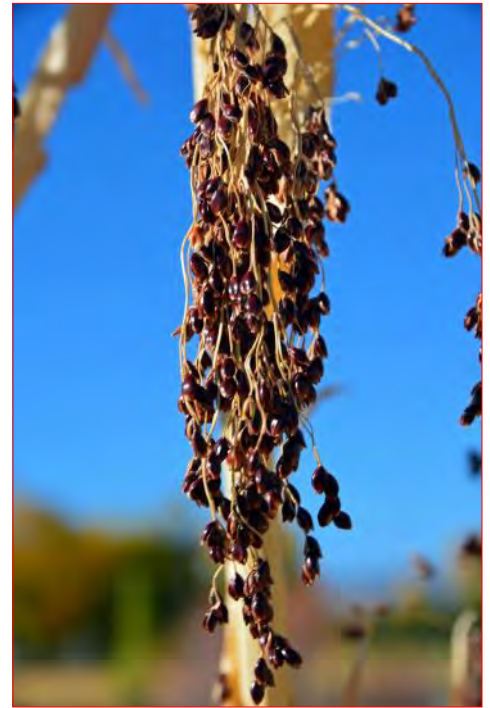
Briar is a graduate of Montrose High School and is currently enrolled at California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly), working on a degree in Industrial Engineering. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers at Cal Poly. Briar has been a registered voter since 2017, and this will be the first time she will be voting in a presidential election. Thank you to League members and supporters whose donations are funding contest prizes.



READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Above, Deb snapped this view of the Gunnison Gorge Basin on a recent visit...



Above, Broom Corn.

Wormwood fence and Virginia Creeper, below.



OURAY-RIDGWAY-SILVERTON CROSS COUNTRY TEAM COMPETES



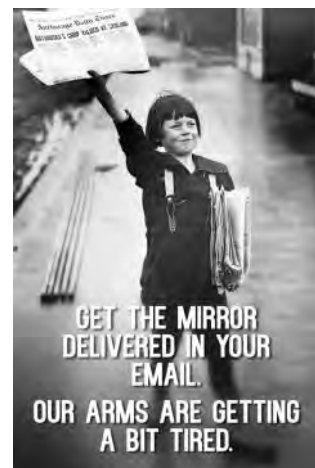
Above, photo by Tanya Ishikawa
RIDGWAY-The combined Ouray-Ridgway-Silverton High School Cross Country Team, which won first place at the regional competition last week in Delta, stands in front of a crowd of proud community members just before boarding the bus to head to the Colorado High School Cross Country Competition in Colorado Springs. The five athletes slated to run were Vinny Schierenberg, Cory Thomsen, Canyon Ishikawa, Rock Gibbs, and Paton Edwards, while Owen Lane, Zach Sauer and Kaden Nelson were going as alternates.



Left to right, runners Canyon Ishikawa, Paton Edwards, Vinny Schierenberg, Cory Thomsen and Rock Gibbs produced an 8th Place team ranking at the 2A high school cross country state championship. Senior Owen Lane supported the team as an alternate, along with Zach Sauer and Kaden Nelson, not pictured. There were 98 finishers and 16 teams on the 5K run. Photo by Zoe Denison.



The Ouray High School Cross Country Team warms up before the state championship in Colorado Springs on Saturday. Photo by Zoe Denison.





BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

HomeServices

Western Colorado Properties



JUST SOLD!

68392 Tyler Lane

\$2,000,000

Bedrooms: 3

Bathrooms: 5

4585 sq. ft. on 6 acres

Year Built: 2013

This property is a rare find, an architectural masterpiece so rich in detail you have to see it in person to believe it...One of THE nicest homes in all of Montrose. Picture a peaceful river setting, manicured 6+ acre lawn with main home, a fully appointed guest house with all the comforts of home, overlooking a fountain & stocked fish pond...Where does one begin painting a picture that will adequately describe such an amazing property?



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Western
Colorado Properties

Jeff Keehfuss

Broker/Owner

970-209-3825

Jeff@MontroseColorado.com

www.MontroseColorado.com

435 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401

©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity. CO Lic #: ER100002044



SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

ONGOING-

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY-Every Wednesday beginning Sept. 2, 2020, through April, 2021 - Community Bible Study live virtual meetings mornings and evenings: gospel of John. Classes for women and children. Call 720-635-0091 for more information or to register.

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-

Oct. 21-CHANGE OF PRESENTATION DATE AND PLACE. Wednesday OCT 21 at 1 pm , Place: OUR TOWN MATTERS, 1245 E Main St (Bypass and E Main)-Understand your 2021 Medicare Benefits and Open Enrollment

In this electronic age finding easy to understand information on your questions about 'Medicare Open Enrollment' can be daunting. Know how to compare plans to choose the best plan for your health need. Know how to easily customize your Prescription Drug Plan. Know what to do with your guaranteed rights when Rocky Mountain Health Cost plans leave the Western Slope. Call Marilyn Huseby for Info 970 901-9914

Oct. 26-30-The 7th Judicial District announces that as part of the Colorado Judicial Branch's Pro Bono Week, it will facilitate a local Ask-An-Attorney event during the week of Oct. 26-30, 2020. Participants will be matched with a local attorney who specializes in their case type for a free consultation. Availability may be limited, so participants are encouraged to register early. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, consults will be limited to telephone or online formats. To register or for additional information please call 970.252.4312.

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.

Nov. 20-The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club's (BCBGC) 6th Annual Crab Crack fundraiser will be a little different this year to comply with COVID-19 social distancing restrictions and will be the "Stay in your Shell" edition. This means the BCBGC will not be having an in-person event at a specific venue but, rather, Crab Crack will be delivered to you at the location of your choosing in Montrose! A land and sea feast of crab, shrimp, Andouille sausage, corn, potatoes, and dessert with wine (with all the eating supplies you need) delivered to your door. There will be no individual ticket sales this year but sponsorships are available. There will also be an online benefit auction where you can bid on and fund items the Club members' need. The link to this auction will open on the Club's website (www.bcbgc.org) on Nov. 20. Please contact Bud Taylor at btaylor@bcbgc.org or at 970-249-5168 for sponsorship inquiries or event questions.



BUYING OR SELLING IN MONTROSE OR SURROUNDING AREA

Autumn Barrett

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

970-318-0708

autumnbarrettrealtor@gmail.com

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Western Colorado
Properties

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

A POSTCARD FROM THE PAST...



Just for fun, B. Switzer shared with us this postcard recently received from the collection of James Ronan of Decorah, Iowa. It shows Montrose around the late 1950's...? The post card reads, "Montrose, a leading agricultural, trade and tourist center, at the junction of U.S. 50 and 550 in Western Colorado. This is a view of the Main Street business section, including a glimpse of the forested Uncompahgre Plateau in the distance."

*Save a tree –
Read the Mirror!*

**THE
MONTROSEMIRROR**

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Call For Ad Rates: 970-275-0646