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# Montrose Mirror

#### **WOMEN'S GIVING CLUB MEETING GOES VIRTUAL**



Mirror staff report

MONTROSE—Due to statewide restrictions, the Montrose Women's Giving Club Nov. 2 quarterly meeting will not take place in person as planned, but will be held virtually to award funds to a community non-profit organization chosen by club members. Organizer Phoebe Benziger said, "Unfortunately, we will not be able to meet due to new COVID restrictions. Call me for more information at 209-9598."

Fresh news for free people!

Women's Giving Club meetings are open to all women; each member donates \$100 per quarter at each meeting.

At left, the Giving Club awarded a \$14.8K check to Girls on the Run. Pictured are Sue Hansen, Sara Plumhoff (Montrose Community Foundation), Emily Moen (ED of Girls on the Run), Phoebe Benziger and Kristy Barrett. Courtesy photo.

#### DMEA TO BRING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN-HOUSE

By Gail Marvel
REGIONAL-The Oct. 27
Delta Montrose Electric
Association (DMEA)
Board of Directors
meeting, a Zoom webinar, was called to order
at 3 p.m. Members who
wish to receive log-in
information prior to
meetings can contact
Amy Taylor via e-mail at
amy.taylor@dmea.com.

Practicing social distancing, the board and staff participated on computers from offices and homes, where facemasks were not required.



The Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Director meetings continue to be held virtually. All board members were present for the Oct. 27 meeting. Co-Op members who wish to receive log-in information prior to meetings can contact Amy Taylor via e-mail at <a href="mailto:amy.taylor@dmea.com">amy.taylor@dmea.com</a>. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments; however, during the meeting itself microphones of attendees who are not on the board or on staff are muted.

During the meetings the board of directors give verbal summary reports of their monthly meetings and activities; however, neither the co-op membership nor the media have access to the

Continued pg 31

#### **MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS**

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#### THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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

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

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#### **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **CONSUMER ADVISORY: OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGAN NOV. 1**

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - Open Enrollment for individual health insurance (meaning not from an employer) starts on Nov. 1. The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), part of the **Department of Regulatory Agencies** (DORA), reminds everyone that now is the time for Coloradans who are in need of health insurance to enroll in or renew coverage for 2021. The annual open enrollment for the individual market runs from Nov. 1 - Jan. 15. If you do not get your coverage from an employer or from a government program such as Medicaid or Medicare, this is the only time of the year to sign up for health insurance, unless you have a major life event during the year like losing your job and your employer coverage, having a baby or getting married or divorced. However, to have coverage in place starting Jan. 1, enrollment must be complete by Dec. 15.

"Having health insurance is important in any year, but it is especially critical as we are still in the midst of the global COVID-19 pandemic," said Colorado Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway. "As so many have been impacted by the economic challenges of the pandemic, the chance to enroll in insurance for the coming year is key in gaining access to health care services and maintaining their health."

Take Time to Find the Plan Right for You As the DOI announced in early October, people buying individual plans will see a statewide average decrease in premiums of 1.4% compared to 2020 premiums. But that's an average. People will see changes that are higher or lower depending on the plan, where they live and their ages. That's why it is important to take time during open enrollment to comparison shop and find the plan that's right for you

- one that fits your health needs and your budget. Premiums are important, but it is critical to look at other factors. Take some time to consider deductibles, co-payments and co-insurance costs, along with doctors, health conditions and how the plan covers prescriptions.

#### **Connect for Health Colorado**

Colorado individual health insurance consumers can enroll with insurance agents, community assisters, directly with the insurance companies or through our state's exchange, Connect for Health Colorado. Contact Connect at 855-752-6749 or find in-person assistance through their statewide network of certified experts at connectforhealthco.com/person-help. If you or a family member need assistance decoding the language of a health plan, contact the Division of Insurance Consumer Services: 303-894-7490 / 800-930-3745 / DORA Insurance@state.co.us.

#### 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











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Lot 23 Pine Drive | Ridgway, CO \$129,900 | MLS# 762967 AWESOME 8.347 Acre Parcel in Loghill Village. Borders open space. Wooded parcel with Incredible views. Private & secluded. 1,000 sq.ft. minimum home living area



Lot #3 7250 Road | Montrose, CO \$89,500 | MLS# 768385 Reduced \$10,000! Scenic beauty and serenity with Awesome mountain views from this 4.5 acre lot in an exceptional location, BLM borders subdivision. Lot borders large ranch.



Lot 1 Buckhorn Road | Montrose, CO \$95,000 | MLS# 764338 5.1 ACRES with 360 views, minimal covenants and no HOA. 1,200 sq. ft. minimum home living area. Close to BLM



Lot 5 Ranger Road | Montrose, CO \$159,900 | MLS# 775094 FOREVER VIEW LOT 5.02 acres Private and Secluded Spring Creek Mesa location in upscale subdivision with fabulous views of the mountains, valley and city lights at night.



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### CDOT TO PERFORM CRACK SEALING ON US 550 NORTH OF RIDGWAY

Special to the Mirror

SOUTHWEST COLORADO — CDOT will perform crack sealing next week on US 550, 10 miles north of Ridgway, MP 116-118. The traveling public is advised this work will occur at and near the busy intersection of Ouray CR 1 and US 550, and should allow themselves extra travel time. The work will take place Monday — Friday, November 2 — 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. TRAFFIC IMPACTS

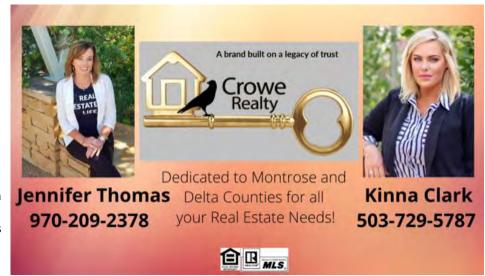
Travelers will encounter flagging personnel guiding, one-lane alternating traffic with full stops and should allow for extra travel time. Delays should be no longer than 15 minutes. Travelers are urged to "know before you go." Gather information about weather forecasts and anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions prior to hitting the road. CDOT resources include: Road conditions and travel infor-

mation: www.COtrip.org.

Sign up for project or travel alerts: <u>bit.ly/</u> <u>COalerts</u>. See scheduled lane closures: codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-

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#### **BOCC HOLDS 2 SPECIAL MEETINGS, APPROVES 1 ITEM**



Montrose County Commissioners held special meetings on Oct. 27 and on Oct. 29.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met for special meetings on <u>Tuesday</u>, Oct. 27 and on <u>Thursday</u>, Oct. 29.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING-OCT.27**

BOCC Chair Keith Caddy welcomed all to the meeting; BOC Vice Chair Roger Rash led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. All commissioners were present.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments heard from the public.

#### **County Manager**

County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the agenda.

#### **Consent Agenda**

The Consent Agenda item was unanimous- was adjourned.

ly approved as written, "consideration of ratification of the Chairman's signature on a Contract to Buy and Sell Real Estate and an Agreement to Amend/Extend Contract as reviewed by Counsel. Completion of this sale would represent unbudgeted revenue in the amount of \$70,000 minus fees and commission."

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING-OCT. 29**

The BOCC met for a special meeting at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29. BOCC Chair Keith Caddy welcomed all to the meeting and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. All commissioners were present.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments heard from the public.

#### **County Manager**

County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the agenda.

Executive Session-The Board planned to enter 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 €. However, County Attorney Marti Whitmore said that material facts concerning the matter have changed, and an executive session was not required. With no further business, the meeting



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# 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.

We are pleased to welcome <u>Chris Menz</u> 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!

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Chris Menz

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.



We would like to thank our outgoing Service Manger, <u>Jack Weyers</u> 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!

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### REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

#### ATTEND THE NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX PROGRESS MEETING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE -The public will have an opportunity to receive updates regarding the Montrose Police Department's new Public Safety Complex at a community meeting planned for Monday, Nov. 2. The meeting will be held at the Montrose Pavilion Events Center located at 1800 E. Pavilion Place from 6 - 8 pm.

Participants can expect an informative update on the progress of the new Montrose Police Department building and its associated construction plans. In attendance will be Montrose Police Department Command staff, other key project staff members and the city's owners representative Dynamic Program Management (DPM).

The public is encouraged to attend to continue community conversations about the Police Department Complex progress. COVID-19 screening procedures will be in place upon entry to the building and all attendees are asked to wear a facial covering once inside.



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The Montrose Mirror | November 2, 2020

### CITY COUNCIL TO LOOK AT FEE SCHEDULE REVISIONS, LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL FOR SIDELINES SPORTS BAR



Montrose City Council will convene for a <u>work session</u> at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 2 and for a <u>regular meeting</u> at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council will convene for a <u>work session</u> at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 2 and for a <u>regular meeting</u> at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3 (although normally held at 6 p.m., the time of the meeting was changed due to the election).

due to the election,

#### **WORK SESSION**

The work session agenda states, "Due to the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting will be held electronically via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/ register/

WN\_NuMdzgf7SbujXWY1kdhHYQ. Additional meeting access details are available at the end of the agenda. The meeting can also viewed live on the City of Montrose website, www.cityofmontrose.org, on Channel 191, and on Channel 970."

Discussion items will include Fee Schedule revisions for 2021 and the Lynch Addition Annexation Overview. A report from the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning is included in the work session packet.

Items to be considered at upcoming City work sessions and meetings include:
Nov. 17-2021 Budget Adoption; Small

Business Saturday Proclamation; Nov. 30ØPlanning Commission applicant

Dec. 1-Supplemental Budget Ordinance; Hilltop Addition II Annexation Hearing; Rainbow Trout Addition Annexation Ordinance;

Dec. 15-Planning Commission Appointments; New Fermented Malt Beverage License Application - Maverik, Inc. #616.

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting agenda states, "Due to the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting will be held electronically and can be accessed at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/ register/WN TzWk6tlMRem7y-Jhkty5pQ." Council will consider a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 35 N. Uncompahgre Avenue for Sidelines Sports Bar, Inc., doing business as Sidelines Sports Bar for consumption on the licensed premises. Council consider adopting Ordinance 2514 on first reading...providing and appropriating funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

Also to be considered are: Resolution 2020-22, amending contribution rates to

the FPPA defined benefit system administered by the Fire and Police Pension Association for reentry police officers for the City of Montrose; Ordinance 2511 on first reading...designating the BPOE Lodge Building, 107 S. Cascade Avenue, Montrose, Colorado as a City of Montrose Historic Property pursuant to Chapter 4 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose; Resolution 2020-23 setting Dec. 1, 2020 as the hearing date for the annexation of the Hilltop Addition II; Ordinance 2512 on second 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; and Ordinance 2515 on first reading...amending the zoning district designation of Lot 5 of the Elder Homestead at Montrose Parcel Number 3767-353-04-

Montrose Parcel Number 3767-353-04-005, from R-3, Medium Density District, to R-4, High Density District.

Council will hold a public hearing on the annexation of the Woodgate Addition No. 4, and will consider approving Resolution 2020-24, Findings of Fact for the annexation of the Woodgate Addition No. 4 and

Ordinance 2516 on first reading... for the annexation of the Woodgate Addition No. 4. Council will consider Ordinance 2517 on first reading, zoning the Woodgate Addition No. 4 as a B-3, General Commercial District.

Council will consider approving the Waterfall Canyon Subdivision Filing No. 4 Final Plat to create 24 new residential lots and dedicate rights of way and/or easements.

Council will consider approving Ordinance 2513 on second 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. Council will consider approving an agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc. to perform Nutrient Removal Optimization pilot testing at the City of Montrose Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. Following staff reports, Council will adjourn.

#### **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

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Humana Inc. First Quarter 2020 Earnings Release May 1, 2020 Humana is a Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO and PFFS organization and a standalone prescription drug plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Humana plan depends on contract renewal. Applicable to . [[NewspaperSupDiscloimerCal] For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 970-596-6967 (TTY: 711), 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., seven days a week. At Humana, it is important you are treated fairly. Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion. English: ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-877-320-1235 (TTY: 711). Español (Spanish): ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-877-320-1235 (TTY: 711). 繁體中文 (Chinese): 注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-877-320-1235 (TTY: 711)

Y0040 GHHKVCSEN 21 C

# CITY RETALIATION AGAINST DIVOT'S OWNER IS GLARINGLY OBVIOUS, UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR

Dear Editor-

The explanation for Janece Culver's Divot lease termination is glaringly obvious based on Billy Bell's non-explanation: it is a retaliation for the complaint brought by Janece Culver against the manager, Bowman and the Council who continue to deny any involvement in what amounted to extortion and unethical behavior. What a sad commentary!....and the entire bunch continues to make decisions with impunity for us residents.

Marge Morgenstern, Montrose

### U.N. PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN VALUABLE TO U.S.

Editor:

As I sit here this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, I am grateful to recognize this as UN Day, which this year starts the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, the most consequential international body ever. The UN, who in spite of a small amount of ill-informed criticism, has not only promoted peace and well-being around the world, but has served as a necessary global-wide dialogue and negotiative body. Without the UN we would not have a world-wide recognized body for the discussion and negotiation of world concerns, let alone coordinated world humanitarian efforts. Some important efforts to recognize are the effort to prevent conflict, protect human rights, deliver humanitarian aid, promote sustainable development, foster respect for justice, and coordinate other global

As various global concerns have demonstrated, like the SARS Virus epidemic, the climate crisis, international space travel efforts, etc., we are realizing that we cannot always go it alone, but must consider the global community, as well. Let's use this coming year to recognize and learn about the value of our United Nations participation.

Wayne Quade, Montrose

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#### **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

#### DESPITE RETALIATION, CITY HAS NOT HEARD THE END OF BOWMAN SCANDAL

Editor:

The latest in the ongoing Bowman / Bell / Morgenthaler / City Council / Divots scandal, as reported by in the Montrose Mirror, involves what certainly seems to be pure unilateral retribution by Bell et al for Ms Culver's audacity in standing up for her rights and removing the veil of corruption in our city government.

As reported, the city notified Ms. Culver that her contract to operate Divots would not be renewed. That contract of February 2019, was broken by then Mayor now councilman] Bowman soon after the ink was dry, by demanding "his fair share" of Culver's liquor proceeds at the 2019 Summer Music Series. His actions, made public in May, and promptly declared illegal, resulted in a blatant coverup by Bell and

Morgenthaler, as well as council in a feeble attempt to couch the scandal as a dispute between Bowman and Culver.

The Divots contract with the city was signed by Ann Morgenthaler [Assistant City Manager], and neither she nor Bill Bell acted to forestall Bowman's illegal demands, when Culver made successive complaints to her. It's telling to note that the recent city notice not to renew the contract was not signed by Morgenthaler, but by the City Finance Director. It also appears that the question of non renewal was never discussed in city work sessions or by council. The logical assumption then is that the final decision was made by Bell to try to sweep the entire scandal into the shadow of history.

Luckily for taxpayers, it won't be that sim-

ple. Ms Culver filed an ethics complaint with the Colorado Ethics Commission against Bowman, and it has been accepted for investigation. Bowman has until November 28 to respond, but rest assured, that complaint is sure to be thoroughly investigated. With the complexity of the issues it will surely cover not only Bowman's ethics, but his violation of a city contract for personal gain. It surely will involve Bell's, Morgenthaler's, and council's failure to take prompt corrective action, as well as their collective disdain for public transparency.

In a sense, Ms Culver is fortunate to be getting out of a contract with an untrust-worthy partner-The City of Montrose- but that partner has not heard the end of it. *Dee Laird, Montrose* 





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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### TAKE CARE DEALING WITH SNOW-DAMAGED TREES

Special to the Mirror

FORT COLLINS— Coloradans who are dealing with broken tree limbs after this past weekend's snowstorm may be considering actions to protect and repair them.

Vince Urbina, urban and community forestry manager for the Colorado State Forest Service, said that although the first impulse may be to start cutting when a tree is damaged, homeowners should first assess the situation to avoid hurting themselves or further damaging the tree.

Urbina and the CSFS offer the following tips for dealing with snow-damaged trees; these tips were adapted from International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) recommendations:

**Check for hazards.** Before approaching a tree, examine your surroundings to avoid making contact with downed utility lines

or standing under broken, hanging branches. Contact your utility company if a tree is affecting power or other utility lines.

Contact city officials if necessary. Trees between the street and a city sidewalk may be the responsibility of city crews.

Assess the damage. If a tree is healthy overall and still possesses its leader (the main upward branch), most of its major limbs and 50 percent or more of its crown, the chance is good for a complete recovery.

#### Be careful knocking snow off branches.

This may cause the branches to break. If you must remove snow, gently push up on branches from below to prevent adding additional stress.

**Remove broken branches.** This minimizes the risk of decay and insects or diseases

entering the wound. Prune at the <u>branch</u> <u>collar</u> – the point where a branch joins a larger one – and be mindful of potential pent-up energy if the branch is twisted or bent.

**Don't over-prune.** With the loss of some branches, a tree may look unbalanced, but most trees quickly grow new foliage that hides bare areas.

**Don't try to do it all yourself.** If the job requires running a chainsaw overhead, sawing from a ladder or removing large branches or entire trees, contact an insured, certified arborist.

For more information about tree care and protection, visit the Colorado State Forest Service website at <a href="mailto:csfs.colostate.edu">csfs.colostate.edu</a>, or refer to the <a href="Caring for Storm-Damaged Trees">Caring for Storm-Damaged Trees</a> quick guide. To find an ISA-certified arborist, visit <a href="https://www.isa-arbor.com">www.isa-arbor.com</a>.



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

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### 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.



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### VEHICLE AND BODY LOCATED IN BLACK CANYON

Montrose County Sheriff's Office MONTROSE-The Montrose County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) located a body of a young male, along with a 2018 Black Chevrolet Tahoe in a remote area east of Montrose on Friday afternoon. Montrose County Coroner Dr. Thomas Canfield, M.D., was called to the scene. Based upon the circumstances, the recovered paperwork and the vehicle identification, it is presumed that the body is that of Walter Kent Jackson, an 18-year-old

student from Western Colorado University west of Montrose County. The MCSO was in Gunnison who has been missing since Oct. 19. Cause and manner of death are pending autopsy results and toxicology analysis. The case is under investigation by the Montrose County Sheriff's Office, the Gunnison Police Department (GPD), and the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation. Walter Jackson was reported to GPD as a missing person on Wednesday, Oct. 21. An initial cell phone location placed Jackson in an area north-

called to assist the investigation, and began search efforts in Montrose County. A more specific cellular location technology indicated an area east of Montrose on Thursday afternoon. Further investigation led authorities to the vehicle location. At this time, authorities are waiting for clear conditions to begin recovery operations. All agencies would like to express their heartfelt sympathies to the family and communities affected by the loss.







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#### **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

#### PUC TO DISCUSS RETAIL NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will hold a remote Commissioners' Information Meeting (CIM) from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020, to collect information regarding retail natural gas industry greenhouse gas emissions. A law passed by the Colorado Legislature in 2019 set statewide goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. While no specific requirements for the retail natural gas sector have been established yet, the PUC intends to investigate whether changes in natural gas use emissions could help meet the statewide goals of House Bill 19-1261. The PUC is seeking information regarding topics such as the mathematical and scientific expectations for emission reductions from the retail

natural gas sector; options to decarbonize retail natural gas; and potential steps the Commission can take now while long-term technological and regulatory changes are implemented. To facilitate this investigation, the PUC has opened proceeding no. 20M-0439G as a repository for presentations, comments, and other materials relating to the Commission's general investigation. Commissioner Megan Gilman was designated Hearing Commissioner for the proceeding.

While the PUC anticipates that there will be subsequent CIMs on this topic, the purpose of the Nov. 5 meeting is to establish a base set of background information regarding retail natural gas industry greenhouse gas emissions in light of Colorado's emission reduction goals.

The Commission will hear presentations regarding the future market dynamics for natural gas; Colorado's statutory greenhouse gas reductions and the Governor's roadmap; the retail natural gas industry's potential to help meet statewide greenhouse gas emission reductions; relevant state agency rulemakings and expected timelines; and potential future pathways to meet Colorado's emission reduction targets.

The CIM will be webcast and can be accessed at: <a href="https://puc.colorado.gov/webcasts">https://puc.colorado.gov/webcasts</a>. Members of the public may submit written comments on the topic at any time by using the PUC's on-line comment form at <a href="https://puc.colorado.gov/puccomments">https://puc.colorado.gov/puccomments</a> under proceeding 20M-0439G.





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

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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

### DELTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESENTS COMMENDATION TO SGT KEITH SANDERS FOR K9 OXX'S SERVICE TO DELTA COUNTY



Delta County Board of County Commissioners joined Sheriff Taylor and Undersheriff Archibeque on Oct. 21 in presenting the Sheriff's Commendation to Sergeant Sanders and honoring K9 Oxx's life and memory. Courtesy photo.

#### Special to the Mirror

DELTA-On Oct. 21, 2020, Sheriff Mark Taylor presented Sergeant Keith Sanders, the Sheriff's Office K9 Handler with a Sheriff's Commendation for K9 Oxx. After nineyears of service to the Montrose and Delta County Communities as a K9 deputy trained in narcotics, suspect tracking and apprehension; K9 Oxx retired from duty in September 2020.

During his nine years of faithful service to our community, K9 Oxx served both the Montrose and Delta County Sheriff's Offices but served an area much larger at the request of any agency. K9 Oxx and Sergeant Keith Sanders made our community a much safer place by taking vast quantities of illegal narcotics off the streets and by locating lost or missing people through Oxx's tracking abilities. K9 Oxx also assisted in the apprehension of multiple dangerous or fleeing suspects and in doing so, protected the life of other law enforcement officers.

K9 Oxx was a gentle giant who could comfort sick children in a hospital and pose for pictures with kids; but was ready to work at a moment's notice.

Unfortunately, cancer was K9 Oxx's last challenge and Oxx passed away on the evening of Oct. 19. K9 Deputy Oxx served the Delta County Citizens with Respect,

Integrity and Compassion and will be greatly missed by the entire Delta County Sheriff's Office.

Delta County Board of County Commissioners joined Sheriff Taylor and Undersheriff Archibeque on Oct. 21 in presenting the Sheriff's Commendation to Sergeant Sanders and honoring K9 Oxx's life and memory.

To learn more about the Sheriff's Office K9 Unit and the work of Sergeant Sanders and new K9 Deputy Teg, please like and follow the Delta County Sheriff's Office K9 unit on Facebook at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Delta-County-Sheriffs-Office-K9-Unit-600981583708538">https://www.facebook.com/Delta-County-Sheriffs-Office-K9-Unit-600981583708538</a>.



#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

### DELTA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PASS RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE DELTA COUNTY 911 DISPATCHERS AS FIRST RESPONDERS



Delta County has chosen not to wait for the federal passage of the 911 SAVES Act to reclassify our 911 dispatchers as first responders. Courtesy photo.

#### Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Delta County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020; the Delta County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to pass resolution 2020-R-026, to elevate Delta County 911 Dispatchers to the status of First Responders in Delta County. Previously, the federal government's Standard Occupational Classification System (SOCS) classified 911 dispatchers as "office and administrative support" professionals which includes secretaries, office clerks and taxicab dispatchers. The Commissioners and Sheriff Taylor feel that the role of a 911 telecommunicator is much more important. 911 dispatchers fill a critical role in public safety and homeland security and the work they do far exceeds merely relaying information from the public to EMS, fire and law enforcement.

Dispatchers work 24/7/365 answering calls from the public, in life and death emergencies, often on the caller's worst day of their life.

Dispatchers are the first, first responder to every emergency and their specialized training allows them to triage calls, perform emergency medical dispatching and get help rolling towards the scene; whether it be law enforcement, fire and/or EMS.

Classifying public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation (First Responder), will correct an inaccurate representation in the standard occupational classification and get these men and women the recognition they deserve. The Delta County Commissioners and Delta County Sheriff's Office believe public safety telecommunicators should be classified as first responders alongside police, sheriff's deputies, firefighters, and EMTs;

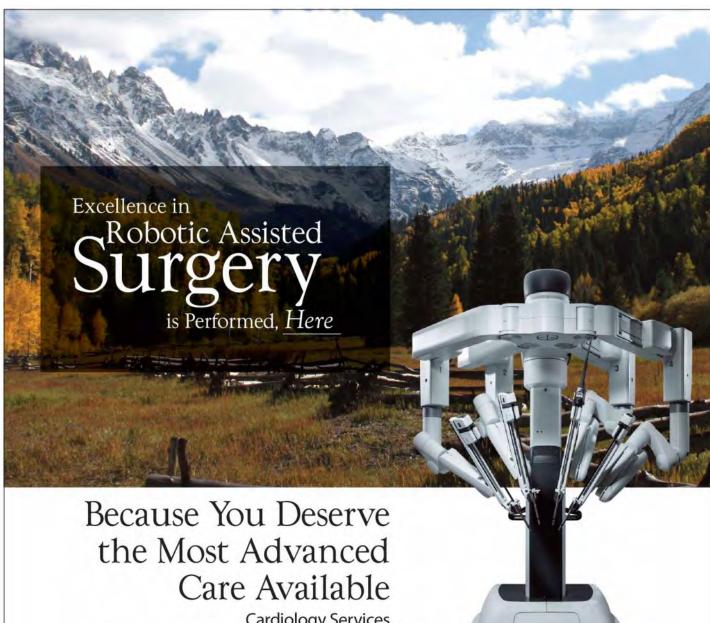
whose job it is to protect our communities 24/7/365.

Congresswoman Norma Torres, a former 911 dispatcher and Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick, a former FBI special agent and federal prosecutor, introduced legislation in congress called the 911 SAVES ACT back in March of 2019 to reclassify public safety telecommunicators as first responders. Unfortunately, this bipartisan legislation has stalled in the congressional legislative process and Delta County has chosen not to wait for the federal passage of the 911 SAVES Act to reclassify our 911 dispatchers as first responders.

Please join Sheriff Taylor in congratulating all of our 911 dispatchers on their new designation as first responders!

Thank you also to the Delta County Board of County Commissioners for recognizing the critical role these individuals play in public safety on a daily basis.

The Montrose Mirror | November 2, 2020 Page 21



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### CDOT TO PERFORM **CRACK SEALING ON US 550 NORTH OF RIDGWAY**

SOUTHWEST COLORADO — CDOT will perform crack sealing next week on US 550, 10 miles north of Ridgway, MP 116-118. The traveling public is advised this work will occur at and near the busy intersection of Ouray CR 1 and US 550, and should allow themselves extra travel time.

The work will take place Monday – Friday, Nov. 2 - 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### TRAFFIC IMPACTS

Special to the Mirror

Travelers will encounter flagging personnel guiding, one-lane alternating traffic with full stops and should allow for extra travel time. Delays should be no longer than 15 minutes.

#### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

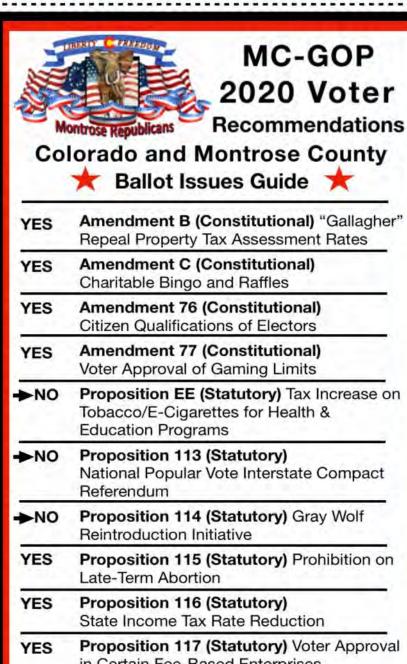
Travelers are urged to "know before you go." Gather information about weather forecasts and anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions prior to hitting the road. CDOT resources include: -Road conditions and travel information: www.COtrip.org

- -Sign up for project or travel alerts: bit.ly/ **COalerts**
- -See scheduled lane closures: codot.gov/ travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html
- -Connect with us on social media: Twitter @coloradodot and Facebook facebook.com/coloradodot



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#### 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:

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CLIP AND SAVE

#### **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

#### **VOTE OUT PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO DO NOT UPHOLD U.S. CONSTITUTION**

Editor:

OUR CONSTITUTION: Democrat, Republican, Independent, Communist or Muslim--whatever you claim to be.....

In the United States, most government officials from the city level to the Supreme Court Justices and the President take an oath whereby they promise to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States" or "to uphold the Constitution of the United States."

Unfortunately most folks who take such oaths are more absorbed with the ceremony and/or the fact that were elected to their newly elevated position than with the promises that they have made to their fellow Americans. While they have unequivocally promised to be the guardians of our country and its laws and principles, they do not even remember that they have done it.

Most hold up their right hand, place their left upon the holy book and repeat their oath. They seldom pay attention to its content. To them, that instant represents their elevation to office and has no connection with their obligation to their fellow citizens or the country as a hole. When I entered the Armed Forces of the United States in 1962 I had memorized the oath. And for every promotion granted me I retook that oath from memory. I knew that I was swearing to uphold "every paragraph, chapter and verse" of the Unit-

ed States Constitution. I recited that oath many times over my career as I administered the oath to the Marines under my command who reenlisted into the service of their country. That meant as much to me the last time I recited it as it did the first. I do not take my oaths lightly.

Thirty years later that behavior on the part of public servants appears to have lost its impact. It has become 'old fashioned'. No longer important for our elected public servants. How can anyone, having taken an oath, ignore its content. How can a Senator or Congressman take that oath and then absolutely abrogate his or her responsibility to DEFEND (not to change) any portion of it? A citizen's right to speak freely? To pray in his church? Or to receive due process under the Law? But with increasing regularity we witness many officials that run for office pledging to change that Constitution and after taking that oath to 'support and defend' that Constitution endeavor to change it. One way or the other, their first official act in office was to lie.

Obviously they took their oath fully intending to break it but nevertheless THEY ARE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. These miscreants should be drummed out of government and replaced with hones people who will honor their pledge. There are plenty of honest, knowledgeable and honorable American

who would love to take their place on the seat of power.

I can find no 'clause or amendment' in any of our oaths that authorizes selective obedience to these oaths!

These persons do not hesitate to violate their oath. They just lied when sworn in. Soon thereafter they broke their word. The oath does not provide for selective obedience to the oath and neither should we. A hundred or two of our congressmen who have taken the oath do not support the Second Amendment to the Constitution. It appears that they have a bit of trouble with the truth and their own honesty.

If they do not want to support the Constitution, they should not run for the office. Every single one of those holding office should take the oath and live by it. Otherwise our system of laws, top to bottom, is valueless!

Those who do not take their oaths seriously should face immediate dismissal from office and suffer draconian penalties as an example to others who may be considering following in their path.

Look around at your elected officials. Can you see any of this ilk on the ballot?

They are there and they should not receive a single vote. Except to vote them

LET YOUR CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE. Bill Bennett, Montrose



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### 5TH GRADERS GET FREE ENTRANCE TO NATIONAL PARKS, REFUGES, OTHER PUBLIC LANDS

Special to the Mirror

DES MOINES, Iowa — While at Neil Smith National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt signed a <u>Secretary's Order</u> that waives entrance fees to national parks, wildlife refuges and other public lands and waters managed by the Department of the Interior for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families from now until Aug. 31, 2021.

Secretary Bernhardt's actions ensure that American 5th grade students who may have been unable to make full use of the Every Kid Outdoors Annual 4th Grade Pass during the 2019-2020 academic year due to the COVID-19 pandemic will have free access to national parks and other Federal lands managed by the Department during this academic year. "As the mother of a fifth grader I am particularly excited for families across the country to have more opportunities to explore, play and learn in America's parks and public lands," said Margaret Everson, Counselor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of the National Park Service Director. "We know many 4th graders were disappointed they were unable to use the pass last year and we are grateful to Secretary Bernhardt for giving them this opportuni-

A majority of Interior-managed lands remained accessible to the public at the onset of the pandemic to serve as places

of respite and rejuvenation and allow for social distancing. Services were limited for visitors, in particular impacting the Every Kid Outdoors Program. Nearly all units and locations are currently accessible with

many having restored services for the public to enjoy following proper public health and safety guidelines. Families and students can download their 5th grade passes online at <a href="https://www.nps.gov/kids">www.nps.gov/kids</a>.

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TO CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR MAIL BALLOT





#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### U.S. CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE TO VISIT MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Every year, a different national forest is selected to provide a tree to appear on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol building for the holiday season. The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests, in partnership with nonprofit partner Choose Outdoors and Colorado Tourism, will present this special gift from Colorado to Washington, D.C. for the 2020 holiday season. Ten communities will host celebrations along the way, including an appearance in Montrose on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. in front of the city's Visitor Center located at 107 South Cascade Avenue.

The tree's visit to Montrose on Nov. 10 will be open to the public and free for all to enjoy. Due to the ongoing concerns over COVID-19, face coverings are required as well as social distancing. The tree will be delivered to the U.S. Capitol on Nov. 20, decorated by handmade ornaments specially created by Coloradans, and be lit in early December. For more information on the Montrose event, visit (CityofMontrose.org/Christmas).

#### WHERE CAN I DROP MY BALLOT?

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#### Recent activity in your neighborhood...

The real estate market in Montrose is alive and well. Increasing home values and low interest rates are creating a vibrant atmosphere for both sellers and buyers. Here are a few listings that I'm pleased to represent. I'd LOVE to help you get yours SOLD, too!





2121 Market Street Montrose

Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2 1,354 sq. ft. | Year Built: 2020 \$294,000



611 & 613 S 2nd Street Montrose

Victorian Duplex, Both 2 Bed, 1 Ba 2,209 sq. ft. Total | Year Built: 1900

\$329,900



2807 Covington Way Montrose

Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2 1,923 sq. ft | Year Built: 2005

\$372,000



3024 Outlook Rd. Montrose

Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2 Full, 1,726 sq. ft | Year Built: 2020

\$345,000



#### 3023 Outlook Rd. Montrose

Custom Built & backs to Greenbelt Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2 1,874 sq. ft | Year Built: 2020

\$418,860



#### 1500 Gold Creek Dr. Montrose

Bedrooms: 3 | Bathrooms: 2 1,640 sq. ft | Year Built: 2007

\$319,900

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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### FOREST SERVICE TO CONDUCT PILE BURNING

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-The Grand Mesa, Uncompanded and Gunnison National Forests, Norwood and Ouray Ranger Districts fire crews will be burning slash piles over the next few months that are the result of multiple fuels reductions and hazardous tree removal projects. Most of the pile burns will occur between early November and may go through December, pending favorable weather and appropriate ground and vegetation conditions.

The safety of firefighters and the public are the most important factors considered when planning pile burns. Fire managers have obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for each of the planned pile burns. For more information on how smoke may affect your health, please visit: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health</a>

Slash piles are the result of debris and vegetation (fuels) removal, which is done to help reduce the risk of larger wildfires. The piles are burned in project areas where other means of disposal were not feasible. The public is reminded not to call 911 or emergency services if smoke is visible in specific burn areas. Slash piles are located in the following areas:

| Project Area          | <u>Location</u>                              | Number and Type Piles         |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| High Mesa Timber Sale | various locations near Silver Jack Reservoir | 10 hand piles                 |
| Little Cone piles     | 18 miles SE of Norwood                       | 10 machine piles              |
| Horsefly Thinning     | 7 miles NE of Norwood                        | 100 machine piles             |
| Horse Pasture         | 3 miles south of Norwood                     | 1 machine pile                |
| Escalante Piles       | 24 miles west of Montrose                    | 4 machine piles/50 hand piles |
| 25 Mesa Plantation    | 22 miles west of Montrose                    | 50 hand piles                 |

"Piles are ignited only if conditions are conducive to a safe, effective burn and within appropriate smoke dispersal parameters set by the Colorado Smoke Management Permit," stated Corey Robinson, West Zone Fire Management Officer. For more information about these planned prescribed pile burns, contact Robinson.

For information on pile burning, wildfires and fire restrictions on National Forest System lands and other areas, call the Grand Mesa, Uncompanyer and Gunnison National Forests Fire Information line at 970.874.6602, visit the GMUG Forest website (<a href="https://twitter.com/GMUG\_NF">https://twitter.com/GMUG\_NF</a>.



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **GMUG OFFERS ONLINE CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS**

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Christmas tree permits for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests will be available to purchase online through Recreation.gov beginning Nov. 13, 2020. Details about designated cutting areas, cutting dates and types of trees that may be cut can be found here https://www.recreation.gov/tree-permits/gmug.

"Coloradans have been exploring their National Forests for generations to cut their own Christmas Tree and it has become a treasured tradition for many families," said Chad Stewart, Forest Supervisor for the GMUG. "For families creating new traditions, a trip to their local forest to cut their own tree may be a thrilling experience as they discover the joy of adventuring out together into the forest."

The Forest Service decided to move permit sales to <u>Recreation.gov</u> as an added convenience for visitors, as well as provide an alternative to in person transactions at offices that may remain closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To purchase a Christmas Tree permit, visit Recreation.gov and search for Grand Mesa, Uncompander and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) Christmas Tree Permits. It is important to carefully read the overview and need-to-know information be-

fore purchasing the permit. Visitors will also need to set up or login to a Recreation.gov account to complete the transaction. Cutting a Christmas Tree also improves forest health. The permit system helps to thin densely populated strands of small-diameter trees. Local forest health experts identify areas that benefit from thinning trees that tend to be the perfect size for Christmas trees. Removing these trees in designated areas helps other trees grow larger and can open areas that provide forage for wildlife.

For more information on the GMUG visit <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/gmug/htme">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/gmug/htme</a>.

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#### DMEA TO BRING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN-HOUSE From pg 1

to the written reports submitted for board approval.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening meeting prayer, determination of a quorum and approval of the consent agenda (Membership Report, Minutes from the regular September Board Meeting.) All board members were present.

### **Board Committee Items Finance – Audit – Rate Committee (FAR) –**Brad Harding, Chair.

Harding said, "We had a meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and it lasted an hour and 20 minutes. We discussed the Engagement Letter, audit objectives, general audit procedures, management responsibilities, and peer review letter. The committee agreed to move forward with the audit as presented." The Financial Statement Audit Engagement Letter was approved unanimously.

Harding said, "The Equity Management Initiative controls member costs and risk. Wade [Wade Pynes, Chief Financial Officer] walked us through key milestones to provide to the board. The committee is on board with the Equity Plan." The Equity Management Initiative was approved unanimously.

Harding said, "The Credit Composite Update includes internal controls and deposits. The initiative is on hold as we see what happens to the Paycheck Protection Program [PPP]. We may be able to use some of the funds for members to offset [their] debt."

In July DMEA compared their rates with their peers (Tri State and others). Harding said, "Over all we are doing well. We had a bad-debt update and reviewed the life cycle of bad debts. Wade will be following up."

Pynes scored five major criteria objectives — the overall health of the cooperative, vegetation management, the cost of insurance going up, PPP update and the West Elk Mine. Pynes said, "We believe it [PPP loan] will be forgiven. West Elk is one of our larger loads and it is 3 ½ percent down." The Credit Composite Update as presented was approved unanimously.

Engineering – Construction – Renewable Energy Committee – Chris Hauck, Chair.

Hauck said, "We met twice this month. On Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> we discussed a request by the town of Paonia about the LED lighting system. The town would like to pay for the equipment, we [DMEA] would install and we would be the owner. They wanted the lights to have dimmers in relationship to dark skies, skies contaminated by street lights. Some residents wanted dimmed or shielded lights. We had a concern with liability in safety if the lights were dimmed or shielded. Virginia [Chief Operating Officer Virginia Harman] advised us that the town just decided to eliminate the lights in question and just have them removed."

The committee discussed a work plan to eliminate and improve outages caused by construction as noted in the SAIDI (Systems Average Interruption Duration Index) report.

Hauck said, "With Tri State, the estimate of six-month's time was needed for the changeover. We did the transfer in sixweeks. It was less cost in labor and staff time. The agreement for the electric vehicle station in Montrose is still in progress and moving forward. For Tesla, due to COVID, the equipment supply is delayed." Reporting on the Oct. 26 meeting Hauck said, "The Vegetation Management Program was brought up with prior management and the board at that time was advised it was too complicated to deal with in-house. With the tree trimming, the relationship with contractors has never been very satisfactory. After careful study we want to bring vegetation management inhouse on a phased basis. Transition to bring it in-house by 2022. It's an expensive endeavor, but approximately the same cost as using outside contractors. Additional equipment will be required, but it's possible there are some depreciation benefits. The staff studied two other co-ops who have brought their vegetation [program] in-house.

Enno Heuscher said, "What is a utility arborist?"

Harmon said, "That person is no longer

on staff. It was not efficient."

When the board inquired about the need to hire additional staff Harmon redirected the discussion. Harmon said, "There will be several new positions. The vote today is to see if we bring it in-house. Then we will bring it in front of the board during budget discussions with a final budget for this project."

Chief of Operations Jasen Bronec said, "Our first step is to see if we want to move forward with the blessing of the board." The board voted unanimously to bring the Vegetation Management Program in-house.

#### Member Relations – Energy Services Committee – Kyle Martinez, Chair.

Martinez said, "We met on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October in a one-hour meeting. We have three action items. SBS [Survey & Ballot Systems], we recommend continuing our relationship with them for 2021 [DMEA election]. We budget \$50,000 for the activity; \$38,000 is for mailing ballots and getting out information. June 17, 2021 is the date for the Annual Meeting." The 2021 Annual Meeting Date and Credentials Committee were approved unanimously.

Martinez said, "For the 2020-2021 scholarship program we will no longer receive \$2,000 from Tri State. Guzman [new power supplier] is thinking about partnership with two scholarships [character scholarship and lineman scholarship]. The ACT and SAT scores will not be weighted as heavily in the scholarship program." The \$51,000 for the scholarship fund comes from unclaimed capital credits. Changes to the 2020-2021 Scholarship Program were approved unanimously.

Martinez said, "The topic of our billing cycle change from [current] four billing cycles to two billing cycles is delayed until March of 2021. The delay is because of COVID. There is no budget impact." Martinez continued, "With Power Supply communications plans, DMEA staff is excited to work with Guzman. They seem to be a very good partner with our marketing goals."

Executive Committee - Bill Patterson,

#### DMEA TO BRING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN-HOUSE From previous pg

said, "We did not meet, but we will meet on the fourth of November. Part of it will be the evaluation of the CEO."

#### Safety and Occupational Health Report - Virginia Harman, COO.

Harman said, "In September there were no employee injuries. We had one minor accident. One service truck backed into another DMEA truck. There were no injuries. We've had two trainings; trenching and shoring, and working in confined spaces. We are reaching out to first responders to give them training for when cars hit [power] poles. We are working on emergency management plans and wild fire management plans."

#### **Financial Report with Variance Report** - Wade Pynes, CFO.

Pynes said, "The four major themes. Number one, is an erroneous budget reclassification to the right budget line [\$3.7M budgeted to the wrong line item; nonoperating to operation variance]. Number two, Capital Credits was on the conservative side. It's \$150,000 or \$160,000 over budget. Number three is a budget amendment to the Vehicle Remediation Plan. Number four is \$18 M [convert] our Elevate line of credit to a long-term note."

Pynes continued, "We had two extra months in Tri State, more than budgeted for legal fees."

#### CEO Report - Jasen Bronec, CEO.

Bronec said, "I'll reserve the power supply report for executive session. The City of Montrose franchise agreement is a ballot issue we promote. It's a big deal for us."

Patterson said, "What happens if we get a 'no' vote?"

Bronec said, "The city won't be able to receive the money we collect for them. We'll have more difficulty getting easements and permits. Makes it more expensive."

Bronec reported on net metering applications, hydro, and the groundbreaking for the Electric Vehicle (EV) stations. He said, "We had Member Appreciation Day today and had a great response with a free cup of coffee from DMEA."

Harman said, "It was highly successful. We had 4,000 coffee sleeves [printed with DMEA logo] at the Coffee Trader."

Bronec revisited the four key points supporting DMEA's reasoning for transitioning away from Tri State — Rates, quality of service, opportunities, and better focus on economic development. He said, "Moving out of Tri State helps us control our costs. If we had stayed, we would have had to fold into ourselves and cut staff to control costs." Bronec estimates \$1.1M cost savings per quarter since exiting Tri State.

#### September 2020 SAIDI (Systems Average Interruption Duration Index) Report.

Bronec said, "We're tracking well. The snow storm the last couple of days caused minor outages. Leaves on trees and heavy snow. We had to work through the night, but the system held up and the linemen responded well."

#### **Legal Report (Non-Privileged Legal Report)** - Jeff Hurd, Attorney.

Hurd said, "I'll reserve my report for executive session."

### Representative Board Reports WUES Report (Western United Electrical Association) – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, "We did meet in late September. Didn't do a whole lot. You can read the minutes."

#### CREA Report (Colorado Rural Electric Association) – Damon Lockhart.

Lockhart said, "I forwarded to the board the short legislative report. We are one of six co-ops who do not take the Country Life Magazine. It costs 37 cents a copy and the board at some point decided to save some money. The scholarships for Washington DC, [we're] handing out scholarships in lieu of going to DC. Activities were cancelled because of COVID. We're probably looking at a dues increase."

Although not on the agenda, Patterson ask board member Stacia Cannon to report on the NRECA's (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) online Regional Week held October 12-16.

Cannon said, "I sent a summary to the board just prior to the DMEA board meeting. I enjoyed the sessions, especially one with Mrs. Eisenhour. I could listen to her all day."

Mrs. Eisenhower is the niece of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

#### **Other Business**

Changes to the RS Plan (Retirement Security Plan) requires formal action. The board voted unanimously to give CEO Bronec authority to authorize employees to contribute additional amounts to their employee benefit plans.

#### **Future Business**

In order to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday, the next regular meeting is moved up one week and will be held at 3 p.m. on Nov. 17, 2020.

#### **Member Comments:**

There were no member comments.

#### **Executive Session:**

When the board goes into executive session, virtual attendees must exit the Zoom meeting.

- -Privileged Legal Report
- -Power Supply Update
- -Strategy Updates
- -Discussion on Subsidiary Promissory Note 3
- -Review 2019 Form 990
- -Discussion on Upcoming Board Self-Assessment

Upon returning to the public meeting the board immediately voted on three action items.

Absent public discussion, and with very little comment or explanation, the Strategy Updates, the 2019 Form 990, and the Resolution regarding Subsidiary Promissory Note were approved unanimously. DMEA Board Members

Dist 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449, bpatterson@montrose.net

Dist 2 - Kyle Martinez, 970-615-7124, kyle@touchofcarepcp.com

Dist 3 - Brad Harding, 970-270-3692, <u>bharding@firstcoloradobank.com</u>

Dist 4 - Ken Watson, 970-275-2100, <u>ken-nethrwatson@gmail.com</u>

Dist 5 - Chris Hauck, 970-497-0900,

#### Ich@haucks.cc

Dist 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071, damon.lockhart@dmea.com

Dist 7 – Enno Heuscher, 970-270-

6523, enno.heuscher@dmea.com

Dist 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-207-8831, <a href="mailto:stacia.cannon@dmea.com">stacia.cannon@dmea.com</a>

Dist 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-275-1808, jock.fleming@dmea.com



imited

Montrose Elks Lodge #1053 801 S. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401



# Elks Bingo

Tuesday

**November 3, 2020** 

Progressive Game # 2 \$500 MUST GO

Jackpot will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup> player that reaches BINGO

1st Come,

Progressive Game #4 \$661

Win with 37 #s or fewer Progressive Game #6

Win with 53 #s



This Tuesday we have Pulled Pork Montrose Elks Bingo: where you can laugh just a little bit louder, smile a little bigger, and live life better!



#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

## DELTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SGT LACKEY HONORED WITH SHERIFF'S OFFICE LIFESAVING AWARD



Sheriff Taylor and Undersheriff Archibeque are proud to present Sergeant Travis Lackey with the Delta County Sheriff's Office Lifesaving Award for serving with Respect, Integrity and Compassion. Courtesy photo.

#### Special to the Mirror

DELTA-On Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020, Delta County Sheriff Mark Taylor and Undersheriff Quinn Archibeque were honored to present Sergeant Travis Lackey with the Sheriff's Office Lifesaving Award for Sergeant Lackey's heroic actions in saving the life of a male party in July 2020.

Undersheriff Archibeque shared with the Board of County Commissioners and fellow Deputies and Dispatchers of how Sergeant Lackey acted swiftly to save the life of a suicidal male party on the evening of July 31, 2020. On this date, Sergeant Lackey and Deputies Hernandez and Coover were dispatched to a report of a suicidal male party in possession of a handgun.

Reports to dispatch advised the male's wife was holding him down to prevent the male from injuring himself.

Body camera video shows that as Sergeant Lackey and deputies approached the man and woman; the wife was pleading with her husband to put down the gun. However, the male party who had just been holding a handgun, quickly raised it to his head upon seeing Sergeant Lackey. Upon seeing this, Sergeant Lackey immediately and without hesitation, tackled the male party and disarmed him.

Sergeant Lackey's quick thinking saved this man's life and likely that of his wife as well given her close proximity to her husband had the gun discharged. Sergeant

Lackey later showed compassion by comforting the male party's wife and explained how her husband would receive the help he needed. The male party later wrote to Sheriff Taylor, Undersheriff Archibeque and Sergeant Lackey to express his sincere appreciation for Sergeant Lackey's actions that day. The male was thankful that because of Sergeant Lackey saving his life; he was able to attend his granddaughter's wedding and enjoy that celebration instead of his family enduring tragedy. Sheriff Taylor and Undersheriff Archibeque are proud to present Sergeant Travis Lackey with the Delta County Sheriff's Office Lifesaving Award for serving with Respect, Integrity and Compassion.



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#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

# LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES ROCKY MOUNTAINS LAUNCHES COLORADO SPIRIT WELLNESS PROGRAM

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL- Lutheran Family Services
Rocky Mountains has launched the LFS
Colorado Spirit Wellness Program to support the communities of Delta, Gunnison,
Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel. The LFS Colorado Spirit Wellness
Program offers FREE and confidential support to assist individuals and communities facing the challenges and fatigue of COVID
-19 through one-on-one listening sessions, stress management, and connection to local resources.

The team consists of Community Outreach Counselors, a Senior Care Specialist and a Community Outreach Coordinator. Team members, Holly Fox and Jamie Hughes, Montrose and Delta residents who have previously worked in mental health crisis services and senior care are thrilled to bring this new support service into their community. Jamie, the team's Community Outreach Counselor, is seeing the need to address many different stressors within the community, "Through community outreach, I am hearing that our seniors in particular are bearing the brunt

of this pandemic as they deal with the need to isolate for health reasons. But. this program is not just for senior citizens. Others in our community may be dealing with job loss or other stressors. We can address their needs to build on their inner strengths and provide coping techniques during this time". Jamie and Holly provide a listening ear to support individuals and families navigate feelings of anxiety and uncertainty while also providing them with skills to help them cope with and manage stress. Many people are experiencing levels of stress they have never felt before as well as the need to seek extra support that they might not have looked for in the past. Having a program like this available where they can talk to someone is really helpful right now. Team Lead, Holly Fox, noted the importance of local resource navigation, "I think it can really help connect community members with resources during this time. We are excited to start working with community members and organizations to offer local resource connections people need right now." So far, the response has been posi-

tive and the team has been able to connect with different local organizations providing much needed services during these challenging times and connect callers to them. The LFS Colorado Spirit Wellness team is also able to support organizations and businesses with staff trainings and wellness needs.

The LFS Colorado Spirit Wellness Program is currently providing services virtually and by phone.

If you have something on your mind or need support navigating new situations, call the LFS Colorado Spirit Wellness line at (970) 232-1147 or email info@lfswellness.org. In addition to being a free and confidential service, support is available to anyone regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or age, this is part of a FEMA funded statewide effort to support Coloradans through the pandemic.

You can also visit their website at Ifswellness.org or follow on Facebook or Instagram @Ifsrmcospiritwesternslope for wellness tips, events, and resources for Montrose and surrounding counties.





#### **SNOW MACHINES OF THE PAST (AND PRESENT TOO)**

By Bob Cox

COLORADO-With November now a reality, many of the people in Colorado are praying for snow to alleviate the drought conditions. Some want the snow for another; recreation purposes. They are tired of being confined and their need to get out for some winter recreation is churning within them.

"I just wish it would start snowing and not quit until Christmas," said one Montrose snowmobile enthusiast recently. That desire is not a new one in Colorado. Skiing, sledding, tobogganing and even running around in motor powered "sleds" has been a desire for many years.

While the machines then called motor sleds did not take hold in the Montrose and Ouray area in those first years, it was not because the citizens were unaware of the possibilities, but more likely because the entrepreneurs of the time were more interested in cashing in on the mining industry.

Even so, the Nov. 25, 1910 edition of the *Ouray Herald* displayed an illustration of a motor sled and a lengthy article describing the "practical success achieved with the gasoline propelled motor sleighs on the Shackleton and Charcot polar expeditions..." The article describes the new version of the motor sled as being different from other motor-powered contraptions,



A Kristi KT-3 waiting to be refurbished by the Kristi Kat Corp. in Denver. Photo from the Bob Cox collection.

in that it utilized a Caterpillar system using the design credited to Benjamin Holt. It did not have brakes or a steering system and was powered by a vertical cylinder engine that developed a whopping 12-brake horsepower. Other experimental machines used in two previous polar expeditions were basically designed with the front of an automobile which was mounted on skis and utilized a chain and sprocket that had special studs, the combination used as replacements for the tires and

wheels.

The Jan. 16, 1911 edition of the *Montrose Enterprise* ran the same article and responses in both of those publications and others in Colorado speculated that someone in Colorado should look into uses of such a vehicle in the Colorado mountains. While use of these snow sleds was slow to take hold in Colorado, several of the machines were beginning to be used in Alaska. On Oct. 26, 1917, an article written by an Alaskan correspondent (none of the

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#### SNOW MACHINES OF THE PAST (AND PRESENT TOO) From previous pg

reprints of that article actually named the correspondent) appeared in the *Ordway New Era* and at least one other newspaper. In part, this Alaskan correspondent wrote: "The motor sled has come to stay. The dog team and a sled will continue with us for many a long year no doubt, but the introduction of the new motor sleds during the past winter amply demonstrated their economy, utility and speed."

There were a number of inventors that were hoping to lead the use of the motor powered snow machines. In late 1919, P.E. Ninnemaker and Harry Winburg showed off their machine on the streets of Craig, Colorado. The *Craig Empire* opined that the machine was "about perfected."

About the same time a real powerhouse of a machine showed up in Steamboat Springs. It was constructed by Clifford McClelland and Fred Foster and was heard roaring around the streets of Steamboat Springs. Their version of the new transportation device was a sled with a huge 50 horsepower Hup motor mounted on the rear with a big airplane propeller blade attached, rotating at about 300 rpm. The Routt County Sentinel covered several of the outings of McClelland and Foster and stated that the machine was witnessed going between 10 and 20 miles an hour up and down Lincoln Street. One of the big problems with the propeller driven machine was that it was not very efficient for climbing hills.

It was nearly ten years after the McClelland and Foster demonstrations that the machines really began to get attention in the Grand Mesa area. On May 9, 1929, the Surface Creek Champion ran the following article: Several boys have been working on a motor sled to climb Grand Mesa during the winter for the skiing sport. They were somewhat tardy in its completion but tried it out last Saturday and found that it worked very well when the crust was good, but did not have traction enough in loose snow. The crust did

not hold out long enough, to take them to the top, and they will try it again later. The boys interested are Paul Parker, Johnny. Mills, Donald Aust and Warren Brewer. One of the most famous snow machines came to fruition in 1938 when Emmitt Tucker revealed his Tucker Sno-Cat. Tucker experimented with many versions of snow machines throughout his youth and developed many of them using a spiral drive that looked much like an auger. The corkscrew drive rested in the snow and rotated, propelling the machines forward, but in 1938 Tucker designed a machine that, in one version or another is still in use today. His design was unveiled in 1941. The Sno-Cat featured floating track modules that literally sat on top of the snow. A smaller version, called the Sno-Kitten was introduced later.

William Schomers has a special place in this snow machine missive. Schomers, was a major in the Marine Air Corps Reserve. He cracked up a Marine Corps F9F Marine Corps jet fighter in August of 1953. He survived the crash and went on to associate with some other people to develop his concept of a snow machine. Schomer recognized the problem of a rear -propeller machine and built one with the notion that he could climb a hill with it if he used the maneuver used by skiers known as the christie, only in reverse. The christie is a braking action that allows the edges of the ski to trail and is used to slow a skier down. Schomers and his friends used the maneuver when going uphill, and by doing a series of the maneuvers, could actually go uphill. They built their machine to do just that, but it was not very successful. It did, however, give life to a new manufacture of snow machines know as the Kristi Manufacturing Co. based in Arvada, Colorado.

The Kristi Kat became a desired possession in the world of snow machines. Several rural electric suppliers, government agencies and explorers bought Kristi Kats. Mostly the machines use opposing cylinder engines, mostly Volkswagen and

Corvair. One REA machine was featured in the *Steamboat Pilot* pulling 25 skiers to the crest of Storm Mountain.

When Schomers was killed in an airplane crash in 1961 the company suffered some, but held on for some time. The company struggled, especially in 1967, and began focusing on buying their old machines, refurbishing them and selling them a second time. One of the original partners, Bud Messenger took over and moved the company to the shell of an old apartment building in Denver. In 1967 the company sold only two machines, but Messenger was not ready to give up.

Bob Cox (yours truly) worked for Messenger for a short time in 1968 and the company went on to refurbish and resell Kristi Kats up to 1971.

Montrose-based Colorado Ute Association and the Montrose field office of the Colorado Division of Wildlife both had and used the Kristi Kats. Colorado Ute sold their unit in 1966, and after an unsuccessful attempt to repair the DOW machine; it was disposed of in the mid 1980s.

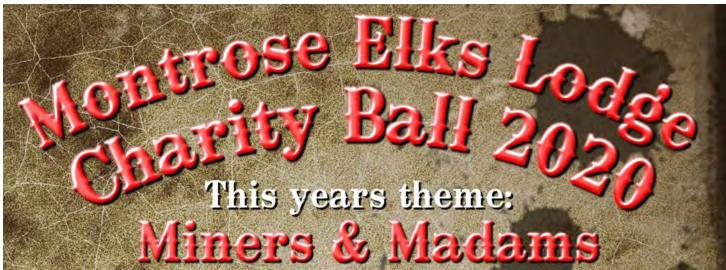
Other than use as packing machines for ski areas and some other specialty uses, the big snow cats didn't really gain a huge market. That was not so for the individual rider machines that began showing up in the Ouray and Montrose areas in the late 1960s.

One of the most remembered is the Johnson Skee Horse developed by the Outboard Marine Corp. They began testing in about 1960 and unveiled the machine in 1964. They also built the Evinrude Skeeter. They advertised a "dent proof" fiberglass body powered by a 14 h.p., 22 cubic inch running at 4500 rpm.

One of today's most popular snowmobiles, designated as 2019 the Snow Goer

biles, designated as 2019 the Snow Goer Snowmobile of the year, is the Artic Cat M 8000. In comparison, the Artic Cat features a 2-stroke 160 h.p. liquid cooled engine.

One thing remains the same: there are a significant number of people who want snow, and they want lots of it.



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Annual Sweet Wheel



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Saturday November 14th 6:00 PM 8018 Hillerest, Montrose, Co 81401 The Montrose Mirror | November 2, 2020

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

### SECOND CHANCE HUMANE SOCIETY SELECTED AS NOVEMBER 2020 RIDGWAY CHAMBER MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-In an ongoing effort to promote and get to know our local businesses and organizations, the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) has selected Second Chance Humane Society and Second Chance Thrift Stores as November 2020 RACC Member of the Month.

Second Chance Humane Society has a nokill shelter, and all strays and relinquished pets receive food, medical care, and lots of love while they are waiting for their forever home. The nonprofit also operates Second Chance Thrift stores in Ridgway and Telluride. Together, the stores typically provide about 75 percent of the organization's funding.

"We've had to cancel in-person fundraisers, we've lost our vet, and we have to limit the number of people in our thrift shops. More monetary donations from individuals would help us to keep critical

programs going, such as our lost-cost vet clinics and Pet Pantry, which provides free pet food and supplies to those in need," said Lu Anne Tyrrell in the Philanthropy Office.

Tyrrell recommends people call to see if volunteer assistance is needed at the thrift shops. The Shelter could use donations of cat or dog food for the Tri-County Pet Pantry.

The thrift shops always have a weekly special running. Check at the shops for that week's discounted items. To visit the Second Chance Humane Society, go online to <a href="https://www.adoptmountainpets.org">www.adoptmountainpets.org</a> or call 970-626-2273 to check hours of operation. Locations are: Shelter, 177 County Road 10, Ridgway; Ridgway Thrift Shop, 309 Sherman St., Ridgway; and Telluride Thrift Shop, 335 W. Colorado Avenue (Main Street), Telluride.

To read the full interview about the mu-



The Second Chance food delivery van. Second Chance Humane Society operates a no-kill shelter in Ridgway. Courtesy photo.

seum, go to <a href="https://ridgwaycolorado.com/news-events/november-2020-racc-member-of-the-month-second-chance">https://ridgwaycolorado.com/news-events/november-2020-racc-member-of-the-month-second-chance</a>

# Need Catering?



Holiday Parties Birthdays Weddings



DineOutMontrose.com

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# New Montrose Mexican: TACOS & BEER? REALLY WORTH IT

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE - Have to admit, at first the name made me skeptical. But this place is the real deal. Occupying the spot at the far south end of town that used to be the Mountain Country Café breakfast restaurant, Tacos & Beer is just plain great.

I decided to give it a try not just because it's one of the newest joints in town, but a friend told me I had to try the chile rellenos. Well, chile rellenos happen to be my go-to food when I'm trying out a new Mexican place. Whoop! Really good. Nice sized (huge) relleno stuffed with cheese to the brim and not breaded too much, smothered with a very nice green chile that wasn't hot. Served with a nice side salad, Mexican rice, and refried beans.

You know me, the clincher was they have great margaritas TO GO! Yep, all taped up and secured in a nice little bag, so you really must wait to partake until you get home. No tasting on the way! But well worth the wait.

Of course, since this COVID epidemic Michael and I have decided we have to take out our meals, never take in the ambience of the restaurant. There will be time for that later, we figure.

Michael ordered a shredded beef burrito and was not disappointed. Like us, you may decide first to eat just half for lunch and save the rest for dinner. The dinner plate came with a salad, rice and beans, and a nice side of salsa and chips.

Tacos and Beer has a lot of your favorites and isn't pricey. Very authentic, serving tacos just like you'd order (or not) in the motherland.

**BOTANAS** (appetizers):

Taquitos, quesadilla, loaded nachos, shrimp empanadas, camerones empanizados (priced from \$9 - \$12.)

#### TACOS:

Taco fillings you don't see everywhere:
Tripia (beef small intestines); Buche (pork stomach); and Lenglia (beef tongue).
Don't freak out, their soft corn tortillas also come with carne asada, pollo (chicken), carnitas (pork), chorizo (Mexican sausage) and shredded beef. At \$4.50 each they are topped with fresh onions and cilantro. Three tacos for \$11.99. You will also find street tacos (3 for \$7) with your choice of meat and served with toreados & cebollitas (grilled jalapenos) and green onions.

If you feel like cheesy tacos with a crispy corn tortilla shell topped with onions, cilantro and limes you can try pulpo (octopus) or camaron (shrimp). (\$4.99) Beer batter tacos at \$5 each include corn tortillas with a homemade coleslaw, topped with a spicy guacamole sauce, shrimp or fish.

Martin style tacos are \$5 each and are cheesy tacos with a crisp shell topped with onions, cilantro and limes and filled with your choice of meats.

#### SPECIALS:

Carne asada, pollo asada, carnitas served with rice, beans, guacamole, pico de gallo and tortillas (\$15-16)

#### **FAJITAS:**

Chicken, steak, shrimp, fish, combo (\$16-18) served with a side plate of rice, beans, sour cream, guacamole, and tortillas.

Of course, you may decide to try the "Grande Burritos" stuffed with rice and bean, your choice of meat, and topped with pico de gallo, guacamole, sour crem



and smothered in red or green sauce. (\$15 -16).

#### SEAFOOD:

Lots of choices here with some plates served with rice and French fries: baconwrapped shrimp; spicy camarones a la diabla; camarones o plop al ajillo (shrimp or octopus in garlic sauce); enchiladas del mar; chimichanga del mar; ceviche de camaron; coctel de camaron.

Tacos & Beer serves lunch specials from 11a.m. - 3 p.m. (we got this deal) with a choice of combo plates served with rice and beans from \$7-9.50. Add guacamole or sour cream for \$2. Many choices.

Feel like veggie? Order a bowl, quesadillas, fajitas, tacos, or burrito for \$11.

HEALTHIER SIDE: Taco salad, tostada, grilled chicken tostada (\$9-11)

DESSERT: We didn't partake but I'm betting their sopapillas, flan or fried ice cream are more than worth the \$5.

Tacos & Beer is a welcome venue in Montrose, a city with many Mexican choices. Certainly, worth a try.

Tacos & Beer is located at 3410 Williams Dr. #400. Call 970-964-4448.

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# The Mirror

now weekly

Making sure readers don't bury their heads in the sand.

#### **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **NEW CSU CAMPUS IN DENVER FULLY UNDER-CONSTRUCTION, WILL OPEN IN 2022**



CSU Hydro Main Entry. Courtesy image.

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER— The Colorado State University System has broken ground on Hydro — the final of three buildings at its CSU Spur campus that is being constructed as part of the future National Western Center, just northeast of the intersection of I-25 and I-70 in Denver. CSU's Terra building, focused on food and agriculture, broke ground in September. Vida, the building focused on animal and human health, broke ground in May.

The CSU Spur campus will be the first of its kind in the nation — an urban, public-facing campus focused on global challenges, that deploys the resources, programs, and research of diverse partners and an entire university System: CSU, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global.

Programs within Hydro build upon CSU's long-held expertise in water, and contribute to the overall campus mission of con-

vening partners and experts for the public good. CSU Spur will be a place where doors are open to all learners and education is accessible, said CSU System Chancellor Tony Frank.

"The entire Spur campus is designed to inspire current and future generations to dig into learning around food, water, and health — issues paramount to our livelihood and quality of life," Frank said.

The Hydro building at CSU Spur showcases an important partnership with Denver Water, as it brings its new and expanded water quality lab to the site, magnifying Denver Water's importance as a leader in water quality expertise in Colorado and the West.

"This puts our laboratory right in the heart of a new research environment, in a spot where our water quality experts can work far more closely and readily with academics and other innovators," said

Denver Water CEO/Manager Jim Lochhead. "The new Spur campus will help Denver Water explore and implement leading solutions to water challenges for our customers and the state — not just for urban water solutions, but also agricultural production and watershed health." The CSU Spur campus buildings (Hydro, Terra, and Vida) add up to nearly 300,000 square feet of space, much of which is focused on unique learning experiences, and will take experiential learning to the max; visitors can take part in the action by watching scientists in labs, veterinarians in surgery, artists in-studio — and by exploring interactive exhibits throughout all three buildings.

CSU Spur will also be a place for professionals and community members to convene, collaborate, or simply relax with free WiFi and a cup of coffee.

Outside, the public will find interactive art, open natural areas, access to a restored section of the South Platte River, and connection to the rest of the future 250-acre National Western Center, a year-round experiential site.

"We're grateful for the partnership with Denver Water that's allowing this third Spur building to come to life," Frank said. "And we're looking forward to opening the doors to this entire new campus in 2022 to showcase the innovation, creativity, and fun of our three higher education institutions — CSU, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global — to people of all ages," Frank said.

Hydro was designed by Hord Coplan Macht in association with SmithGroup. JE Dunn is the general contractor for CSU Spur.



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#### **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

#### NATIONAL OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION ELECTS' NEW OFFICERS

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-At the October Business meeting of a historical trade route that connected the the Old Spanish Trail Association Richard Waller from Cedaredge was elected as the new Director for the state of Colorado along with Chris Miller, as Director at Large – Chapter Liaison, from Delta. A total of six NEW board members were elected to the fourteen-member board representing California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado. The Old Spanish Trail Association, its members, friends, and partners, are dedicated to protecting, interpreting, and promoting the Old Spanish National Historic Trail and related historic routes. The Old Spanish National Historic Trail was established by

Congress in 2002. The Old Spanish Trail is northern New Mexico settlements of Santa Fe, New Mexico with those of Los Angeles, California and southern California. The Trail has been called the most arduous and difficult trail in the United States. With Native American historical roots, the trail was used by the adventurous and opportunists bringing textiles from Santa Fe to trade for mules and horses in Los Angeles beginning in the early 1800s. Spanning more than 2500 miles, parts of the trail were used by fur trappers and later by railroad and military surveyors. Portions of the historic trail are located in Delta. Mesa and Montrose counties.

Waller is an author and a trail enthusiast. He is also an historian and retired teacher. He has spent his life exploring our public lands. His latest book (Old Spanish Trail Guide) is an accounting of the first re-ride of the Old Spanish Trail since 1848. The book is written to promote interest in and acknowledgement of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail and the Old Spanish Trail Association. The book is written also to promote the Backcountry Horsemen of America and their mission to preserve and protect our public lands. Waller was the President of the California Backcountry Horsemen of America. There is also a (55 min) DVD tracking the journey of Waller, Otis Calef and Jim Clark riding the historic trail 1200 miles from Los Angeles to Santa Fe. They rode the trail in two legs, fall of 2014 and summer of 2015.

Miller is the Executive Director of the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado (IAWC) and Director of Fort Uncompahgre Interpretive Center located in Delta. Miller has focused on connecting the dots of the Old Spanish Trail that runs through Delta and Mesa county and its connection with the historic trading post that Antoine Rubidoux establish in 1828 in an area that was known as Robidoux Bottoms. Miller is working closely with the NPS, BLM and CPW on interpretive projects that will heighten the awareness of the trail and provide opportunities to put folks out on the trail. Miller was successful in getting an official designation from the Secretary of the Interior designating Fort Uncompangre as the first non-federal interpretive center on the entire Old Spanish Trail from Santa Fe to Los Angeles. Fort Uncompangre and IAWC host FREE annual Back to the Old Spanish Trail field trips for folks that are interested in learning more

about the history of those that came before us. For additional information go to

www.fortuncompahgre.com or

#### VOTER SERVICE POLLING CENTERS

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MONTROSE COUNTY OLD COURTHOUSE 320 S. 1st Street Montrose Starting October 19th: 8:30 - 4:30pm Mon - Fri Saturday October 31st: 8:30am - 12:30pm Tuesday, November 3rd: ELECTION DAY 7AM - 7PM

MONTROSE COUNTY EVENT CENTER, ROOM 4 1036 N. 7th Ave Montrose Tuesday, November 3rd: ELECTION DAY ONLY 7AM - 7PM

**NUCLA-NATURITA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** 230 W. Main Street Naturita Starting October 26th: 8:30am - 4:30pm Saturday October 31st: 9am - 1pm Tuesday, November 3rd: ELECTION DAY 7AM - 7PM



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#### 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.

**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-**

Nov. 2-City Public Safety Complex Update, 6 to 8 p.m. @ Montrose Pavilion, 1800 East Pavilion Place. Face masks required.

**Nov. 10**-The U.S. National Christmas tree, harvested from the Grand Mesa, Uncompandere, and Gunnison National Forests, will make an appearance in Montrose on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. in front of the city's Visitor Center located at 107 South Cascade Avenue. The tree's visit to Montrose on Nov. 10 will be open to the public and free for all to enjoy. Due to the ongoing concerns over COVID-19, face coverings are required as well as social distancing.

Nov. 11-Montrose Elks Lodge Veterans Breakfast, 8:30 to 11 a.m. at 801 South Hillcrest. All veterans are welcome.

**Nov. 14**-Montrose Elks Charity Ball, 6p.m. at 801 S. Hillcrest. Theme is Miners & Madams. Dance the night away to the Ghost River Band. \$30 couple and \$20 single.

**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 (<a href="www.bcbgc.org">www.bcbgc.org</a>) on Nov. 20. Please contact Bud Taylor at <a href="mailto:btaylor@bcbgc.org">btaylor@bcbgc.org</a> or at 970-249-5168 for sponsorship inquiries or event questions.

Nov. 26-26th Annual Friends Thanksgiving Dinner, Takeout and Delivery only. Pre-register at Montrosecommunitydinners.com.

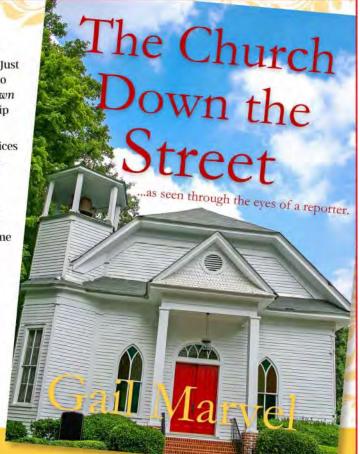


t is human nature to compare ourselves with others, and the church is no different. Just as Paul's Epistles allowed the early church to peer into the lives of each other, *The Church Down the Street* allows readers to peer into the worship services of other churches.

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

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

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



Available online at Amazon.com and WingedPublications.com

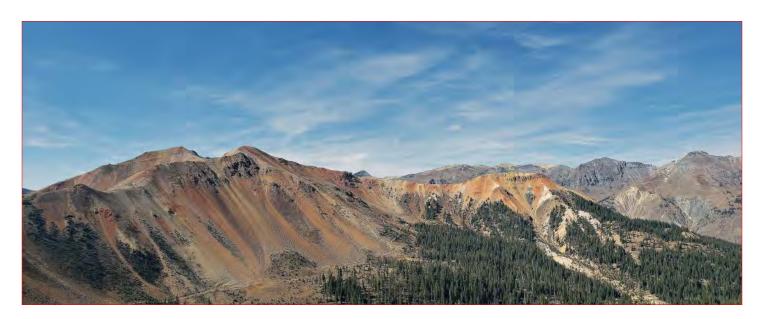


Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

#### READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: BY DEB REIMANN



Deb took this photo of Red Mountain from Corkscrew Gulch. "The bluebird day with the sun shining on these special mountains reminded me of this quote, 'How glorious a greeting the sun gives the mountains,' by John Muir," she said.

