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Montrose Mirror

Free News for Fresh People!

AFTER A YEAR, STILL NO JUSTICE FOR GAGE



Gage Lorentz' mother, Kim Beck, speaks to the crowd on March 13. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

MONTROSE-Family, friends, and concerned citizens held a rally on Saturday, March 13 calling for justice for Charles "Gage" Lorentz. His mother, Kim Beck, and sister spoke at Centennial Plaza, then the crowd gathered up and marched to Demoret Park where they were met with supportive honking and waves from those passing by. On March 21, 2020, Gage Lorentz, 25, was shot and killed by a National Park Ranger in New Mexico. He was pulled over for speeding and lost his life senselessly. To this day no real action has been taken by any federal entity on this shooting. In addition to calling for justice, those at the rally want an end to qualified immunity, which is far too often used so law enforcement officers are not held accountable for their actions. The guick escalation of force

by LEO's has become a major

Continued pg 19

CITY CONSIDERS ZONING CODE CHANGES TO MAKE SOCIAL SERVICES USE-BY-RIGHT

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council will meet for a virtual work session on Monday, March 15 and for a virtual, regular meeting on Tuesdav. March 16.

WORK SESSION

The City of Montrose will welcome six new employees during the work session: Joining the City team are Animal Shelter Technician Nancy Bartz; Public Works Customer Service Representative Debra Lueck; Police Department Customer Service / Civilian Report Taking Technician Ariana Meraz; Guest Services and Community Events Coordinator Ashley Pietak; Human Resources Generalist Samantha Vallejos; and Golf Course Restaurant Manager Bridget Warren.



Montrose City Council will meet for a virtual work session on Monday, March 15 and for a virtual meeting on Tuesday, March 16.

Discussion items include: MURA Phase II Public Infrastructure Contract Award; North 2nd Street ROW Vacation Ordinance; Daytime Social Services-Municipal Code Revision-modifies City Continued pg 9

US 50 Little Blue Creek Canyon Open House Events Scheduled! Montrose Republicans!

Rep. Lauren Boebert to speak to

Carole Ann McKelvey Rocky Mt. Cravings! Regional News Briefs! Letters to the Editor!

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO INDEPENDENT CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION CONVENING

Special to the Mirror

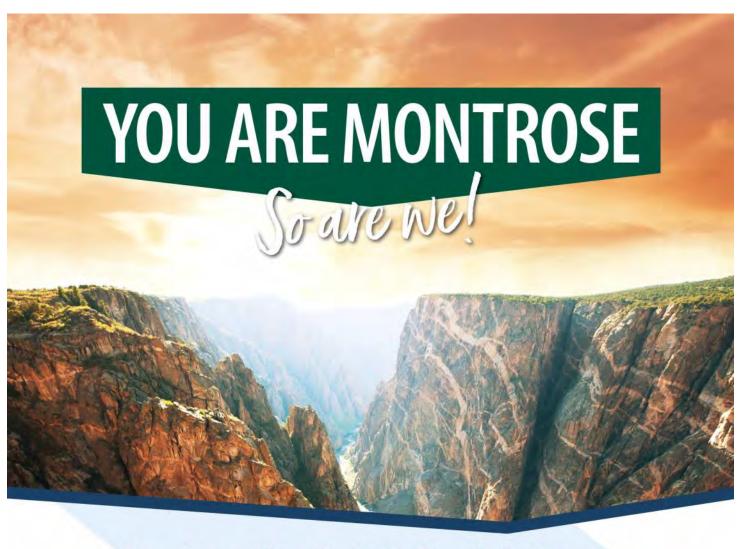
COLORADO-The Colorado Independent Congressional Redistricting Commission will convene for its <u>first meeting</u> on Monday, March 15, 2021, from 2-5pm.

The meeting will be in-person and virtual. Members of the public can <u>watch</u> or <u>listen</u> online. For those wishing to attend in person, the meeting will be in Hearing Room B in the Legislative Services Building, 200 E. 14th Ave., Denver, Colorado. The meeting will not be canceled due to inclement weather, but it may become all

At this meeting, the commissioners will be briefed by staff on the redistricting process and their responsibilities in it.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BUILD BLM BETTER

Editor:

We now have a real opportunity to address the mass disruption done to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) by the movement of its national headquarters out West. ("A thinly veiled effort to gut the agency.") The rationale, sounding

most grassroots agencies, is indeed a travesty. The intent was to disrupt and nullify its more effective functions at national communication and coordination among federal agencies and Washington power brokers. That this disruption was implemented on one of the already most pubgood to many, implemented on one of the licly available agencies is indeed a traves-

ty. The public already had the ability to readily input BLM decisions at the many area, district, and state offices around the West. The Washington office has a different purpose.

The opportunity to honor President Biden's Build Back Better initiative could intensify the Washington, D.C. presence and cooperation among agencies, lawmakers, interested organizations, and publics. Our public lands are a national resource and need national attention. Let's point out to our legislators this need to intensify the collaborative effect that a presence at our seat of government offers, and continue local input at the field

Wayne Quade, Montrose

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PRAYERS FOR SURVIVORS OF UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 328

Dear Editor:

All affected by United Airlines flight 328 that safely landed in Denver are in our thoughts and prayers.

"Go to Joseph (Genesis 41:55)." In thanksgiving Colorado, please pray the Litany of Saint Joseph every day.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matthew R. Dunnigan, Italy



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE K-9 JOCKO HAS RECEIVED DONATION OF BODY ARMOR



MCSO's K-9 Jocko. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE. - Montrose County Sheriff's Office K9 Jocko has received a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Jocko's vest was sponsored by Darby Kelly of Heroes with Paws in Parker, Colorado and embroidered with the sentiment "This gift of protection provided by Heroes with Paws". Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged K9 officers is U.S. made, custom fitted, and NIJ certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 4,210 vests to K9s in all 50 states at a value of \$6.9 million, made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old and actively employed and certified with law enforcement \$1,744-\$2,283, weighs an average of 4-5 or related agencies. K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There For more information, or to learn about are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts taxdeductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of \$960 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of

lb., and comes with a five-year warranty. volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org, or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLACK CANYON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATION MATCH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club (BCBGC) is almost two years into its capital campaign. Launched in May 2019, the campaign was hampered, as with most things, due to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as increasing costs to build. Now the Club is gearing the campaign

back up to get those final monies to build a larger, permanent facility for the BCBGC and end the wait list to get kids into Club. With a hopeful groundbreaking by the end of 2021, the BCBGC needs your help to push capital fundraising over the finish line and get building! For every amount you donate (\$1, \$100, \$1,000) an anony-

mous donor will match your donation up to \$250,000. So, the second you donate, your contribution is already doubled! You can donate today at https://www.coloradogives.org/

BlackCanyonBoysGirlsClub/overview. To

learn more about BCBGC's capital campaign, visit https://www.bcbgc.org/im_in.



OPEN HOUSE EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR US 50 LITTLE BLUE CREEK CANYON IMPROVEMENTS



CDOT courtesy graphic.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE & GUNNISON COUNTIES - On March 16, 2021 two open house events, one virtual and the other in-house, are scheduled for the US 50 Little Blue Creek Canyon improvement project.

Virtual open house

Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. via Zoom Online virtual open house registration: www.us50info.com

In-person open house

Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Montrose County Event Center Banquet Hall, 1036 N. 7th Street, Mont-

rose, Colorado, 81401. There is a 100 person limit due to COVID-19 safety guidelines.

Project Description

Construction on the 4-mile critical improvement project will take place between the communities of Montrose and Gunnison (mile markers 123 -127). The project will take place approximately 30 miles from each community and is anticipated to last two years. Improvements will include realignment and widening U.S. 50, guardrail replacement, additional rockfall catchment area, new signage, and striping. Lengthy road closures will be required in order to complete the project, as crews must conduct rock blasting and removal.



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CITY CONSIDERS ZONING CODE CHANGES TO MAKE SOCIAL SERVICES USE-BY-RIGHT From pg 1

Code to include daytime social service activities as a use by right in B-1, B-2, B-2A, and B-3 zoning districts. The language below is proposed to be added to Municipal Code Section 4-4-12-B(20):(20) Daytime social service activities by a social service provider, to include food storage; food distribution without monetary remuneration as a food pantry and/or food service without monetary remuneration as a soup kitchen; laundry facilities not for profit; showers; counseling to include alcohol and/or substance abuse counseling; and/or religious education and counseling. This use by right expressly excludes the overnight sheltering of people. Asbestos Abatement of 931 N. Park. Items to be considered in upcoming meetings and work sessions include: March 15-Special Meeting/Executive Session - City Manager and City Attorney evaluations;

April 5-Planning Commission applicant interviews;

April 6-Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem; New Tavern Liquor License Application - Wild Horse Wine & Whiskey LLC; New Lodging & Entertainment Liquor License Application - Precedence Productions:

April 20-Arbor Day Proclamation; City Planning Commission Appointments. **REGULAR MEETING**

At the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, March 16, Council will consider approving a request from the Montrose Recreation District to partner on a comprehensive master and strategic plan and to provide funding in the amount of \$30,000, as discussed previously in work session.

Also to be considered are:

Ordinance 2527 (Woodgate Road Realignment) on second reading, granting and authorizing the conveyance of an interest in City-owned real estate;

RDMJK Woodgate Division of Property; Ordinance 2528 on second reading, amending the zoning district designation of Lot 1 of the RDMJK Woodgate Property Rezone Map from B-2, Highway Commercial District, R-2, Low Density District, and R-1b, Small Estate District to B-3, General Commercial District; and Lots 2 and 3 of the RDMJK Woodgate Property Rezone Map from R-2, Low Density District and R-1b, Small Estate District to B-2, Highway Commercial District;

Ordinance 2530 on first reading, vacating three rights-of-way within the City of Montrose;

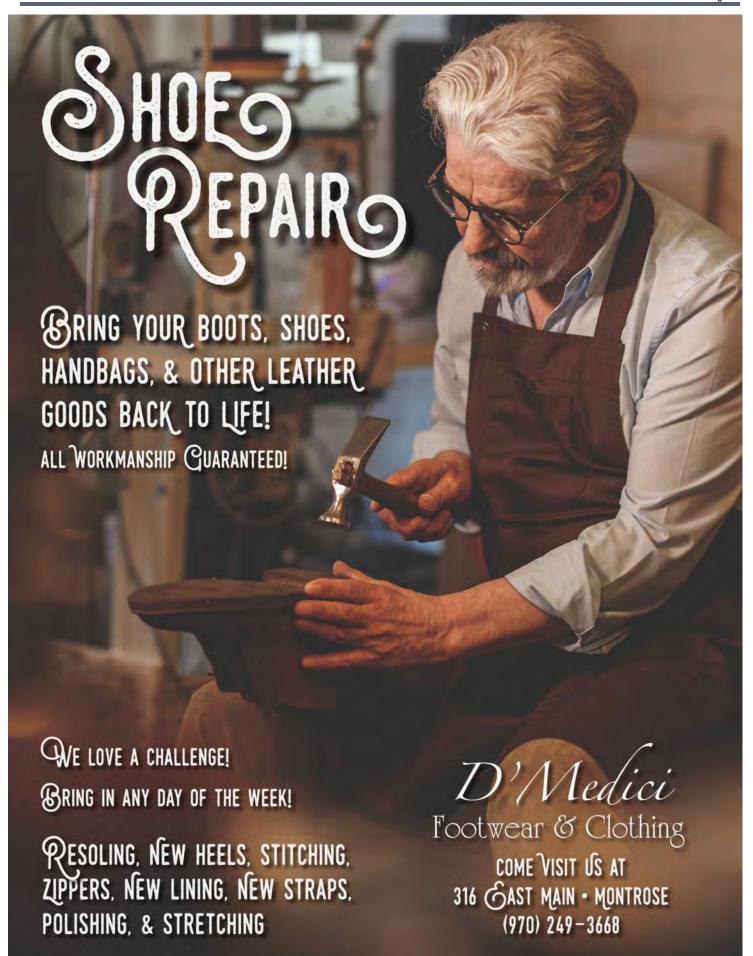
Ordinance 2531 on first reading, amending the zoning district designation of Lot 1 of the Stover Minor Subdivision Property Rezone Map from P Public District to I-1 Light Industrial District and Lot 2 and Lot 3 of the Stover Minor Subdivision Property Rezone Map from P Public District to B-2 Highway Commercial District;

Ordinance 2529 on second reading, vacating a right of way deemed surplus (S. First Street, Public Safety Complex); Award of a construction contract to Ridgway Valley Enterprises in the amount of \$89,062.60 for construction of the North 9th Sidewalk Extension Project; and Award of a construction contract in the amount of \$106,726 for the La Raza Sports Court Project.

Following staff reports, Council will adjourn.







COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

MAKE YOUR OWN LUCK: DON'T DRIVE IMPAIRED, PLAN A SOBER RIDE FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY

Special to the Mirror

STATEWIDE — It's no secret that St. Patrick's Day is widely celebrated with four leaf clovers, bright green clothing, and alcoholic drinks. Ahead of the holiday, the Colorado Department of Transportation, along with Colorado State Patrol and local law enforcement, are urging all Coloradans to drink responsibly and plan ahead for a sober ride. The St. Patrick's Day DUI enforcement period runs March 12-18.

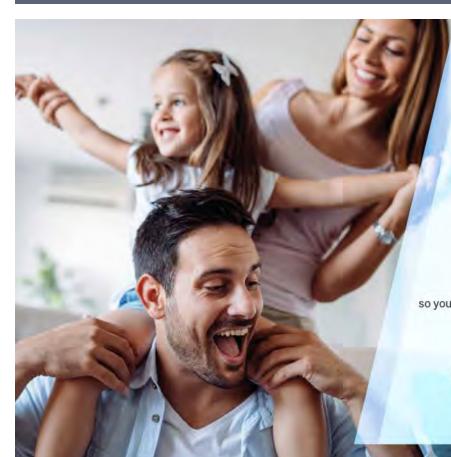
Safety remains a key factor in all CDOT initiatives, which is why CDOT urges the public to follow all COVID-19 guidelines.

"We appreciate that people are tired of nights in and are looking for a reason to celebrate. However, feeling cooped up is no excuse to behave carelessly, including driving with drugs and alcohol in your system," stated Chief Matthew Packard, Colorado State Patrol. "Historical trends tell us that more people drink alcohol in the days leading up to St. Patrick's Day, therefore we will be prepared for an increase in impaired drivers. It's not worth the risk - there are plenty of alternatives to driving impaired, and we encourage all Coloradans to plan for sober rides."

Almost 100 law enforcement agencies will increase DUI patrols during the 2021 St Patrick's Day DUI Enforcement period. The 2020 St. Patrick's Day DUI enforcement period resulted in the arrest of 195 impaired drivers.







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REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

ROADWORK ON KRISTEN COURT TO BEGIN MONDAY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The city's Public Works department will begin road repairs on Kristen Court Monday, March 15, 2021. The repairs are expected to take approximately two weeks to complete.

The work will consist of removing a 16 by 25-foot section of roadway that has failed and replacing it with new road materials and asphalt.

One lane will remain open for public access during repair operations.

Visit <u>www.MoveMo.co</u> for information on other large capital projects taking place throughout the city.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

BALLOT INITIATIVE TARGETS ANIMAL AGRICULTURE



Mirror file photo of freshly cut meat at Kinikin Processing by Gail Marvel.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher
COLORADO-A potential ballot initiative
was introduced by Alexander Sage of
Broomfield and Brent Johannes of Boulder. It is known as Protect Animals from
Unnecessary Suffering and Exploitation
(PAUSE), and it was introduced to change
the cruelty to animal statues. There are
several proposed changes, the biggest one
adds a 'natural lifespan' for various ani-

mals, then sets a limit on when they can be slaughtered to 25 percent of their natural life.

PAUSE defines the 'natural' life of a cow to be 20 years. So based on this initiative, a cow could not be slaughtered until it reaches five years of age. Local ranchers have informed me that typically they are slaughtered by two years of age, and that many of the big corporate producers push for 16 months.

According to a few local

ranchers and producers, this would add years of feeding and care to animals, which would drive up food costs, and lead to shortages.

Jason Wrich, of Wrich Ranches, informed me that the federal regulations say any cow butchered after three years of age cannot be sold for steaks, the quality of the meat at that point is considered to be so low it must be used as ground beef. The aging requirements would make any veal or lamb from Colorado illegal.

PAUSE also redefines 'sexual act' to the point that would not allow artificial insemination, or potentially aiding for a breech calf. Generally accepted care and procedures as husbandry would be made illegal under the new language.

There are usually side effects to bad legislation that trickle down. The Colorado Agriculture industry contributes about 47 billion to our economy each year, the animal agriculture part bringing in about 5.4 billion.

Killing just the animal part of that would affect all the ancillary business, including that part of the agriculture industry that grows feed.

In addition, most animal agriculture on the western slope uses land not fit for other use. Grazing keeps down the growth, which helps prevent wildfire spread.

The PAUSE initiative is bad for Colorado on so many levels. It has a long way to go to even make it to the ballot, but hopefully it never will.



Congratulations Christine Kersen





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Featured Listings



2013 Otter Pond Circle

Beautiful home on the Pond!! Located on the majestic water in the exclusive Otter Pond Subdivision. You will love the views of the pond from almost every room in the house!! The home has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and 2146 sq. ft. The master bedroom has a sliding glass door looking out to the pond. The master bath is truly like a trip to the spa with a steam shower, sauna, jacuzzi tub and double vanity. There is also large walk in closet. The back yard has everything you've been looking for. The stunning pond views will take your breath away. There is a hot tub on the deck off the master bath overlooking the water. A dock for you to launch your kayak's and paddle boards from or to just take in the Colorado sun. \$535,000 MLS#775523





Commercial property with so many potential uses!! This property sits just north of Delta off Hwy. 50. The main building has 4520 sq. ft. with office space, 2 handicap restrooms, 2 large workspaces and garage doors. There is a fireproof safe, fire rated doors and natural gas heat. The back of the main building takes you out to the rest of the 2.5 acres. Where you will find another 1060 sq. ft. building that is finished with electric heat and bay doors. There are also 3 closed storage buildings with approximately 5500 sq. ft. If that is not enough there is about 13,000 sq. ft. of open storage that encloses the back of the 2.5 acre property. This property is zoned B-3 and has a total of 3 lots. \$349,900 MLS#774936



Christine Kersen
Associate Broker
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS IN DAILY PRESS SHOULD BE DISTURBING TO ALL RESIDENTS OF MONTROSE

Editor:

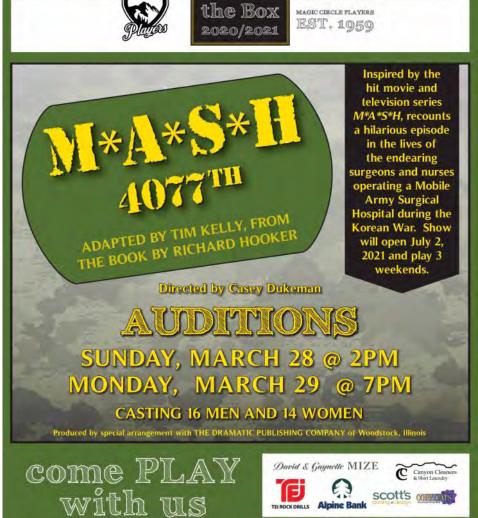
The more I read City Manager Bill Bell's article printed in the Daily Press on February 17, 2021, the more concerned I am by it. Let me explain why. In Colorado, the city manager's duties include seeing that city ordinances and state laws are enforced. The city manager also advises and makes recommendations to the city council, and submits reports to the city council.

As you can see, the city manager's primary self into a political debate that should be duty is to the city council. It is not the duty or the place of the city manager to be editorializing in the newspaper on behalf of a particular project or developer. Yes, the city manager can make recommendations on behalf of a project to the city council, but by editorializing in the paper advocating only his preferred position on an issue, the city manager has injected him-

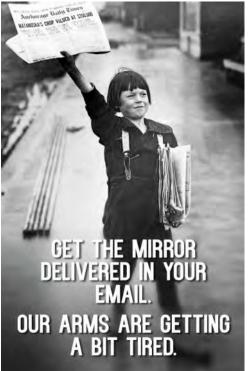
between the city council and the residents of Montrose. Furthermore, the proposed project on Chipeta that the city manager references violates the Comprehensive Plan due to density and transition issues. These issues are once again political issues, to be worked out between the residents of the area, the developer, and the city council. It is not the duty or the job of the city manager to try and sway public opinion in a newspaper on behalf of a developer. Finally, and even more troubling, Mr. Bell accuses those who are opposed to the project that he endorses of spreading "misinformation and lies" with absolutely no evidence or proof to substantiate his claim. Taken in their entirety, Mr. Bell's comments should be disturbing to all residents of Montrose. My point is this: How much influence should one person have over the direction that development takes in this town?

Ron Sobieck, Montrose





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RE-1J BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATED ON ASBESTOS REMOVAL, GOALS



The Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education held a regular meeting at School District offices on Tuesday, March 9.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education held a regular meeting at School District offices on Tuesday, March 9. Other than District A Director Jeff Bachman, all directors were present. The in-person meeting was broadcast on Facebook live; still, the livestream did not begin until the meeting was underway.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Advisory committee updates

District F Director Eric Kelley gave a brief update on the facilities committee.

Donations

Recent donations include:

- -Mr. & Mrs. Neal Platzer donated \$200 for the student internet program.
- -Peak Virtual Academy has received the following donations to be used towards the Peak Green Space Project. The project is a 'play' space fundraiser:

Jimmy and Nancy Kaiser-\$100

Sean at Mountain West Insurance-\$100 Jana Faragher at Rocky Mountain Restorative Medicine-\$500

The Greiner Family-\$100

Cooling's Heating & A/C Inc.-\$500 Stephanie Williams & Darrin Green-\$250 Mylar's Auto Refinishing, Inc.-\$100 Bryce & Sara Lokey-\$250 Hot Water Pro-

NuVista Credit Union-\$250

duction-\$250

McCants Home Maintenance & Repair LLC -\$500

Lorraine Hahn & The Hahn Family-\$100 Raymond & Chiyo Tirona-\$100

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Advisory Group IntroductionIntroduction of the student advisory group did not take place as scheduled.

Asbestos Mitigation Update

Director of Safety and Security James Pavlich gave an update on removal of asbestos found at Olathe Middle/High School and Centennial Middle School. Pavlich stated in a previous RE-1J meeting that the asbestos was tied to recent roofing projects.

At Olathe Middle/High School, 12,000 square feet of space was impacted; at Centennial roughly 93,000 square feet of space was affected.

The City of Montrose has allowed Centennial Middle School to use the Montrose Pavilion as learning spaces for seventh and eighth grade students starting March 15 and extending throughout the abatement period, possibly through the end of the school year. Olathe Middle/High School will likely need additional space, Pavlich said.

District E Director Sarah Fishering said, "Have we provided a hard date for the end of the mitigation process...so we really aren't in any risk of not being able to get back to school?"

Pavlich said that the draft of second page of the RFPQ "is being reviewed internally today and tomorrow...we'll take into consideration backwards planning."

Update on Board Goals

Instructional Services Director Jessica Beller and team member Jamie Simo present-

ed information on <u>updated board goals</u>. Directors asked questions and discussed the information with Beller and Simo. Teaching phonemic awareness during the pandemic has presented challenges, Simo noted.

"This is a real stumper for kindergarten students," Simo said. Three weeks ago, teachers were asked to wear face shields during literacy block rather than masks for this reason.

"That's a huge thing when you get to those little kids," Simo said, "not being able to see the way sounds are formed from their teacher...we actually do see a slight increase in our online scores...the kids can see the teacher through the computer."

Return to In-person Learning

Superintendent Carrie Stephenson talked about the return to in-person learning. "We are back full force, most of us starting Monday the 8th," Stephenson said, noting that Olathe/Middle High and Centennial Middle School are back as of this week.

"I just want to give another shout out to the staff," she said. "What a year they have had to be flexible, and they done so with such professionalism and such passion for student instruction...it really is admirable."

March Enrollment Report

Finance Director Emily Imus presented March enrollment numbers. The most recent student count is 5,747, ten students fewer than last month, Imus said.

Early Childhood Center (ECC) Update

ECC Director Penny Harris gave an update. Attachments to the agenda include the data dashboard. ECC Policy Council members gave bags of supplies for preschool activities to every preschool student. The bags were designed by Policy Council members to reflect the STEM bags that were being sent home with elementary school students.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved as presented.

With no further business the Board voted to adjourn.

AFTER A YEAR, STILL NO JUSTICE FOR GAGE From pg 1

issue across the country as more people feel that they have departed the path of "protect and serve" in favor of tactics and attitudes that are more dangerous to the citizens they are supposed to serve. For more information, or to support the effort seeking justice for Gage, visit www.justiceforgagelorentz.com.



The march began at Centennial Plaza. Photo by Paul Arbogast.



Gage Lorentz' mother, Kim Beck, spoke. Photo by Brad Switzer.



Nearly a year after Charles "Gage" Lorentz, 25, was killed by a National Park Service officer in New Mexico, protesters gathered in Montrose to demand justice. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

THE COLORADO STRONG SAFER WITH FOAM ENCOURAGES BEER LOVERS TO VISIT COLORADO CRAFT BREWERIES

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Before March 2020 and the impact of COVID-19-related government regulations and safety protocols, only 80 of Colorado's breweries distributed beer to fans through restaurants and retail stores. The remaining of the state's 425 breweries relied on on-premise sales of beer through their taprooms.

Looking back on the past year of the pandemic's influence on the brewing industry in Colorado, many breweries have shifted the ways they operate to include new methods of distribution or have faced devastating sales losses.

Since March 2020, 33 Colorado-based breweries have closed, an all-time record for the previously booming craft beer industry in the state. Nearly all of the 392 breweries remaining in Colorado reported flat or declining sales in 2020, with many reporting production of beer down an average of 30- to 40-percent.

"The impact of the pandemic and changing consumer behavior on the craft beer industry in Colorado is devastating," says Shawnee Adelson, executive director of the Colorado Brewers Guild. "The ability to sell beer in a community-style taproom was a pillar of success for many of Colorado's breweries, and they've had a challenging year navigating the changing landscape."

For breweries that began canning and distributing beer to maintain at least some access to market when taproom and restaurant capacities were limited or closed completely over the past year, the new landscape was still challenging. Breweries who introduced new sales methods through retail, delivery or strictly to-go sales incurred additional costs for labor, cans, labels, and mobile canning fees. Colorado Strong's Safer With Foam Campaign

To support Colorado's independent brewery owners who are feeling the effects of the current pandemic, Colorado Strong launched its state-wide public awareness



campaign, Safer With Foam.

"Independent craft breweries are community spaces that are critical to local economies across Colorado," says Shawnee Adelson, executive director of the Colorado Brewers Guild. "A play on the Safer At Home of the past year, the Safer With Foam campaign encourages beer lovers to continue to support the breweries in their communities and help them survive this difficult time."

The Safer With Foam campaign, created by Colorado's Turn It Up, follows Colorado Strong's 2020 launch of the Colorado Strong Fund and its namesake beer the Colorado Strong Pale Ale. The collaborative beer recipe, which was brewed by 125 breweries across the state of Colorado, used all Colorado-sourced ingredients, generated more than \$2.4 million in consumer spending and raised more \$115K to support the Safer With Foam public awareness campaign, provide funds for the Colorado Brewers Guild to support membership and ensure Colorado Strong future programming (source: Left Hand Brewing Foundation's 2020 Impact Report). "Over the past year, the Colorado Strong initiative has raised funds to support breweries, suppliers and their communities in ways that make a serious economic impact in our state," says Eric Wallace, president and co-founder of Longmont-based Left Hand Brewing and president of the Left Hand Brewing Foundation board of directors, an underwriter of Colorado Strong. "We are so proud to continue this effort in 2021 with the launch of Safer With Foam and encourage all members of the Colorado brewing community to spread the word."

How to Get Involved

To participate in the Safer With Foam initiative, beer lovers are encouraged to:
-visit Colorado breweries in accordance with all local safety guidelines
-follow Colorado breweries on social media to show support and to stay updated on changing social distancing protocols donate directly to the Colorado Strong Fund

Non-brewery organizations wanting to participate in the Colorado Strong campaign through underwriting or use of Safer With Foam assets should <u>click here</u> to request more information on how to become collaborative partners. Breweries looking for more information should <u>click here</u>. "Buying beer to-go, following all local guidelines for social distancing and safe consumption, and purchasing gift cards and merchandise help breweries keep their staff working, provide benefits, and keep the lights on so they will be there for us when we can safely visit," says Adelson.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA HEALTH SURGERY DEPARTMENT EARNS ANOTHER LOW SURGICAL INFECTION RATE



Amber Cotton and Seth Jacobs, two of Delta Hospital's Certified Registered Sterilization Technicians (CRCST's). Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – For the surgery department at Delta Health, maintaining a low surgical infection rate is a rigorous process that takes teamwork.

For patients looking to receive surgery, reviewing a facility's surgical infection rate is critical to the quality of the surgical outcome. Historically, Delta Health has maintained a low surgical infection rate. In 2020 Delta Health's surgical infection rate, or the number of yearly infections, was only 0.2 percent; lower than the national average of roughly three to five percent. Amber Cotten is a Certified Registered Sterilization Technician (CRCST) at Delta Health and plays a crucial role in that process.

Cotten is in charge of washing, cleaning, inspecting and sterilizing all instruments needed for surgeries and all instruments from Delta Health clinic locations. On any given day, Cotten may turnover 2,000 instruments.

"The process can sometimes take a full day. But it all starts in the operating room where they wipe down the instruments and soak them so that they can come to me," said Cotten. "Once they get to me I have to hand scrub them, rinse them and put them in a sonic which vibrates the instruments and vibrates loose all of the [particles] that I can't see. I then re-rinse them and put them in a washer at 180

degrees for about 45 minutes before letting them dry."

Once the instruments are completely dry, Cotten has to wrap them and put them into an autoclave, or steam sterilizer, where the process takes 49 minutes with 4-minute sterilization cycles at 270 degrees. The instruments are then taken out to cool for an hour to an hour and a half. Once they finish drying and cooling, they can are ready to be used.

Cotten was the first CRCST

to join the Delta Health team, but in December 2020, Seth Jacobs joined as the second CRCST. Every year they must undergo training, classes and conferences to maintain their membership and keep their certification.

"Colorado does not require Sterilization Techs to be certified, but we felt it was important for Amber to do that," said Felicia Heinz, Director of Surgery for Delta Health.

The Delta Health team is also in charge of disinfecting all of the N95 masks for Delta County.

For Heinz, the golden standard for surgeries is to not have a surgical site infection. That is why it is so important for patients to be looking at a facility's surgical site infection rate when deciding where to get care, said Heinz, a patient's outcome is dependent on it.

"We have a great surgical rate here at Delta Health and it's the golden standard," said Heinz. "That is why I am so proud to say that our team goes above and beyond to provide quality care. It starts with Amber and Seth of course, but we also have a wonderful team of scrub technicians, nurses and physicians who all play a vital role."

The sterilization process means that Cotten's sterilization room be treated like an operating room that must be fully wiped down and sanitized. Every Friday Cotten has to clean her washers and cleaning equipment to make sure that any particles that are stuck on the sides and crevices are broken down.

"Descaling my equipment cleans out all of the biomaterials that get stuck to the metal, and I have to do that every week," said Cotten. "Once a month I also have to clean out the autoclaves, and I have to climb inside and scrub it all down by hand. I have to clean all of my equipment so that I can keep the instruments clean so that we don't get any infections."

Choosing to undergo surgery is a big decision, and the team at Delta Health is committed to providing remarkable care. The surgery department calls patients the day before surgery to answer any questions and to provide instructions on what to expect. The current COVID-19 visitation policy for Delta Health also allows patients to have one visitor with them in the preoperation room.

"It helps a lot for our patients to have a person with them when undergoing an operation," said Heinz. "We want our patients to feel comfortable and confident in the care that they are receiving, and our team goes above and beyond to provide compassionate care."

The Environmental Services team has also continued stringent cleaning and disinfecting practices. With their new Surfacide Helios UV-C cleaning system they use ultraviolet light to thoroughly disinfect operating rooms.

As Delta Health's county-wide healthcare system continues to expand, Heinz said the surgery department is looking forward to the future.

"We added Urology last year and we now have three Ear, Nose and Throat physicians," said Heinz. "This means handling a lot more equipment for our physicians, but we are continuing to invest in these new services to make sure our physicians have the equipment they need to provide quality care to our patients."

To learn more about the surgery department at Delta Health, visit <u>deltahospital.org/surgical/</u>or call 970.874.2228.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PHASE I RIVER IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The Cit of Montrose has announced that Phase I of the Uncompangre River Improvements Project near North 9th Street is complete and open to the public. Construction of the Uncompangre River Improvements Project started last fall and included the stabilization of riverbanks, restoration of a more natural stream system, improvement of aquatic and riparian habitats, and improvement of river access and fishing opportunities for the public. The project was made possible through a partnership with the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority and with the assistance of \$784,000 in

grants received from the Colorado Water Conservation Board and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

"We are excited to bring this new recreational and fishing asset online for our residents," City Engineer Scott Murphy said. "We feel that it will be a great complement to the recently-completed GOCO Connect Trail and it further expands our collection of great outdoor amenities right here in town."

The city would like to express a special thank you to the design and construction team Ecological Resource Consultants and Naranjo Civil Constructors for a job well done, Mayfly Outdoors for their 41-acre

land donation within the project area, and to the volunteer river advisory committee who helped to guide the project through its planning phases.

The public is welcome to attend a virtual ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the project scheduled for Thursday, April 22, at 1 p.m. The live ceremony can be viewed online at the <u>City of Montrose's Facebook</u> page.

Watch a video of the project <u>here.</u>
Any questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at 970.901.1792.

Visit <u>www.MoveMo.co</u> for information on other large capital projects taking place

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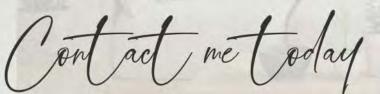
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Guest speakers from the Montrose County Sheriff's Department, Montrose Police Department and Center for Mental Health

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

REMOVE THE TROOPS FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, NOW

Editor:

I do not often write on national issues. If we cannot clean up our town and throw the rascals out we have little right to criticize others. We have not done our own laundry for several years here in Montrose so why waste our wind on the national level.

But National Guard Troops have been in Washington, DC for over two months. Obviously their sole purpose is to keep citizens out of their Capitol building. A place that they have every right to go to confront their representatives with their opinions, face to face. When they cannot do that their representatives are deprived of their knowledge of their constituents concerns. And if they can keep us out, they can keep our representative in, if they so desire. There is no real reason for fences, Jersey barriers or anybody's National Guard.

As I understand the law the capitol complex lockdown is tantamount to martial law at least in the capitol complex and a violation of the Posse Comitatus (sp?) Act. This is not what America is about. Are the occupants of the capitol

complex so afraid of their constituents that they must have thousands of armed troops to keep them out? DC is a federal city and security therein is not a National Guard function, it is a national function. What's the matter, can't Nancy and her bunch get the army in there? Probably not, the armed forces know the Constitution and are sworn to uphold it.

Why is it that their constituents cannot approach the capitol to see and visit their representatives? Why is it that we are spending \$2 million a week in that endeavor? Why must Nancy and her cohorts keep these citizen soldiers away from home and hearth? Why is there seemingly no accountability for the actions of Rep. (for reprehensible) Polosi? Why are the troops made to contend with inadequate quarters in the winter in DC? The weather in DC is horrendous in the good seasons, no less winter. But most of all, WHY are they there at all?

My opinion is that it is because the Congress of the United States knows very well that they have put the country in an evil situation. At least their leaders are scared. Look at her face, Polose is scared

stiff! They saw to it that illegal election results were foisted upon the electorate and they are beginning to see what they have done. What they have done by condoning demonstration and riots nationwide. By condoning lawlessness. The people know that they have been misled and are being mistreated with this Covid fraud and the Covid lock down debacle. That their unemployment, once the lowest in history, is now at historic highs. Highs being caused by their government that is willingly and happily messing in things that don't need government interference.

I am suspicious by nature but I must ask, "What is coming in the near future that will necessitate several thousand troops to control"? In Washington DC? These soldiers are not in DC for the capitol building, that is a fraud. These soldiers are there for something else. What is that? Nothing, even in DC, is done without a reason! So what is the reason for this? What is it? Who knows, but if we wish to short stop it, WE HAD BETTER GET WITH IT! Now! Bill Bennett, Montrose

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UNITED STATES NEWS BRIEFS

USDA FOREST SERVICE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION INVESTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Special to the Mirror

DENVER- The USDA Forest Service announced the investment of \$285 million to fund Great American Outdoors Act projects in 2021. Of this amount, approximately \$31.5M will go to the Rocky Mountain Region to fund ninety projects. This is a five-year program and similar dollar amounts are expected over the next five years. This significant influx of funding will be used to address infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs, enhance economic benefits, and improve recreation and public access on national forests by leveraging National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Funds provided by Congress.

Specifically, the funds will be used to modernize recreation facilities, improve roadways, upgrade campgrounds, design and build new trails or rehabilitate ex-

isting trails, repair water systems and update toilets, to name just a few of the wide range of projects slated for the Rocky Mountain Region.

"The Legacy Restoration Funds will allow us to address a backlog of maintenance projects across the region," said Tammy Angel, Acting Regional Forester. "We are thrilled to be moving forward with much needed improvements to transportation infrastructure and recreation facilities and we are committed to accomplishing all of the funded projects," she added.

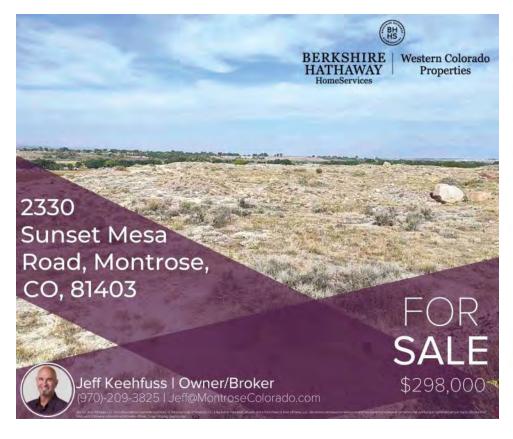
This year's \$31.5 million investment is made possible by the newly created National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, established in 2020 by the Great American Outdoors Act. These funds will allow the Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Region to implement more than ninety infrastructure improvement pro-

jects essential to the continued use and enjoyment of national forests lands.

The projects will also serve as a catalyst for economic development and employment opportunities in rural communities. These new investments will strengthen shared stewardship of national forests and grasslands by expanding the Forest Service work with public and private partners.

Projects funded by the Legacy Restoration Fund will contribute to efforts to develop more sustainable infrastructure resilient to climate change impacts. Projects may also address Administration objectives to provide improved recreational opportunities and access to underserved communities.

For more information on these projects in the Rocky Mountain Region, visit the Rocky Mountain Region GAOA website.





OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE EARLY 2020 IS SAD

Editor:

Sad what has happened since early 2020. First, a virus from China has attacked the entire world and a massive loss of life has followed, not to mention the loss of us being able to "live" our lives freely. Democratic lawmakers cannot allow an informed populous to take precautions to protect ourselves and their loved ones. They think they have to mandate us to wear masks, that we should be wearing without government having to tell us to. They closed down the economy under the guise of safety and want to spend money to bail out the economy that current children, and unborn children, will have to pay back some time in the future.

We are supposed to stay home and not travel to stop the spread of the virus, but Democrats want to allow illegal immigration to continue. Illegals that are stopped, are not even tested for the virus and allowed into the country to spread the virus

Funding has been provided to build a wall

to slow illegal immigration and stop the influx of potential Covid spreaders. The Democrats want to stop building the wall (and associated jobs) and send a message to the illegals to come on in, even though there is a waiting list of people wanting to enter the country through legal immigration. Democrats want voters for their causes.

The current virus relief bill is really a bail out of bad Democratic governments that have been mismanaged for generations and pay back to Democratic donors. Dems passed the bill as an emergency measure when much, if not most of the money, won't be spent for many years on things that have nothing to do with the virus. 1% goes to vaccinations and only 9% has anything to due with Covid. Stimulus payments are a diversion to make citizens not look into the "Covid relief" bill. Who doesn't want supposedly "Free money?"

One key piece of tax reform from President Trump was to limit state and local

taxes to \$10,000. The high tax areas, primarily on both coasts, were able to take the bite out of their massive taxes and spread that cost though the rest of the country that had common sense, through tax deductions raising taxes on all of us. Do we hear income redistribution? If you listen to Democrats, half of Americans (those that did not vote with and for Dems) are gun toting, racist extremists. The "Armed insurrection" (that wasn't armed or an insurrection) according to Democrats has nothing to do with most conservatives or Republicans.

If you do not agree with the socialist Democrats you must be crazy.

The people who attacked the capitol were terrorists, though not nearly as dangerous, violent and numerous as the terrorist rioters this past summer that were egged on by many including current Vice-President Kamala Harris.

Learn the facts and don't be fooled by liberal media.

Ed Moreland, Montrose



REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ONLY SIX-TIME TOP 100 RURAL & COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AWARDEE IN COLORADO



Montrose Memorial Hospital. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) today announced it has been named one of the Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals in the United States by The Chartis Center for Rural Health for the sixth year in a row. It is the only hospital in Colorado with this recognition for six consecutive years. "On behalf of the MMHI Board of Directors, we are incredibly proud of our employees and providers," said MMHI Board Chair, Dr. Kjersten Davis. "To strive and win this award in a year with great challenges demonstrates our hospital puts our Friends & Family first to ensure our community receives the best care available. The honor of being Colorado's only six-time recipient of this award confirms to our community that their local hospital is among the very best in Colorado!"

"The Top 100 program continues to illuminate strategies and innovation for delivering higher quality care and better outcomes within rural communities," said Michael Topchik, National Leader, The Chartis Center for Rural Health. "We are delighted to be able to spotlight the efforts of these facilities through the INDEX framework."

Over the last 11 years, the INDEX has grown to become the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance. Based entirely on public data and utilizing 36 independent indicators, the INDEX assesses rural hospitals across eight pillars of per-

formance, including market share, quality, outcomes, patient perspective, cost, charge, and financial efficiency. The INDEX framework is widely used across the nation by independent rural hospitals, health systems with rural footprints and state offices of rural health, which provide access to INDEX analytics through grantfunded initiatives. Only five Colorado hospitals made the 2021 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital list, with Montrose Memorial Hospital the only awardee within 100 miles in any direction.

About Montrose Memorial Hospital

(www.MontroseHospital.com)

Montrose Memorial Hospital is a 501(c)3 nonprofit healthcare system serving Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray, Gunnison,

Delta, Hinsdale and San Juan counties. The health system offers a 75-bed hospital and an extensive range of inpatient & outpatient health care services, including cardiology, oncology, minimally invasive surgery, laboratory, medical imaging/ radiology, Mountain View Therapy, Level III Trauma Center, Acute Rehabilitation Unit and the family birthing center. The health system partners with regional providers on joint ventures to meet local healthcare needs, including CareFlight air ambulance service and Black Canvon Surgical Center. Montrose Memorial is the second-largest employer in Montrose County, with more than 700 employees and 100 physicians who represent 23 medical specialties.





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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PUC ENCOURAGES UTILITY CUSTOMERS TO KEEP NATURAL GAS METERS FREE FROM ICE AND SNOW

Special to the Mirror

DENVER — With forecasts of a major winter storm targeting the state this weekend, Colorado utility customers are reminded to inspect their natural gas meters on a regular basis and remove any ice and snow buildup.

"The accumulation of snow and ice on natural gas meters is a safety hazard," said Joe Molloy, chief of the Public Utilities When Commission's Gas Pipeline Safety Unit. "Keeping meters clear of snow and ice will help prevent damage that could result in a dangerous situation."

Accumulated snow and ice places stress on the regulator or meter piping, and could cause gas to leak into your home and create a hazardous condition. Excessive snow cover also may result in abnormal pressure, affect appliance operation and interrupt your service.

Damage to natural gas facilities may also result from the impact of snow or ice falling from roofs, ice forming in or on regulators preventing their proper operation, or shoveling snow from roofs to protect dwellings from abnormal snow accumulations

When removing heavy accumulations of snow or ice, do not strike meters with snow blowers, blades or shovels. Do not kick your meter to break or clear ice. Use a broom, a snow brush, or your hands to lightly remove snow and ice that is capable of being removed. For extremely heavy ice buildup, contact your local gas utility.

The problem of melting snow and ice fall-

ing on exposed meters will continue through the spring as daytime temperatures rise and then fall below freezing overnight. Customers who notice ice on their meters or are concerned that meter vents may be blocked should contact their local gas utility.

If you own a vacation home or plan to be away from your home for an extended period, designate someone to clear your gas meter and sidewall appliance vents regularly while you're away. After you're back in the home, be especially attentive to any gas odor.

Customers should leave their residences immediately if they detect a gas or propane odor and report the odor to their local gas utility, propane operator or designated emergency response officials.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CDOT BEGINS PROJECT TO IMPROVE HIGHWAY SURFACE, UPGRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN CORTEZ, DOLORES, RICO

Special to the Mirror

MONTEZUMA/DOLORES COUNTIES — The Colorado Department of Transportation will begin pavement surface improvements of several stretches of highways in Cortez, Dolores and Rico. Crews will mobilize next week. The project will also upgrade several ramps at select intersections to meet mandated standards by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"Many US and state highways run through the center of rural communities, like these three southwest Colorado towns," said Julie Constan, the Regional Transportation Director for southwest Colorado. "Improving the surfaces of these roadways will benefit each community's business districts and add safety for motorists. This project will also ensure that current federal ADA standards are met and maintained on ramps for accessibility and to enhance pedestrian safety." The road surface work will include repaving process to sections of CO 145 through Dolores and Rico and on US 160 east and south of Cortez.

The resurfacing method, or heater repave treatment, will heat, mix and recycle the top 1.5 inches of existing asphalt. The material is laid back down and followed with an application of 1.5 inches of new asphalt. The work will involve planning or leveling the asphalt at the gutter edges and across the full roadway width along certain roadway segments where necessary. The process creates a smoother driving surface. ADA curb ramps will be removed and replaced, or newly constructed, through each town, at 16 intersections.

Specifically, the work will be done at the following locations:

US 160 in Cortez

South Cortez: The heater repaying process will be done from about a half mile south of CR G to McElmo Street (traffic control will be set up between mile points

34.3 - 37.5). The repaving will skip over the intersection of US 160 and CR G, which is surfaced in concrete; and the bridge deck at McElmo Creek (MP 35.7) will be repaired. To accommodate the afternoon peak travel period, there will be no lane closures along this stretch between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

East Cortez: Heater repaving and ADA ramp upgrades will be done east and west of the CO 145 junction, between Mildred Street and the Fun Center (MP 38.5 -41.5); there will be no lane closures in either direction between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. ADA ramp work will completed at the be enforced. following six intersections:

E. Roger Smith Avenue, N. Edith Street, S. Veach Street, N. Texas Street, Cactus Street and Trinity Avenue.

CO 145 in Cortez, Dolores and Rico East Cortez: Heater repaving will be done along a short section of CO 145 from the intersection of US 160 south for about 200 feet (MP 0 - .25).

Dolores: Heater repaving from east of the CO 184 junction (to Mancos) north through the town of Dolores (MP 8.9 -13.2) and north-side ADA ramp upgrades at the following eight intersections: 2nd Street through 8th Street and 11th Street (ADA ramps on the north side of these intersections will be upgraded; a previous project has upgraded those on the south side.)

Rico: The heater repave will go through the town (MP 45.7 - 48) and ADA ramps will be constructed at the intersections of E. Mantz and E. Campbell streets, on both sides.

Travel Impacts

The project will begin on US 160 and CO 145 with ADA ramp removal and reconstruction through all three towns, somewhat simultaneously. While ramp work is underway in these towns, there will likely be single-lane closures at the intersection under construction. Pedestrians will en-

counter full-time sidewalk closures for a period of several days to a week, as necessary for ramp removal, reconstruction and concrete cure time. Access to businesses and residences will be maintained, but may be temporarily altered during construction at a given intersection. On sections of highway where the repaving work is underway, motorists will encounter single-lane, alternating traffic with possible 15- to 20-minute delays, depending upon traffic volumes. Speed limits will be lowered through work zones and double fines for traffic infractions will

Holiday Work Suspensions

There will be no work and no travel impacts over the following holiday time periods/weekends:

Memorial Day, May 28 at noon through June 1

Independence Day, July 2 at noon through July 6

Labor Day, September 3 at noon through September 7

Stay Informed

More information is available at:

Project website: www.codot.gov/projects/ co145-us160heaterrepave

Project information line: 970-560-8669 Project email:

co145.us160heaterrepave@gmail.com 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

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

DARRELL DUANE "CORKY" MCNEER

August 6 1958 - February 24 2021



Corky was born in French Camp, California to Grace Mildred Gaines. Grace later married Allen Elmer McNeer who adopt-

ed and helped raised Corky.

He lived in California and northern Idaho until the family moved to Montrose where his dad was raised and had family in 1970.

Corky attended grade school thru high school. He then attended the Job Corps in Collbran Colorado where he earned his GED, and a degree in maintenance.

Corky worked for various lumber companies over the years and then began working general maintenance for companies.

Corky enjoyed and took great pride in wood working and doing small projects for people.

Corky was the type of person that was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone he could.

Corky had many hobbies that he loved. Fishing with his "fishing buddies" and

being a grandfather to his grandson "my little buddy" was among his favorites. He met his first wife and had a daughter Mellisa. Later he met Iris Head and they were married February 14 1989. Iris had a son Michael that Corky helped raise as his own, they were also blessed with another son Matthew. Corky and Iris had just celebrated their 31st anniversary on Valentine's day and as Iris describes Corky "He is my everything, he's my

Corky was preceded in death by his dad Allen Elmer McNeer and his younger brother Allen Dale McNeer. Corky was survived by his wife Iris McNeer, two sons Michael Head and Matthew McNeer, daughter Mellisa McNeer, mother Grace Fish, sister Sherry Goodhue, brother Larry McNeer. He will be missed by many.

SCOTT WARREN MILES October 10, 1971 – March 6, 2021

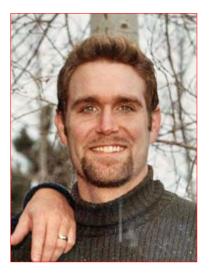
Our hearts are empty with the loss of our Brother and Son. Scott Warren Miles passed away March 6th at Montrose Memorial Hospital. Scott has been a resident of Montrose off and on since 1983. He graduated from Montrose High and attended Evangel Christian University in Springfield, MO. Scott was a very loving and sensitive man with an infectious laugh that you would never forget. He was a habitual note taker (like his father) often listing favorite movies, songs, etc. He loved to quiz his family and friends with trivia or sharing and old song that he loved.

His hobbies were music, golf, skiing, and photography but his true passion was spending time with his son Michael.

Scott was preceded in death by his father Charles Miles of Houston, Tx and survived by his mother Ann Stryker of Montrose, CO, his son Michael Scott Miles of Durango, CO and his brother and sister-in-law Michael and Tamara Miles of Lafayette, LA. Scott will truly be missed.

A private service will be held in Jennings, Louisiana.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

STEPHANIE ROBERTSON SCHOONOVER

May 15, 1962 – March 3, 2021

STEPHANIE ROBERTSON passed away on March 3, 2021 at Montrose Memorial Hospital at the age of 58. She was born on May 15, 1962 in Garden Grove, CA and lived in California until the age of 13. She then moved to Colorado with her family in 1975. She enjoyed the remaining years of her life in Colorado surrounded by loving family members and friends. Stephanie was a resident of the North Ute Community Options Group Home.

Stephanie was a resident of the North Ute Community Options Group Home. She has been with the Community Options Residential Program and Sheltered Workshop since the age of 21.

Stephanie enjoyed spending time with her peers and the staff of Community Options. The family deeply appreciates the compassion and dedication of everyone at Community Options.

The staff at the Ute Home were like family to Stephanie.

Stephanie was always a happy person and her positive energy was contagious to anyone around her. One of her favorite things was her weekly visits from her Mom where she always got a special treat and a Pepsi.

They enjoyed time together going through her Mom's purse, coloring, reading, or just enjoying each other's company.

Stephanie is preceded in death by her Father, Douglas Robertson (Oregon), Paternal Grandparents Dorothy and Frank Robertson (Newport Beach, CA), Maternal Grandparents Buryl and Mary Battelle (Fountain Valley, CA), Aunt Leslie Gazouski (Mission Viejo, CA), and Aunt Linda (Rich) Figurelli (Skokie, IL). Stephanie is survived by her Mother, Kay Valentine (Montrose, CO), Step Father, Terry Schoonover (Montrose, CO), Sister Pam Schoonover (Montrose, CO), Sister Michelle (Wayne) Davids (Burley, ID), Brother Darrin Schoonover (Montrose, CO), Nephews Blake Schoonover and Michael Thalman, Nieces Jennifer Fife and Tiffany Warr, and Aunt, Judy Battelle (Burley, ID). The family is holding a private gathering to celebrate



her life as well as holding a separate gathering for Community Options in the near future.

HENRIETTA THOMPSON May 28, 1923- March 4th, 2021



HENRIETTA THOMPSON left this world on March 4th to be with the Lord and her Husband of 73 years, Wayne Thompson. She was 97 years old.

Born in Knox County Kentucky on May 28, 1923, the farming family settled in the Marceline, Missouri area where she met Walter Wayne Thompson, Jr. and the two were married in Quincy, Massachusetts on January 16th, 1943. Their union produced five children. Rebecca (Dan) Best of Wilmington, NC, Patricia (Kim) Livensparger of Goleta, CA, Larry Thompson of Tucson, AZ, Sherry (Dan) Trujillo of Montrose, CO, Cindy (Rick) Ditch of Columbus, OH

Henrietta ministered beside her Pastor husband for 50 years. She enjoyed teaching children's Sunday School classes, gardening and canning the fruits and vegetables she grew. As the 7th of 8 children, she was the last of her line. Henrietta was preceded in death by her husband Wayne, and a grandson Jeff.

She is survived by all 5 of her children, 11 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren (with another on the way).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Hope West Hospice.725 S. 4th Street. Montrose, CO 81401

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JANICE MAYFIELD June 24, 1929- March 5, 2021

JANICE MAYFIELD at age 91 passed away in her Montrose, Colorado home on March 5, 2021. After a long bout with COPD, she suffered a seizure a week before she finally succumbed while surrounded by her loving family.

Janice was born in San Francisco, California on June 24, 1929 to Walter and Anna Jenkel. She met Wayne Mayfield while working as an executive assistant at the San Francisco-based Lennon and Newell advertising Agency. She and Wayne were eventually married in 1953. They had 3 children, Todd, Tina and Susanna and a foster daughter, Marvie.

In 1966 the family moved to Honolulu, Hawaii where they lived for 11 years before retiring to Ridgway, Colorado. After their 3 children went out on their own, the empty nesters moved to Log Hill Village. 10 years later, they moved several more times including Mesquite Nevada, Tubac Arizona, Grand Junction Colorado then to Montrose.

After 58 years of marriage, Wayne passed away in 2010, also at the age of 91. Janice moved to Sun City, Arizona then back again to Montrose.

Janice is survived by her sister Betty Kniesche, daughter Marvie, son Todd, daughter Susanna, grandchildren Leahi, Ian, Justin, Luana, JoJo, Rianna and great grand daughter Kalena.

Close family and friends will gather to celebrate Janice's life at the Cedar Hill Cemetery on what would have been her 92nd birthday. She will be remembered for her beautiful smile, love of family,



quick wit and extensive collection of ceramic pigs. Donations in Janice's memory can be made to HopeWest at 725 South 4th Street, Montrose, Colorado 81401.

JACK DALE DUNIVAN

September 15th, 1925 -March 5th, 2021



JACK DALE
DUNIVAN of
Ridgway Colorado passed
away March
5th, 2021 at
Montrose Memorial Hospital
in Montrose
Colorado.
Jack is survived
by two sons,
Jack Jr. of Nevada and Kerry
and his wife

Karen of Ridgway Colorado, three grandchildren, Erin Dunivan, Kristin Muldoon and Patrick Dunivan. Born September 15th, 1925 in Perrysville Indiana, he was the son of Otis and Bessie Dunivan, he had five brothers and two sisters, Robert, Russell, Roland, Ernie, James, Elanor and Merna. Jack grew up in Perrysville Indiana and moved to NW Indiana with his family as

moved to NW Indiana with his family as a teenager to work in the steel industry, he built tanks during WW2 and became an electrician while working at Inland Steel. He was married on July 5th, 1947 to Doris Martin and they lived in Illinois and Indiana before moving to Montrose Colorado in 2004. Doris passed away in 2018.

Jack was a proud member of the Masons, represented the Shriners over the years and retired from the IBEW in 1987

where he was a project manager, estimator, an electrical engineer and became VP of an electrical corporation located in NW Indiana. Early in his electrical career he also taught incoming electrical apprentices at the JATC in Hammond Indiana

He hunted and fished all over the US and Canada, enjoyed photography and welcomed any challenge.

The Dunivan family would like to extend their thanks to the VOA Homestead where Jack and Doris lived for several years and thank the staff who looked after them with great care. We would also like to thank Montrose Memorial Hospital and Hope West for their loving attention during his last days of his life.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

MAGDALENA (ANN) LABRUM June 16, 1943 - January 28, 2021



MAGDALE-NA (ANN) LABRUM daughter of J.R. Rogers and Angela Delgado was born on June 16, 1943 in Lampasas, Texas. Heaven received another

angel when she passed away peacefully January 28, 2021 while surrounded by her loved ones at her daughter's home in South Carolina.

Annie grew up in Mineral Wells Texas before marrying Arthur Labrum who she

had met while he was stationed at Camp Walters Army Base. After marrying, they moved to Colorado and settled in Ridgway where they raised their family. She enjoyed spending time visiting with friends while drinking a cup of coffee. She had a passion for reading books, planting flowers, donating to charities and spending time outdoors. Ann was an active member for several years of the Rebekah Lodge, Elks Club, Bowling Leagues and a devout Catholic. She was well known as a fabulous cook of Mexican food and would often cater events at local restaurants and the Elks Lodge. Ann was always smiling, laughing and had a funny sense of humor that was welcomed everywhere she went. She devoted her life to her family as a fulltime wife and home maker and left her

imprint on all those while fulfilling her special place in the world. She was kind, caring, compassionate and a giving person who helped others which is why she was loved and will be missed by so many.

She is survived by her husband Arthur, daughters Sylvia (Mark) Owings, Cindy Jackson, Terri (Charlie) Monzel and Cherrie Labrum. She was blessed with seven grandchildren, Amber (partner Chris Dowell) Daller, Jeff (Lindsey) Owings, Crystal (Kaleb) Akee, Jessie (Brion) Weseman, Michael Drozd, Austen and Chelsea Monzel. Seven great grandchildren Nicholas Rhodes, Adain and Addison Daller, Ayla and Asylin Weseman, Jazmine and Elizabeth Akee. She is also survived by three sisters and five broth-

LORRAINE SICKINGER LOCKWOOD

Aug. 23, 1921-Feb. 16, 2021

LORRAINE SICKINGER LOCKWOOD passed away Feb. 16, 2021 at her home. Lorraine was born Aug. 23, 1921, to John and Lois Sickinger in San Francisco, California. They moved to southern California when she started school. She graduated from Fairfax High School in Los Angeles, California.

Lorraine was an executive secretary for many years at Hughes Aircraft Company, retiring in 1988. She was a member of Sigma Lambda Phi and P.E.O. An accomplished seamstress, she made most of her daughter's clothes with a very professional flair until Catherine graduated from high school. After 10 years retiring to Diamond Springs, California, Lorraine moved to Montrose in 1998 to be closer to family.

Her childhood dream and life's passion was to travel the world, which she did in her retirement at any chance she got. Lorraine's favorite destination was Paris, France. She had a passion, too, for playing Bridge, also at any chance she got. She is survived by her daughter, Catherine and her son-in-law, David Stannard; granddaughter, Lissette; step grandchildren, great-grandchildren and cousins; and one sister, Thelma (Tom) Hotchkin of in these last California. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Harold Lockwood, with Honoring whom the marriage ended in divorce; and her second husband, Dr. Jack Tag-

Special thank you to Shelly, Jan, Jill, Amber, Kristen, Jordon, DeVon, who, over the last four and a half years, helped

Catherine meet her mother's needs and care for her. The HopeWest staff is also to be thanked for their care few months. Lorraine's wishes, cre-



mation has taken place and there will be no service. We will celebrate her life at a later date. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



A COLORFUL STREAK FOR NON-MACHINEABLE MAIL Colorado Hairstreak Stamps Available Nationwide



ESTES PARK— With rich purples, browns, reds and black on a square field, the cleverness of the Colorado hairstreak butterfly is featured by the U.S. Postal Service on a stamp dedicated today during a virtual ceremony.

The new stamp is now being sold at Post Office locations nationwide and online at <u>usps.com</u>.

"The Colorado hairstreak butterfly is not only a beautiful creature, it is the state insect for Colorado," said dedicating official, William D. Zollars, a member of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors. "This stamp is the eighth in the butterfly series, developed in partnership with the greeting card industry specifically for over-

size or square envelopes and other mail of nonstandard shapes and sizes."

Zollars was joined for the ceremony by Dr. Paul A. Opler, Professor, Department of Agricultural Biology, Colorado State University and an internationally known authority on lepidoptera, which is the study of moths and butterflies. The ceremony can be viewed on the Postal Service Facebook and Twitter pages.

Nationally acclaimed artist Tom Engeman digitally created the stamp design using images of preserved butterflies as a starting point. The result is a highly stylized, simplified image of a Colorado hairstreak, rather than an exact replica, which designer Derry Noyes used to create the stamp.

The Colorado Hairstreak is being issued as a pane of 20 stamps, with the words "NON -MACHINEABLE SURCHARGE" on the stamp indicating its usage value. Like a Forever stamp, this stamp will always be valid for the rate printed on it. News of the Hairstreak stamps is being shared with the hashtag #COHairstreakStamps.

Background

The shimmering, purple Colorado hairstreak butterfly (Hypaurotis crysalus) begins life as a fuzzy green caterpillar which feeds on its host plant, the Gambel or "shrub" oak, in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and much of the Southwest. After metamorphosis, the butterfly emerges from its cocoon in late spring or summer, mates and lays eggs in autumn, and throughout all, may live in its entire lifespan within a few yards of where it hatched.

Males and females are similarly colored. On both the forewing and the hind wing, the dominant purple is surrounded by dusky grey-brown margins accented with several orange spots near the lower, outer extremes on each wing. A thin white fringe outlines the wings. Underneath, the Colorado hairstreak is mostly grey, with darker, lighter and orange markings. Also, on the underside of the wings, are spots that resemble eyes and the thin streaks that give the hairstreak its name. Hairstreaks also provide an example of nature's ability to adapt. On its hind wings are slender tails — hair-like appendages that resemble antennae. The illusion is enhanced by the hairstreak's habit of pointing its abdomen upward with the false antennae held high, bobbing like real ones. This evolutionary gambit tricks predators into attacking the false head on the wing instead of the butterfly's actual head. The butterfly can escape from attack, saving its body and leaving a hungry bird with an unsatisfying piece of scaly wing.



CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

NAMI SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET THIRD WEDNESDAYS; NOT AFFILIATED WITH R10 CLS

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-An article in *Montrose Mirror Issue 418* on the NAMI Support Group was incorrect; the group is organized by Eva Veitch but is NOT affiliated with Region 10 CLS. The NAMI Support Group will be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the PIC Place 5:30-7pm. Please call Kathy at 520-282-9060 for more information.

Just Listed!

442 Badger Trail South Ridgway CO 81432

\$1,280,000.00

Perfectly situated on the second fairway of Divide Ranch Golf Course, this meticulously maintained home offers a private mountain setting with Awe inspiring views! Come see what liveable luxury feels like at this admirable estate.

Features:

- · 5 bedrooms
- · 5 bathrooms
- 5,924 sq ft
- · .9 acres

Interested? Call me for more details

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

"PRIORITIZING AMID CHAOS" WORKSHOP

Special to Art & Sol

GUNNISON-The San Juan Nonprofit Council announces a workshop by zoom on Wednesday, March 17, on the topic of getting on top of the post-pandemic chaos in your work life.

Too many emails? Too much pivoting? Too many employees with too many great ideas on how to handle chaos? Not enough employees so it's all up to you?

This free workshop, from noon-2:00, features Julie Miller Davis of Colorado Springs. Her company, JMD Productivity Training, addresses these very topics. This workshop will be as pertinent for the small business owner as to the nonprofit manager.

Registration is free but the number of slots is limited. Register now by emailing maryo@cfgv.org and you will receive a link to the workshop.

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> Dunkin'® Donuts – Baskin Robbins 970-964-3306

Jimmer's Steak & BBQ 970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara 970-249-2460

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Horsefly Brewing Full Menu & Growlers to Go 970-249-6889

Busy Corner White Kitchen 970-323-6215 Stone House 970-240-8899

Rib City 970-249-7427

Coffee Trader 970-249-6295 970-787-9021

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Rio Bravo 970-964-4477

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The Montrose Mirror | March 15, 2021

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

GMUG INSTITUTION TO RETIRE



Clay Speas, in front of the 2020 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree transport trailer with his wife Jan. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announced the retirement of Clay Speas, Renewable Resources Staff Officer after 34 years of federal service and nearly 19 years assigned to the GMUG, effective April 10, 2021.

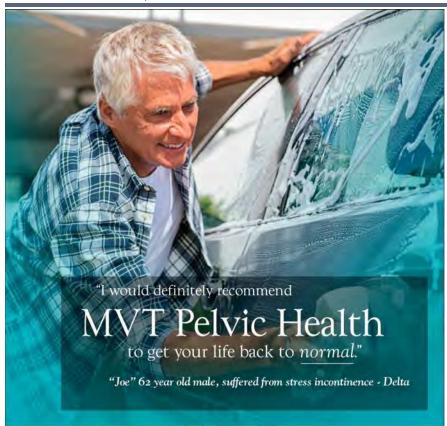
Clay's illustrious career with the USDA Forest Service began in 1988 on the Medicine Bow National Forest in Wyoming as a Fisheries biologist. While on the Medicine Bow, he completed the first Colorado River cutthroat trout management plan that was widely used for years to guide cutthroat management and restoration efforts on the Forest. In 1995, Clay and his family moved west to Oregon to be the Forest Fisheries biologist on the Fremont-Winema National Forest. In 2002, Clay transferred to the GMUG as the Forest Fisheries biologist and was later promoted to the Forest biologist. He served in this position until 2018 when he transitioned as the Renewable Resource Staff Officer overseeing timber, range, watershed, wildlife and fish, ecology and timber sale administration.

Clay's professional career highlights include helping write a grant providing 10 years of funding to implement forest restoration efforts on the Uncompahgre Plateau. He led the effort to prepare a forest wide environmental impact statement entitled Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Sudden Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) to address impacts of spruce

beetles and aspen mortality over 8-12 years in 2013. This unique project brought forest users and scientists from Colorado State University, Rocky Mountain Research Station and Western State University to help guide implementation and monitor outcomes of treatments. Through 2021, almost 17,000 acres have been treated producing approximately 25,000 truckloads of logs in support of local economies. In 2020, principles developed in SBEADMR were applied to another decision to treat thousands of acres of lodgepole pine that are now vulnerable to a Mountain Pine beetle outbreak discovered in Taylor Canyon on the Gunnison Ranger District. He will be remembered fondly by his co-workers who described him as humble, genuinely funny, hard-working and an exceptional leader.

"Clay's knowledge and experience are irreplaceable, the GMUG will miss him greatly," said Chad Stewart, GMUG Forest Supervisor. "His passion for collaboration and building partnerships led to the creation of SBEADMR, it's a great legacy." In retirement, Clay plans to travel with his wife Jan, build furniture and spoil his four grandkids.





Even Washing the Car Brought Concern

THEN HE RECEIVED GOOD NEWS

After having cancerous prostate removed, he bounced back from surgery fast – but surprisingly had complications from healing. Scar tissue created issues, forcing him to wear a catheter for 10 weeks.

Doing anything involving bending or movement – even washing the car – meant unfortunate leaking. Was this permanent?

Or was there help out there?

Then he visited with the experts in pelvic health physical therapy at Mountain View Therapy. It wasn't instant relief - but for the first time, there's improvement and there's hope. He received his good news.

Ask your provider about MVT Pelvic Health and see if they have good news for you.





COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MCDONOUGH LAW LLC OPENS NEW GRAND JUNCTION LOCATION

Special to Art & Sol GRAND JUNCTION-At McDonough Law, it's anything but business as usual. We're simplifying the way you work with your attorney, by being more accessible, efficient, and creative in everything we do. We just opened a new location in Grand Junction. Marc E. Summers is a Grand Junction estate and business attor-



Marc E. Summers. Courtesy photo.

ney, focusing his practice primarily on business planning, representation, and transaction law, as well as estate planning and administration. Marc has lived and practiced law on the Western Slope since 2006, when he first started out in Gunnison, CO, and has been practicing in Grand Junction since 2014.

In addition to practicing law, Marc spent several years holding academic positions as Lecturer in Business at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, CO, and as adjunct professor at Western Colorado University in Gunnison, CO. Marc grew up near Littleton, Colorado, graduating from Columbine High School and Western Colorado University (formerly Western State College of Colorado). Marc graduated law school from Oklahoma City University School of Law. Give Marc a call today for your Estate Planning

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Contact us via phone, email or visit our website. We look forward to working with you. 970-776-3311, lnfo@McDonoughLawLLC.com, www.mcdonoughlawllc.com

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

Elks Bingo Tuesday March 16, 2021

Progressive Game #6\$13,490

Win by reaching Bingo with 53 #s or fewer

Progressive Game #4 \$702 Progressive Game #2 \$200

inited Seating Win Games 2 or 4 by reaching Bingo in 37 #s or less Ist Seated

Doors Open at 4:30 PM, Early Bird starts at 6:30 PM.

Main Bingo Session starts at 7:00 PM



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The Montrose Mirror | March 15, 2021





ITALIAN TO GO: DON'T WAIT TO TAKE OUT AT LITTLE TRATTORIA DI SOFIA

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE -- I know I've reviewed this little Italian place before, but not for takeout. Trattoria Di Sofia is not to be overlooked. Lovely menu, very affordable and everything finished as you can wish.

This evening I dined with not my well-known friend, Michael Lawton, but with his son from Connecticut, Ross. My friend, alas, has been very ill and is in Montrose hospital rehab, trying to recover from a stroke. His son and I decided to grab some food to take to the hospital so we could eat with Michael. Alas, he isn't allowed to eat the food from outside, being on a special diet, but he very much enjoyed our company.

Trattoria Di Sofia does not disappoint. Ross ordered one of his favorite Italian dishes, Spaghetti Ala Bolognese, and he loved it, although he said it was creamier than he is used to. This is a spaghetti dish with a lovely meat sauce.

We shared a Caprese salad (mozzarella cheese on tomatoes with basil) and it was delicious.

Me, I had my favorite from here, Penne

Ala Primavera; yep, still exceptional. Creamy sauce with penne pasta and bits of sun-dried tomatoes and peppers. All washed down with our favorite vino. Now, Trattoria De Sofia is one of the friendliest places around, the staff are incredibly helpful and will happily describe and explain all of their entries if you need more information.

Their menu contains all manner of Italian, from spaghetti to ravioli to special sauces. A sampling with pricing:

Appetizers:

Our Caprese salad was \$5.50 or you can choose Bruschetta de Pomodoro or Calamari Fritta, for \$4.85 or \$8.99.

Salads:

Run from \$6.95 to \$7.85 and include many Italian salads you will recognize. Soup:

If you crave Minestrone it will set you back \$3.95 or soup of the day is different daily at \$3.99.

Pasta:

Penne Ala primavera or Fettucine Alfredo, \$9.99, to a high of \$13.99 for Linguine Ala Pescadores. (Add grilled chicken, \$3 or



grilled shrimp, \$3.95.)

Entrees run from \$12.95 for Pollo ala Parmigiana to \$18.95 for Scaloppini Devittelo de Fungi.

Special entrees include:

Carne del Giornio (meat) and Pesce el Giornio (fresh fish) price on request. Desserts:

Jesseris.

Run from Spumoni Italian ice cream at \$2.99 to cheesecake at \$6.95.
Trattorini Di Sofia is located at 110 N
Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO 81401; call (970) 249-0433. Monday – Friday, 11am-9pm; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed on Sunday.





SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

ONGOING-

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP will be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the PIC Place 5:30-7pm. Please call Kathy at 520-282-9060 for more information.

MONTROSE FARMERS' MARKET is a gathering of vendors selling local fruit, vegetables, meat, crafts, and more. **Date and time:** Alternate Saturdays from 10 am-1 pm—every other weekend starting Jan. 9th 2021

Location: Montrose Centennial Plaza and Centennial Meeting Room, 15-99 S Uncompahgre Ave, Montrose, CO 81401

Cost: Free to attend. Curbside service is still available in the winter season!

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

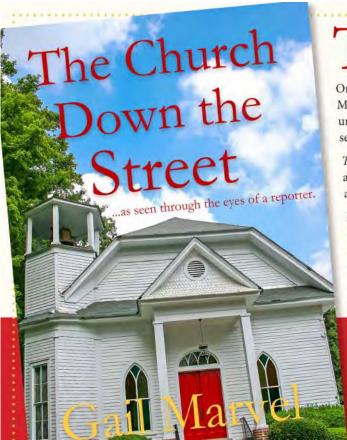
March 5-26-Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans presents Habitat Luxury Living, an online charity auction. March 5-26. To take part type: rb.gy/7vglcq

March 15-Montrose County Republicans will host Congresswoman Lauren Boebert on Monday March 15, at 6PM, Turn of the Century Saloon. 121 N. 4th Street. Montrose. Plan to join us and hear first-hand updates from your Congresswoman. Doors open at 5:30 PM March 16-Progressive Bingo, Montrose Elks Lodge (801 South Hillcrest). Doors 4:30 p.m., Early Bird starts 6:30 p.m. Main Bingo session 7 p.m.

March 17- San Juan Nonprofit Council announces a workshop by zoom, the "Prioritizing Amid Chaos" Workshop. This free workshop, from noon-2, features Julie Miller Davis of Colorado Springs. Her company, JMD Productivity Training, addresses these very topics. This workshop will be as pertinent for the small business owner as to the nonprofit manager. Registration is free but the number of slots is limited. Register now by emailing margo@cfgv.org and you will receive a link to the workshop.

March 18-League of Women Voters of Montrose County invites the community to attend "Behavioral Health and Law Enforcement: Responding Together" zoom webinar. Thursday, March 18, Noon-1pm. GO TO LWV WEBSITE FOR LINK- March 10. https://www.lwvmontrose.org/

April 3-Community Easter Festival Easter egg hunt. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 South Hillcrest.



the Church Down the Street, published pre-COVID, peers into the worship services of more than 70 churches, some of which have a weekly attendance of less than 10.

Organized in a topical format (Hospitality, Program & Source Material, Music, Meditations & Invitations, and The Message), the author uses an unbiased approach to allow readers to experience the worship service as seen through the eyes of a reporter.

The Church Down the Street contains anecdotes and stories from the actual worship services and asks thought-provoking questions that allow readers to draw their own conclusions.

Readers will:

- · See strengths and weaknesses in the worship service
- · Re-evaluate hospitality toward visitors
- Become more aware of source material used in the worship service
- Compare and contrast music presentations and selections
- Discern the value and content of the sermon.

Gail Marvel's book, The Church Down the Street, is available online at Amazon.com and wingedpublications.com.

GAIL MARVEL

Montrose Author & Reporter





Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: BY DEB REIMANN

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

Photographer Deb Reimann captured this image of a buck mule deer that wandered into her yard. Said Deb, "He was quite curious at the metal moose and sniffed and snorted at this strange small creature that didn't move or blink an eye! He determined he's 'Moosely' A Mule Deer!"



THE STARS HAVE ALIGNED...FOR BUSINESS SELLERS, BUYERS & LENDERS! Federal Relief Expected to Re-Ignite Urgency and Demand

The CARES Act Debt Relief Program, which allows business buyers to take advantage of an SBA loan, has been extended under the Consolidated Appropriations Act. Keep reading to learn why this extension is great news for entrepreneurs looking to buy or sell a business.

Prospective buyers have even more leverage with an SBA loan:

- 6 months of SBA loan payment forgiveness for loans closed after February 1, 2021. This includes principal and interest up to a maximum of \$9,000 per month.
- The SBA is waiving the guaranty fee charged to lenders and passed on to borrowers. This fee is typically around 3% and is now zero for loans closed after February 1, 2021.
- The SBA is increasing the loan guarantee to lenders from 75% to 90%, which decreases risk to lenders. Along with new wording allowing lenders to adjust for temporary COVID-19 downturns, lenders should be able to take on additional risk. It is important to note the minimum buyer down payment of 10% remains unchanged.



Business owners considering selling their business benefit from the current market conditions:

- There are many more buyers than sellers. Buyer activity is at record levels, according to BizBuySell's Insight Report, while supply is limited. With this dynamic, businesses are selling at record prices, exceeding pre-pandemic levels.
- SBA-financed buyers are able to take advantage of significant benefits and are likely to outbid cash buyers seeking discounted prices.
- Further guidance for PPP loan forgiveness and tax reporting has been released so the seller does not need to worry about a PPP loan liability. The loan forgiveness process for first draw and second draw PPP loans less than \$150,000 is greatly simplified and provides full tax deductibility of business expenses on forgiven PPP loans.

In addition to the benefits for business buyers and sellers, the stars have also aligned for SBA lenders!

*Info gathered from bizbuysell.com

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