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the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Free People!

Issue No. 428 May 10, 2021

HUB AT MONTROSE CROSSING TO MOVE FORWARD AS USE BY RIGHT

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

MONTROSE-The HUB at Montrose Crossing Planned Development, passed by the city planning commission with conditions, has been pulled by the developer, Matt Miles. Instead, Miles plans to start construction with a 160-unit building as phase one of the new development.

This project will be built per use by right according to the zoning, which is R3-A (medium-high density). Miles says the new project will maintain the look of the buildings he had proposed in the original planned development.

Other phases of the project will add additional buildings, possibly up to a total of 518 market rate apartments. Groundbreaking is currently scheduled for July 1.



Miles plans to start construction with a 160-unit building as phase one. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

BOCC GIVES 100 PERCENT OF TITLE I FUNDING TO MONTROSE COUNTY SCHOOLS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 5. BOCC Chair Sue Hansen and Vice Chair Keith Caddy were present; Commissioner Roger Rash was absent. The invocation was delivered by Pastor Mike Lundberg of Church on the Hill.

Lundberg prayed that county decisions would be made with tact, diplomacy, care, and concern. "May our county move forward with your will...may this meeting and our commissioners be a reflection of this and your nature today, Lord." He prayed as well for Commissioner Rash's wife, who is in the hospital. Citizen Joshua Key led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Key spoke in opposition to Colorado's Initiative 16, also known as the Pause Act. "This is an initiative that will directly affect our agricultural industry in a very negative way," he said, asking the BOCC to look into and oppose the initiative. "Once again, this is a case of Denver vs. the rest of us," Key said.

BOCC Chair Sue Hansen said that individual commissioners oppose the measure though they have agreed not to take a public stance as a board.



Citizen Joshua Key spoke in opposition to Colorado's Initiative 16, also known as the Pause Act.

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MHS CLASS OF 1976 PLANS 45TH REUNION AT ELKS LODGE AUG.28

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose High School Class of 1976 will be holding a 45th class reunion on Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021. Festivities will start at 2pm in the Backyard of the Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 S. Hillcrest Dr. Dinner will be at 5pm by Serving Grace-Catering. Dinner reservations will be \$25 per person.

We invite members of other MHS classes, former faculty and staff members to join us. Contact LeAnna Edmonson Spadafora 970-209-3374 or Tracy Allies Harrison 970-249-1418 or check out our FB page "76" for more information.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY ENGINEER SCOTT MURPHY RECOGNIZED FOR RIVER IMPROVEMENTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Montrose City Engineer Scott Murphy was recently recognized for his work to protect and preserve the Uncompahgre River. Murphy was awarded the Gila Trout Award by the Arizona Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The award is given to recognize an individual who has shown remarkable leadership and commitment to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on water, trout, other wildlife, and their habitats.

Because the upper Colorado River basin serves as the headwaters of Arizona's watershed, individuals living outside of Arizona but having an impact on Arizona's water system are eligible to be nominated.

The virtual 2021 Native and Wild Trout Conference was held on April 22.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BOWMAN STEPS DOWN; CITY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR DIST. II COUNCIL VACANCY

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher
Reporter Gail Marvel contributed to this report

MONTROSE—On Tuesday, May 4 the City of Montrose announced in a press release that they are accepting applications for a vacancy in the District II Council seat. Per the press release, the deadline to apply is Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6 pm.

Applicants will need to fill out an application and submit a letter of interest, they will be interviewed by council with a vote

taken on June 1. Any applicant will need to have been a resident of District II for at least the past 12 months.

The press release did not say why this seat was now vacant, but when the City Clerk was asked, she verified that Council member Bowman had resigned his seat.

Montrose Mayor Doug Glaspell was contacted via phone about the open District II seat. Bowman's resignation occurred just prior to yesterday's 10 a.m. city council work session and was not discussed at the

work session, Glaspell said.

When asked if Bowman resigned and if so, what reason was given for the resignation, Glaspell said, "I have no idea. He resigned and we do not know why. He came into Lisa's [City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo] office about 8 or 8:30 yesterday morning and handed in his resignation."

Bowman's resignation letter was provided (see below) which stated that due to the Montrose Summer Music Series commanding more of his time and energy, he has made the difficult decision to resign and focus on serving the community through the MSMS.

When the city asked for applications for Anderson's District III seat, they received three from citizens who live in District II. The City Clerk verified that all three of those applicants had informed her that they would like to be considered for the newly open District II seat.

Those three individuals are Jeff Rice, Anthony Russo, and Edward J. Ulibarri. Because the deadline for applications is later in May, more people may apply.

Though the city charter says the members of the council decide and vote on replacements when someone resigns their seat, the public should know who the candidates are in advance so they can voice their views on who is selected by the members of council.

Read Councilor Bowman's full resignation letter, below:

*"To: Lisa DelPiccolo, Montrose City Clerk,
Doug Glaspell Mayor City of Montrose
Date: May 3, 2021*

I am resigning the District 2 Montrose City Council seat effective Monday, May 3, 2021 at 9:00 am.

The Montrose Summer Music Series is commanding much more of my time and energy this year. This is a difficult decision. I have given it great consideration. My heart and soul lays with this community. I choose to continue to serve the community through Montrose Summer Music Series. I thank the community for this opportunity to serve and wish you all good luck.

*Respectfully,
Dave Bowman"*

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL, CITY MANAGER AND MONTROSE GOV OFFICIALS

Editor:

The TOWN of Montrose is morphing into a MAJOR concern. The populace (now) is coming from far and wide; MONTROSE has been discovered.

The populace that is streaming into this area are well informed, articulate, AND have money. THEY are accustomed to access to information, when requested, they are expectant of intelligent, thoughtful responses and a TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION AVENUE.

The method of operation of Montrose's city government is NOW front and center (in the past it was a few citizens who

voiced their point of view and attempted to establish a two-way conversation, to no avail. THAT has and will continue to change.... the first zoom meeting on the Cobble Creek hub was YOUR FIRST WARNING. The capacity was inadequate and was a failure. The MASSIVE AMOUNT OF FEEDBACK YOU RECEIVED, both by email and zoom attendance should forewarn you that it CAN NOT BE BUSINESS AS USUAL...brushing off concerns and NOT listening/acting on concerns brought forward.

The routine dismissal and disregard WILL only infuriate the new comers and WILL result in more of the populace entertain-

ing the idea of recall...I am a 3rd generation Coloradan and as such, I see the handwriting on the wall.

THIS little town, is NO LONGER little...the mindset of "we" are the deciders worked in the past.

THAT stance will be challenged. As ALICE WALKER famously quoted THE WAY PEOPLE GIVE AWAY THEIR POWER IS BY THINKING THEY HAVE NONE.

There are MORE individuals who are aware of their POWER and will NOT settle for business as usual.

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BOCC GIVES TITLE I FUNDING TO SCHOOLS From pg 1

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Ken Norris had no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items were approved as presented, with Resolution 16-2021 assigned to item C-10.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Deputy County Manager Jon Waschbusch presented Resolution 17-2021, allocating 100 percent of the County's Title I funding to the public schools in Montrose County, in proportion to the pupil enrollment in each school. Title I funds can be used for road and bridge needs or for schools; Montrose County provides 100 percent of the funding for schools, Waschbusch said. Montrose County School District RE-1J will receive \$194,875.13;

West End School District RE-2 will receive \$9,430.82;

Norwood School District R2J will receive 1,864.73;

Delta County School District 50J will receive \$8,166.24.

"I think it's a great idea that we give all the funds to the school districts," BOCC Vice Chair Keith Caddy said. "I think they need it; we've got our road and bridge tax that really helps us there, so it's not like we need those funds. Better it serves them than us." Hansen asked Waschbusch to reach out to new RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson to ensure she understands the funding mechanism, which has caused confusion in the past for some. Resolution 17-20221 was approved.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

County Planner Tallmadge Richmond pre-

sented several items for approval.

Commissioners voted to approve:

- proposal to divide a 40-acre parcel into three lots at 6603 Kinikin Road;

- proposal to divide one lot from 45.120-acre parcel at 20377 Pahgre Road;

- proposal to divide three lots from a 48-acre parcel and adjust an existing property line at 7975 5425 Road;

- proposal to create five additional building Lots in Solar Heights, at Solar Heights Lane & Solar Road;

- proposal to divide three lots from an 81-acre parcel at Parcel Number: 399316303005, 6495 Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioners entered into executive session (not recorded) with County Attorney Marti Whitmore, for legal advice pertaining to litigation against the County.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES: RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests respectfully ask visitors to please assist us in protecting their natural resources by recreating responsibly. Please stay off wet roads, respect road and area closures, know the current fire restrictions and be respectful and courteous to other campers. Please do not drive on muddy roads. When vehicles drive on soft roadbeds, they cause rutting and permanent damage that could lead to additional closures. Do not remove nature barriers on closed roads or enter closed areas. Visitation to the GMUG is expected to be extremely high this year. There will be more demand for developed campsites, resulting in a limited number of available sites each weekend. Please do your part and know before you go. Campers who want to camp in non-reservable developed sites should plan-ahead and arrive early for their best chance at obtaining a site. Always have a PlanB—Have several camping options to choose from in case the first option is full. Pack It In and Pack It Out—Garbage facilities are limited. Do not pile trash next to trash bins, leave it in your campsite or burn it in your fire pit. Campground trash receptacles are intended for campground guests, only. Please take your garbage home with you for disposal, and always adhere to Leave No Trace Principles. Be respectful—Don't crowd your neighbors.

1,912 Sq. Ft., 3-Bed, 2.5-Bath, Single-Family Patio Home, Open Floorplan with High Ceilings, Attached 2-Car Garage, A/C, Natural Gas. To be finished approx. May, 2021.

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Listing Price
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MLS#781092



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MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS: NOTICES

“PIZZA & POLITICS” SPECIAL EVENT in TORTILLA FLATS

WEDNESDAY, May 19, 2021

**Protecting & Enhancing
Our Historic Hispanic Community - Tortilla Flats
Affects the City of Montrose and All Residents**

******EVENT LOCATION******

**Turn of the Century Saloon
121 N. 4th Street, Montrose, Colorado**

Learn Why You Should Care about Tortilla Flats – a “Montrose” Neighborhood
Learn How the Issues Affecting the Tortilla Flats Community affects all Montrose RESIDENTS
Tortilla Flats is Squeezed between Conflicting Entities – Colorado Outdoors Project & Chemical Tanks
Learn How to be an Active Advocate to Improve Tortilla Flats and the City of Montrose

What is the Future for Tortilla Flats and Montrose if Issues Are Not Corrected???

Doors open at 6:00 PM. Program starts at 6:30 and ends at 8:00 PM. Pizza & Beverage provided – 2 slices and 1 beverage maximum per guest.

**** Pizza & Politics is a program of the Montrose County Republican Party a.k.a. Montrose County GOP. All guests, visitors, and attendees shall accept full and complete responsibility of the potential risks in attending this public event during Covid-19, and attendance is by free will and choice. Thank you!**

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

UNCOMPAHGRE RIVERWAY CLEANUP, SAT. MAY 15

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Volunteers will celebrate Colorado Public Lands Day by working on trails and picking up trash along the south section of the Uncompahgre River through Montrose from 9 to 11 a.m. on May 15. The cleanup will tackle both sides of the river from Otter Road and Chipeta Lake on the south end through the Rio Grande bridge.

This cleanup is part of an ongoing community wide effort to enhance the riverway through Montrose. The Uncompahgre River and the public lands along much of its banks are an incredible asset to the community's health, recreation, and economy. It's a great place to bike, play ball, bird watch, dog walk, surf, float, picnic, throw discs or just watch the water flow by, the water that sustains our valley's agriculture and way of life.

In April 2011, the Uncompahgre Riverway Master Plan was completed with extensive public outreach and participation, a citizen's work group, property owners, a team of planning consultants and numerous hours by City staff, Planning Commission and Council. In the past 10 years, so much has been accomplished – the water sports park, the dog park, extensions of the Uncompahgre River Trail, playground improvements, and put ins and take outs for boaters. The recently completed river improvement project north of 9th Street improved habitat for fishing and stabilized

the river for all to enjoy. Now an amphitheater is under construction. We citizens of Montrose are fortunate.

Along the south sections of the river, the City has done much to enhance our recreational opportunities including the construction of two new trails, installation of a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge, major repairs to the Rio Grande bridge after it partially burned, and acquisition of Chipeta Lake.

Citizens are now stepping up to help maintain the river corridor we love. Activities for May 15th include pruning trail overgrowth, minor trail re-routing, trash pickup and dog poop scooping. We also hope to work on invasive species if enough volunteers participate – Russian olives and knapweed are prolific in the area. Families with young children can help clean up fishing line at Chipeta Lake. All ages are welcome. Please no dogs. Volunteers are baking treats for all and crew chiefs will coordinate cleanup activities in key sections of the corridor. The City is loaning equipment and hauling trash away. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their favorite tools for personal use. Buckets would also be handy for trash collection and reduce the number of plastic bags needed for trash.

Everyone must:

-Wear sturdy shoes – no sandals. Long sleeves, pants and sun hats are recommended.

-Bring work gloves and water, and a mask in case distancing is not always possible.

This cleanup is part of *National River Cleanup*®, a program of American Rivers, which is a national organization that works to protect and restore the nation's rivers and streams. American Rivers is providing trash bags and hosting a webpage on the cleanup where volunteers can pre-register and obtain information. Registration would be appreciated but is not required.

<https://www.americanrivers.org/river-cleanup/uncompahgre-river-corridor-cleanup/>

At the wrap up, volunteers will compete for donated schwag and be encouraged to sign up for the City's Adopt-a Trail program. Sections of the Uncompahgre River Trail north and south of Main Street have been adopted by local businesses and individuals.

Through the May 15 cleanup, we hope trails in the south section will also be adopted.

Many thanks to partners in this effort including the City of Montrose, Montrose Surf and Cycle, Ed's Fly Shop, Mayfly Outdoors and the Colorado Mountain Club.

Location: Everyone should meet at Ogden Road, just west of Home Depot, to sign in and receive assignments. Google 1340 Ogden Road for directions.

Waivers are required; minors must have parental permission.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



#montrosemirror

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMEA BOARD CANDIDATES RUN UNOPPOSED

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL – Three incumbent Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) candidates have completed the nomination process and will run unopposed in the co-op's 2021 elections. The official candidates are as follows:

District 1 – William (Bill) Patterson, incumbent

District 2 – Kyle Martinez, incumbent

District 5 – Leslie (Chris) Hauck, incumbent

Per the cooperative bylaws, in the event only one candidate has been nominated for election in each district, members can elect the candidates "by voice vote [...] at the Annual Member Meeting." As a result, no ballots will be mailed to DMEA members for the 2021 Director Elections. In-

stead, members attending DMEA's Annual Meeting will be asked to participate in a vote during the meeting. The DMEA Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

"We're inviting our members to join us from the comfort and safety of their own home again this year. Just like a normal annual meeting, we'll review the past year's accomplishments and talk about our goals for the future," said Virginia Harman, DMEA's acting CEO. "As a bonus, by

going virtual again this year, we were able to take our budgeted annual meeting funds and create the Powering Connection business grant program. We are excited to announce the recipients during the meeting."

Register for DMEA's Annual Meeting in advance at www.dmea.com. Members who attend DMEA's 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting will also have the opportunity to win a variety of locally-sourced "door" prizes.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DEVELOPMENT MUST PAY ITS OWN WAY; CITY SUBSIDIES SET PRECEDENT FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW

Dear Sir/ Madam,

According to today's article in the Montrose Press the proposed HUB development is to be changed to a "Use-by-right" development which does not require variances. However, it does require that it be "in substantial compliance" with the City's Comprehensive Plan, which is certainly does not. All the points mentioned in previous meetings of the Planning Commission still apply, except for the placement of a traffic signal at US 550 and Chipeta Road which recently was approved after many years of having been asked for, still stand: traffic overload on existing roads, super high density in a single home area, appearance etc. That has not been changed from the previous proposal.

Also, as per the Comprehensive Plan, a development must pay its own way and according to the report the subsidy of \$2,345,864 is still offered, at a time when various suggestions for raising taxes have been made for the city. This will set a precedence for other developments to follow which could be costly to the city and it might be hard to defend a refusal to do so for others.

Sincerely,

Barbara Popp, Montrose

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The kitchen boasts hidden gems beloved by any foodie, and the master suite has a lovely soaking tub with enormous surrounding windows and lush pebble draining floor. To top off the experience, if the luxurious bath surrounded by mountains didn't get you close enough to nature, the outdoor shower surely will. A huge over-sized 3-car garage complete with a CrossFit-style gym is ready for the fitness buff, or it can easily be outfitted for the car aficionado or tinkerer. There's an alcove dedicated to fine whiskeys and cigars, while a great room boasts a through-and-through fireplace with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves just begging the avid reader to curl up with a great book, a fine tea, and miles of mountain views to bathe your soul. Situated on the apex of a hill surrounded by 35 acres, you are assured that the huge open vistas cannot ever be blocked. With shares of irrigation water, a lush garden, orchards, or fields could be cultivated. To top off this expansive home with its large ensuite bedrooms, walk-in closets, and open floor plan, you will find the authentic 1800's cabin which has been painstakingly relocated to the property nearby. A gorgeous space for an artist retreat or mother-in-law studio. This serene and artfully appointed home is a rare find in one of the most desirable communities in Western Colorado, and is located just minutes from downtown Montrose. If you want all the beauty and joy of rural mountain living, with luxury and excellence to come home to, just a short drive from modern conveniences and surrounded by exclusive resort communities, then this is your home.



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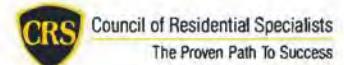


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLACK CANYON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB MARCH- APRIL YOUTHS OF THE MONTH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club (BCBGC) Youth of the Month for March 2021 was James! Staff chose to recognize James because he is always a joy to be around. James is one of those kids that everyone is friends with and wants to be around. He is helpful, kind, and just an all-around awesome member. Way to go James!

The Youth of the Month for April 2021 was Analicia! The staff chose to recognize Analicia because of her ability to handle change this year. This school year has been extremely challenging for our middle school members with all of the unknowns and last minute changes.

Even at the Club there have been a ton of changes and Analicia has handled each of them with a great attitude. Thanks for being so amazing Analicia!

For more information on the BCBGC, visit www.bcbgc.org.



Analicia. Courtesy photo.



James. Courtesy photo.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BOOMERANG BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

Special to the Mirror

NORWOOD— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests' Norwood Ranger District will be constructing a temporary bridge over the existing Boomerang Road Bridge on Forest Service Trail #435 over the San Miguel River on the Telluride Valley Floor. This temporary bridge will allow for heavier vehicles to cross during the anticipated mine tailings removal project scheduled for later in the year. More information about the tailings removal project will be forthcoming from the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

Forest Service staff will begin staging equipment and materials beginning the week of May 10. Caution is advised as heavy equipment will be entering and exiting the roadway. Visitors traveling to and from Telluride on Highway 145 should anticipate large trucks near the Shell Station, entering and exiting the highway transporting materials. Please use caution in the area and watch for cones and flaggers.

The bridge will be closed for pedestrian traffic during construction and signs will be posted on trails entering and exiting the area. The bridge will reopen for pedestrian traffic once construction is complete. Construction of the bridge will begin the week of May 17 and may take up to two weeks. For more information about this project contact the Norwood Ranger District at (970) 327-4261.

Connect with us, visit the [forest website](#), or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

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TWYLA RIGHTER: OUTSIDE THE BOX

I AM DYING A LITTLE BIT TODAY...



Twyla Righter, courtesy photo.

I'm dying a little bit today. I know that's ridiculously melodramatic, but this truly feels like a death of some kind. The little blue eyed, two-year-old boy who knew the name and make of every single car in a parking lot, who had memorized all the engine styles and could charm adults with his extroverted personality and his good manners... he is leaving. Eighteen years sped by and it's time for him to go. Yes he will be back for visits, no this isn't the end

of our relationship; but from this day forward, even if he's home for a good long time... it's a visit. This will be home base for his "real life" which will be out there - somewhere else. Some places far and near that his real home, real existence lives.

I am so glad he has the spirit and drive to go and wander. I'm glad he's confident and driving away so quickly. Heaven knows we are a safety third kind of family... living big has always been the goal. But I hate having this young man heading out to his own future and life without us.

We all know that it's going to happen, but man, it is horrible to have that day bearing down upon us and to see that my life with him is irrevocably changing. I want to hit pause. I want to scoop up the two-year-old one more time and be his safe place.

For 14 more days, my entire family will sleep under this roof as one community. For just two weeks we exist as the Righters all one bunch, our clan. But we will release a satellite soon. A ship sets sail to start a new colony, a new way in which the Righters exist somewhere else, as something else.

I know we all say this, but boy it went so very, very, fast. There was a last time I carried a warm little boy to bed, I had no idea it was the last time... it just happened. There was a last time he asked me to kiss an owie, or colored a scribble drawing and gave it to me. It all ended without any fanfare.

That's a nice change in this instance. There is going to be fanfare. He will leave to start his new job, but he will come back for graduation and baccalaureate. I will get to have this moment marked with some of the prestige it deserves. I am so grateful to be in a place where we will get to honor and rejoice with these kids. But, it does put a fine point on it. It makes the change all the more clear and dramatic and heartbreaking.

I cannot help but long to somehow keep this tidy little family of mine together forever. To hold us as one whole that is a constant in this wild world - not far-flung members who touch base and come together for occasions.

But, no matter how I feel, this is the change that will be. We will be home base for a while, and then someday a place he visits. Soon his arrival will be a surprise, a shift in the "normal." Someday a young man who loves to talk about car engines, (and now climbing equipment and kayaking gear) will arrive with his charming, extroverted personality. He will be wonderful to host because he has always had good manners, but he will arrive as a guest. He won't barge in with his posse of Montrose High School's rock climbing team - he will have new strange friends I've never met. He will use slang words I'm not accustomed to. Someday he'll be from somewhere else and he will knock on the door.

The Mirror: many views, one newspaper.





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CITY INTERVIEWS DISTRICT III COUNCIL APPLICANTS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Councilor Dave Bowman was absent without explanation when the Montrose City Council met for an in-person work session at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 3 (it was later confirmed that Bowman had resigned his seat at 9 a.m.). The work session marked the first time in more than a year that City Council has allowed the media and public to attend in-person sessions.

CITY COUNCIL APPLICANT INTERVIEWS

Council interviewed Charlane (Charli) Oswald and J. David Reed for possible appointment to the vacant District III seat on the Montrose City Council. The seat was formerly held by Councilor Roy Anderson, who stepped down less than a year after seeking re-election. (Editor's note- In the 2020 election, Oswald ran against Anderson for the District III seat.)

Oswald first came to Montrose 17 years ago and fell in love with the community. "It reminded me of my hometown...which was Longmont," she said. Oswald moved here six years ago and lives in Otter Pond, where she has served on the Homeowners' Association.

"I would like to...do something that would serve this community and give back," she said.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank's question on multi-family housing, Oswald said that having enough housing to meet income levels is a real challenge in Montrose. She suggested that more work is needed on public infrastructure.

"There's concerns about infrastructure," she said. "...I would like to see the City put more effort into streets and sidewalks, and that type of thing."

Bynum asked Oswald what role she felt the City should play in economic development.

The City has done an excellent job of promoting the City, Oswald said. The new brochure is very professionally done. She also suggested that the City listen more to local business owners. "Have them play a role...I think when you are the business owner yourself, you have a better under-

standing of what the needs are, what you're hearing from your customers. I think there might be a joint effort that might be more beneficial to both the business owners and the City."

J. David Reed said he and his wife packed up the dogs and moved to Montrose after he completed law school. They have been here ever since. Reed has served on City Council and as Mayor in the past, and has served with a number of local civic organizations.

Reed said he has been involved in housing projects. "It's a huge need," he said. "...we have to be able to provide that to our citizens, to have a decent place to live, a livable wage, and we have to find ways to make that happen...it's a struggle we all need to address."

He said the City is on the right track. "I think we need to continue down the road that you guys have led us down thus far," Reed said, "...the more amenities that we can provide as a city, as a community, to those who would be looking to come to Montrose, the better it will be."

Infrastructure is important, he said, and must be maintained. "I just think there are a number of things we could and should be doing to continue to move the city forward...in the years that I have been in this community, this town has come a long way, and it's because of people like you have served on the council, who have helped guide it to where it is today."

It is crucial for the City to be involved in economic development, Reed said. "The City needs to be the leader as far as I am concerned."

WEST MAIN IMPROVEMENTS--CDOT REVITALIZING MAIN STREETS GRANT APPLICATION

City staff recently met with CDOT staff and were encouraged to think creatively and



Council applicant Charli Oswald answers Council questions.

to apply for the grant, Grants Coordinator Kendall Cramer said.

Background-A memo from Cramer states, "CDOT is interested in assisting rural communities. The city has an interest in improving the infrastructure of Main Street and is currently working with Ayres Associates, Inc. to develop a conceptual design for the West Main Street Corridor as part of an existing USEPA Brownfields grant. The City of Montrose seeks to apply for the "Larger Safety Infrastructure Grant" with CDOT in an amount of up to \$2 million for improvements from the West Main Street Trailhead, east to Grand Avenue, with potential pedestrian and bicycle improvements extending further east to Townsend Avenue depending on final cost estimates. The proposed project focuses on safety improvements for users such as pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, transit users, the elderly, and people with disabilities."

Goals of the proposed project include:

-Creating a road template that maximizes sidewalk width and pushes curb lines into the existing street to narrow it.

-Creating sidewalk modifications that will allow sidewalk seating and allow for streetscaping.

- Creating a sidewalk expansion that will result in a road diet to narrow lanes and eliminate parallel parking where it is not necessary, in favor of sidewalks and

CITY INTERVIEWS DISTRICT III COUNCIL APPLICANTS

From previous pg

and seating areas.

-Ensuring ADA-compliant sidewalks at all driveways.

-Creating a bicycle path to facilitate transportation between Townsend Avenue and the West Main Trailhead

LEASE AGREEMENT UPDATES

Council discussed updates to the lease Agreement for 703 S. 9th St (former location of the Passage Charter School). The City owns the land; the lease is with Montrose County School District RE-1J, which owns the building on the site. The building is currently used by the district's Step Up to Life program.

Council also discussed extending by two years the lease agreement for 514 S. 1st Street (occupied by the Straw Hat Farm Store), based on continued improvements and kitchen upgrades.

MONTROSE FORD-UTILITY CONNECTION FEE ABATEMENTS

Council considered \$14,200 in utility connection fee abatements for Montrose Ford, which is undertaking a shop expansion.

"We are excited today to have a DART initiative before the City Council," City Manager Bill Bell said, and introduced Montrose Ford Nissan owner Wes Abbott. Bell said he had already approved building permit, plan check, and construction use

fees in the amount \$18,533.89.

Abbott said that the nearly 12,000 square-foot expansion project, which will add eight additional employees and increase capacity by 85 percent, is greatly needed to accommodate increased need.

For locals, livelihoods depend on vehicles being up and running. For travelers, a breakdown can cause catastrophic delays, Abbott said, noting that the business expansion is expected to generate an immediate city sales tax increase of roughly \$30,000, to increase to \$60,000 annually in five years.

"We'd really like to be able to take care of the people who use their vehicles for work...and also take care of all the tourists who come through," Abbott said.

"Thank you for running such a successful business," Councilor Barbara Bynum said.

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank said that the abatements should be considered an investment by the City and noted that other businesses may apply for similar abatements.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Bynum said that she went golfing the other day. The restaurant at the City's Black Canyon Golf Course looks good, she said. "Just had a really enjoyable experience and interaction with all of the staff members you all have out there...I think proba-

bly like every lawn in Montrose we could all use more water."

The \$100,000 pump installation project at the golf course has been completed, Assistant City Manager Ann Morgenthaler said. "You'll see things green up over there now that we have our new pumps installed and we're able to run our irrigation water."

The restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days per week, and hours will be adjusted incrementally as additional staff are hired. The City is still hiring for some positions, Morgenthaler said.

Mayor Glaspell reminded the public that the City has a new municipal court Judge, Judge Greenacre.

Bynum said that watching municipal court on Thursdays is really interesting and entertaining and is always open to the public. "As you would imagine, that involves things like traffic infractions and bar fights, and pet issues," Bynum said.

Mayor Pro Tem Frank said that observing municipal court has value beyond entertainment. "It's very educational about the way our system works," Frank said. "It's pretty cool."

"I would say it's really nice seeing all your smiling faces out there," Frank said to all who had gathered in council chambers. "Like, actually humans!" With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HISTORIC BRIDGE AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION



CDOT courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY – The Colorado Department of Transportation is making the historic Gunnison River Bridge on CO 92 available for adoption to any public or private entity interested in relocating it.

Located about six miles east of Delta, the 83-year-old structure is the longest of three remaining Camelback pony truss bridges on the state highway system. Each span is 125 feet long and 33 feet wide (photos below). Two of its three trusses are available and could be good candidates for reuse as part of a recreational trail or road for motor vehicles. However, a new deck and abutments are required at a new location.

The recipient is responsible for relocating and reassembling the bridge. Due to its age, the paint contains lead and other possible constituents requiring careful removal and containment, which may require additional cost.

Interested adopters must submit a relocation plan detailing its proposed use, location, and the available resources to assure



The historic Gunnison River Bridge on CO 92. CDOT courtesy photo.

future maintenance. Potential recipients also should state their intention to follow all environmental regulations concerning the treatment of lead-based paint on the structural steel components.

The structure currently is eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Bridges. "Our infrastructure is a tremendous part of our history and the state's cultural landscape. But, it also has to work, which means ensuring that our bridges remain safe and functional at current standards," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "CDOT is working hard to develop innovative approaches to

help preserve historic structures that have outlived their useful life. This partnership is an example of that creativity at work to integrate past and present."

Although CDOT would like the reassembled trusses to look and function as originally designed, other uses for the trusses will be considered, according to CDOT Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch.

The current bridge is rated as structurally and functionally obsolete and will be replaced beginning in November 2021. Please visit www.codot.gov/projects/co92-gunnisonriverbridge for more information about the project.



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The 2021 Reappraisal: Valuation Increases for Most Properties

by Brad Hughes MAI, Montrose County Assessor



Under Colorado law, county assessors' offices throughout the state conduct a complete revaluation of all properties in their county every two years. The Colorado Legislature sets the appraisal date, the market sales data collection period, and the annual calendar for the assessment process.

The previous revaluation was completed in 2019 and was based on a June 30, 2018 level of value. These valuations were established using market sales data from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 and were used for tax years 2019 and 2020 (payable in 2020 and 2021 respectively). As a result of the assessment calendar, property tax assessment valuations will always lag behind current market conditions. The current revaluations are based on a June 30, 2020 level of value. The new values have been established using market sales data from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 and will be used for tax years 2021 and 2022 (payable in 2022 and 2023 respectively). Sales transactions occurring after June 30, 2020 cannot be considered until the 2023 reappraisal.

Real property classes changed as follows: vacant land experienced an overall average valuation increase of about 20%. These increases in vacant land valuations were primarily due to continued strengthening demand for new single-family home sites. Most residential improved properties, including single-family residences, condominiums, and townhomes typically increased about 15% to 20%. This upward trend in the residential market occurred throughout most of the County, including the Nucla/Naturita/Paradox area located in western Montrose County which increased by about 30% to 35%. Most commercial and industrial properties also had valuation increases, although the increases were more modest as compared to the residential sub-class. The rate of change for commercial properties varied significantly based on the location, property type, and the age of the property. On average most commercial properties experienced valuation escalations between 5% and 10% over the two year period. Irrigated farmland had the highest relative increase in valuation for the 2021 reappraisal. Agricultural land is valued based on the earning capacity of the land; it is not valued at a market value. The agricultural land calculation uses a ten-year statewide average of commodity prices. For this re-assessment cycle, two historic "low years" of commodity prices were removed and two more recent "higher" priced commodity years were added. This factor along with only a nominal increase in operating expenses and higher production yields resulted in a significant increase of about 30% for irrigated farmland within Montrose County. In conclusion, these overall increases in property values within Montrose County followed a similar trend to what occurred within most of Western Colorado.

As a reminder, the effective appraisal date for these new valuations was established as of last summer (June 30, 2020). The transaction prices of land and homes since this period have continued to dramatically increase up through the current date. Thus, these substantial recent increases in sale prices will not be reflected in assessments until the 2023 reappraisal.

The following is a general review of property assessment and taxes. Three factors determine the level of taxes on a property: the market valuation, the assessment rate, and the mill levy.

$$(Market\ Value \times Assessment\ Rate = Assessed\ Value \times Mill\ levy = Taxes)$$

The Assessor's office is solely responsible for establishing valuations, not taxes. To accomplish this, the assessor uses actual market sales transactions to build a mass appraisal valuation model that is then used to set the values on all properties within the county. Assessment rates are dictated by the Colorado Constitution and State Law for all 64 Colorado Counties. Currently, the assessment rate is 7.15% for residential improved properties, and 29% for most all other property types. The last component used to calculate taxes is the mill levy. Mill levies are established by the county commissioners, school districts, and the boards of the various taxing entities (fire, recreation, library, sanitation, cemetery, etc...). A summation of these various individual levies is applied to the assessed value to determine the taxes due. The County Treasurer's office collects and distributes these taxes for the various taxing jurisdictions.

Ultimately, the assessor's goal is to equalize property values and ensure that the tax burden is distributed fairly and equitably among property owners within the statutory and constitutional guidelines of the State of Colorado.

After receiving your new Notice of Valuation in early May 2021, please review your change in value. If you disagree with the new valuation, there are detailed procedures on the back of the notice explaining how to appeal your valuation. If you would like to review your property characteristics or research property records, please go to our online public records search program at <http://eagleweb.montrosecounty.net/eagleassessor/web>. If you would like to view sales used to establish the 2021 valuations, please go to <http://www.montrosecounty.net/assessor>

If you have any additional questions, concerns, or comments please call the Montrose County Assessor's Office at (970) 249-3753 or email us at assessor@montrosecounty.net.

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS REED TO DISTRICT III SEAT



City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo swore in new Councilor J. David Reed. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

MONTROSE – On Tuesday, May 4, the Montrose City Council met for a regularly scheduled meeting in Council chambers at the Elks Civic Building. Called to order at 6pm by Mayor Doug Glaspell, the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll call. Mayor Glaspell and councilors Bynum and Frank were in attendance.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Glaspell read a proclamation declaring May 2021 Mental Health Month.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve the minutes of the previous regular council meeting held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

The three council members voted by ballot, which was collected and read by City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo. The vote was unanimous for J. David Reed. Reed was sworn in by DelPiccolo, then seated with the rest of council. They then made the motion and unanimously voted to approve the selection for the District III seat.

Council member Dave Frank said, “We

had two incredible candidates who stepped forward.”

NEW LODGING & ENTERTAINMENT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

A new Lodging & Entertainment liquor license at 21 N. Cascade Avenue for Mosaic LLC, doing business as Lucky Tree Studio and Treefeather Creative was discussed. City attorney Stephen Alcorn and council questioned the owners (Leanna & Jordan Johnson) on intent, knowledge of liquor laws, server training, and preventing underaged consumption. Council then voted unanimously to approve this license.

MURA PHASE II PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACT AWARD

Council considered the approval of \$1,410,029.57 in expenditures for construction of public infrastructure associated with the MURA Basecamp Apartments project. This includes the award of a construction contract to Mountain Valley Contracting in the amount of \$1,077,729.57, a survey and engineering support contract to Del-Mon Consultants in the amount of \$67,300, and dry utility expenditures totaling \$265,000.

This project will extend North 6th street as well as power, gas, water, and sewer extensions from North 9th to this location at

the Colorado Outdoors site. The infrastructure project is expected to take six months with the Basecamp Apartment starting after completion.

There were no public comments, and the council voted unanimously to approve.

RESOLUTION 2021-08

This resolution authorizes the filing of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Revitalizing Main Streets: Safety Infrastructure Grant Program application. The city would apply for the grant in the amount of two million dollars and match it up to \$400,000 for a total of \$2.4 million.

The money would go to the West Main Street improvements as previously discussed and presented to council.

There were no public comments, and the council voted unanimously to approve.

ORDINANCE 2540 – SECOND READING

This ordinance amends Title 4, Chapter 4, Section 12 of the zoning regulations regarding the “B-1” central business district. The city said the change to the language adding ‘daytime’ social services to right of use was because there are already such services in B-1 zoned areas. The change explicitly forbids ‘nighttime’ social services, which would be any type of overnight shelter.

City Planner Amy Sharp was contacted after the meeting for clarification of what zoning category would allow something like a nighttime homeless shelter to exist, if it were allowed by any city zoning at all. No reply was received.

There were no public comments, and the council voted unanimously to approve.

ORDINANCE 2541 – FIRST READING

City Attorney Stephen Alcorn discussed Ordinance 2541, which was said to be ‘basic housekeeping’ changes to the city charter.

It changes the official seal of the city and grants more flexibility to council for setting meeting times and other minor items.

There were no public comments for the hearing. Council made a motion to pass on first reading and voted unanimously to

Continued next pg

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS REED TO DISTRICT III SEAT

From Previous pg

to approve.

SUNRISE CREEK II FILING NO. 5 PRELIMINARY PLAT

The Sunrise Creek II Filing No. 5 Preliminary Plat will subdivide the property into six new lots. The property is approximately 1.47 acres and is bordered on the north by Market Street, on the east by Snowbrush Avenue, on the west by S. Hillcrest Drive and on the south by Sunrise Creek Subdivision. The intent is to construct residential, single-family housing on these lots. The planning commission recommended approval of the preliminary plat at the April 28, 2021 meeting.

There were no public comments, and the council voted unanimously to approve.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CENTRIFUGE REBUILD

Utilities Manager David Bries discussed a sole source agreement with Dairy Specialists for the not-to-exceed amount of \$70,000 for repairs to the Centrysis Centrifuge #1 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Centrifuge #2 was rebuilt in 2020 and is in excellent operating condition.

Centrifuge #1 was inspected and found to have damaged tiles, bearing vibration, and pitting on the scroll assembly.

STAFF REPORTS/GENERAL COMMENTS

There were no staff reports.

Youth City Councilor Gunnison Clamp said the youth council would be, "finishing out

our year with a social media campaign highlighting the great trails in the Montrose area and different walking paths we have here ... we will be putting out posts on different trails around town throughout the month."

New District III council member David Reed commented, "I would just like to publicly thank the council for the confidence you've expressed in me by placing me in this position and I assure you that I look forward to serving with all of you, working together, and working with the city administration and staff, so thank you very much."

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Sidelines Sports Bar
970-765-0129

Horsefly Brewing
970-249-6889

Lighthouse Eatery
970-964-4424

Busy Corner White Kitchen
970-323-6215

Jimmer's Steak & BBQ
970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara
970-249-2460

Remington's at the Bridges
970-252-1119

San Juan Brews
970-901-8594

Home Delivery
Emilee Express
970-615-1726

DineOutMontrose.com

Rio Bravo
970-964-4477

Camp Robber
970-240-1590

Crash Burger
970-249-0825

Cold Stone Creamery
970-252-8014

Tacos El Gordo
970-964-4022

Bonnie & Clydes
970-615-7158

Stone House
970-240-8899

Rib City
970-249-7427

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

Trattoria de Sofia
970-249-0433



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR A COLORADO BYWAY

Special to Art & Sol

ALAMOSA – Preserving a historic 500-acre ranch in the San Luis Valley is netting the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic & Historic Byway an award from the National Scenic Byway Foundation.

The organization presented Los Caminos with its Beautification Community Award at its annual symposium Thursday night for completing the “Rancho la Luz – Conejos Ranchland Initiative – Preserving Wet Meadows” project. Located near the Colorado/New Mexico border, the open ranchland is an integral part of the Valley and Conejos County’s agricultural landscape. It also provides a backdrop for visitors traveling along Colorado Highway 142 (photo below).

“We are honored to receive this national award, recognizing not only for the successful effort to protect important agricultural land but the unique and beautiful scenery, history, culture, heritage and traditions not found anywhere else,” said Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area Interim Director Julie Chacon. “As one of the four oldest ranches and permanent settlements in Colorado, preserving Rancho la Luz, which was settled more than 150 years ago, will help provide a cultural experience and help people visualize what life would have been like for the earliest Spanish settlers.”

The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area oversees the Byway.

“It took a long-term commitment and a substantial amount of work from all the various partners for this conservation



Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic & Historic Byway has earned an award from the National Scenic Byway Foundation. Courtesy photo.

effort to succeed,” said CDOT’s Byways Program Manager Lenore Bates. “This easement truly exemplifies the spirit of our Byways program, a permanent commitment that will preserve the scenic and cultural qualities of this landscape along the Los Caminos Byway forever.

It’s great to see it recognized at the national level.”

A \$230,000 grant from Great Colorado Outdoors helped protect Rancho la Luz. Preservation of the property, which is part of a growing block of conserved land in Conejos County, is a function of the Conejos Ranchland Initiative, a partnership between Colorado Open Lands, Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust, and the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust.

Initially, John and Mary Lou Salazar, core conservators of Ranch la Luz, repurchased

much of the property to keep the ranch intact. In addition to GOCO and CCALT, partners included the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Colorado Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Conejos County Commissioners.

More information about the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area and the Byway is available here:

www.sangreheritage.org.

CDOT established the Scenic and Historic Byways program in 1989.

In addition to supporting the state’s 26 byways, the program also supports two All-American Roads, 10 National Forest Scenic Byways, and two Bureau of Land Management Backcountry Byways. The statewide system is comprised of nearly 2,600 miles of roadway through 48 of Colorado’s 64 counties.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

PROMISSORY NOTES OR GIFT CERTIFICATES?

Editor:

Recently I took a brief tour through the study undertaken by Messrs. Baker and Krause published August 29, 2016 by the "Fiscal Policy Center". This rather exhaustive missive found no reclaiming virtue to the use of the URA law of Colorado.

NONE whatsoever. They found that about 95% of applications of URA in Colorado failed and tax levies were used to cover the losses.

So in 2016 Mr. Bell and his City Council decided to press forward and fail like the rest of URA in Colorado.

Definitions: urban---city

renewal---to change old into new, to rebuild

urban renewal as used in the URA law---to rebuild and or renew a particular area to eliminate "crime" and or "disease".

The URA law says nothing at all about converting clean open space into new construction; URA was not and neither intended or designed for that purpose. But this is what Colorado Outdoors---the MURA project---was conceived for and what the City of Montrose has been conned into by its elected officials. And true to form of what Baker and Krause found out,

the Montrose effort is failing or has failed, depending on whether you are 'optimistic' or 'pessimistic', just as 95% of the Colorado communities who have tried it, have.

I have been to many places that have urban blight. Where the area was littered with fallen down buildings, deserted factories and piles of junk inhabited by rats, homeless and poison ivy. The most egregious of Montrose's junk piles (and there are a few) don't even come close. But I could venture that if Montrose were to actually do 'urban renewal', that those places would be where the City Council should have turned the first shovel of dirt!

Our City Council did not. Instead they chose to try to develop the 'Colorado Outdoors' area with the wrong tools, with the wrong people, with the inadequate supervision and BY GIVING AWAY over Ten Million dollars of our tax money, which was followed up with more largess (1 ½ Million Dollars?) just this past year.

Oh but we will get it back so says City Council. Well in 4+ years (since the start) not one dollar has been returned from that so-called 'investment'. And so far as the public knows MURA possesses not one signed contract promising any return whatsoever.

Instead our city holds several of these so-called promissory notes improperly written and executed (should be notarized, especially since Mr. Bell is a member of both the city government and MURA). The note is on its face amateurish, redundant and contradictory. I don't pretend to be a lawyer of any shape or form but this effort in 'note writing' is most incompetent.

Any honor roll student at our high school given my book and two hours could have written one that would be enforceable under the UCC in Colorado.

It is impossible to attribute this document to Mr. Alcorn. I certainly cannot believe he ever saw it. I do not believe that he could or would defend it in court.

It is my opinion that the note that I have the copy of for \$1,100,000 is unenforceable and uncollectable and that if the rest of the notes are similar, the City of Montrose gave away \$10,000,000. If this is even remotely so, that the final recipients of this municipal largess will likewise disown the debt. I would if I were them---free \$10,000,000 who wouldn't?

They are probably giggling up their collective sleeves right now.

Bill Bennett, Montrose



COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO STATE PATROL: TROOPER TIPS

By Master Trooper Gary Cutler

COLORADO-Motorcycle season is now upon us again. Dust off the motorcycle seat and check it out to see if your bike and you are ready to hit the open roads again. As fun as it is to ride a motorcycle, I wanted to let you know that the Colorado State Patrol is seeing an increase in motorcycle crashes and fatalities and we really want to curb that problem. Contrary to what a lot of people may think, a lot of these crashes haven't included other vehicles. They are single motorcycles going down. This issue seems mostly to be with riders that don't have a lot of training or as much experience as they should have to ride. Their skills may not be the best because they don't ride every day. This is not meant to be demeaning to these riders, but to have them realize steps may be needed to increase their riding abilities. Consider researching a motorcycle operator skills course. As Brian Tracy states, "Continuous learning is the minimum requirement for success in any field." I believe that whole heartily when it comes to strengthening your riding skills. You can never know too much about riding techniques. The courses have different levels of skill training for all riders. Usually they

teach for beginners, intermediate, and advanced riders. So even if you've been riding for years, a training course can be for you. Maybe try an advanced riders' course and see how it can improve your skills. So, let's delve into some of the problems we see when it comes to motorcycle riders crashing. 1. Dirt and rocks on the roadway. Some riders are not looking out for it. You see a lot of it especially in early spring from snow plow operations. 2. Going into blind curves too fast and going off the road or into oncoming traffic. Know the area your riding. If it's an area you're unfamiliar with, don't outride your skills. Take your time and enjoy the ride. 3. Having passengers on the bike that are unfamiliar with leaning, or who don't have confidence in the operator and counterbalance causing the bike to go off the roadway. It also goes the other way with motorcycle operators who don't know how to ride with a passenger on the back of the bike. Have that conversation prior to riding with someone on the bike. 4. Not knowing how to use the front brake in tandem with the back brake. It is imperative to be able to stop quickly when needed. Learn how to use your brakes correctly. 5. Watching for vehicles coming into

your path.

Have an escape plan to stay out of the vehicle's way. You can always be in the right and still be injured.

6. Leaning into curves that place your upper body over the center line and in the path of oncoming traffic. Don't hug the center line so closely. 7. Not having the proper safety equipment to prevent injury in the event of a crash. This includes a helmet, eye protection, gloves, boots, padded jacket and pants. 8. Absolutely no alcohol when riding. It happens more often than you think.

One last item. Make sure you have that motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license. We do check for those on a traffic stop.

So, if you don't ride, but know someone who does, talk to them about some of the things I hit in this article. You may save the life of a friend or loved one. These are very basic concepts of riding, but they are so often overlooked.

As always, safe travels!



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ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

CAROL SUE (GARREN) RUMBAUGH

September 28, 1936-April 28, 2021

Carol passed away at Valley Manor Care Center with family at her side on 4/28/2021 at 9:30 AM.

Carol was born September 28th, 1936 to William and Katherine (Lukanik) Garren in the Bronx borough in New York, New York. Carol, from a very early age, had a special affinity for animals, especially horses.

Carol was raised in Manhattan until 11 years old when her family moved to California. It was in Concord, CA that Carol graduated from Mt. Diablo High School with the class of 1955. Carol was proceeded in death by her parents, husband, John in 2014, and her brother, Richard Garren of Gardnerville, NV in 2016.

Shortly after graduation, Carol went to work at Aetna Life and Casualty in San Francisco, CA. While in San Francisco she met and married her best friend, Navy sailor sweetheart, and cowboy, John Rumbaugh of Montrose, CO on February 16, 1957. They spent 57 years together both building and having a wonderful life.

Born of this marriage were two sons, Mike and Mark Rumbaugh. In 1965, Once John was out of the Navy and his reserve time was over, John and Carol moved their family to John's hometown of Montrose.

Carol worked at many occupations, onion topper, school cook, candy wrapper at Russel Stover, A cook for Columbine outfitters and guide service, Bank teller at Montrose National Bank and Timberline Bank. Sales lady at Conrad's, Dunlap's, Beall's and Merle Norman cosmetics. She also owned and operated the Kiddie Korral and the Diet Center in



Montrose. Carol, alongside John raised, hogs, sheep and cattle.

Carol thoroughly loved cooking, canning, camping, fishing, her horses, her cattle, her sheep and her mountains. She relished horseback riding into the high country. Carol always enjoyed fair time in Montrose and helping assemble the Oak Grove booth. Carol also adored watching local school sports and cheered on her Denver Broncos at every opportunity. Carol and John, both made it a habit to see horse racing as well. Carol was a member of the Montrose Cattlewomen's Association.

She touched many peoples' lives and made friends easily, with her ability to make you feel special.

Survivors include, her two sons, Mike and Mary (Fullerton) Rumbaugh, Mark



and Martha (Christie) Rumbaugh, five grandchildren, JD Rumbaugh, Josh Rumbaugh, Amanda Harris, Brian Rumbaugh and Chance Davidson. Six great grandchildren, Krelei, Tripp, Harmony, Jaxson, Cambri, and Aria all of Montrose. Her Brother Gary and Linda (Stone) Garren of Montrose. Her two sisters in law, Ann Williams of Salt Lake City and Sandy Garren of Gardnerville, NV and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life for Carol's family and friends is scheduled for June 27th at Antler Ridge on Kinikin Rd at 2 P.M.

In lieu of Flowers, a general donation can be made in memory of Carol S. Rumbaugh to Dream Catchers Therapy Center, Inc. or End of the Trail Rescue (DCTC.ORG or EOTTR.ORG) 5814 Hwy 348 Olathe, CO 81402.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

CLAUDIA LEE SWITZER

November, 1953-April 29, 2021



CLAUDIA LEE SWITZER passed away peacefully at her home in Nashville, Tennessee on April 29, 2021.

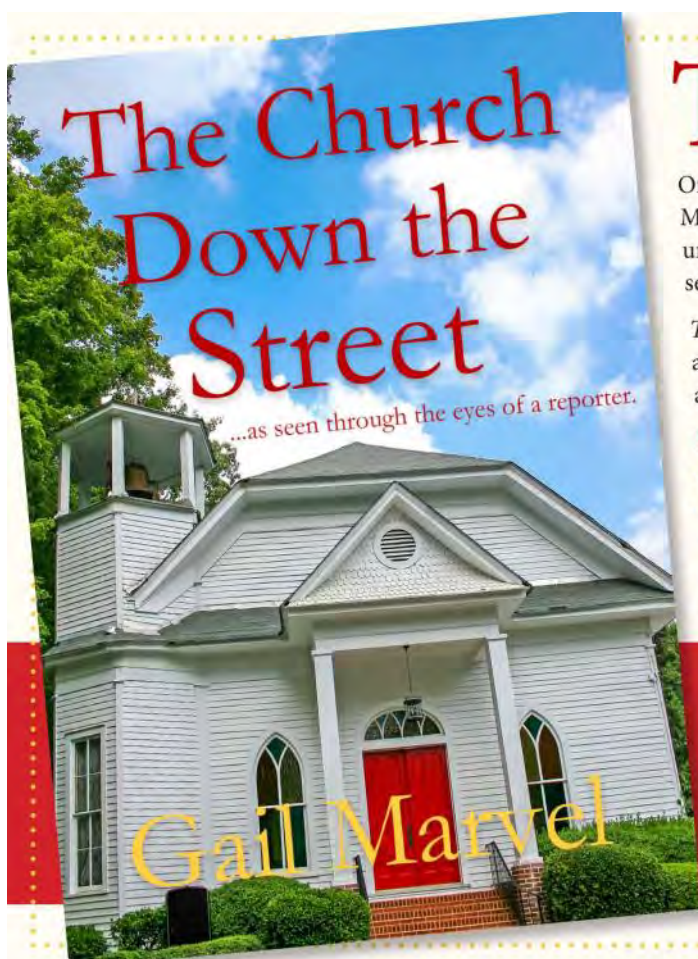
Claudia was born in November, 1953, at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She attended Kenwood Elementary School, Harding Jr. H.S. and Kennedy Senior H.S., graduating in 1971.

Claudia married William Lawrence in October, 1993, in Lake Tahoe, California. Billy and Claudia loved buying and renovating homes in the Bay Area, and also the home they purchased in Nashville after they left San Francisco in 2003. Claudia and Billy enjoyed skiing and made many trips to Colorado to play in the snow; they also enjoyed travelling and camping. She dearly loved the Lawrence family and she became a cherished part of their lives.

Claudia was preceded in death by her parents, Donavon B. Switzer, Sr. and Constance L. Switzer. She is survived by her husband, William (Billy) Lawrence of Nashville, and by her brothers Donavon (Nancy), Scott (Sue) and Bradley. She is also survived by her niece, Jennifer, and nephews Zachary, Eric, Jackson, and Harry; and grand-nephew, Levi.

Claudia was loved by all who came to know her. She loved collecting vintage clothing and furniture. Claudia also loved music and enjoyed attending the Bonnaroo music festival in Tennessee for many years. Yoga and swimming were two of her ongoing passions. She was a free spirit who was so generous and loyal to her friends.

A celebration of her life will take place on June 19, 2021, at her and Billy's home in Nashville.



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](https://www.amazon.com) and [wingedpublications.com](https://www.wingedpublications.com).

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Montrose Author & Reporter





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ISSUE 315 MAY 10

ART & SOL

LANOUE DUBOIS WINERY OPENS ON TROUT ROAD



Lee LaNoue, his dad Rick LaNoue, and Wendy the vineyard manager. Photo by Paul Arbogast.



The three selections LaNoue Dubois will open with are Maréchal Foch Nouveau, Ruby Rosé, and a Frontenac Gris. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

MONTROSE—There is a deep family history tied to the brand, LaNoue Dubois, which means LaNoue of the woods. This is a blending of two family names, bringing the history of land and families together in one elegant glass.

While the family started out as amateur wine makers, even winning several awards for their wines, they have ramped up operations recently. Son Lee LaNoue used to do custom woodworking in Telluride; a few years ago he decided it was time to get more involved in the family wine business, so Lee attended Colorado Mesa University (CMU) for Viticulture and Enology and has brought what he has learned home to improve products and process-

es.

The winery's slogan, on each bottle, is 'We are all hybrids.' One reason is all the grapes they grow are hybrids, which allows them to produce selections that otherwise could not be grown in the area due to temperatures. The slogan is also a nod to all of humanity.

"To clarify, hybrids are not like GMOs or anything, they are cross bred. So you might have cabernet sauvignon mixed with an indigenous vine of north America that is already disease resistant and can take colder temperatures," Lee explained.

LaNoue Dubois is the only winery producing wine with their own grapes in the Montrose area, grown at Woods Estate

Vineyard.

The family has recently finished construction on a new building for the winery, which includes a sitting/tasting room, a conference room, and eventually an outdoor seating area where they plan to bring in a food truck.

The space is beautiful, with all the internal wood trim sourced from their old corral. The tasting room will have different

snacks as well, from cheese to jerky, all locally sourced.

"I think people are really going to like the wines. They are very different, everyone that tastes them says they are very unique," Lee said.

LaNoue Dubois opened Sunday, May 9, just in time for Mother's Day. The regular hours are still a bit in flux, but you can keep up with them and winery news on their Facebook ([here](#)) and webpage ([here](#)). LaNoue Dubois is located at 67289 Trout Road.

The three selections LaNoue Dubois will open with are Maréchal Foch Nouveau, Ruby Rosé, and a Frontenac Gris. Other selections will be offered over the next several months.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: RECOGNITION

MONTROSE DISTILLERY WINS BIG IN APRIL



Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE—When it reigns, it pours. Storm King Distilling Co. is proud to announce that they have been named the 2021 Colorado Outstanding Distillery by the Colorado Manufacturing Awards (CMA). The announcement comes on the heels of two big wins for the distillery's whiskey. In April, Storm King Distilling Co. took home gold medals for its Side Gig Whiskey and its first release of Colorado Straight Bourbon Whiskey at the Denver International Spirit Competition. Of the recent successes, Co-founder and distiller, David Fishing stated that "Whiskey is what we love and so to have our first ever single barrel bourbon receive a gold medal, in addition to the success that Side Gig has had, is beyond fantastic. Then to follow that up with the CMA announcement, it was just surreal. We think we make great spirits and that we are passionate about the process, and it is great to see that others recognize it too. The CMA honor is a real independent validation of everything we are doing as a distillery. Many people see us as a local bar via the tasting



CMA

**COLORADO
MANUFACTURING
Awards 2021**

2021 WINNER
OUTSTANDING CRAFT DISTILLER

David (left) and Greg Fishing of Storm King Distilling Co. Courtesy photo.

room and although we are providing a unique and top-shelf experience there, we are a manufacturing facility at heart; our passion is the craft of making quality spirits and we do this all while being an integral part of our community."

Speaking on the release of the gold-medal winning bourbon Fishing explained that "like all of our whiskeys, our Colorado Straight Bourbon is made from 100% Colorado grown grain from Whiskey Sisters Supply in Burlington. It was important for us from the very beginning to find local partners that care about their products as much as we do and to showcase the terroir in Colorado grains. Barrel #20 was a

mashbill of 65% corn and 35% rye, aged for over 2 years in a toasted and charred 25-gallon American White Oak barrel. We are super excited about it and only wish we had more!" The distillery's bourbon is currently available in the tasting room only.

In operation for three years, Storm King Distilling Co. is the first and only distillery in Montrose, Colorado. The distillery manufactures a wide range of spirits including whiskey, gin, rum, agave, and vodka. The diverse product line allows for creativity in the tasting room and cocktail bar, which has become a destination for locals and tourists.

COMOLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

WINNERS REVEALED IN 2021 COLORADO MANUFACTURING AWARDS

Special to Art & Sol

DENVER-Winners were announced last week in the sixth annual Colorado Manufacturing Awards at a virtual event co-hosted by CompanyWeek and Manufacturer's Edge, Colorado's NIST-sponsored Manufacturing Extension Partner. See the recap here.

With 14 categories and more than 40 finalists, this year's CMAs were the biggest yet.

CompanyWeek Publisher Bart Taylor also noted the participation of nearly 25 judges, many of them previous CMA finalists and winners.

"The thoughtfulness of the deliberations was impressive," he said of the judging process. "As they are every year, the judges were a highlight."

Attendees also heard video messages from Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO) and

Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO).

Winners hailed from across the state, even as Arvada and Boulder County cemented their statuses as regional enclaves of manufacturing success and diversity.

Special Aerospace Services (Boulder/Arvada) was awarded Aerospace Manufacturer of the Year, while Sundyne (Arvada) earned honors as the 2021 Industrial/Equipment Manufacturer of the Year.

Here's the complete list of category winners:

Business Innovation/COVID Response:

Titan Robotics, Colorado Springs

Outstanding Consumer Brand: Moots, Steamboat Springs

Outstanding Craft Distiller: Storm King Distilling Co., Montrose

Food Brand/Co-Packer of the Year: Motherlode Co-Packing, Hudson

Cannabis Manufacturer of the Year: Medi-

cally Correct, Denver

Colorado Winery of the Year: Carlson Vineyards, Palisade

Outstanding Craft Brewer: City Star Brewing, Berthoud

Colorado Manufacturing Woman of the Year: Heidi Hostetter, H2 Manufacturing Solutions

Industrial/Equipment Manufacturer of the Year: Sundyne, Arvada


Aerospace Manufacturer of the Year: Special Aerospace Services, Boulder/Arvada

Bioscience Manufacturer of the Year: Leiters, Englewood


Energy/Transportation Manufacturer of the Year: Oribi Manufacturing, Commerce City

Building and Construction Manufacturer of the Year: Encore Electric, Littleton

Advanced Manufacturing & Machining Award: Focused on Machining, Louviers



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1,000	X	\$30	X	1	=	\$30,000
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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

LIVE MUSIC RETURNS TO TWO RIVERS WINERY THIS SUMMER WITH MUSIC IN THE GRAPEVINES

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-Outdoor live music will be back this summer with Music in the Grapevines at Two Rivers Winery. Stray Grass will kick off the music season on Tuesday, May 25, with their anything-but-traditional folk and bluegrass. Exit 42 will bring country and Southern rock on June 15, and Soul Habit will play its unique brand of funk rock dance music on July 20. The Art Center Guild, concert series organizer, hopes to have additional concerts in August and September.

All concerts are held on the lawn of Two Rivers Winery, 2087 Broadway, Grand Junction. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner and lawn chairs for an evening in the shadow of the Colorado National Monument. Wine is available for purchase. Gates open at 6 pm; music starts at 7 pm. All tickets are general admission. Tickets at the gate are \$20, all ages. Advance tickets are \$15, available at The Art Center (1803N 7th St), Two Rivers Winery and online at artcenterguild.org. All proceeds benefit The Art Center (Art Center of Western Colorado).

HONORING OUTSTANDING LOCAL STUDENTS *DMEA 2021 Scholarship Recipients*

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Delta-Montrose Electric Association, in partnership with the Montrose Community Foundation, has selected its 2020-2021 scholarship recipients. This year, more than \$50,000 was available for local students to pursue post-high school education.

DMEA's scholarships provide local students with funds to attend a variety of higher education institutions including private and public universities, liberal arts colleges, vocational and trade schools, community and junior colleges, institutes of technology, art and design schools, and even online colleges. The 2020-2021 DMEA scholarship recipients are as follows:

Montrose High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Zachary Vincent
Joshua Simpson
Kyler Bronec

Delta High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Ryan Myers

Alyssa Bales

Hotchkiss High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Adair Ela

Paonia High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Tawny Roberts

Cedaredge High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Jacen Brown

Olathe High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Gavin Hall

Non-Traditional High School Scholarship - \$3,000

Amelia Hickman

Continuing Education Scholarship - \$2,000

Theresa Tafoya

Samantha Wollert

Nolan Egging

Colorado Mesa University, Montrose
Campus Scholarship - \$2,000

Jamie Marsh

Eric Yergenson

Technical College of the Rockies Scholarship - \$2,000

Elaine Cannon

Mahlia Perez

Guzman Energy Line Worker Scholarship - \$2,000

Berrie Reams

Zebadiah Etter

Guzman Energy Character Scholarship - \$3,000

Cora Blowers

DMEA Employee Dependent Scholarship - \$1,000

Jorryn Liberto-Hall

DMEA's scholarship program is funded by the co-op's unclaimed capital credit fund along with its wholesale power provider, Guzman Energy. Thanks to Guzman's \$7,000 donation, DMEA offered two new scholarship categories this year: two, \$2,000 line worker scholarships and one, \$3,000 character-based scholarship.

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Eating in the age of a pandemic

El Jimador does it right

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE – Okay, I finally did it! I ventured INTO El Jimador to sit in one of their cozy booths and have a delicious meal.

My houseguest, Ross Lawton, talked me into it as we were both vaccinated and the booths are far apart with wood barriers between restaurant guests.

Ah, sitting down and enjoying a delicious house margarita (they make the best) and a Mexican dish – not too spicy but yummy and filling – in an actual restaurant. This was a little sooner than I thought I would feel comfortable, but the restaurant is very sanitary with all staff wearing masks and wiping down between customers.

And the meal, fabulous. Ross ordered what looked like the most massive burrito around: The El Jimador burrito. It was resplendent covered with guacamole and sour cream. He pronounced it very good but could only eat half and brought the rest home for later. We had started the meal with a gooey cheese dip (queso) and chips, also quite filling. Salsa and a cabbage salad complementary.

Ross introduced me to the Diablo margarita which was very tasty and relaxing. A warning, next time I'll have a small please. Pretty potent. Choices of house, diablo, juice flavored margaritas, many domestic and Mexican beers and cocktails. Alcohol drinks run from \$7.50-16.

After scooping up gobs of lovely warm cheese I dived into a plate with a vegetarian enchilada with rice and beans. There were two large enchiladas on the plate with one destined to become my dinner the next evening.

Nice presentation and totally delicious Mexican food. So yummy. You choose the heat. I'm from New Mexico, but don't enjoy the very hot; this was tasty and not hot.

For the quality of food, you get here the prices are quite reasonable. For example: Ross' massive El Jimador burrito was \$15.50; my vegetarian enchilada was \$9.99.

You will find a menu full of options.

Appetizers run from \$4.50 for a side of guacamole up to \$15.00 for a seafood appetizer; or get a combo appetizer with nachos, quesadillas, and chicken taquitos for \$12.75.

Try a dinner for two at \$35.35 for Ciera Mar y Tierra (carne asada, pollo asada and prawns prepared on a large platter for two with sides of rice, beans, guacamole and sour cream); or there is Fajitas for two, \$32.75 (choice of meats/prawns, served sizzling to your table with bell peppers and onions plus the same sides as above and choice of tortillas.)

Meat dishes run from \$14.95-19.50 with many choices.

Chicken? Lots of dinners to choose from, \$14.50-15.75. There is even a dinner cooked Mexican style, Chicken Mexican Style.

Seafood: Next time I think I'm going to delve

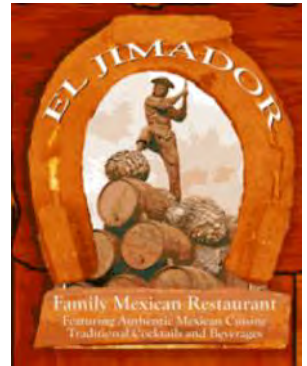
into the tastes of prawns sauteed with peppers and onions and covered with a special sauce, Charro Special (\$15.99). The seafood dishes run from 13.99-15.99. There are also many pork dishes to choose from, for example, from a pork green chile for \$9.95 to Chile Verde y Mas (pork chunks cooked in tomatillo sauce with your choice of an enchilada, tamale, burrito or chimichanga, \$14.25.)

There's a variety of fajitas on which to nibble, veggie from \$11.75 to a El Jimador combination fajita with meat, chicken and shrimp (\$16.95).

You may also choose from a variety of enchiladas burritos, eggs, salads and side dishes.

Great Mexican food, great drinks, family friendly. Sanitary!

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: EDUCATION

MONTROSE EDUCATION FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH MONTROSE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J TO ANNOUNCE 2021-22 TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Happy Staff/Teacher Appreciation Week to all MCSD staff from the Montrose Education Foundation! This year, 71 outstanding teachers have been nominated for Teacher of the Year. Each nominee will have the opportunity to apply for the Montrose Education Founda-

tion's \$10,000 Impact Award.

The Impact Award recipient, as well as the Teacher of the Year recipients, will be announced during the American Education Week Reception in November 2021, once continuing teachers have completed the essay applications.

The Teacher of the Year recipients, one

from Elementary, Middle and High School will be awarded \$500 to use in their classroom along with the opportunity to apply for the 2022-23 Colorado Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations to the 2021-22 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Nominees listed in the included graphic!



Montrose Education Foundation, Inc.
Education is Our Future

PARTNERED WITH
MCSD
Montrose County School District

Announce the 2021-22
Teacher of the Year Nominees
Congratulations!

Leah Appling	JES	Amanda May	CES
Renee Atencio	JES	Randall McKinney	OMS
Sergina Bach	CMS	Linda McMenamy	CTMS
Julie Baird	PES	Wendy Millsap	PES
Amy Berry	CMS	Jennifer Mitchell	CMS
Chris Braaten	CMS	Nancy Morris	MHS
Kiersten Brown	PES	Stephen Motley	OHS
Emily Brummitt	CES	Jessica O'Mahoney	JES
Aspen Bue	CTMS	Laura Patrone	CES
Cheston Churchill	CTMS	Heather Philbrick	CES
Lezlee Cox	Peak	Lance Ready	OHS
Lucia Cretti	JES	Dawn Riley	JES
Carrie Deisig	CMS	Sonya Roberts	PES
Christine Dilldine	OES	Joy Robinson	OHS
Eve Donohoe	Peak	Amanda Samples	CMS
Doug Eccher	Peak	James Scarry	MHS
David Evans	CMS	Ami Schmitz	CTMS
Marla Fockler	OGES	Karla Schrick	PES
Paula George	Peak	Laura Schroedel	Peak
Doug Goodwin	CES	Nancy Schwarz	OGES
Monique Gregory	MHS	Brian Schwardtfefer	NES
Stacia Greiner	Peak	Mallory Shaffer	NES
Chad Greiner	Peak	Tyler Shaw	OMS
Karie Hancock	OMS	Steve Skiff	CMS
Dan Herod	MHS	Greg Solseth	CMS
Cathie Holcom	PES	Paul Stucki	Vista
Lisa Huisjen	PES	Leanne Tafoya	CMS
Heather Jennings	CMS	Christine Terrell	CMS
Amanda Jennings	OGES	Beatriz Trevino	CMS
Kathleen Jole	Peak	Melissa Trujillo	PES
Danielle Kistler	CMS	Ryan Voehringer	MHS
Suzann Lange	NES	John White	CMS
Julia Lemaster	PES	Chris Whittaker	MHS
Mark Liebenthal	OHS	Allison Wofford	Peak
Kim Martin	JES	Marnae Woodland	NES
Alex Matlock	CMS		

TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK RECEPTION IN NOVEMBER 2021, ONCE CONTINUING TEACHERS HAVE COMPLETED THE ESSAY APPLICATION.

TERRELL PRESENTS @ 2021 CELEBRATION OF UNDER-GRADUATE RESEARCH & CREATIVE INQUIRY

Special to Art & Sol

PELLA, IA-- Kade Terrell of Olathe, CO, is one of approximately 140 Central College students who presented academic research at the college's first annual Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry Wednesday, April 28. Presentations can be found [here](#).

Terrell's presentation(s) was titled Effect of Smelling Salts on Standing Long Jump and Grip Strength.

Central College of Pella, Iowa, is a private, four-year liberal arts college. Central is known for its academic rigor, leadership and character development, global experiential learning, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and sustainability education, athletics and service. For more information about Central College: www.central.edu.



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NEWSIES NOW PLAYING @ MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE!



Directed by Lisa Rediger, "Newsies" opened May 7 and runs through May 29. Courtesy photos.



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA HEALTH HOSTS ANNUAL VOLUNTEER BANQUET TO HONOR MEMBERS



Delta Health CEO Matt Heyn presents at the annual volunteer awards banquet on April 24. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-Delta Health held its annual volunteer awards banquet on April 24 to honor those that have devoted their time and energy to provide remarkable care to patients and community members on.

The banquet was postponed due to COVID-19 and is generally held in February.

The banquet started with a presentation from Matt Heyn, President and Chief Executive Officer for Delta Health. Heyn talked about the three-year strategic plan and how the organization has changed from being more than a hospital to a county-wide healthcare system.

"If you look at our strategic map, people are at the very top," said Heyn. "We take care of our employees and we take care of our volunteers. We are thankful to each of the volunteers for their years of service and dedication to this organization."

In 2020 alone, volunteer hours were 3,626.25 and saved the hospital over

\$72,000. From greeting patients at the concierge desk to delivering supplies to hospital departments, the volunteers are integral to Delta Health.

Charles Glider, Cherrie Gilliam, Clarine Johnston and Diana Neil received their 20-year service awards, Bill Raley and Susan Spinden received their 10-year service awards and Connie Barry and Trish Paasch were honored with their five-year service award.

Glendy Reaves also received an award for volunteering at Delta Health for one thousand hours, and Glenda Keenan, Carolyn Norris, Trish Paasch, William Pell and Arla Shelton were honored for five hundred volunteer hours of service.

The volunteers started as the "Gray Ladies," at the old hospital that was located on Grand Avenue, and in 1976 when the newer hospital was built on Stafford Lane, Betty Crane created the "Pink Ladies."

"There were 22 members at first," said Margaret Magnum, Delta Health volun-

teer, in a letter written about the history of volunteers in 1994. "We had no telephone, but could give a friendly greeting to all who entered the front door and we helped staff the emergency desk. Gradually we began to staff other departments and when the new addition was built in 1981, volunteers were needed in that area too."

At times, Magnum said the volunteer membership reached 70 people or more. Eventually, the volunteers changed their name from the "Pink Ladies," to "DCMH Volunteers," to be more inclusive of the male volunteers, known as the Red Barons, who had joined.

"Serving as a volunteer at the hospital is a great privilege and we feel that we receive more blessing from what we give than the benefit we are to the hospital," writes Magnum. "We are hoping that those who follow after us will carry on the good work and receive the same joy from a job well done."

The volunteer program at Delta Health is quickly embarking on its 50th anniversary serving the hospital and community and has gone through many changes over the past year due to the pandemic. Despite all of the challenges, the group is hopeful about the future and is looking forward to growing and adapting.

One big change is the transition from the pink smocks of the "Pink Ladies," to a blue smock with an imprint of Delta Health's new logo.

The hospital gift shop is also undergoing inventory changes and is having a fifty percent of sale on all items.

The Delta Health volunteers are currently recruiting for more volunteers to join their organization.

To apply, please contact Anna Campbell, Concierge Manager and Volunteer Liaison by calling 970. 874.6487 or email alcampbell@deltahospital.org.

You can also learn more online at deltahealthco.org/volunteers/.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

SPECTRUM EXHIBITION TO OPEN AT THE WRIGHT OPERA HOUSE

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Spectrum, an exhibition of art from photography to painting will be hosted by the Wright Opera House and the Ouray County Arts Association from Saturday, June 5 to July 2nd.

An Opening Reception will be held at the Wright's Tavern, 472 Main Street, Ouray, on Saturday, June 5 from 4-6pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Current Covid protocols will be followed.

Closing reception, June 30, 4-6pm.

Show participants include:

Loretta Casler of Ridgway who has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Nebraska. Her talents range from graphic arts to watercolor, oils, colored pencil and ink.

Judy Hazen has been creating most of her

life. She spent many years as a botanic illustrator and in retirement enjoys painting faces and animals as well as landscapes and architectural themes.

"My goal is to illuminate the profound beauty of the common in its moment of transcendence" says photographer, Bonnie Heidbrak who has loved, explored and studied photography for over 30 years.

Natalie Heller is inspired by the breathtaking beauty of Southwestern Colorado. Her award winning book of photographs "SWC-Southwest Colorado" as well as framed works can be found in various galleries and bookstores in the area.

Being an avid hiker, Bobbie Johnson, of Ouray, has been exploring the San Juans and beyond for over 50 years. Her watercolors reflect the inspiration she finds wandering her beloved mountains.

Bold southwestern landscapes with dramatic lighting are the dominant theme of award winning pastelist, Barbara Kendrick who has been exploring the four corners region for more than 25 years.

Outdoor enthusiast, Rod Martinez has been named Grand Junction's Photographer of the year for 4 years in a row. He is author of 5 Colorado Mountain Club pack guides including The Best 20 Telluride Hikes.

Austin Ray has been interested in photography since his early teens. He discovered the amazing landscapes and wildlife of the San Juans in 1992 and has been practicing his craft here ever since.

These eight amazing artists invite you to experience their exhibit Spectrum at the Wright Opera House in Ouray, June 5-July 2.

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FAITH COLUMN: DEACON SPEAKIN' WITH DWIGHT HARP



Anglican Deacon Dwight Harp. Courtesy photo.

By Dwight Harp

MONTROSE-This morning I woke to the yawning sounds of my front yard plants. They compared their new growth to that of their neighbor's. New growth indicates the happiness of my garden residents.

New growth doesn't happen just automatically. Well, yes it does; but 'good' new growth requires some caretaking. I harken back to some abandoned orchards a few miles from our last home in NM. God's moisture and all of His goodness kept them alive. They were unkempt, the fruit was awfully small, and the wood was scraggly. The trees were a mess.

My mind immediately traveled back here as I remembered the manicured and thriving orchards in our valley. Those New Mexico orchards required husbandry. Husbandry is a rarely used word but in this instance the most precise word I could find. Those orchards needed overseeing and supervising and handling---all synonyms for husbandry (caring for and attending to...). Contextual use might best define husband- "There's a need to husband his remaining strength."

Pruning, (lots of it) and feeding and watering and weeding and careful pest control highlight some major actions needed for these trees to bear 'good' fruit. When you see thriving fields, know that a farmer knows how to maximize all of God's gifts to the land. Farmers and ranchers husband all God's gifts to the land. 1 Corinthians 3:6 says it best: "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

I have a few favorite historical giants and each one has memorable quotes on particular subjects. Such is the case with Winston Churchill. He had intimate experience with growing things, he stated, "Every garden presents innumerable fascinating problems." With respect to human growth he opined –

"Every day you may make progress. Every step may

be fruitful. Yet there will stretch out before you an ever-lengthening, ever-ascending, ever-improving path. You know you will never get to the end of the journey. But this, so far from discouraging, only adds to the joy and glory of the climb."

Everyday we're offered the opportunity of new growth. Personal new growth, like agricultural new growth doesn't 'just happen.' Personal new growth is a journey, not a destination. My investigation into personal growth found similarity to business growth. That makes some sense but I wish it weren't so much like work. Business plans are work. Planning personal growth is work too.

A personal growth plan requires reflection and self-awareness; lots of it. To decide how to get from A to B and on what areas to focus, you need to know your current location. What are your skills? What does the gap between you and your vision consist of?—What are your internal capabilities (Strengths & Weaknesses) and your external environment (Threats & Opportunities)? Set personal milestones with intermediate goals.

Volumes on this subject fill libraries. Trying to adequately explain self-improvement/personal growth in this space would significantly minimize such a huge and important subject. If it weren't so important, it wouldn't be so important.

Growth, it seems, comes with planning not luck-Rats! Here are some examples of really smart people's ideas about growing one's self:

Personal growth is a process of both understanding yourself and pushing yourself to reach your highest potential. It means always asking yourself who you are becoming and how you plan to get there. All personal growth is caused by change – which can include simply gaining new thoughts by reading, by speaking to others and by learning from the experiences others have had. The most powerful personal growth is caused by us actually experiencing new, unique things – or learning new ideas.

A personal growth plan is -- the process of creating an action plan based on awareness, values, reflection, goal-setting and planning for personal development within the context of a career, education, relationship or for self-improvement.

Study this subject and then start building your own new growth plan. Positive habits might make your journey more profitable. Find new growth supporting habits--shoot for greatness. Greatness doesn't always come from dramatic leaps. Sometimes it comes from small, persistent steps.

A short aside about plans comes from my military side. The best battle plan won't survive the first encounter (with the enemy), but the planning process is critical. Personal growth planning doesn't have to be drudgery. Purposely include happiness in your plan.

Develop a happiness habit. (It takes 21 days to form a habit...only a moment to break it. Focus on one at a time. e.g. Read a paragraph from your bible each morning. Increase your readings as it becomes more comfortable.) Always look at the bright side of life and strive to see the good, funny and positive in everything.

This will help you develop a happy state of mind. Happiness comes from within you, when you do not allow negative thoughts and feelings to fill your mind. Do not let external circumstances decide your happiness for you. Each person grows differently. Experiment! A Chinese proverb puts it this way, "Be not afraid of growing slowly; be afraid only of standing still."

Mark Twain said, "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why."

Continued next pg

DEACON SPEAKIN' WITH DWIGHT HARP From previous pg

Sometimes I hear my Dad voice sage advice. He may have heard it from his Dad. Here's an example, "If it were easy, everyone would do it." It isn't easy.

Let your faith help you in this quest. I find strength to tackle such "self-adjusting" tasks in my faith. The Bible ripples with self-improvement statements. It really is our "Owner's Manual."

Ancient Scriptures stated this way in -- Deuteronomy: "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall

come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. ... "

The prophet Jeremiah said, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it

does not cease to bear fruit."

When Paul was a prisoner in Rome he wrote to the church in Colossae, "Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.

Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

Remember, the biblical ancients were "rooted" (pardon the pun) in the ground. Therefore it makes perfect sense for Jesus to have admonished his followers, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

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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

May 12-MHS Power of Hope Parade, Main Street. 3 p.m.

May 14-FAB Conference & Awards. For, about, and by women. 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Holiday Inn Montrose. Call 970-765-0913 for more information. Hello@ourtownmatters.net

May 15-Celebrate Colorado Public Lands Day by volunteering on trails and picking up trash along the south section of the Uncompahgre River through Montrose from 9 to 11 a.m. on May 15. The cleanup will tackle both sides of the river from Otter Road and Chipeta Lake on the south end through the Rio Grande bridge.

-Wear sturdy shoes – no sandals. Long sleeves, pants and sun hats are recommended. Registration would be appreciated but is not required. <https://www.americanrivers.org/river-cleanup/uncompahgre-river-corridor-cleanup/> Location: Everyone should meet at Ogden Road, just west of Home Depot, to sign in and receive assignments. Google 1340 Ogden Road for directions. Waivers are required; minors must have parental permission.

May 19-Pizza & Politics @ Turn of the Century Saloon, 121 N.Fourth Street, 6 p.m.

May 20-Bike to Work Day- Bike into San Juan Brews on Thursday, May 20, between 7a and 9a to receive a free drip coffee (sponsored by San Juan Brews) and a free breakfast burrito (sponsored by Alpine Bank).

<https://www.facebook.com/events/477885790067864>

May 21-The Montrose High School Baccalaureate will be Friday, May 21 at 4:30 p.m., at Grace Community Church in Montrose (16731 Woodgate Road).

May 26-Full Moon Cruiser Ride- Join MABA at Rotary Park (by Columbine Middle School) for an evening cruiser ride beginning at 6:30p. We will embark on a ride around town and then return to the park where individuals over the age of 21 are able to enjoy non-glass container beverages of choice. The theme is Mustache Ride. <https://www.facebook.com/events/486435319068648>

May 28--The Ridgway Farmers Market will be opening for the 2021 season on Friday, May 28. Located in beautiful Hartwell Park, the market is held every Friday until Oct. 8 from 10AM - 3PM. To learn more about the market and to see a full list of this season's vendors, please visit: www.ridgwayfarmersmarket.com.

June 3- Virtual QPR Suicide Prevention Noon to 1: 30 p.m. This class covers the three steps (question, persuade, refer) that anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. It is based on the QPR Institute's industry-leading approach to suicide prevention. Trainees receive a QPR booklet and wallet card as a review and resource tool that includes local referral resources within one hour before training via email. Limited to 20 people. Register at: <https://www.centermh.org/classes/>

June 5-San Juan Healthcare Foundation Boot Stomp, 5 to 10 p.m. Antler Ridge. Barn dance, BBQ & Live Auction. Tickets \$60 at www.montrosebootstomp.com.

June 5-July 2-Spectrum, an exhibition of art from photography to painting will be hosted by the Wright Opera House and the Ouray County Arts Association from Saturday, June 5 to July 2nd. An Opening Reception will be held at the Wright's Tavern, 472 Main Street, Ouray, on Saturday, June 5 from 4-6pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. Current Covid protocols will be followed. Closing reception, June 30, 4-6pm.

Aug. 28-The Montrose High School Class of 1976 will be holding a 45th class reunion on Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021. Festivities will start at 2pm in the Backyard of the Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 S. Hillcrest Dr. Dinner will be at 5pm by Serving Grace-Catering. Dinner reservations will be \$25 per person. We invite members of other MHS classes, former faculty and staff members to join us. Contact LeAnna Edmonson Spadafora 970-209-3374 or Tracy Allies Harrison 970-249-1418 or check out our FB page "76" for more

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN

At right, Deb captured this image on a recent adventure up Dave Wood Road. "Horsefly Creek is a hidden gem with its pretty sandstone cliffs," she said.



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