



www.scottsprinting.com



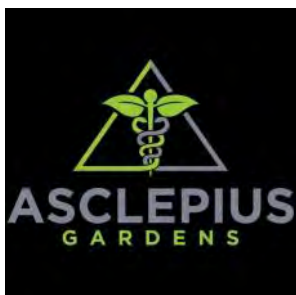
www.alpinebank.com



www.montrosehospital.com



<https://the-res.com/>



<http://www.aclepiusgardens.com/>

the Montrose Mirror

Free News for Fresh People!

Issue No. 434 June 21, 2021

DMEA AWARDS BUSINESS GRANTS @ ANNUAL MEETING



The Fox Theater & Cascade Entertainment in Montrose was one of nine entities, out of approximately 80 applicants, to receive a \$5,000 grant from DMEA's Powering Connections Business Grants. Fox Theater will use their \$5,000 grant award for operating expenses, insurance and general expenses to stay in operation.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE The hour-long Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Annual Meeting, a virtual event, was held on Thursday, June 17. All board members, acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Virginia Harman, and prominent staff participated.

In his opening remarks Board President Bill Patterson said, "We will make a formal vote [on candidates] even though the elections are uncontested."

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, an Invocation and the Quorum report. Board Secretary/Treasurer Brad Harding said, "There are at least 50 properly registered members [in attendance] and we have attained a quorum."

Peak attendance during the virtual meeting totaled 149. The three uncontested board candidates, Bill Patterson, Kyle Martinez and Chris Hauck, were introduced. Patterson said, "This is my final term. We have term limits."

Continued pg 18

CITIZEN QUESTIONS REPAYMENT OF MURA LOANS; BOARD MEMBER FRANK OBJECTS TO TAKING ON FINANCIAL RISK

By Gail Marvel

Background: The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) was formed in late 2016 by a resolution of the Montrose City Council. Generally speaking, the MURA Board oversees the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area and administers the Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding mechanism to finance public infrastructure in the MURA. The property, which covers 158 acres along the river corridor between the Justice Center on the north and West Main on the South, is being developed by the Dragoos' Mayfly Outdoors.

The 10-member MURA board is made up of Montrose City Council (five members), City Manager Bill Bell (Executive Director), Brad Hughes (Montrose County), Chair Tad Rowan (Montrose Fire Protection District), Gayle Johnson (Montrose County School District

Continued pg 11



Range Development Kurt Soukup (center right) does not classify the Multi-Family Phase I Apartments as affordable housing, "But we are trying to bring the price down for employees here. It's a mix of product. We're looking at duplexes along the river, five or six different types of mixes." The apartments should be completed and ready to rent by mid-summer 2022. Photo by Gail Marvel.

in this
issue

American Spice and other Observations from the Road By Paul Arbogast!

BOCC Looks at need for additional airport parking!

City of Montrose Work Session & Regular Meeting!

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

HOTCHKISS IMPLEMENTS STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Special to the Mirror

HOTCHKISS-Due to the drought and extremely dry conditions, The Town of Hotchkiss is implementing Stage 1 Fire

Ban restrictions effective June 18, 2021. THESE RESTRICTIONS WILL START IMMEDIATELY AND REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. The Stage I Restrictions prohibit the following activities in conjunction with the Town of Hotchkiss

Ordinance 2018-04

1) Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, coal or wood burning stove, any type of charcoal fueled broiler or open fire of any type in undeveloped areas, such as vacant lots or open space.

2) Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, in a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable vegetation.

3) Using explosive materials: (i.e.: fireworks, blasting caps or any incendiary device which may result in the ignition of flammable material.)

4) Welding, or operating an acetylene or other similar torch with open flame

5) Operating or using any internal combustion engine without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effective working order.

6) No agricultural burning of any type

Not Just a Better Deal. A Better Dealership!
Montrose Ford-Nissan SINCE 1986!

Make Your Service Appointments Online

ANY Make, ANY Model!

Click <https://www.montrosefordnissan.com/xtime-schedule-service.htm>
Tap or click on any device to schedule your next service appointment live online.

Or, if you'd like to discuss any service-related issue, please call 970-252-3673

The choice is yours - click or call!

We will not be undersold on tires! Backed by Ford's National Network of Dealers

**LOW PRICE
TIRE GUARANTEE**



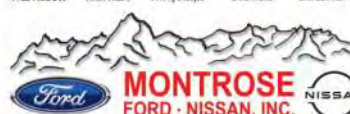
Why buy tires anywhere else, when Montrose Ford offers all of this:

- ☺ 16 major name brand tires
- ☺ 30-day price guarantee
- ☺ All makes and models
- ☺ FREE Alignment Check (with the purchase of your next set of tires)

Valid on dealer-installed retail purchases only. Requires presentation of competitor's current price ad/offer on exact tire sold by dealership within 30 days after purchase. For online quotes, guarantee applies only to new tires sold on retailer websites. Excludes tires sold by third parties on marketplace sites and any resellers. See participating U.S. dealership for details through 12/31/21.

Voted BEST in FIVE different categories!

- BEST New Vehicle Sales
- BEST Used Vehicle Sales
- BEST Oil Change Center
- BEST Tire Center
- BEST Auto Repair



970-252-3673

MontroseFordNissan.com

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado, to a readership of over 15,000 residents of Western Colorado.

Founder and Editor: Caitlin Switzer

Publisher: Paul Arbogast

For additional information and advertising opportunities, please contact:

Editor@MontroseMirror.com

970-275-0646

www.MontroseMirror.com

[www.Facebook.com/MontroseMirror](https://www.facebook.com/MontroseMirror)

[www.Instagram.com/MontroseMirror](https://www.instagram.com/MontroseMirror)

We encourage contributions and commentary. Submitted content may not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher. Copyright © 2010-2021. All rights reserved. Content may not be reprinted, distributed, or re-used without the permission of the publisher.



**MEMBER OF THE
ONLINE NEWS
ASSOCIATION**

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE SECONDARY BIG GAME DRAW

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – Colorado hunters can now apply to draw a license in the Colorado Parks and Wildlife secondary big game draw. The secondary draw is officially live now that the annual primary big game draw results are posted.

The secondary draw is open to everyone, whether they applied for the primary draw or not. Most elk, deer, pronghorn and bear licenses not issued through the primary draw are now made available in the secondary draw.

The secondary draw gives hunters increased opportunities to hunt in the state. The old leftover draw was only available to customers who participated in the primary draw, did not draw, and only offered deer and elk licenses. The secondary draw offers two more species: bear and pronghorn licenses, in addition to deer and elk licenses. Youth hunters also have 100%

preference in the secondary draw. The secondary draw processes all youth application choices prior to processing adult choices. A hunt could be completely drawn by youth before the adult application stage of the draw.

When can I apply?

The secondary draw application period began at midnight on June 16 and is open through 8 p.m. MST, on June 30.

A list of hunt codes eligible for the secondary draw is now posted online.

Any licenses remaining after the secondary draw as well as those which are eligible for public reissue (except for Ranching for Wildlife licenses) will be placed on the leftover list and available for purchase beginning at 9 a.m. MST on Aug. 3.

Applications for both the primary and secondary draws are only available online or by phone.

Identified "unsuccessful options" have

been removed from the draw application process, and over-the-counter unlimited licenses will be available for purchase starting at 9 a.m. on Aug. 6.

What to know before you apply

The \$7 resident and \$9 nonresident application fees apply per species for the secondary draw as well as the primary draw. Hunters can apply for the secondary big game draw without having applied for the primary big game draw and don't use any preference points if they draw a license.

A qualifying license is required. Resident and nonresident hunters must purchase or have purchased one of the following:

2021 annual spring turkey license

2021 annual small game license

2021 annual youth small game license

Qualifying license valid for Colorado residents only include:

2021 annual resident combination small game/fishing license



BEST Of The VALLEY

- Daily Press

19 years RUNNING

2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020...

Commercial Offset & Digital Printing »
black and white, spot color, and full color printing, plus aqueous and UV coating capabilities

Trade Bindery & Finishing »
collating, stapling, folding, trimming, scoring, embossing, die-cutting, perforating, numbering, hole-punching, laminating, ... to name a few

Innovative Screenprinting »
traditional silk screen capabilities from single to seven color designs, plus simulated and 4 color process methods

Custom Digitizing & Embroidery »
in-house digitizing with hundreds of thread colors to choose from, with single-head to multi-head capabilities

Direct-to-Garment Printing »
direct digital printing in thousands of colors on multiple blends of garments

Creative Design & Prepress »
in-house graphic design and prepress department utilizing the latest technologies and software

Promotional Marketing »
ASI® certified distributor with access to thousands of promotional items available to market your brand / idea

Your project. Our priority. We put *it* in print.

315 South 12th Street
Montrose, Colorado 81401
tel 800.211.2038
tel 970.249.2611 | fax 970.249.7068
www.scottsprinting.com
contact@scottsprinting.com

#51 in Printing News' "Top 100" Small Commercial Printers in North America!

TOP 100 SMALL COMMERCIAL PRINTERS 2020
WhatTheyThink PrintingNews

THE ORIGINAL - PREMIUM QUALITY COLORADO PROUD

Scott's PRINTING
COMMERCIAL OFFSET PRINTING

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BIG DEVELOPMENTS WITHOUT CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL

Editor:

It's not true that nearby residents are firmly against development in Hub's location.

At a 2018 meeting with them the developer described HUB as similar to adjacent Spruce Point. Spruce Point is predominantly single-family residences so most of those present were supportive of the described HUB scope. That sentiment turned into opposition

when the project was quietly changed to a huge 500 apartment development. At the Planning Commission HUB hearings on this proposed development the commissioners recommended reduction in its density, compliance with the Comprehensive Plan and compatibility with the surrounding area. These were very reasonable with a very liberal density recommendation of double that imposed upon

Spruce Point (Ordinance 2021) to ensure Spruce Point compatibility with the surrounding area. Regardless of all this, if the developer reverts to what was originally told the community he would likely find some community support. It's ironic at best that the developer's proposed Wood's Crossing project is over 300 single-family homes, which includes some townhouses. No apartments.

Unfortunately the developer has announced proceeding with a huge apartment development on the HUB site via a process that bypasses both Planning Commission and City Council approval processes. This "use by right" approach, combined with the removal of density and feathering guidelines in the revised Comprehensive Plan (Envision 2040), gives developers a green light to build just about anything anywhere in Montrose with little protection for current subdivisions. This is a vivid example of how the Planning Commission and City Council can be made irrelevant regarding large project approval and city growth direction.

That's totally unacceptable as we need them intimately involved. Please ask the City Council to limit the scope of "use by right" developments and also reinstate resident protections found in the 2008 Comprehensive Plan.

Matt Goldasich, Montrose



Spencer Hamner
PA-C

Se habla Español

Spencer Hamner provides safe, sophisticated care featuring:

- Precancer & Cancer Screenings
- Skin, Nail, & Hair Disease Treatment & Management
- Non-Invasive Repair of Damaged Skin
- MOHs Surgeries
- Cosmetic Procedures
- TeleDerm Appointments
- Parking Lot Check-Ins
- Monthly Specials

*Make Integrated Dermatology of Montrose
your skincare destination of choice!*

3480 Wolverine Dr.
Suite F
Montrose, CO 81401

Open M-F 8AM-5PM

Call today at
970-252-7444
or visit us at:

www.IntegratedDermatologyofMontrose.com



OPEN
for Business

**It's
Your
Business!**

Let's Grow Together
Advertise with The Mirror
970-275-0646 editor@montrosemirror.com



7190 1900 RD. • DELTA, CO 81416 • INFO@ASCLEPIUSGARDENS.COM



- Approx. 55 Acres • 4 commercial teaching-grade greenhouses
- Approx. 22,000 sq. ft. equipped with automation, advanced water wall, and engineered ventilation
- Domestic & pond water irrigation capabilities
- 8 commercial shade structures
- Approx. 26,000 sq. ft. with automated overhead irrigation from our pond
- Approx. 1 million-gallon pond fed from the Gunnison River, saturated with solar aeration, and home to our plants' food source of approx. 3,000 well-fed trout. Our unique approach takes this fish-derived nutrient-rich water and delivers it to our plants.
- 10,000 sq. ft. Commercial Retail building (Interior still under construction)
- 720 sq. ft. veggie cool room and display (under construction)
- Approx. 20 acres of gourmet veggies, fruits, and melons planted in raised beds each year and watered with a direct-root delivery soaker system from our pond at up to 1,000 GPM of filtered nutrient-rich pond water.
- Farmers Market, Commercial Retail, and Restaurant-direct veggie supplies
- Farmers Market options this year grown in the field. The general public may shop at our Farmers Market starting this fall, Tues.–Sat.
- We have a small variety of seedlings for sale, however due to construction delays it will be next year before we will have large inventory of vegetable plants available for retail or sales of 4-pack seedlings and mature vegetable plants for sale to the home gardener.
- There is a large variety of direct sown veggies in our massive garden.

- **COVID-SAFE OUTDOOR SHOPPING EXPERIENCE**
- **LARGE GARDEN & FARMERS MARKET IN THE FALL**
- **EMAIL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL ACCOUNT**



WWW.ASCLEPIUSGARDENS.COM (CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

FORMER RIDGWAY PHYSICIAN AGREES TO FORGO PRACTICING MEDICINE AND PAY PENALTY TO RESOLVE ALLEGATIONS THAT HE PRESCRIBED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES WITHOUT A MEDICAL LICENSE

US Attorney District of Colorado

DENVER – Loren D. Sherwood, a former physician at Dave Sherwood Family Medicine in Ridgway, Colorado, has agreed to forgo practicing medicine and pay a penalty to resolve civil allegations that he unlawfully prescribed controlled substances without a medical license in violation of federal law.

Dr. Sherwood's medical license with the State of Colorado expired on April 30, 2017. For nearly nine months after the expiration of his medical license, Dr. Sherwood continued to issue prescriptions for controlled substances. The United States contends that this conduct violated the Controlled Substances Act, which allows only practitioners with a valid professional license to issue prescriptions of controlled substances. The United States further contends that by prescribing controlled substances after his medical license had expired, Dr. Sherwood caused invalid claims for payment to be submitted to the federally funded Medicare Program, in violation of the False Claims Act.

Dr. Sherwood cooperated with the government's investigation of the allegations. To resolve this matter, Dr. Sherwood has agreed to pay \$21,000, over time. If Dr. Sherwood fails to make timely payments under the terms of the agreement, he will be liable for \$40,000. In addition, Dr. Sherwood has also agreed that he will not practice medicine again, will not in the future seek a medical license from Colorado or any other state, and will not in the future seek the reinstatement of his Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") registration number, which has been retired.

"Ensuring that only licensed medical professionals issue prescriptions for controlled substances is critical to protect patients," said Acting U.S. Attorney Matt Kirsch. "It also helps reduce the illegal supply of opioids and other prescription drugs available for abuse."

"The DEA continues its commitment to safeguard the public by investigating those who illegally prescribe controlled substances," said Deanne Reuter, Special

Agent in Charge, DEA Denver Field Division. "I commend the tireless efforts of our Diversion Investigators to ensure that doctors and pharmacists in our communities are abiding by the laws and guidelines set forth for the safe prescribing of medications."

"Violating protocols that are meant to protect patients and Federal health care programs can result in serious penalty that lasts indefinitely, as the outcome of this case proves," stated Curt L. Muller, Special Agent in Charge with the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General. "HHS-OIG regards patient safety and Medicare program integrity as top priorities as we work with our law enforcement partners to detect and deter fraud." This matter was investigated by the DEA's Denver Field Division and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General. This matter was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Andrea Wang on behalf of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado.



Yes, WE'RE
OPEN

**It's Your Business!
Let's Grow Together.
Advertise with
The Montrose Mirror**



JOIN US FOR A
Summertime Frame of Mind

POSITIVE AGING
EXPO

TUESDAY, JUNE 22 / 8AM-1PM

Find great information from vendors concerning positive aging lifestyle options for you and those you care for!

DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS!
\$150 - \$75 & \$25 CITY MARKET CARDS

The Homestead at Montrose, Back Lawn
1819 Pavilion Drive, Montrose



**NATIONAL
SERVICES**



REGION 10 SENIOR
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MULTIPLE JOB OPENINGS, NO FEES **HIRING NOW**

Express Employment Professionals has a variety of positions and zero fees to applicants.

Call, come in, or go online to learn more.

Positions include:

- General Labor
- Construction
- Welding
- CDL Driver

(970) 249-5202

525 East Main Street

Montrose, CO 81401

ExpressPros.com

Express
EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS



MMH EARLY BLOOD DRAW EVENTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) has announced dates for its popular Early Blood Draw events. The dates are as follows:

-Saturday, August 7 – 4H Event Center, Ridgway – 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

-Tuesday, August 10 through Friday, August 13 – Montrose Pavilion – 6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

-Saturday, August 14 – Montrose Pavilion – Appointments only 6:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. and walk-ins allowed from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Offerings include HealthScreen (Chemistry) & Lipid Panel, Hemoglobin A1C, PSA for Prostate Health, Complete Blood Count (CBC), Vitamin D, Vitamin B12, Male Testosterone, Advanced Lipid & Heart Health Panel, and hsCardioCRP. Talk to your provider about which tests may be right for you. To provide for proper social distancing, this year's events will not be featuring the Olathe or "Health Fair" event with informational booths and screenings. The public can expect those features to return to 2022's Early Blood Draw & Health Fair events, which will take place August 2022. This year's events will also require registration to a greater degree, allowing for walk-ins at the Montrose events only on Saturday, August 14 between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Registration opens 12:00 a.m. midnight, the morning of Monday, June 21. Registration will be available online and by phone; more details to come. www.MontroseHospital.com.

249 8500

ANONYMOUS

Download The APP. **P3TIPS** 

**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**

see something, say something



Protect & Grow *Your* Assets

We work with dozens of companies which allows us to find the best prices and plans suited specifically to your family's needs, so you can **get back to more important things in your life.**

We quote through multiple companies at once to save you from the hassle of shopping around.

**We do the leg work for you
with no extra cost to you!**

AUTO, HOME & COMMERCIAL INSURANCE

Building a customized insurance plan that fits your individual situation can help safeguard against disasters, accidents, and help prevent significant financial loss of personal property, financial assets, major medical expenses and much more!

LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance can help financially protect yourself and your loved ones. It can help pay living expenses for your spouse and children, create an inheritance, fund college costs, pay for burial, pay off debts and decrease tax burdens. It can also build cash value which can be used in the future as you choose—a down payment on a home or even income in retirement.

TAXES, BOOKKEEPING & PAYROLL

Whether you are looking for yourself or your company, professional guidance can help eliminate the confusion and overwhelming paperwork associated with your personal and business tax returns, bookkeeping and payroll needs.

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Only offered through
Integrity First Financial Services, LLC

Integrity First Financial Services, LLC utilizes financial strategies that range from investing for growth, income, and even protected strategies. Some clients are comfortable with market volatility while others choose to shield and protect their assets. In most cases we can combine market-based and protected strategies to get the best of both worlds. We work with you to create investment strategies around your criteria.

Achieve peace of mind so you can enjoy this time in your life... We will design the plan that fits you best!
We look forward to working with you. **Please give us a call today.**



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



Michelle Martinez
michelle@skytan.org



Tami Distel
tami@skytan.org



Lisa Martinez
lmartinez@familywealth.us



INTEGRITY FIRST
FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC

303-525-3726
www.integrityfirstfinancialservices.com

PLEASE HELP FIND WENTWORTH!

RIDGWAY-While visiting Ridgway State Park, Brighton Luke of Vermont lost a beloved and very important Teddy bear named Wentworth. Luke dropped Wentworth by accident on the swim beach area at Ridgway State Park during a time a lot of families were around and packing up for the day, he said, and by the time he went back a very short while later, Wentworth was gone. For the past eight years Wentworth has been the mascot for a youth ski team that Luke coaches, and is beloved by all. "I had him with me here in Montrose because I take him everywhere I go so I can get cool pictures of him for the Wentworth calendar I make for the kids every Christmas."

Read more about Wentworth here:

@wentworth_adventurebear [https://](https://www.instagram.com/wentworth_adventurebear/)

[www.instagram.com/](https://www.instagram.com/wentworth_adventurebear/)

[wentworth_adventurebear/](https://www.instagram.com/wentworth_adventurebear/) you can also see lots of photos of him on story highlights labeled Wentworth on Luke's Instagram page @brightonL [https://](https://www.instagram.com/brightonL/)

www.instagram.com/brightonL/

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Welcomes



Andrew M. Hersh, MD

Pulmonologist
Board Certified

Now Accepting New Patients

Medical School

University of Colorado School of Medicine
Aurora, CO

Internship/Residency

University of California Davis, Sacramento, CA
(Internal Medicine)

Fellowship

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
(Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine)

Office

Montrose Lung and Sleep Center
904 South Fourth Street
Montrose, CO 81401
970.252.2753

MONTROSE
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



800 South Third Street, Montrose, CO 81401 970.249.2211 MontroseHospital.com

NOW SERVING BREAKFAST!

Served 7:00-10:30 am

★ Breakfast Sandwich

Egg, Cheese, and Bacon or Sausage on a Bagel, Biscuit, or Toasted Bun

★ Biscuits & Gravy

★ French Toast Sticks w/ Syrup (3- or 5-pc.)

★ Toasted Bagel w/ Cream Cheese

★ Tater Tots

★ Coffee • Milk • Orange Juice



646 E MAIN ST • MONTROSE

970-249-0825

MON-SAT • 7AM-8PM

(CLOSED SUNDAYS)

CRASHBURGER.COM

AMERICAN STYLE BURGERS

CITIZEN QUESTIONS REPAYMENT OF MURA LOANS; BOARD MEMBER FRANK OBJECTS TO TAKING ON FINANCIAL RISK From pg 1

RE-1J) and Mark Plantz (Special Districts Representative). The six-member city constituency hold the controlling interest and actions of the MURA Board.

The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) June 16, 2021 Meeting

For the June 16 meeting, with the exception of City Councilman Anthony Russo, all board members were present. A few members of the public were in attendance; however, resident Jim Anderson was the only person to ask if he could address the board.

Board Chair Tad Rowan opened the meeting with introductions, the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call and approval of the minutes from the May 19, 2012 meeting.

Anderson was given five-minutes to address the board and prior to his comments he passed out copies of his written questions/observations and a sample of what he described as a boilerplate promissory note.

Addressing the promissory note Anderson said, "I had an opposition attorney look at this for me. If the board has looked at this, they should be worried. There was [previous promissory note for] \$800,000, now you're looking at \$1.3 million. Basically, it's almost a cash payment. There is no payback to the water fund. It's not secured. All payments are applied to principal and interest. When and how is this going to be paid back? There are no terms and conditions. Where are the taxpayer protections? Can this be paid back? The MURA board has no assets. If you haven't looked five or 10 years down the road, it's over."

Addressing what he described as a sidebar issue, Anderson said, "The economic development trick. [Developers say] if you don't give us what we want we're going to go someplace else, or we're going to leave and go to another property. Inexperienced people don't know how to handle it. There is disrespect that is shown to our community. There is disrespect to our employees and their families."

Anderson's five minutes expired.

MURA SOUTHERN MULTI-FAMILY/PHASE I APARTMENTS HOUSING PROJECT - Project Update - Kurt Soukup, Range Develop-



On June 16, 2021 the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) held their monthly board meeting. Resident Jim Anderson (far left) addressed the board and expressed concern over the board's consideration of a \$1,367,000 loan for construction of horizontal site improvements associated with the MURA Southern Multi-Family Phase I Apartments Housing Project. Photo by Gail Marvel.

ment and Scott Murphy, City Engineer.

Soukup said, "These are very challenging times to go to the banks and price out the value of our loan. It was \$12 million and now it's about \$15 million. The design submitted to the city is the most recent update."

Referring to supply chain issues he said, "We are keeping the price as low as we can, but you order an air conditioner and it's not there; you order a dishwasher, and it's not there. July 15th we'll start our foundation, when the civil [engineering] work is completed by Scott. It will be 11-months of construction. We'll be in them by May next year and renting in June, July and August."

Soukup does not classify his apartments as affordable housing, "But we are trying to bring the price down for employees here. It's a mix of product. We're looking at duplexes along the river, five or six different types of mixes."

With the increase construction cost, board member Brad Hughes asked Soukup

about an increase in the cost of rent for one- and two-bedroom apartments. Soukup said, "We will be pricing that out. The cost changed dramatically since the rent study. We will have it priced out so it is fully occupied." Hughes suggested it could be \$1,300 a month for a one-bedroom and \$2,000 for a two-bedroom. Soukup said, "My model is near \$1,600. Banks are funding us on these levels."

Executive Director Bill Bell said, "Eleven hundred to \$1,300 is what we were looking at based on the income in our community."

Soukup referenced his developments in Georgetown and Woodland Park. He said, "In Georgetown we are full [occupancy] and there is a waiting list of 600 people."

Anderson attempted to question the developer about the comparisons of Georgetown and Woodland Park to the Montrose community. MURA Chair Tad Rowan reminded Anderson that at that particular moment in the meeting, the discussion was just for the board, not for

Continued next pg

CITIZEN QUESTIONS REPAYMENT OF MURA LOANS; BOARD MEMBER FRANK OBJECTS TO TAKING ON FINANCIAL RISK From previous pg

public comment.

City Engineer Scott Murphy used a photo PowerPoint presentation to update the board on the physical progress made on the project. He said, "COVID being COVID, we've had supply chain issues. We are still on schedule."

Consideration of Tax Increment Financing Promissory Note - Scott Murphy, City Engineer and William Bell, Executive Director.

Addressing citizen Anderson's comments at the beginning of the meeting, Bell said, "A promissory note is not a development agreement. Our agreement is 96 [apartment] units will be completed by December 2023. That is the performance measurement. Today we are just talking about the promissory note. It is a different situation in the URA. Revenue is generated over time. You can't say repayment will be done at a certain time. Housing is a loss [in revenue] for the URA; hotel and office space generate revenue."

Bell expounded on the vision for housing. He said, "The City council felt we wanted to get involved in workforce housing in the URA. The second big [housing] project is the HUB. We are not [no longer] looking for more housing, but for more retail."

Hughes said, "Why do we need to approve this now? The hotel needs to be successful. Why wouldn't we wait until the hotel starts in late Spring? Why wouldn't the developer pay and then we reimburse him?"

Bell explained the horizontal development was approved in the past and this is just the promissory note.

He said, "The costs are starting now and the work is being done. This is already in the works."

The board approved, "Tax Increment Financing Anticipatory Loan in the amount of \$1,367,000.00 for construction of horizontal site improvements associated with the MURA Southern Multi-Family Phase I Apartments Housing Project and based on the development agreement entered into on January 21, 2020 for the project."

GENERAL DISCUSSION RELATED TO MURA FINANCING STRATEGIES - Executive Director William Bell.

Bell began by stating how the MURA project was structured. He said, "We had six years of reserve funds in the water fund and we saw an opportunity to take money from Montrose for Montrose. Rather than go to an outside source and increase debt, we are loaning money to ourselves. This makes us a little unique. Other communities are [now] following our example and putting their county assessor on their boards." Board member Brad Hughes is the elected Montrose County Assessor.

Bell continued, "The water fund surplus and a little general fund is what finances the project. The URA can float a bond, but you have to do a lot of analytics and all projects need to be ready to go. We had the ability, but now we are pretty tapped out in our water fund. We'd like to stop loaning money from the water fund. We [the city] are at a point we just can't loan money."

Bell explained a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program where the up-front money is on the developer. He said, "We were just getting started and we wanted our developers to put their money into vertical development, rather than horizontal development [landscaping, roads, sidewalks]."

Board member Dave Frank said, "With Phase I and II we are fairly solid. There is more risk after that. We do not want to put ourselves at financial risk."

Hughes said, "There are six projects listed in the next 16 months. I'm talking about the horizontal site improvements. To me this is a private property improvement. That's your private improvement on your saleable property. There is too much risk." David Dragoo, Mayfly Outdoors, gave the board an update on the Wedge Brands/Flex Industrial project.

He said, "It's about 45 percent done. The second building has gone up. We are not immune to price increases. The Wedge project is 77,000 square feet. On July 22nd

Colorado Yurt will have a groundbreaking and BBQ. It will be 12-14 months construction. We're on track." Dragoo indicated he has been in contact with the hotel investors/builders and they will start as soon as they can get subcontractors.

Bringing the discussion back to future financing Frank said, "I would like to see three or four types of scenarios for repayment on upcoming projects."

Dragoo said, "We would rather pay the city than a bonding company."

Councilwoman Barbara Bynum said, "You can pay a ton of fees if you go out and borrow money."

Hughes said, "There is a risk with water funds."

Mark Plantz said, "A bonding company is not going to give it to us unless it is sound. There is some comfort there."

Dragoo said, "There are a lot of ways to skin a cat. The county always gets paid [property tax] no matter what."

Bell said, "We are in the fourth year of a 25-year project, so I'm not too concerned. It's a good return. I don't get too worried when I look at it long range. With HUB the city is willing to help with workforce housing. It's a 40-year payback. We want to take that risk. In the old comp plan [comprehensive plan] the developer has to pay their own way. They won't pay. There is a lot of due diligence. We don't just hand over our money."

The board agreed to look at three or four types of financing strategies and for comparison, apply each one to the Colorado Mayfly Flex project.

At the conclusion of business Chair Tad Rowan ask for discussion on having public comment.

He said, "We don't want to discourage public comment, but it's not good to have the meeting disrupted. We need a good structure."

The group agreed that in the future citizens would have three-minutes for public comment on non-agenda items.

The next MURA meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2021.

IN THE AREA: 6.21.21-REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Most Areas

State 1 Fire Restrictions have been enacted in most nearby areas. Please confirm fire restrictions before outdoor burning of any type.

Crested Butte

The Town of Crested Butte has purchased the Ruby Bed & Breakfast for \$2.3 million to be used as affordable housing for residents. The Bed & Breakfast has six rooms.

Durango

A 38-foot RV towing a sedan became stuck on Lime Creek Road (from the north) and remained there for almost a week until it was able to be towed out. The driver was attempting to access Lime Creek Campground. This road is best for high clearance vehicles without anything in tow.

Lake City

Engineer Pass and Cinnamon Pass are open for the year. Please confirm you have proper equipment before navigating these routes.

Paonia

The BLM Uncompahgre Field Office has

begun pre-scoping to consider the formalizing of the mountain bike trail network on Jumbo Mountain. The BLM is looking to participate in the collaborative process with the public. More information is at <http://ow.ly/F00G50F9QWg>.

Silverton

On May 18 the Town of Silverton adopted an Ordinance that prohibits OHVs on streets, alleys and rights of way within Silverton. This was to be effective June 20. However, on June 8 a Referendum for the ordinance was found sufficient by the Town of Silverton Clerk.

The ban will not be in effect this year and Silverton is working to provide better signage/routing for OHVs in town which includes the blue stripe down the main drag of Greene Street.

The popular hiking trail of Ice Lakes and Island Lake is closed until late September due to last fall's fire. No access is allowed to the Ice Lakes Trail, South Mineral Campground, or Clear Lake.

Telluride

Last year the city of Telluride converted



The Town of Crested Butte has purchased the Ruby Bed & Breakfast for \$2.3 million to be used as affordable housing for residents. The Bed & Breakfast has six rooms. Courtesy photo.

Colorado Avenue through Downtown into a one-way street with the other lanes of traffic to be used for communal outdoor dining to help their restaurants during the Covid Pandemic. This year they have modified the outdoor dining. The restaurants on the main drag are all eligible for outdoor parklets.

Each restaurant paid for and built their parklet while the city of Telluride did not require any permits.

Don't let an untrained "professional" top your shade trees



PROFESSIONAL ARBORIST • TRIMMING & PRUNING • TREE & STUMP REMOVAL • FULL-SERVICE TREE COMPANY



**When you want the BEST
Call Greg at 970-209-8560**

YOU LET A LOT OF STUFF **S L I D E** WHEN YOU'RE A PARENT

They jump out of trees. Sail their bikes over ramps. Slide down staircases. They're just being kids. But when it comes to their health, you want the best care possible.



PEDIATRICS

296 STAFFORD LN, STE. B
DELTAHEALTHCO.ORG

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
970.546.4000



COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO SHOOTING RANGE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FUND SIX SHOOTING RANGES



Special to the Mirror

DENVER — Colorado Parks and Wildlife has awarded \$1,538,733 to six shooting ranges across Colorado through the agency's [Shooting Range Development Grant Program](#) (SRDG).

The funds will go toward developing new shooting ranges and to upgrade existing ranges.

SRDG supports the establishment, improvement and expansion of safe shooting facilities in Colorado and is one of the largest shooting range programs in the nation. Since 2010, SRDG has awarded more than \$6.3 million in funding toward 75 shooting and archery projects across Colorado.

The program's funds come from federal excise taxes generated by the sale of hunting and shooting equipment, in addition to funds generated through donations made through specialty hunting and fishing license plates.

Local partners in the projects also commit at least 25 percent in matching funds for project work.

Each year, SRDG maximizes its impact by providing matching grants to towns, counties, outdoor recreation organizations, shooting clubs, parks and recreation departments and others.

These projects establish, improve or expand shooting ranges and shooting areas -

including archery ranges - throughout the state. The six projects approved for funding this year include more than \$750,000 in local matching funds.

CPW's SRDG coordinator Jim Guthrie said, "We're investing sportsperson dollars into shooting range facilities, plus really leveraging those dollars. And with Colorado's growing population, the need for safe, accessible ranges continues to rise. The SRDG program is a critical program to help meet that demand."

Guthrie said there are some particularly noteworthy projects funded this year, including construction of a new public range adjacent to the Boulder Rifle Club and a new range just west of Idaho Springs. "Finding sites for shooting ranges is always a challenge. Both ranges are remarkable opportunities for recreational shooters in the Denver metro area."

Boulder Rifle Club

CPW Area Wildlife Manager Jason Duettsch said the Boulder Rifle Club grant "will fund the initial construction of a new range to build out and provide more public opportunity in the future. It's the Boulder Rifle Club and Colorado Parks and Wildlife working together with Boulder County to provide more opportunities for Front Range shooters to go practice with their firearms in a safe, organized setting. And it will be a major facility to alleviate some of the impact of shooting currently occurring on heavily used U.S. Forest Service property in the area."

Clear Creek County Shooting Range

CPW Area Wildlife Manager Mark Lamb said Clear Creek County will develop an existing shooting range next to the county fairgrounds.

"The range will include 100-yard, 50-yard and 25-yard ranges, providing opportunities for a variety of shooters, including hunters keeping their accuracy and skills good for the fall," he said. Gilpin County is also a major partner in the project.

Shooting sports make an economic impact.

In the United States, the economic impact of the sporting arms and ammunition industry totals more than \$42 billion and creates more than 263,000 jobs.

The Pittman-Robertson excise tax manufacturers pay on the products they sell is a major source of wildlife conservation funding in Colorado and nationwide. Colorado Parks and Wildlife directs a portion of its Pittman-Robertson funding to the shooting range program.

Additional funding is provided through annual voluntary registration fees on specialty "hunting and fishing" license plates. Shooting Range Development Grants awarded in 2021 include:

Southeast Region

Pikes Peak Gun Club, Colorado Springs
Bunker trap machines, sporting clays electronic controller, shelters, access road improvements

\$144,700

Gold Camp Shooting Sports Center, Teller County

Berm improvements on 25-yard range, road and fire mitigation work

\$59,062

Northeast Region

Logan County Shooting Range, Sterling
Shade shelters and firing lines on 300-yard range

\$70,500

Boulder Rifle Club

Construction of new 25, 50 and 100-yard ranges

\$375,000

Clear Creek County Range, Idaho Springs
Development of a new public range, including 45 shooting lanes, berm safety improvements and erosion control and a range building.

\$860,000

Southwest Region

Delta Trap Club

Electrical



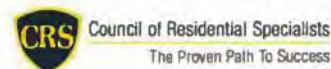
1105 S. 5th. St.

This tri-level condo is close to schools, library, hospital and shopping. This unit has great rental potential! 2 spacious bedrooms upstairs with full bathroom, main floor has living room, kitchen and dining area. Slider that lends itself to fenced back yard with shed for additional storage. The downstairs as an additional family room and another bedroom with a 3/4 bathroom. Many windows have been changed. This is an end unit that has brick exterior and metal roof. HOA monthly includes water/sewer/trash and lawn maintenance and snow removal. Seller is including \$2500 seller concessions to go towards any home or appliance upgrade or closing costs. This is the best deal in Montrose right now so quickly come view this property!

\$177,500 MLS# 782954

Michelle Klippert | CRS, GRI, SFR, SRES, ABR
Broker/Owner
Cell: 970-275-3016
MichelleKlippertRealtor@gmail.com

The Real Estate Store
500 E. Main St Montrose CO 81401
Office: 970-249-7653
www.The-Res.com



Experienced, Educated, Certified, Smart



The following certifications can be found at The Real Estate Store:

- Certified Residential Specialist (CRS)
- Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI)
- Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES)
- Resort & Second Home Property Specialist (RSPS)
- At Home with Diversity Certified (ATWD)
- Short Sales and Foreclosure Resource Certified (SFR)
- REO Certified (REO)
- Certified Pricing Strategy Advisor (PSA)
- GREEN Certified (GREEN)
- Military Relocation Professional (MRP)
- Accredited Buyers Repetitive (ABR)
- Seller Representative Specialist (SRS)

Wouldn't you feel more comfortable using a broker with both the education and experience for your Real Estate Transaction?

Personal, Professional, Property Brokers

500 E. Main St. Montrose, Co 81401
(970)249-SOLD (7653) Office
www.the-RES.com

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT WILL IMPROVE OUR DEMOCRACY

Editor:

The For the People Act, also known as HR1 and S1, will improve our democracy by making our election system more free, fair, and accessible to all Americans. This legislation will restore the Voting Rights Act, provide automatic voter registration and same day registration, eliminate dark money in our elections, end gerrymandering, and restore transparency in our government. League of Women Voters of the Uncompahgre Valley (LWVUV, former of

Montrose County) joins with organizations and businesses around the country in our enthusiastic support of the For the People Act.

We are fortunate to live in Colorado where we have easy access for voter registration and voting. Our County Clerks in Delta, Montrose, and Ouray ensure we have secure elections. Thanks to the passage of Amendments Y and Z to the State Constitution in 2018 we have independent redistricting committees currently deline-

ating Congressional and State legislative districts. As an organization with a mission of empowering voters and defending democracy, the LWVUV is proud to support legislation that does the same.

The US House passed the For the People Act in early March. The LWVUV thanks Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper for being cosponsors and calls upon Representative Boebert to support this transformative bill. The For the People Act puts the power of our elections back in the hands of the American people. It deserves support from all members of Congress. Call your Representative and Senators and tell them how important this package of reforms is to the future of our democracy. Urge them to hold a Senate hearing on the For the People Act. Insist they show their dedication to the freedom to vote and vote in favor of the For the People Act.

This legislation enshrines into law what all Americans know: that everyone deserves an equal voice in our democracy. The For the People Act is a huge step forward for democracy, one that the LWVUV strongly supports.

The LWVUV, serving Delta, Montrose, and Ouray counties, is a member of the LWV of Colorado and the LWV of the United States. The LWV is a nonpartisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any candidates or political parties. Freedom to vote is a non-partisan issue.

Thank you,
Carol Howe,
Vice-President, League of Women Voters
of the Uncompahgre Valley

2,100 Sq. Ft., 4-Bed, 2-Bath Remodeled & Updated Home
Open concept, access to backyard/patio with room to garden, privacy fence, lots of space and storage, irrigation water.



LISTING PRICE
\$458,000

MLS#781356
783 ORCHARD RD., MONTROSE



THE BOREN TEAM, DARRELL & JULIA
970-768-3399 • 970-380-3783
1425 Hawk Park, #4 • Montrose, CO

DAVID KIENHOLZ
970-209-1430
NORRIS-SNELL.COM



LISTING PRICE
\$159,000



MLS#779392
306 W. MAIN, MONTROSE

Flex Property: Retail or Office on Large 50'x129' Lot
Can build on back of lot (residential/business), low-maintenance exterior. Great value for price range! Terms negotiable.



DMEA AWARDS BUSINESS GRANTS @ ANNUAL MEETING From pg 1

DMEA Attorney Jeff Hurd conducted the election. Hurd said, "Like last year, for the second year in a row, all seats were uncontested." One hundred nine registered members voted online, with 92 percent attendees voting "yes" and eight percent "abstaining."

President's Report

Patterson voiced appreciation for the work of the DMEA employees, the staff, and his fellow board members. Patterson highlighted the co-op's accomplishments over the last year, as well as the continued growth in Elevate. Patterson said, "We do not anticipate a [DMEA] rate increase in 2022."

CEO Report

Acting CEO Harman said, "We're looking forward to getting back to in-person [annual] meetings. We have 29,038 members and 103 employees. We really appreciate our Operation Engineering Team. Thirty-four percent of all DMEA outages are caused by trees. This year 488 trees were removed and 1,187 were trimmed. Twenty percent of our outages are related to vehicles, cars hitting poles or snagging a

line."

Powering Connections Business Grant Recipients

Previously DMEA budgeted approximately \$30,000 for an in-person annual meeting. However, because of the uncertainty of COVID, it was decided to continue with a virtual meeting for 2021. Communications and Marketing Manager Becky Mashburn introduced the Powering Connections Business Grant Recipients. She said, "We were trying to find a way to support the community with the annual meeting budget."

The grants were awarded to deserving businesses hit hard by the pandemic. More than 80 applications were submitted and from those applications nine area entities were selected to receive grant awards totaling \$35,000.

- Creative Corner, Montrose - \$3,000
- Olathe True Value Hardware Olathe - \$3,000
- Paonia Laundromat, Paonia - \$3,000
- Fox Theater & Cascade Entertainment, Montrose - \$5,000
- Black Canyon Motel, Montrose - \$5,000

- Guru's Restaurant, Montrose - \$5,000
- Surface Creek Valley Historical Society, Pioneer Town, Cedaredge - \$3,000
- Ollie's Ice Cream, Paonia - \$3,000
- Ladybugs Daycare, Montrose - \$5,000

Member Comments:


The DMEA staff and Board of Directors fielded 18 member comments submitted online. Questions ranged from wanting to know what percentage of power from coal generation was purchased by Guzman, to the Elevate build-out area and how soon it will reach underserved areas.

Door Prize Winners


DMEA concluded the meeting by giving out more than \$3,000 in gift cards to local businesses as door prizes. Names were drawn from members who registered for the meeting. The winners will receive their gift cards in the mail.

Future Meetings

At 2 p.m. on June 22 there will be an Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors (election of officers). Following the Organizational Meeting, at 3 p.m., the Board will hold their Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.



SHANE COPELAND
Customer Engagement
Specialist



970VIP
Elevate to the Peak of Savings

970-417-1516
Shane@970VIP.com
www.970vip.com

Home of the \$30,000/Year Revenue Generator!

Subscribers		Avg Purchase		Increased # Visits/Year		Total Revenue Result
1,000	X	\$5	X	6	=	\$30,000
1,000	X	\$10	X	3	=	\$30,000
1,000	X	\$20	X	1.5	=	\$30,000
1,000	X	\$30	X	1	=	\$30,000
-----	X	-----	X	---	=	\$-----

Anticipated Investment of \$3600/Yr. or \$299/Mo. = \$30,000 Revenue or 733% Return On Your Investment!

Would you invest \$299/mo. to get \$2500+/mo. revenue increase?
Kind of a no-brainer, right?

ITS ALL DONE-FOR-YOU (like hiring a Marketing Specialist & being able to utilize a complete Digital Loyalty & Text Message Marketing System) for only \$299/month or \$10/day!

IS YOUR BUSINESS READY FOR THE REVENUE GENERATOR?

CALL/TEXT 970-417-1516 now to schedule your 30-minute demo & presentation!

OR keep doing what you're doing and expecting different results!

Contact Us
Today!

MOBILE HOME PARKS MAY GET A REFRESH



Mirror staff report

Photo by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—One of Montrose's oldest mobile home communities, the San Juan Mobile Home Park, above, is one of several local parks that may soon find new life thanks to new ownership. The City of Montrose Planning Commission Agenda of June 9 included an application to rebuild, repair, replace, and reconfigure three mobile home parks (Cottonwood Mobile Home Park, San Juan Mobile Home Park, and Green Acres Mobile Home Park) to create additional residential units and improve public health and safety for existing and future residents. The proposal, which is expected to come before City Council in coming weeks, could bring big changes to the uptown neighborhood.



MEDC 2021 Annual Meeting Luncheon!



Keynote Speaker:
Jay Lindell

Retired Air Force Major General

Aerospace & Defense Industry Champion
Colorado Office of Economic Development & International

\$30 Investors - \$35 Non-Investors

RSVP by June 11, 2021:

patriciac@MontroseEDC.org or (970) 249-9438

June 24, 2021 (Thursday) - Montrose Pavilion

1800 E. Pavilion Place, Montrose, CO 81401

Be a sponsor of the "Networking Event of the Year!"

Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch & Program 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Catered by the Stone House

Thank You to our Sponsors!



AERIAL FIREFIGHTING COMPANY HOPES TO MOVE HQ TO MONTROSE

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On Monday, June 14, 2021, Atlantic Aviation was the site for a three-hour meet and greet for CO Fire Aviation. Local leaders, pilots and elected officials turned out to meet co-owners Kyle Scott and Chris Doyle and to learn about their vision for expanding CO Fire Aviation. The aerial firefighting company hopes to move their headquarters from Fort Morgan, CO to Montrose.

Founded in 2014, the stated mission of CO Fire Aviation is, “To always provide our customers with the most effective, efficient, professional, and safe aerial firefighting service possible.”

CO Fire Aviation is a Colorado company that engages in wildland fire suppression operations in high-risk and unpredictable environments. The company embraces the four components of a Safety Management System (SMS) — policy, risk management, assurance, and promotion.

For this economic development opportunity, Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is the point of contact. Since last year MEDC has worked with the aerial firefighting company and in turn, MEDC is working with the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to make the relocation to Montrose a reality. MEDC Executive Director Sandy Head said, “This would be an amazing asset for our region!”

When asked about community support given to CO Fire Aviation, firefighting company co-owner Kyle Scott said, “The community is very accommodating and Sandy [MEDC] is encouraging. They keeping things moving and we are making good contacts.”

When asked if any State, county or city incentives have been offered, Scott said, “Not that we know of yet. We could be anywhere in Colorado and Fort Morgan would like to keep us, but we are out of space there. If we stayed, we would have to build [hangars].”

According to MEDC data, the job impact for Montrose is 30 – 40 jobs and within five years the potential for 92 employees. The payroll impact for 40 jobs, with the average salary of \$71,000, is \$2,840,000.

The site under consideration for the relo-



Colorado House of Representatives Marc Catlin meets with CO Fire Aviation co-owner Kyle Scott. Photo by Gail Marvel.

cation of CO Fire Aviation is the former Jet Away building. The property, located in the Aerospace Research Park, has airplane hangars and was granted irrevocable airport access in perpetuity. However, the property has been denied airport access for the last 12 years.

CO Fire Aviation co-owner Chris Doyle said, “The property is a good fit for us and we can fill up the hangar space portion now, but we are still expanding. I can see the possibility of building another hangar. Moving forward there are no major roadblocks, but there are a few things to work through. Being on the Western Slope puts us closer to where our planes work. It’s a good central location. We are motivated to move, so that is not an obstacle.”

Meeting attendee Mike Anderson, retired Boeing VP and Navy F-18 Fighter Pilot, said, “This capability is badly needed on the Western Slope. Montrose is the perfect site. Landowners will feel more comfortable with fire season happening more frequently. What it brings to Montrose is another business and it should not be ignored by the county or the city.”

A Montrose resident since 1961 and re-

tired pilot, Tim Heavers said, “We need to support this. The last five years we have had local [firefighting] training in our area. This organization supports that. It’s a great opportunity to utilize the facility that has been setting empty all these years. The projection of 35 [new] workers is a big impact. I hope the county will support it.”

During the meet and greet Heavers, a member of the Montrose County Airport Advisory Board, served in the capacity of airport security. Elected officials who attended the event included Colorado State Senator Don Coram, Colorado House of Representatives Marc Catlin and Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hanson.

Once there is a clear path for CO Fire Aviation to relocate to Montrose, the transition would have to work around the demands on the organization. Scott said, “Summer would be a better time to move, but that depends on demands [fires].” Currently the organization has 42 employees. Scott said, “They come from all over the country to work during the fire season. We will have six or seven families that will move here, but we will also hire some locals.”



Brad Hughes, MAI
Montrose County Assessor
June 17, 2021

Senior Citizen Exemption application deadline is July 15, 2021

Disabled Veteran Exemption application deadline is July 1, 2021

Property Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens and Disabled Veterans

A property tax exemption is available to senior citizens, qualifying disabled veterans, and surviving spouses of previously qualified senior citizens and disabled veterans. For those who qualify, 50 percent of the first \$200,000 in actual value of their primary residence is exempted. The State of Colorado pays the exempted portion of the property tax. Once approved, the exemption remains in effect for future years, and the applicant should not re-apply. The General Assembly may eliminate funding for the Senior Citizen or Disabled Veteran Exemptions at their discretion in any year that the budget does not allow for the reimbursement. Application requirements are as follows:

Senior Citizen Exemption

The exemption is available to applicants who meet the following three (3) requirements: (a) are at least 65 years of age as of January 1, 2021, (b) owned their home for at least 10 consecutive years as of January 1, 2021, and (c) occupied it as their primary residence for at least 10 consecutive years as of January 1, 2021. Limited exceptions to the ownership and occupancy requirements are detailed in the qualifications section of the application. **The application deadline is July 15, 2021.** The application form is available online at www.montrosecounty.net/assessor or applications can be picked up and returned to the:

Montrose County Assessor's Office
320 South 1st Street Rm 9
P. O. Box 1186
Montrose, CO 81402
Phone: 970-249-3753

Disabled Veteran Exemption

The exemption is available to applicants who: (a) sustained a service-connected disability while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, (b) were honorably discharged, and (c) were rated by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs as having a 100% permanent disability through disability retirement benefits. Disabilities rated at less than 100% and VA unemployability awards do not meet the requirement. The applicant must have owned and occupied the home as his or her primary residence as of January 1 of the year of application; however, limited exceptions to the ownership and occupancy requirements are detailed in the eligibility requirements section of the application. **The application deadline is July 1, 2021.** Application forms are available from the Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs (DMVA) at the address and telephone number shown below and from the website of the Colorado Division of Property Taxation at www.dola.colorado.gov/dpt. Completed applications should be submitted to the DMVA at the following address:

Colorado Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Division of Veterans Affairs
482 28 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Telephone: 970-257-3760 Fax: 970-245-0782
wros@dmva.state.co.us
vets.colorado.gov

Disabled Veteran Surviving Spouse Exemption

The exemption is available to surviving spouses of disabled veterans who had the disabled veteran exemption and who passed away prior to January 1 of the current year. The property must be owner occupied and used as the primary residence of an owner-occupier who is the surviving spouse of a qualifying disabled veteran. **The application deadline is July 1, 2021.** The application is available from the DMVA or the county assessor of the county in which the property is located, and must be returned to the county assessor.

FEATURED LISTING



2558 Balsam Court

When it's time to slow down the best way is to have a lovely home with no yard work. That's what this townhome is offering to you. Let the HOA take care of the yard you take care of doing what you want. Here is your opportunity to own a very well kept home with newer carpeting, and an additional living space for office, crafts or whatever your heart desires. The kitchen has an additional workspace with the center island, pantry and lots of cabinet space. Location matters and this home is located near the pavilion, shopping, medical, walking trails, golf course and the Recreation center. Opportunities like this don't last long. Don't wait and miss this. \$323,000 MLS#782326

Leslie Gore

CRS, GRI, SRES, SFR

(970)275-3195

lesliegorerealtor@gmail.com



www.the-res.com
Office: 970-249-7653
500 E. Main St.
Montrose, Co 81401

I AM YOUR PSA

AS A PRICING STRATEGY ADVISOR (PSA), I AM DEDICATED TO PROVIDING EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE, AND WILL ADVOCATE FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE READY TO SELL YOUR HOME.



Michelle Keltz

Associate Broker

Cell: (970)901-9159

michellekletz5@gmail.com



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

REGISTERED VOTERS FROM ALL PARTIES SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT SECRETARY OF STATE'S RULING

Editor,

On Thursday June 17th, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold issued a message on her Twitter account stating "My office has just issued rules prohibiting sham election audits in the State of Colorado. We will not risk the state's election security nor perpetuate The Big Lie. Fraudits (her spelling) have no place in Colorado." She has gone on to state in an official press release that "Colorado's elections are considered the safest in the nation." *Registered voters from all parties* should be concerned with her ruling given the number of states whose election results have been called into question since November 3, 2020. If Colorado's election procedures and reporting are safe, secure

and beyond reproach, then one would expect that she would welcome any chance to prove it so. One needs to ask what prompts her decision to issue this ruling at this time, and is this ruling in the best interest of the citizens of Colorado? Is her ruling even constitutional? Is there something to hide? And here's a question we should all be asking our elected officials at the state level to gain a better understanding of how our system works - why does *one person* have the power to adopt emergency rules for voting systems without going through our legislature?

Taxpayers and business owners are fully subject to many types of audits by the State of Colorado – sales tax audits, unemployment audits, income tax audits, etc.

Why should this state agency be exempt from an audit which could verify her assertion that "Colorado's elections are considered the safest in the nation?" I am inclined to believe that most taxpayers would consider any audit costs to be a worthy expenditure of their hard-earned tax dollars.

This is not a partisan issue - the continuation of our Republic ultimately lies in the integrity of each state's election results and we need to make sure that Colorado is counting every *legal* vote correctly.

In a quote often credited to Joseph Stalin, "Those who vote decide nothing. Those who count the vote decide everything."

Sincerely,

Lois Hogan, Montrose

GORGEOUS 360-DEGREE VIEWS SET THE STAGE FOR THIS REMARKABLE HOME.
Stunning modern styling meets a relaxing spa-like atmosphere with exquisite finishes.

69220 Orion Trail
Montrose, CO 81401



5 Beds/5 Baths • 3,889 Sq. Ft.

\$999,000

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.



This Property Brought to You by:
TWYLA RIGHTER
C: 626-644-9070
twylarightright@gmail.com
eXp Realty, LLC

MLS# 773282



YOU ARE COLORADO

So are we!



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!



Alpine Bank

INDEPENDENCE • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY • LOYALTY

ALPINEBANK.COM • MEMBER FDIC

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

COMMUNITY MUST HAVE A SAY IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Montrose City Council,

Some in the Montrose community may believe that the neighbors near the HUB project, including Cobble Creek, Spruce Point, Chipeta Drive and Chipeta Point, are against any development in that area. That is simply not true.

The majority of those residents were willing to support the developers original vision for the HUB project. That vision, as was specifically spelled out by the developer in a meeting held 2018 with nearby residents, was that his development would be similar to the existing and adjacent Spruce Point neighborhood. The Spruce Point neighborhood is currently low density single family residences.

The developer subsequently and totally changed plans to a high density, 500 apartment planned development, without ever having a conversation with the neighbors. Those revised plans were reviewed by the city's Planning Commission which recommended substantial reduction in his proposed density plans and that it also be in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan and be compatible with the surrounding area. When Spruce Point was approved by the City and is zoned the same as the HUB project, the city required Spruce Point to have a density of 1/4 of what the HUB is proposing.

Before the city council could hear the Planning Commission's recommendations, the developer pulled his application and informed the city that he was going to pursue a high density apartment complex under a process that does not allow for review by the either the Planning Commis-

sion or City Council. Does anyone in Montrose believe that a development should NOT be reviewed by the Planning Commission and the City Council?

If the developer goes back to what he had originally told the community, I believe he

would find substantial community support.

The Montrose community must have a say in development projects and how they meet the community's desires.

Mike Weber, Montrose

Spend More Quality Time Together!



Assisted Living Apartment Homes

Feeling anxious about moving your loved one to senior living? The health and safety of our residents is our top priority, so you can feel at ease knowing your loved one is getting that care needed to thrive and allows you to focus on spending quality time together.

**Call today to arrange a visit.
We look forward to meeting you.**

Lease by June 30 and enjoy half off July rent!

The Homestead at Montrose

1819 Pavilion Drive
Montrose CO 81401
970-964-3400
homesteadatmontrose.org



Volunteers of America



Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization.



MORE PARKING NEEDED AT AIRPORT, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR DISCLOSES LOT PURCHASE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 16. All commissioners were present; BOCC Chair Sue Hansen welcomed all to the session and opened the meeting. "We will start with the invocation."

Pastor Buddy Cook of 1st Church of the Nazarene delivered the invocation and prayed on behalf of the commissioners and staff. Cook prayed for Interim County Manager Jon Waschbusch as well, and for firefighters. "I pray that you would just strengthen him and give him wisdom, may he just fulfill in all regard for whatever thing you need him to do...be with our firefighters as they work out in the Western part of the county, protect them and keep them safe."

"Keep our county safe this summer from any fires that might come this way." Commissioner Roger Rash led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER

Waschbusch had no changes to the meeting agenda.

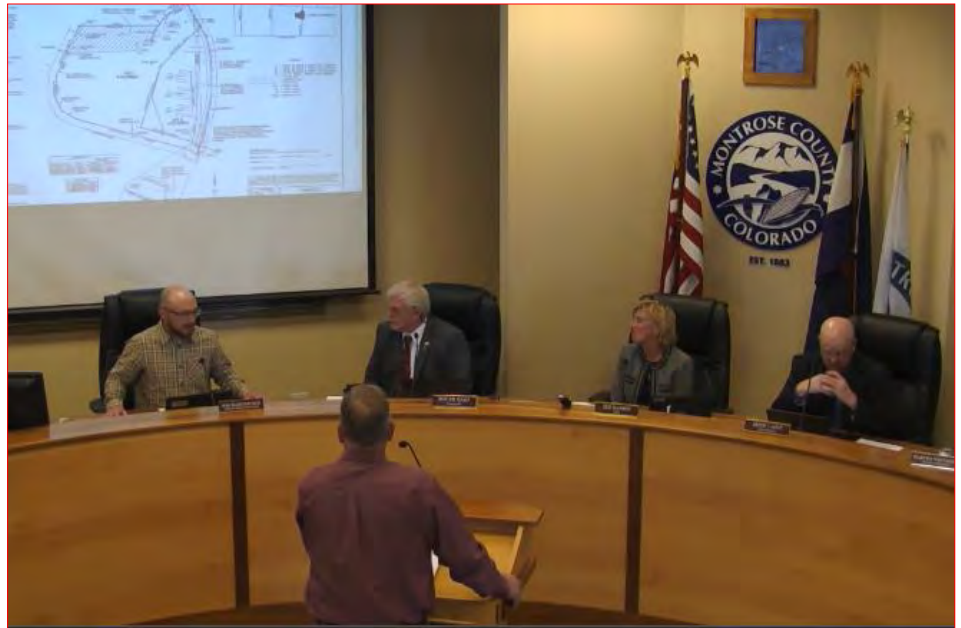
CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items, with Resolution No. 24-2021 assigned to item 14, regarding the County accepting the maintenance of 0.10 miles of 6720 Road.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold presented for approval the Eighth Amendment to the On-Call Aviation Engineering Services Agreement entered into Nov. 21, 2018 with Jacobs Engineering Group for design and bidding services for long term and rental car parking lots, an unbudgeted expense in the amount of \$134,830. BOCC Vice Chair Keith Caddy asked Arnold to provide information on the need for additional parking at Montrose Regional Airport.

"This is before you today because of the very positive problem we're having," Arnold said, noting that the Airport has recovered and surpassed post-COVID expectations.



At the regular BOCC meeting of June 16, Montrose County Planning & Development Director Steve White, above, disclosed to Montrose County Commissioners that he has a contract to purchase a lot in a subdivision that is presently under review.

tations.

There were 23,789 enplanements in March, Arnold said, making that the second-best month in the history of the airport, Arnold said. In April there were 10,092, making it the best April in the history of the airport, and in May there were 7,037 enplanements, making it the best May in the history of the airport. To date in 2021 the airport has had 74,185 enplanements and is on pace to hit the 159,354 enplanements that took place in 2019. "We are processing about 320,000 people through our terminal...with that we need additional parking," Arnold said. "We are having this issue where we are recovering much quicker than was anticipated."

"That's a good problem to have," Commissioner Roger Rash said. "Thank you for all the work you and your staff have done...this is a much-needed addition out there."

The BOCC voted unanimously to approve the Eighth Amendment to the On-Call Aviation Engineering Services Agreement entered into Nov. 21, 2018 with Jacobs

Engineering Group for design and bidding services for long term and rental car parking lots.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planner Tallmadge Richmond presented the Pomeroy Minor Subdivision proposal to divide a 12-acre lot into two lots at 6063 5600 Road, which was approved unanimously.

Also approved were:

the Comstock Minor Subdivision and Boundary Line Adjustment proposal to divide a 35.710 parcel into three lots and adjust a boundary between existing lots at 21591 Highway 550;
the Mosqueda Minor Subdivision proposal to divide an 8.592-acre lot into three lots at Parcel: 372303400036, 6000 Road & Dalia Road;
the Twin Pine Minor Subdivision [MI21-008 proposal] to divide three lots from a 104.890-acre parcel at Parcel: 376534101002, 6000 Road & Spring Creek Road;
the Zacatecas Minor Subdivision & Boundary Line Adjustment proposal to divide a 18.02-acre lot into three lots at

MORE PARKING NEEDED AT AIRPORT From previous pg

at 4771 6000 Road; and the [Navarrete Minor Subdivision \[MI21-010\] proposal](#) to divide one lot from a 75.600-acre parcel at Parcel 399501400019: Pearl Road & 6300 Road. Planning & Development Director Steve White stepped forward as commissioners prepared to hear the final Planning & Development item, the [Trout Creek II Minor Subdivision \[MI21-002\] proposal](#) to divide a 20.580-acre lot into three lots not including the two lots created from the 6720 Road Dedication at Parcel 399326107001 Trout Rd & HWY 550.

"...I stand before you this morning for the purpose of disclosure," White said, "I have a financial interest in the next item on the agenda." White informed the BOCC that he and his wife had a contract to purchase Lot One in the Trout Creek Minor subdivision, and that he had forgotten to inform the county of the same. The subdivision was already in process when he made the decision to purchase, and staff members were aware. "During the processing of this minor subdivision I did not make any comments or recommendations and left all decision making to others."

The lack of disclosure was an oversight on his part, White said. "It was not my intent to keep this information private, nor was it my intent to have any undue influence on the processing of this minor subdivision, or to affect any outcomes."

Still, "...From the very start of this land purchase, it was my responsibility to formally disclose the interest I had in this property."

A 29-year government employee, White said he has always strived to be upfront and honest about his actions as a county employee and in his personal life. "I see now how much easier it would have been to disclose this land purchase to county management and the attorney's office, so they would have been able to assist me in following proper protocols in situations like this," he said.

BOCC Chair Hansen said, "I am kind of shocked actually; I just wonder why you would have waited so long... we do ethics training every year...I just was a little disappointed."

"I am also disappointed," White said. "I don't want to make any excuses by any

means...I was not trying to not disclose, my staff knew, and Mr. Laube...and everything that was happening with the subdivision I made sure everybody was aware of it. I just did not do that formal disclosure to Jon which I should have done, I should have put it in writing and given it to Jon...it would have been so much easier...it was not my intent to hide anything or to keep it from the public that I was purchasing this property."

Said Waschbusch, "On Friday afternoon I was made aware of the Planning Director's intent to purchase property within the subdivision, and within a few minutes I was able to meet with the county attorney to begin a discussion on the matter...it is serious, and I take it seriously. There are two issues at hand here; one is the failure by an employee to disclose an interest in a matter over which they could have influence, which is an ethical issue...the other issue at hand is a matter of due process, and the property owner's right to have their subdivision considered without undue delay."

Hansen said that as an elected official she is always concerned as to how someone might perceive her interest in something. "I think it's not trivial. I'm sorry that that happened."

Staff has been interviewed in detail with regard to the processing of the application, Waschbusch said.

"...Based on that review...it does not appear that Mr. White's interest in purchasing the property has had any impact on the process or the way the application was handled...the Board of County Commissioners has final authority for approval of a minor subdivision...we appreciate Mr. White coming and making the full disclosure at this time, though ideally it should have been made long ago."

It was not the fault of the property owner or the applicant that White had failed to disclose, Waschbusch said.

Planner Tallmadge Richmond then presented the [Trout Creek II Minor Subdivision \[MI21-002\] proposal](#) to divide a 20.580 acres lot into three lots not including the two lots created from the 6720 Road Dedication at Parcel 399326107001 Trout Rd & HWY 550.

Applicant Jeremy Spencer thanked the

BOCC for consideration and said he was unaware of the non-disclosure.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Trout Creek II Minor Subdivision. Hansen said, "... We take conflicts of interest seriously...it is really important. We have those code of ethics trainings for a reason. This is exactly the reason why. In this case...there was no undue influence, but it is a critically important thing that we take seriously."

The BOCC left regular session to reconvene as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority.

MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners Eloise Lentz stood in for Liquor Licensing Official Kendra Jenkins, presenting a request for a Special Event Permit for a Montrose Baseball Inc. Barn Dance to be held at Antler Ridge Barn Venue on July 1, and a request for a Special Event Permit for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Summer Gun Fest to be held at Lock, Stock & Barrel in Olathe on July 9. Both items were approved unanimously following public hearings. Commissioners returned to regular session, and then reconvened as the Montrose County Board of Public Health.

MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Director Jim Austin gave an update. Laura Lenihan is the new WIC Director, two new hires have been made for the Nurse Family Partnership, and the Public Health Department has moved to the West Wing of the County's South Campus (the Human Services Department remains on the south side).

Public Health will work with the Tri County Health Network to support and promote programs that serve the local community. The immunization flyer has been updated. The Fall Flu Clinic will take place Sept. 15. Public Health is working to cross-train staff.

Communicable Disease and Emergency Preparedness staffer Lisa Gallegos shared information on the current status of COVID-19 and new strains.

Following further discussion, Commissioners returned to regular session and the meeting was adjourned.



SANDALS SOLID COLORS METALLICS PRINTS TEXTURES SNEAKERS

In 1965 Martin Michaeli founded
MEPHISTO with the sole intention
and his deep-rooted ambition to
create the world's best walking shoes.

MEPHISTO 

316 E. Main • Montrose

970-249-3668

D'Medici
Footwear & Clothing

Located in Historic Downtown Montrose

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS IMPLEMENTED ON UNCOMPAHGRE PLATEAU/ FRUITA DIVISION OF THE GMUG

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-As of Friday, June 18, 2021, Stage 1 Fire Restrictions have been implemented on the Uncompahgre Plateau and the Fruita Division of the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests.

Fire managers base decisions about fire restrictions on specific fuel moisture measurements in vegetation and other risk factors such as predicted weather and current fire activity. Fire danger is increasing, and these restrictions will be implemented to protect public health and safety due to the current and anticipated elevated risk of wildfire. Fire restrictions on these lands will be in place until further notice.

Fire managers will continue to monitor conditions and assess the need for further action, including additional restrictions if weather remains hot and dry and lessening restrictions if a wetter weather pattern develops.

Under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions the following are PROHIBITED:

Igniting, building, attending, maintaining or using a fire (includes fires fueled by charcoal or briquettes) outside of a permanent metal or concrete fire pit or grate that the Forest Service has installed and maintained at its developed recreation sites (campgrounds and picnic areas).

EXCEPT: The use of a stove or grill solely fueled by liquid petroleum fuels, or a fully enclosed metal stove, grill or sheep herder type stove with a chimney at least 5 feet in length and a mesh screen spark arrestor

with a screen opening of ¼ inch or less.

Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or in a developed recreation site, or while stopping in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials. Operating a chainsaw without an effective and properly installed USDA or Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) approved spark arrestor, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (with a minimum 8 oz. capacity and rating of 2A) kept with the operator and a round point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available for use.

Blasting, welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame without being in a cleared area of at least 10 feet in diameter and keeping a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (with a minimum 8 oz. capacity and rating of 2A) with the operator.

Using an explosive. This includes but is not limited to fuses, blasting caps, fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, tracers and incendiary ammunition.

Personal, portable wood or charcoal burning fire pits/rings, often made of stainless steel, are not allowed under these restrictions. Campfires are only allowed in USDA approved and installed fire pits/grates, or gas-fueled devices with an on/off switch.

Violation of these regulations is punishable as a class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than six months, or

both. Anyone negligently or willfully starting a wildland fire could also be held responsible for the costs of that fire. Almost 90 percent of all wildfires on public lands are started by humans. It is every forest visitor's responsibility to recreate responsibly and follow best practices. To report a fire call 9-1-1. As we near the Fourth of July holiday, visitors are reminded that fireworks are never allowed on federally-managed lands.

For up-to-date general information on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests please contact the appropriate office listed below:

Forest Supervisor's Office – Delta – (970) 874-6600

Grand Valley Ranger District – Grand Junction – (970) 242-8211

Ouray Ranger District – Montrose – (970) 240-5300

Gunnison Ranger District – Gunnison – (970) 641-0471

Norwood Ranger District – Norwood – (970) 327-4261

Paonia Ranger District – Paonia – (970) 527-4131

For information and updates on current fire restrictions, wildfire and prescribed burns on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests visit the [forest website](#) or call the GMUG Fire Information line at 970-874-6602. Connect with us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

For more fire-related information on Colorado's Western Slope visit [West Slope Fire Info](#).

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



PUBLISHER'S CORNER: PAUL ARBOGAST

AMERICAN SPICE AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ROAD



Aerial panorama of the countryside in eastern Ohio that I visited during my trip. Photo by Paul Arbogast.

By Paul Arbogast, Mirror Publisher

UNITED STATES-I recently returned from a road trip back east where I went to visit family and friends, revisit places I used to live and frequent, and see some new (to me) sights. I am the type who believes in the old saying that variety is the spice of life, and sitting in the same place, seeing the same things again and again, from the same people, makes life a bit bland.

Let's be honest, while we have amazing landscapes and opportunity for outdoor activities, the scope of experiencing new things and interacting with new and different people in Montrose is pretty narrow. During my trip I have come to think of this as pretty 'plane jane vanilla' and limiting in terms of personal growth. How do you grow as a person when options and experiences are limited or remain the same over decades? When you have people in charge of your local government who are continually focused on being a 'retirement community' it seems that not much will change to bring a bit more flavor to Montrose. The council recently had the opportunity to bring in a younger person, with some different views, but voted for the status quo instead.

I know the reality of limited time off and

tight budgets, but I highly recommend to everyone, every now and then, get out of here. I do not mean to go hit Moab or Lake Powell, I mean get away from the state, see new places, new geography, thrill in the variety that is out there. Go to the places locals go, talk to people, listen to them, learn from your differences. You will quickly learn that while maybe they say some things in a funny way, or with a strange accent, most of us are remarkably similar. That other than the huge political divide pushed by politicians and media, we are not as torn apart as the media would like us to believe.

We all know Colorado is beautiful, but most everywhere else in this country is as well. The rolling green hills, the endless green farms, the Appalachians' thousand colors in fall, the bayous of the south, the deserts that seem void of life, all offer something different and great. But even when the landscapes may look similar, once you talk to people from an area, you really get into the spice of America.

I took note of many things on my journey. Of special interest were masks. I know that the shutdowns and mandates affected people all over the country, and I know some places were stricter than oth-

ers, but what I found is that during my trip, most of the country has 'returned to normal'. Most of those who did wear a mask were employees, and I would say it was way less than 1 percent of people I saw and interacted with. The general attitude is that everyone is done with all of it, and to be honest, I am glad that was my experience. It makes me wonder why we still have school districts forcing masks on children.

If you read *the Mirror*, you know that whenever the city has some new expensive project, or gives away taxpayer money, a lot of people comment on the state of the roads, specifically the bad state of them. I put about 4,500 miles on my vehicle, from interstate highways to tiny roads in the hills of West Virginia and everything in-between. With very few exceptions, most roads are in bad shape in this country. It should come as no surprise, long ago the media used to report on the sad state of our transportation infrastructure and politicians talked about fixing things, but the issues remain.

I did a little digging on how some municipalities spend their money by going through some budgets. What I found was the places with the best maintained roads

Continued next pg

AMERICAN SPICE AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ROAD

From previous pg

did not spend a lot of money on incentives to bring in businesses (though those towns were thriving) and did not spend money on 'nice to have' projects, instead they focused on the basics that governments should focus on. But not only were their roads better maintained, it made the feel of driving around town, and impression of the town, much more positive than driving through places with rough and unmaintained roads. We know from the 'road plan' that it would take 5 million a year for many years to get the roads in town up to snuff, yet the city has not budgeted for that expense. We also know that as maintenance is put off, the roads deteriorate more, and the cost for upkeep goes up. Some of the places I visited gave me a good picture of what our roads will look like in 10 years if the city continues to ignore ours. It is not pretty.

The amount of growth that has happened since my last trip back east was flabbergasting. Entire blocks of row homes in Baltimore are gone and replaced with massive apartment/condo buildings, new businesses are everywhere, so much so that some locations were quite disorienting and different. I did honestly wonder if when some of these projects went to the local governments for approval if they were met with the same level of outcry that I have witnessed over and over here in Montrose.

Growth happens, everywhere, and it even happens when the government is not funding it. Take the coming Hobby Lobby, or beeswax candle company, or food plant that will fill the old Russell Stover building. Though a handful of citizens in a few developments show a continued 'not in my backyard' mentality, housing developments will continue to happen. I would imagine back in time, before the developments these people live in existed, people complained about those developments as well. If every complaint were acted on, I would guess the city would probably still only have enough housing for 10 to 12 thousand people instead of the 20 thousand it has today. I must give the city a good bit of credit for taking care of traffic and other real concerns that come up when new development happens; they

have always mitigated the negative impacts of growth pretty well.

Another issue we are facing, both here and nationwide, is a lack of employees. Locally we have seen some businesses with reduced hours because they can find nobody to hire.

It is worse in other locations. I found a large number of businesses that either have reduced hours due to lack of available employees, to closed indoor dining because they could not find people to work as servers, to small businesses that closed their doors for good because of a lack of ability to find people to hire. The

last report I saw was that we were approaching 10 million open positions across the country. I think anyone who has been paying attention understands why this is happening and what needs to happen to fix it. Hopefully, those things will occur before it is too late.

To wrap it all up, I had a fabulous break from the vanilla and enjoyed all the flavor our great country has to offer, I hope that everyone gets a chance to do the same at some point, if they have not already. Enjoy the people, the landscapes, and all of the variety that come together to make this a great country.

Lost beloved irreplaceable teddy bear

\$100 REWARD

**Last seen on Sunday June 13th at Ridgeway
State Park Dutch Charlie Swim Area**



Text or call: 802-458-2690
or DM on Instagram: @brightonL
@wentworth_adventurebear



CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS TRANSFER OF PUBLIC ART EXPERIENCE (PAX) PROGRAM, FUNDS TO DART

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council met for a [work session](#) on Monday, June 14. All councilors were in attendance.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Safety Attorney Matt Magliaro presented information on the removal of redundant language from City Municipal Code, with Revisions to Municipal Code Title 6, Chapter 1, Section 19 - False Identification. Removal of the language was based on three rationales, that it covers behavior already criminalized by the State of Colorado; that the municipal court is not a court of record for criminal proceedings, and the ordinance is not used in practice.

A courtesy copy of the proposed revisions has been provided to Judge Greenacre at the Municipal court, Magliaro said.

Planner William Reis presented two items for consideration, the Riverside Park Addition II Annexation and the Riverside Park Addition III Annexation.

Background-Memos prepared by Reis for Council state, "The Riverside Park Addition II is a proposed annexation approximately 2.09 acres in size. The parcel is located south and west of Shane's Way and east of Chipeta Road. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, the City of Montrose Water Service Area, and the West Montrose Sanitation District. Annexation of this property will clean-up an orphaned parcel of City-owned property. The Council Resolution to set a hearing date is not required for this annexation as it is a City-owned property..." The Riverside Park Addition III is a proposed annexation approximately 0.032 acres in size. The parcel is located south and west of Shane's Way and east of Chipeta Road. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, the City of Montrose Water Service Area, and the West Montrose Sanitation District. Annexation of this property will clean-up an orphaned parcel of City-owned property. The Council Resolution to set a hearing date is not required for this annexation as it is a City-owned property."

Council also discussed the transfer and allocation of \$8,312.23 in remaining Public Art eXperience (PAX) funds from the Montrose Community Foundation. Originally formed as a committee of volunteers by Montrose artist and businesswoman Sandi Cipolloni in 2006, PAX had established a Community Foundation component fund to be able to accept public donations toward sculpture purchases. PAX later became part of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and will now be a Downtown Area Revitalization Team (DART) program. Coordinating the PAX program is DART Community Program Specialist Briceida Ortega. "We felt that PAX would fit right in," Ortega said, noting that she will bring a PAX Resolution before Council at the July 6 Council meeting.

Councilor Bynum said, "That's great, I look forward to getting PAX working again, and to see that investment."

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank also expressed support. "...I think it's going to be very good for Montrose. We are all excited to see public art and give the people a chance to interact with it.

"It's just great."

Public Works Manager Jim Scheid discussed replacement of a Downtown traffic signal pole at East Main Street and Nevada Avenue.

Background-A memo from Scheid to Council notes that On May 12 the city-owned traffic signal at Nevada and Main St was involved in a vehicle accident and it was severely damaged. After consulting with the City's Traffic Signal and Lighting Consultant it was determined that the signal needed to be removed because of



The City will move three houses that it purchased as part of the Woodgate Realignment project; two are already on wheels and the third is being lifted.

unrepairable structural damage. Subsequently the light has been removed and replaced with a temporary signal. The City is in contact with the responsible party's insurance company working on the claim. The responsible party would be responsible for a portion of the total cost of this project. replacement of the damaged traffic signal at Nevada Ave and Main St with a new two-arm style traffic signal, along with upgrading failing infrastructure (cabinet and underground) to bring the existing intersection traffic signals up to current design standards will cost \$322,000.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Frank said that the non-profit Welcome Home Montrose is starting a Dream Job program to help three medically-discharged veterans learn a trade of their choosing in Montrose.

"I just think it's a great program and anything we can do to help our disabled veterans is a fantastic opportunity," he said. Frank also asked that Council consider entering a float or presence in the Fourth of July Parade.

Councilor J. David Reed praised staff for their work on the FUNC Fest on July 12.

"Kudos to the City staff for running a

CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS TRANSFER OF PUBLIC ART EXPERIENCE (PAX) PROGRAM, FUNDS TO DART From previous pg

a great event,” Reed said.

Frank expressed gratitude for the bottles of water that the City handed out during the event.

City Manager Bill Bell said he was not at FUNC Fest, “but I just want to give a shout out to the OBT team for putting that together...the whole team at OBT really worked together to make that a great event this year.” There were more vendors at the event than in years past. The City partnered with local breweries to provide beer, Bell said, and the beer pour was a fundraiser for the Black Canyon Rotary Club.

“It was just kind of a last minute FUNC Fest this year,” Bell said. “...we’re also really proud of the staff. They just did an amazing job.”

Police chief Blaine Hall said that officers have been staying very busy on the streets. “...Last Wednesday we started the morning out with an attempted kidnapping...we ended up having a very serious sexual assault with a naked individual...and that led into a separate incident where we had a four-car pile-up on South

Townsend and while we were investigating that we had a COMMCORR client who was in the process of escaping COMMCORR; we had to run to the next call.”

Two officers recently conducted traffic control at the south roundabout during a FUN Run as well, to protect runners. “We try to balance all of those responsibilities,” Hall said, and gave a construction update on the new public safety facility.

Crime statistics will be released in July, he said, and the Police Department will present a 2A report card as well.

Office of Business & Tourism Director Lisa Kuczmarski spoke as well. “I just wanted to mimic that I am very appreciative of my staff and the effort they’ve put in for the last couple months. FUNC Fest went off pretty much without a hitch...we anticipate numbers to be in the 5,000 range, based on parking as well as food and drink sales.

“I am very happy to know that the event, even though it was moved to a different time and a different format, still brought a lot of community out,” Kuczmarski said.



Montrose Office of Business & Tourism Director Lisa Kuczmarski said that an estimated crowd of 5,000 turned out for the 2021 FUNC Fest.

City Engineer Scott Murphy gave an update on the Woodgate Road realignment. The City will move three houses that it purchased; two are already on wheels and the third is being lifted.

As for the new Sunset Mesa Water tank Murphy said, “The top is on the tank so it’s not getting any taller.”

Once painted, the tank will be an off-white, tannish color with the City logo at the top.

**News, if unreported, has no impact.
It might as well have not happened at all.
*Thank you for reading The Montrose Mirror.***

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CITY OF MONTROSE HUB APPROVAL PROCESS FLAWED

Editor:

Much of the discord between Cobble Creek/Spruce Point and Montrose City Manager regarding HUB approval relate to the rationale and criteria by which the city approves developments such as HUB. The City Manager and a minority on the planning board have a narrow view of what should be considered. Their view is generally as follows: if a development meets building codes, it should be approved.

This view has resulted in poor planning decisions, ignores the concerns of residents, avoids dealing with the complexity of today's city planning, favors the developer, and ignores the open space planning. Montrose residents deserve better than such a simplistic approach. The city must change their approach and expand the building codes to meet the demands of these times.

City staff comments during the past Plan-

ning Board video conferencing sessions on HUB reflect this narrow view (paraphrased below.)

- 1) Your comments/concerns ("many") are not relevant to this review.
- 2) Do not repeat concerns or issues that have been expressed before.
- 3) That issue is outside the scope of these discussions.
- 4) Approval of the development is not a popularity contest. It doesn't matter if 400 residents oppose a project, and just a few support the project.
- 5) The topic of why and how the City of Montrose has designated 2.5 million dollars as incentives to the HUB developer is not relevant and cannot be discussed.
- 6) We cannot penalize the developer by placing additional requirements on his development.
- 7) The developer has stated if he cannot build 500 units, the project is not cost

effective.

8) Resident Question: Why did Matt Miles state during the city approval of less restrictive zoning of the HUB property that building apartments was not cost effective. Matt Miles Response: It was not cost effective then, but it is now.

9) The City Commissioners need not get involved in reviewing a development if it meets the building codes.

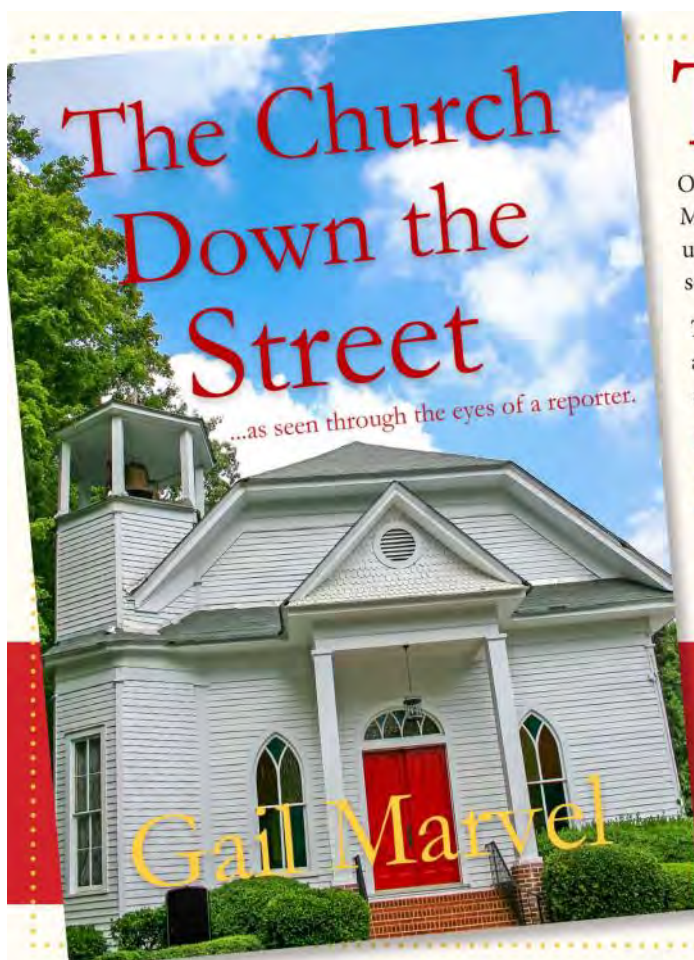
10) Changes requested by residents are not relevant if the development meets building codes.

11) Resident Comment: The HUB development is incompatible with many of the City of Montrose Master Plan and Open Space stipulations.

Why aren't these factors considered in review and approval of the HUB development. City Response: ???

Yours Truly,

Donald R Peterson, Montrose



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).

GAIL MARVEL
Montrose Author & Reporter



CITY HEARS FROM COBBLE CREEK RESIDENTS; APPROVES WOODS CROSSING PRELIMINARY PLAT



Montrose City Council.



Citizens crowded in to comment at the regular City meeting of June 15.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The crowd began to arrive early, and by the time the regular [City Council meeting](#) of Tuesday, June 15 began, Council chambers were packed and most seats taken. All councilors were present; Mayor Doug Glaspell called the meeting to order. All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank noted that Item 14, replacement of the damaged traffic signal at Nevada Avenue and Main Street with a new two-arm style traffic signal, along with upgrades to failing infrastructure (cabinet and underground) to bring the existing intersection traffic signals up to current design standards at a cost of \$322,000, would be changed to add "approval of a sole source waiver."

PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

A member of the community joined Mayor Glaspell to accept the proclamation as he read it into the record, and when he finished, the Mayor asked if she would like to speak. "Yes," the community member said, "My name is Marian Cecile Keeney and I come from immigrant stock." Keeney then gave a speech about her family members who came to America from England, Ireland, and Scotland in the 1600s to 1700s, their experiences as immigrants in Virginia, and the ways that immigrants culturally enrich the United States.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A number of Cobble Creek residents spoke

during the time for public comment, to share

concerns about the HUB development; Mayor Glaspell called speakers forward row by row, so that all who wanted to speak for three minutes would have a chance.

First to speak was Air Force Veteran Susan Zanol, who thanked Council and said, "Your job is not an easy one." Zanol compared the HUB development to a neighbor who asks to store a bike in her garage, and then fills up all of the space with various items so that she cannot even get into the garage. "First of all we have an integrity problem; what happened to our agreement? Second, I have a logistics problem," she said, "and third, I have a safety problem because I am going to trip over all this stuff trying to get into my home.

"So what do I do? I think for three seconds, I go and knock on my neighbor's door, and I say, the deal is off, that is not the original agreement, take your stuff, have a nice day."

Zanol listed potential problems that could result from the current plans for the HUB.

"I keep hearing that Mr. Miles always gets what he wants," she said. "...History is full of smoke-filled back rooms where agreements are made, rules are bent or waived, to benefit bullies and friends rather than the community at large. I believe in integrity, and I believe the mayor and council-

lors do also."

Cobble Creek Neighborhood Association President Stan Grigg noted that the project does not have feathered density between low and high-density developments. He also pointed out that feathering (the gradual transition of residential densities) keeps adjacent developments from being more than two density categories apart from one another. Density guidelines were included in the City's previous comprehensive plan but left out of the Envision 2040 Comprehensive plan that was recently adopted, he said. Grigg asked that the City adopt the density guidelines that were not included in the Envision 2040 Plan and asked that they limit the scope of use-by-right projects.

Others who spoke stressed the need to take a different approach with the HUB Project, to respect the rights of surrounding landowners, to balance the needs of all citizens, and to rescind financial incentives to the HUB developer, Matt Miles.

"We have one opportunity to do this right as a city," Citizen Ned Frazier said.

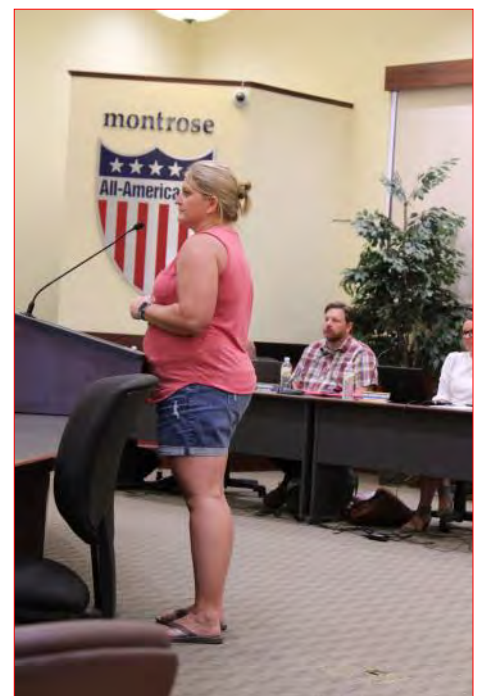
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 regular City Council meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT
Council approved the appointment of

Continued next pg

CITY HEARS FROM COBBLE CREEK RESIDENTS; APPROVES WOODS CROSSING PRELIMINARY PLAT *From previous pg*



Above left to right, Citizen Randy White and Cobble Creek HOA President Stan Grigg spoke during the time for public comment. Right, citizen Trisha Bush asked about mobile home parks.

Planning Commission Alternate Delphine Jadot as a regular member of the City of Montrose Planning Commission. Councilor Barbara Bynum thanked Jadot for serving on the Planning Commission.

ORDINANCE 2543-SECOND READING

Council voted to adopt Ordinance 2543 on second reading, updating Title 4, Chapter 4, Zoning Regulations of the City of Montrose: Amending Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 8.1 (4-4-8.1) regarding "R-5" Low Density/Manufactured Housing District and Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 8.2 (4-4-8.2) regarding "R-6" Medium Density/Manufactured Housing District.

Citizen Trisha Bush asked whether the ordinance would change the type of home allowed in the zoning district; Mayor Glaspell said that the ordinance changes the slope of the roof that is allowed.

Bush said she lives on Colonial Way, near several of the City's older mobile home parks. "How do we as homeowners...who are concerned about the value of our home, how do we improve the cosmetics of those two trailer parks?" She said she has reached out to the person she believes to be the owner of the parks concerning problems with falling tree branches, crime, and the overall cosmetics of all the trash and decay that is present in the parks, to no avail. "We don't know where to go."

Councilor Bynum said that Bush's concern was a separate issue not related to Ordinance 2543. Glaspell suggested Bush take her concerns to the Planning Commission.

Editor's Note-The [Planning Commission Agenda of June 9](#) includes an application is

to rebuild, repair, replace, and reconfigure three mobile home parks (Cottonwood Mobile Home Park, San Juan Mobile Home Park, and Green Acres Mobile Home Park) to create additional residential units and improve public health and safety for existing and future residents.

ORDINANCE 2544-SECOND READING

Council voted to approve Ordinance 2544 on second reading, disconnecting property at 16763/16765 6725 Road from the City. As she has done in work session and upon First Reading, Councilor Bynum reminded that the property owners will no longer be able to vote in City elections.

ORDINANCE 2545 FIRST READING

Planner I William Reis presented Ordinance 2545, an application for historic property designation of the Montrose County Jail, located at 217 S 1st Street. Reis shared historic anecdotes about the structure, which is reported to have once briefly housed the Outlaw Butch Cassidy, also known as Robert Leroy Parker.

***Background-**The building is more than fifty years old; it is associated with the development of the justice system in Montrose County, having been the first county jail; it was erected in 1885 and, although altered, is representative of county jails in nineteenth century Colorado in its small size, stone construction, and narrow windows. The Montrose County Board of Commissioners authorized the designation of the Montrose County Historic Jail as a historic landmark, and the Montrose Historic Preservation Commission has further determined the Property meets the criteria set forth in City Code § 4-15-3, is eligible*

for designation as a historic property, and has recommended to the City Council the Property be designated as a historic property.

Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2545 on First Reading.

WOODS CROSSING PRELIMINARY PLAT

Consideration of the Woods Crossing Preliminary Plat, scheduled to take ten minutes on the meeting agenda, stretched to more than an hour after City Engineer Scott Murphy was invited to discuss the details of the project.

"We'll know in the future what your ten minutes is really like," Councilor J. David Reed said when Murphy eventually stopped speaking.

Council considered comments from citizens in the work session packet, as well as comments taken during the meeting.

Developer Matt Miles spoke as well, noting that it could prove dangerous to second guess a planning commission decision made years ago, but expressing a willingness to work with the City on the secondary access.

Council approved the Woods Crossing Preliminary Plat with the condition that the City and Developer work together to locate a temporary emergency entrance

Continued next pg

CITY HEARS FROM COBBLE CREEK RESIDENTS From pg 1

and exit until the west exit is developed, and to locate the secondary entrance to the east side of the development off Big Pine Loop based on verbal agreement with the developer.

Background—A memo prepared by Senior planner Amy Sharp for Council states that the project developer is Matt Miles of Leadership Circle LLC, and that the Woods Crossing Preliminary Plat will subdivide a 72.88-acre parcel into a residential subdivision. The property is bordered on the south by American Village Subdivision, on the north by Sunnyside Road, and on the west and east (County parcels) by agricultural fields and single-family homes. The property is zoned R-2 Low Density District on the eastern side, and R-3A Medium High Density District on the western side. The intent is to divide the R-2 portion into 141 single family lots, and the R-3A portion into 108 single family lots and 28 townhome lots. A Final Plat will also be

required within five years of approval of this Preliminary Plat (City of Montrose Municipal Code, Section 4-7-5(C) (1) (a).

The City Planning Commission recommended approval of the Woods Crossing Preliminary Plat at the May 26 meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY DESIGN CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION

Council voted to approve the award of a professional services contract to Chamberlin Architects in the amount of \$179,806 for the completion of Phase I design studies and preliminary design associated with replacement of the City's Public Works Facility. Murphy shared a photo of the facility taken in the 1960's and noted that "It pretty much looks exactly the same today."

EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL EXPENSE AUTHORIZATION

"Fortunately, I talk a lot less than Scott does," Public Works Manager Jim Scheid said, as he stepped forward to present

information on the replacement of a traffic signal that was damaged recently in a vehicular accident.

As discussed previously in work session, Council voted to approve the replacement of the damaged traffic signal at Nevada Avenue and Main Street with a new two-arm style traffic signal, along with upgrading failing infrastructure (cabinet and underground) to bring the existing intersection traffic signals up to current design standards at a cost of \$322,000.

Reed said that the City is working with the offending party's insurance carrier for reimbursement.

STAFF REPORTS

City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg gave a [Sales, Use, and Excise Tax Report](#).

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Reed thanked City staff for their efforts to put on the 2021 FUNC Fest.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



EVERY HERO'S JOURNEY
REQUIRES CROSSING A
THRESHOLD. READY TO
MAKE THAT BOLD MOVE
BUT NEED A GUIDING
HAND? I'VE BEEN
THERE, AND I CAN
HELP.

LAUREN HALL RUDDALL, PHD

Coaching and Consulting
Services offered. Free initial
1/2 hour consultation.

For inquiries:

agescapesnow@gmail.com

For info:

laurenhallruddell.com

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CITY IS 'OF THE COUNCIL, BY THE COUNCIL, FOR THE COUNCIL'

Editor:

The American people are an interesting lot. Provide them with reasonably decent leadership and that leadership can get away with a good bit. Oh yeah, they might gripe some but overall they will just go along. When there is no such 'reasonably decent leadership', when they are being ignored or when they feel they are being screwed, they do things very much out of the ordinary. One is, they begin to speak up either to each other or in a public forum; two they begin to write letters, or at least speak to their representatives and/or to the folks (like reporters) who will write letters; and three, they begin to write letters themselves and/or show up at meetings and demand voice. But it takes a good deal of provocation for a true American to get off his dead, TV watching posterior and go to a meeting especially when they feel that if they do get a chance to speak, they will be ignored, belittled or mocked. Statistically, every letter to an elected official represents 500 constituents who feel the same way. Professional politicians know this well; our local political hacks we have on our city council haven't the foggiest. The city manager knows this very well and he should have had his resume out for six months. Or does he feel that he is so well entrenched and protected, well-loved and brilliant that it will never happen to him.

When the citizen feels he is being 'played for a fool' stuff begins to happen. They snoop. And generally they find what they expect to. They hire lawyer(s) and the world around the 'fool players' begins to get nasty indeed. It's kinda like being tied to an ant hill covered with honey. Once this part of the city government evolution begins it does not stop.

Sooner or later with dissatisfaction running amuck among the citizenry, someone will squeal on something that does not smell quite right. This is when the vigoro will hit the impeller because the squealer is usually right, he is onto something.

Threatened employees and/or the public will really squeal when the establishment begins to weaken. And it will. Americans love nothing more than a real live feeding frenzy---you know, like sharks in bloodied water.

Simply put, the Montrose City Council is no longer respected, honored or trusted by the citizenry. That is a pretty bold statement but is putting the situation mildly. This whole sleazy operation is about to be upset. Two of their former members already quit because they did not like the heat. The armor of those who have threatened and intimidated subordinates or businessmen/women is getting rusty and cracked. You know, kinda like a 'rusty putter'.

Citizens are coming out to voice their concerns regarding the city's handling of the Divots/Culver matter at the 'municipal pasture pool' clubhouse. City Council denied staff involvement and the administrative requirements of a legal and binding contract in place at the time. Surely it was only an ethical violation between an 'almighty' councilman and a hard working woman but it illustrates the absence of moral integrity of the simple six and their willingness to sweep their wrongdoing under the rug to protect one of 'their own'. We shall see how that comes out soon.

HUB and Cobble Creek. The entire West side of Montrose East of Spring Creek is upset about this deal. Valid concerns are extant! Many of them. And it may just be that with all their objections voiced, the Council persists in using all of our tax money to foster this poorly thought out development is rubbing the whole town raw. Why not? It is a raw deal and if this one is done, my community is next! Just who profits from Council's expenditure of \$2.4 million dollars that could be better used to fix roads, cleanup the junkyards or reduce taxes. It probably galls all of them AND many others in town significantly. Every citizen who speaks up represents a signifi-

cant constituency of 'unhappy campers'.

City Council, that is if they care at all about citizen/merchant 'approval', should hand deliver to EVERY business in town (not just the ones that voted for them) a questionnaire to be returned anonymously seeking their opinions on their projects, council performance, what they think are the important issues and the city managers' behavior. Hint: leave lots of blank space! None of them will stoop to visit one on one with the town's businessmen at their business address because, of course, Council knows best. Many businesses in Montrose will not speak up for fear of retaliation/retribution by the city manager. I would not say this is fact but it is the perception. Often their descriptions of city government and its activities are punctuated with a generous application of unprintable epithets.

Next is the cock-a-mamie MURA bologna. We all have long suspected what bologna is made of. Well URA is the same stuff as witnessed by the state sponsored study of several years ago. This is more of a travesty for Montrose than can be imagined. Sold to the frivolous-five AFTER an exhaustive study about URA law faults was published and available for the all-knowing simple-six to review. Studies like these are done so others do not make the same mistakes other councils did. MURA has not paid us one dime and it will never pay for the profligate millions the city has thrown at it. Four years old and this baby is not even turning over.

Our city council. The Montrose social club. High on their almighty perches. High on their egos and who knows, maybe something else. Told what to say and what to do. Group-think. Footsie. Sit around a table, mumble into the microphones.

Nobody can hear. Responses not permitted. But that's part of the game. It's "of the council, by the council and for the council (friends)" is it not? Sure is.

William Bennett, Montrose



MILES
BIKED

+24000

CARS OFF
THE ROAD

+5000

TOTAL
RIDERS

82

FEMALE
RIDERS

43

MALE
RIDERS

39

MOST MILES
BY INDIVIDUAL

132

TOP COMPANY
PARTICIPANTS

HOSPITAL - 31
CITY - 6
COUNTY - 5
LIBRARY - 5
REC - 4

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

EVERYTHING BIDEN HAS DONE HAS BEEN DETRIMENTAL TO THIS COUNTRY

Editor:

Biden has been president for five months and thinking people are asking "What is going on?" Everything Biden has done has been detrimental to this country. He destroyed our energy independence by eliminating the environmentally friendly Keystone pipeline and attacking exploration, but gave Russia the go ahead to build a major pipeline to Europe. Gas prices are skyrocketing. He created a crisis at the border and is doing nothing to stem the flood of illegals. Rather, he is busing them in the middle of the night to towns across America as fast as possible. After he re-instated \$235 million payments to the Palestinian Authority, Hamas rained down rockets on Israeli civilians, and the Middle East has drastically destabilized. Inflation is skyrocketing after Biden revealed his plans for massive spending, unsustainable debt, and a gross expansion of the federal government.

Are we to explain Biden's actions as simply

incompetence and neglect? Based on his performance at the G-7 summit; where he was busy confusing military action in Syria and Libya, immediately forgetting what's just been said by world leaders, and nixing a joint press conference with Putin because he might make Biden look feeble --- that explanation might be reasonable. The truth, however, is even worse.

Karl Marx preached that the working class would overthrow the ruling class, and live happily ever after in a socialist utopia. In America, attempts at a Marxist takeover based on class failed miserably because capitalism simply provided too well for the working class. So, no revolution. Now those seeking chaos and capitalism's demise are substituting race for class. Black Lives Matter and other Marxists in the Democratic Party/media/academia want you to believe that all social and economic issues are grounded in race. Thus you have Critical Race Theory, the 1619 Pro-

ject, "systemic racism", etc. --- all teaching your kids to hate their country and to judge their classmates by their skin color. They want to teach our black children that they are permanently oppressed because of that skin color.

Now we have Biden stoking racial hatred and creating crises everywhere as if those were part of his job description. You have the double standard of the anarchists that have rioted, murdered, and torched our cities for the last year going free, while those caught up in the capitol protest are still in jail and being prosecuted with the full force of the Department of Justice. Democrats can't stay in power without voter fraud because nothing they propose works. More taxes, bigger government, unsustainable debt, and a strictly controlled welfare state simply do not work. To stay in power, they now believe they must join the Marxists in destroying capitalism and our constitutional republic.

Ed Henrie, Montrose

*Save a tree —
Read the Mirror!*

THE MONTROSE MIRROR
Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Call For Ad Rates: 970-275-0646

2021 Early Blood Draws

DATES

Saturday, August 7
4H Event Center, Ridgway • 7:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Walk-ins allowed; make appointment for faster service

Tuesday, August 10 - Friday, August 13
Montrose Pavilion, Montrose • 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 14
Montrose Pavilion, Montrose • 6:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Social distancing in effect at all events to help protect our Friends & Family
Registration required. No Walk-ins at Montrose Pavilion events except for Saturday, August 14 after 8:30 a.m.

APPOINTMENTS

Registration begins Monday, June 21 12:00 a.m.
More details to come. Watch for updates at MontroseHospital.com and our Facebook/Instagram

- 12 hour fast required. Drink lots of water!
- We will NOT bill your insurance. Cash, checks, credit, debit, HSA and FLEX cards all accepted!
- Next year's events will take place August 2022

SCREENINGS

HealthScreen (Chemistry) & Lipid Panel	\$50
Hemoglobin A1C	\$38
PSA for Prostate Health	\$42
CBC (Complete Blood Count)	\$25
Vitamin D	\$45
Vitamin B12	\$45
Male Testosterone	\$45
Advanced Lipid & Heart Health Panel	\$85
hsCardioCRP	\$40



Alpine Bank
Member FDIC



GORDON COMPOSITES

Get the Mirror

delivered fresh to your phone each week!

We are working with **970VIP** to enable our text blast service!



Text **MIRROR** to **63211** now to opt-in to the text service.

THE
MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TRES RIOS AND UNCOMPAHGRE FIELD OFFICES IMPLEMENT STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR PUBLIC LANDS

Special to the Mirror

DOLORES— Stage 1 fire restrictions begin June 17 for all Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands administered by the Tres Rios and Uncompahgre Field Offices within the boundaries of Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, portions of Gunnison County, La Plata, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties, including Canyon of the Ancients National Monument, Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, and the Uncompahgre Field Office side of Dominguez Escalante National Conservation Area. The restrictions align with local orders and guidelines to protect the public's safety during high fire danger.

Under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions:

Campfires are only allowed within designated fire grates in developed campgrounds (i.e. a metal, in-ground containment structure – fire pans and rock campfire rings are not acceptable)

No fires of any type, including charcoal, outside of developed areas.

No smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or in a barren area free of vegetation

No use of explosive materials, including explosive targets.

No welding or operation of an acetylene or other similar torch with open flame except an area that has been cleared of vegetation.

No operation of any internal combustion engine without a spark-arresting device

properly installed and in working order.

Stage 1 fire restrictions on these lands will become effective at 12:01 a.m., MDT, June 17th, 2021 and will be in place until further notice.

Violation of federal fire restrictions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 12 months or both. In addition, those found responsible for starting wildfires will also face restitution costs of suppressing the fire.

Fireworks are always prohibited on public lands. More information about fire prevention is available at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/get-involved/fire-prevention>.

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



Trattoria di Sofia
970-249-0433

Tacos & Beer
970-964-4448

Stone House
970-240-8899

Rib City
970-249-7427

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

Mimo's
970-249-0616

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

DineOutMontrose.com

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JAMES ANDREW LEE

October 16, 1944 - June 10, 2021

JAMES ANDREW LEE was born October 16, 1944 to Brice F. Lee and Edith Forsman Lee in Montrose, CO and died on June 10, 2021 of metastatic cancer.

Jim attended Uncompahgre School and graduated from MHS the class of 1962 where he was involved in student government and sports. After working in Denver a few years, he then attended Ft. Lewis College in Durango majoring in business and finance and won a national business acumen championship.

Jim was drafted in fall 1968 into the Army and became staff sergeant with Charlie, 1-506th Infantry, 101st Airborne. He was sent to Vietnam where he was critically wounded and spent six months in hospitals in Japan and Fitzsimmons Denver. Among other accolades, he received the bronze star and a purple heart for bravery and was honorably discharged. He returned to Montrose and was hired as a loan officer by the Federal Land

Bank Association. He married Renee Kurtz Goehring on June 19, 1971 in Montrose. They then moved to Greeley where Jim became the youngest-appointed association president with FLBA. His career spanned 30 years in banking, leading offices in northern and southwestern Colorado, and he returned home to the family ranch in Montrose in 1987. During this time, Jim and Renee were blessed with children Jeffrey and Allison. Jim retired from banking yet continued work as a rural real estate appraiser along with his ranching duties. He was proud to help continue the ranching and farming traditions of southwest Colorado.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Brice and Edith Lee, brothers-in-law Jack Anderson and Colin Kurtz, sister-in-law Phyllis Lee, and in-laws Joyce Vernon and Al Kurtz. Jim is survived by his wife Renee, daughter Allison, son Jeff and wife Amy, and grandchildren Shelbi Lee,



Cole Lee, Brooklyn Lee, and Brett Lee. He is survived by brother Brice Lee Jr, sister Harriette and husband Dave Walter, sister Marge Anderson, brothers-in-law Brian and Lynn Kurtz, and special family member Don Vernon.

He will forever be remembered by friends and family and his army "band of brothers" from Charlie Company.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to HopeWest, 725 S. 4th Street, Montrose CO 81401.

LARRY CLAYTON PFISTER

December 26, 1953-June 6, 2021

LARRY CLAYTON PFISTER, of Montrose, Colorado, passed away on June 6th, 2021 at the age of 67 after a short illness at home.

Larry is survived by his wife, Carolyn Pfister; his children, Terra Janaun (Pfister) Melvin and husband Waco, Stark Lance Clayton Pfister Morrison, Brett Jay Pfister and wife Savannah; step children, Sarah (Gallegos) Herring and husband Nathan, Ian Gallegos, Candace (Gallegos) Smith and husband Garret; and his grandchildren, Autumn and Jonathan Melvin, Joel and Arlie Smith, Avery and Oliver Pfister, and Marc and Ann Herring; a sister Patricia (Pfister) Toles and husband Doyce. He is preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Judy (Pfister) Gourley and husband Larry; and first wife, Vickie (Bellew) Pfister.

Larry was born in Montrose County on

December 26, 1953 to Les and Dorothy (Bowker) Pfister. He graduated from Grand Junction High School and became a Carpenter and skilled Craftsman. In time, he went on to create his own company; Rocky Mountain Hardwood Floors. On the 4th of April, 1975, he married Vickie Bellew and they had three children and 33 years of marriage before her passing in 2008. Those children produced four grandchildren for Larry to dote on. On the 1st of June, 2012, he married Carolyn (Berger) Gallegos, a long-time friend of the family, who had also been widowed. With this marriage came the addition of 2 more daughters, another son, and 4 more grandchildren to share his life.

Larry was a devoted father, a loving husband, a fun-loving grandpa, and an Elder of his home church in Montrose. He enjoyed hiking, kayaking and riding his mo-

torcycle in the Rockies, travelling (especially to Israel), drawing and painting, reading (especially about history), wood-working, planning church activities, and was a brown belt in Judo and a third-degree black belt in Shoto-Kan Karate, of which he was also a Sensei. He was baptized into The General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn when he was 14 years old and devoted himself to it for 53 years, until his race was run. He was a spiritual man who believed in hard work and service to his family and others. He will be deeply missed by his friends, family, church, students, and all who knew him.

A memorial service is scheduled for 10 a.m. on June 28, 2021 at the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn on 6175 Rd. in Montrose. Norm Nation and Nathan Herring will officiate.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

MARY ELLEN COFFEE

June 6, 1932 - June 13, 2021

MARY ELLEN COFFEE went to be with her Lord and Savior on June 13, 2021. She was born to Howard Everett Moon and Anna Maxine (Wooten) Moon on June 6, 1932 in Manter, Kansas. The dust bowl forced the family to leave Kansas and move to Montrose, CO in 1937. Mary Ellen graduated from Montrose High School in 1949. She met and married Vernon "Red" Dolan. They lived in, and around, Telluride, Colorado to Price, Utah, before settling in Cortez, Colorado. Tragically, Vernon passed away suddenly in 1961, leaving his 28 year old wife and four children ranging from 18 months to 11 years of age.

Mary Ellen married a second time and moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico. That union ended in divorce in 1975. In 1977, Mary Ellen married Earl M. Coffee who gave her the life she deserved. With her children raised, Mary Ellen and Earl were able to travel all over the world, to places she never imagined she would go. Mary Ellen lost Earl in 1997 and returned to Montrose in 1998 to help take care of her father.

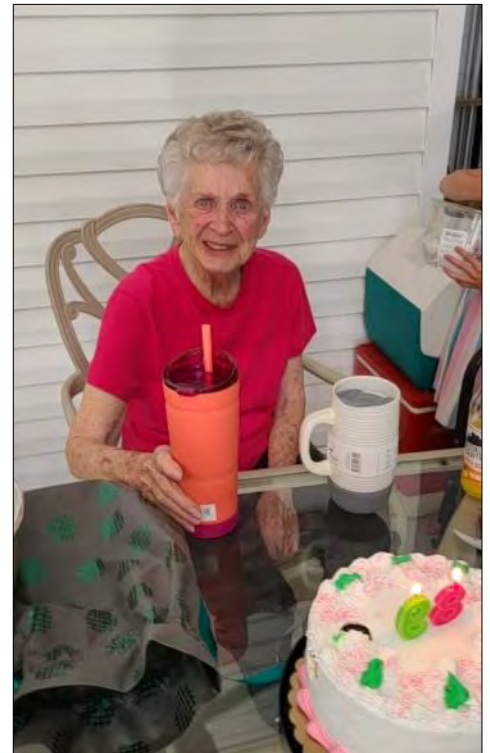
Her spirit continues in her children, Ronna Griffin of Lafayette, GA, Mauri E. Dolan of Montrose, CO, Adele Frangos (Bill) of Montrose, CO, Stepson Marlin Coffee Sr. (Lynn) of Chandler, AZ.

Six grandchildren, Crystal Goins (Terry) of GA, Tara Spencer, Adam Frangos (Colleen) of Suwanee, GA, Vanessa Sim-



mons (Jason) of Montrose, CO, Step grandchildren, Marlin Coffee Jr. (Kim) of Dallas, TX and Eric Coffee (Kristi) of Gilbert, AZ. 13 great grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren and her long-time companion Robert "Red" Keenan of Olathe, CO.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister, Verna P. Cater, her daughter Raonna Spradling, her stepson Timothy Coffee and her granddaughter Danielle Dolan.



Mary Ellen was loved and will be missed terribly. It breaks our hearts to have to say good-bye!

A viewing will be held Tuesday, June 22 at 5-7pm. At Crippin Funeral Home Chapel. The funeral service will be Wednesday, June 23 at 10am at Crippin Funeral Home, 802 East Main St., Montrose, CO 81401.

In lieu of flowers, we ask donations be made to HopeWest Hospice.

Thank you for reading
THE MONTROSE MIRROR

ISSUE 321 June 21

ART & SOL

GRAND MESA VISITOR CENTER OPENS



Grand Mesa Visitor Center. Courtesy photo by Bob Wick.

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION— The Grand Mesa Visitor Center will open for the summer beginning June 19, 2021. The visitor center will be open every day through the last Sunday in September from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visitors can purchase maps, Recreation Passes (Annual, Senior, Access Passes). Forest Service fuelwood permits will not be available for the 2021 season. Helpful staff are available during the summer season to answer your questions and provide

recommendations to enhance your visit.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, would like to remind visitors to recreate responsibly when visiting the forest and respect the resource. Don't drive on wet and muddy side roads creating resource damage, adhere to Forest regulations, demonstrate camping etiquette, be bear aware and practice Leave No Trace principles. For a complete list of campgrounds on the Forest, opening and closing dates, and reservation fees, visit

our [website](#). Campers are asked to observe general camping etiquette including following all posted rules in campgrounds, respecting quiet hours and leaving campsites clean for the next visitor. Seasonal trail and wilderness crews are out and active on the forest clearing trails and beginning to work on summer projects. Visitors can expect to encounter crews working in the vicinity of where they are recreating. If you come across a downed tree or other issues on a trail, campground or overlook, report it to your local Ranger Station. Remember to Leave No Trace. It's up to all of us to minimize our impact, to travel softly, leaving no trace of our visit so that future generations can enjoy these special places we all love. Help to protect your national forests by following the 7 [Leave No Trace](#) Principles:

Plan ahead and prepare

Travel and camp on durable surfaces

Dispose of waste properly

Leave what you find

Minimize campfire impacts

Respect wildlife

Be considerate of other visitors

For more information about camping and recreation on the Grand Mesa National Forest, call the Grand Valley Ranger District at (970) 263-4100. For information and updates on current fire restrictions, conditions, and recreation opportunities on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests visit the [forest website](#). Connect with us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

HOTCHKISS TO HOST USA TRIATHLON AQUATHLON SERIES

Special to Art & Sol

HOTCHKISS-With the summer Olympic trials underway, the North Fork Pool, Park & Recreation District is pleased to be hosting their first USA Triathlon Splash N Dash Youth Aquathlon Series in Hotchkiss. This year's event is sponsored by Betera Coaching and Cody Stark Reigning Horses. The series is open to all kids, ages 7-15 and the event will take place at the Crossroads Trails and the North Fork Pool.

A Splash N Dash is a fun and fast-growing sport that combines running and swimming. The run can take place on a trail, a road, or a path. Similarly, the swim can take place in any body of water – a pool, a reservoir, or an ocean.

USA Triathlon's Splash N Dash Youth Aquathlon Series will feature a swim/run combination. This is the eighth year for the Series but the first of its kind to be held in Delta County.

District Administrator, Lenore Cambria is pleased to have Coach Kathy Goody coordinating this event. Coach Kathy has over 20 years developing and implementing triathlon training programs for adults and children. She is a certified USAT Race Director, Certified USAT L2 Coach, Certified USAT Youth and Junior Coach. Kathy, herself, is a three-time Triathlon Worlds Qual-

ifier and Ironman Finisher.

Coach Kathy has partnered with USAT for over five years to bring the Splash N Dash Aquathlon to the local communities she works with. Recently Goody relocated to the Western Slope, from North Carolina, where she was Director of a highly successful Triathlon Training Academy for kids and adults. Kathy is thrilled to get a multisport/triathlon training program started in the area. Check out betera-coaching.com for more information.

While this series culminates in a Race to be held on July 31st, the focus is on PARTICIPATION rather than competition. The series will expose youth participants to USA Triathlon and the exciting world of multisport! Timing will not be required at each event, although it is acceptable. All events within the series will be USA Triathlon sanctioned.

Why Participate? The event exposes and educates youth to the multisport lifestyle, all while being involved in a fun, exciting, and safe atmosphere! It will really help you to "get your feet wet!"

Young athletes will be engaged in pre-race training and have an opportunity to meet friends and other youth athletes who are interested and engage in the multisport lifestyle! Best of all, this event re-

quires less equipment than that of a triathlon since a Splash and Dash (aquathlon) does not require a bike. This year's North Fork event will include Race Day and six optional Tuesday night training sessions with Coach Kathy. Option One is for ages 7-10 and will require swimming 100 yards (4 lengths in the pool) and a 1k run on the Crossroads Trails.

Option Two is for ages 11-15 and will require swimming 200 yards (8 lengths in the pool) and a 2k run on the trails. The cost for the race will be \$15/person and prior to the event, a USAT Youth membership is required, at a cost of \$10.

Training sessions are offered at a cost of \$5 per Tuesday session or you can purchase a discount 6 punch pass to attend multiple sessions.

Training begins on June 22nd and will be offered weekly, on June 29, July 6, 13, 20 & 27, beginning at 5pm at the North Fork Pool.

Practice your distance in the pool and on the trails; learn techniques, tips and tricks about swimming and running. Kids can get used to the event distance in a fun, friendly atmosphere.

Then participate on Race day, July 31 at 5:30pm. For registration and more details, go to: northforkrecreation.com



8500

ANONYMOUS

Download The APP. P3TIPS


/ MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS

see something, say something

YOUR BODY AND BRAIN ON NATURE: WEEKLY COLUMN

By Lauren Hall Ruddell

Greetings Mirrorites,
This initial post heralds a new feature for this newspaper.

This weekly column will be dedicated to the ways in which the brain in all of its glory affects our human potential. Do we thrive, or merely survive? There is no judgment here, only information that I hope will both enlighten and entertain, while poking the reader to consider their life from a number of different angles.

In my life, I have been a risk taker. I do like to analyze certain parameters in advance to minimize the risk, and every so often, I have turned an opportunity down. I will never know if that was a good thing or a bad thing, in most instances. I have also said yes to some opportunities where I have said, I'm pretty sure that until I die, the jury will be out on whether they were a good call. I've been married and divorced, traveled the world, and attained a PhD at the age of 55. It's been a whirlwind tour of life, the universe, and everything. Heartache, failure and rejection have certainly been a part of that tour, but so has joy, elation, satisfaction, fascination, achievement and laughter, lots of laughter.

My deepest, loudest, and most persistent muse is fascination with the natural world. That is not true for all folks, and that's OK. But it is definitely true for me. And because this is my column, I am going to emphasize the wellness benefits of time spent in nature, especially from a mental health perspective. From cognitive wellness and acuity, to memory maintenance and mood improvement, my editorial angle is going to be that of a nerdy, over-educated naturalist. It will be based in science and not opinion, although I will offer opinions occasionally just to stimulate further thinking, and to keep things lively.

Each week, at the end of the post, I will invite readers to submit questions. One of those questions will be answered at the beginning of the next post. I will also hint

at what the next submission may be about, and sometimes answer questions about that topic, before I even discuss it further with you all, gentle readers. Questions will be saved, and every so often, I will trot several of them out that seem pertinent to issues and live style trends for the Western Slope. Questions can be submitted to agescapesnow@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you. Oh, one more thing I guess I have to say (sigh)...emails that are abusive or inappropriate in any way will not be saved, nor responded to, and the sender will be blocked.

Now onto the meat and potatoes of this week's topic.

As I don't have to tell so many of you gentle readers, the last 15 months have been horrific. The level of uncertainty introduced into our lives has been catastrophic. Is there anyway there can be a silver lining to any of this anxiety, and in many cases, grief?

The answer is yes, sort of. We humans often don't do well with uncertainty. It can herald wonderful changes or fresh catastrophes. I find that having a little more certainty in my life about the pandemic right now is definitely a relief. My uncertainty about this year's fire season increases my anxiety. I'm sure my concerns and anxieties are pretty representative of the human experience, especially here in Colorado right now.

So about uncertainty. A journal that I try to keep up with, *Frontiers in Psychology*, published a paper in 2019 on emotions and uncertainty. The researchers who authored the paper stated that..."Uncertainty and affective feelings are both fundamental aspects of human life. People are uncertain about the weather, how long they will live, and how other human beings will act in a given situation. People experience affective feelings (e.g., anger, anxiety, and pleasure) related to traffic, medical diagnoses, and social interactions. Uncertainty and affect also appear to be closely linked to each



Lauren Hall Ruddell. Courtesy photo.

other. People typically find uncertainty to be aversive (Carleton, 2016b)...however, in some circumstances, people seem to find uncertainty attractive and seek out uncertainty..."

An attraction to novelty, to satisfying curiosity, to finding out what's just around the corner or over the mountain, is also a solid foundation of the human experience. It can be very appealing and bring out the best in us. Crossing thresholds can be terrifying, yes. Not crossing them can result in stagnation, a sort of living death.

So, when we're facing a difficult decision such as leaving a job that's no long in alignment with our values and passions, or staying in that job because of reliable financial security and a rewarding social network despite feelings of inertia and pointlessness, well what's a human to do? Or in Colorado, do I take that unknown path (a literal path) and find out that I'm suddenly alone and faced with a bear, a hostile dog, or heat exhaustion? Will I get lost? If I sprain my ankle, will someone come along to assist me? All excellent and rational concerns. There is no perfect decision, only those that resonate with the person's risk tolerance and inclinations to cross thresholds.

The ancient Greeks and later the Romans had a concept about a life well-lived. They called it *Eudamonia*. A life well lived should have demonstrated plenty of

Continued next pg

YOUR BODY AND BRAIN ON NATURE: WEEKLY COLUMN

From previous pg

human flourishing, prosperity and general blessedness. They also claimed that a person's peers or chroniclers would never be able to claim that person A, B, or C had lived a eudemonic existence until after they were dead. Sounds harsh, but think about it. After death, there are no more uncertainties, the final threshold has been crossed. The curtains have closed and no further actions or inactions, either good or bad, wise or foolish, can be taken. For me, a eudemon life means periodically crossing a threshold, whether it's social, professional, or spiritual. My best friend is a person of very different values. To her, all thresholds represent unacceptable risk. She hasn't crossed one in twenty years. For her, that is the correct path to a life-well lived, but as the years have advanced, I see a physical and cognitive devolution that may not have been necessary.

Our decisions, whether they are to stay put in a safe place, or to seek risk and cross a threshold, affect our brains. And our brains affect our physical wellness. From joyfulness, to creativity, to ingenuity, to physical and athletic soundness and excellence, our tendencies toward or away from uncertainty determine who we become, every day, until we die.

So now, factoid for this week...Did you know that Montrose is getting older? Well duh, every town gets older. But what I mean here is that the population is aging. Another duh? OK, OK. But seriously, as I mentioned in an earlier article for The Mirror, the average age of Montrose citizens was 42 years old in 2017. By 2018 it was 44.2. That is statistically significant. So, there are a lot more seniors with the sorts of needs that go with the ungainly process of aging.

The aches, pains, forgetfulness, and often sadness that seems to visit so many folks over the age of 65 can be helped hugely by time spent in nature.

Science is fast getting on board with the importance of senior citizens interacting with natural environments regularly. One recent study of seniors in Vancouver re-

ported that the majority of participants expressed "feelings of renewal, rejuvenation, and restoration" from time spent either in woodlands or the seaside. So moods were elevated. Moods are a big deal where wellness is concerned. More on that later.

But what does 'renewal, rejuvenation, and restoration' really mean? It sounds great, and it echoes my experience of nature, but is it measurable? Quantifiable? Hard to be sure with this one study.

But wait, there's more science! So now I get to stop scratching my head and I can leap back into my comfort zone with the study below.

"In a long-term study, participants going for a daily outdoor walk at age 70 reported significantly fewer new complaints at age 77 concerning musculoskeletal pain, sleep problems, urinary incontinence, and decline in ability to do normal daily activities compared to those who did not go outside daily... In a study of over 1,800 people over age 65 living in their own homes, limitations in daily tasks (such as bathing and dressing) were most strongly correlated with going outside the home less than once a week. Going outdoors in one's neighborhood at least once a week (and more often), is beneficial for maintaining physical function in physically limited elders." Ah, research from [Wolf and Housely, 2016](#), making me feel the solid ground of facts under my feet, and not just warm, fuzzy emotions (although those are great as well). So, there are indications that time in nature makes older people feel better emotionally, and that it also helps them physically. Great news, but what has this got to do with the Western Slope?

Well, it turns out that Montrose City alone has an incredible abundance of green spaces, from 26 parks to miles of trails and paved walkways. It is also an award-winning Tree City, with over 7,000 trees within the city limits (although more wouldn't hurt.) So there are plenty of opportunities for all to commune with semi-

wild to wild nature. And that's just the city, never mind some of the most spectacular mountain scenery and exploration opportunities in the US within an hour's drive or less.

The very best choice for mental and physical health is wild nature. Decades of research on this topic show that walking in greenspaces is more beneficial than even the most pleasant of urban settings. The sounds and sights of unrestrained nature tap into parts of the brain that enable restorative experiences and mood elevation. Time in nature can even make you smarter.

I'm not making this up! For instance, a colleague of mine found that study participants who listened to nature sounds like crickets chirping and waves crashing performed better on demanding cognitive tests than those who listened to urban sounds like traffic and the clatter of a busy café (Van Hedger, S.C., et. al., [Psychonomic Bulletin & Review](#), Vol. 26, No. 2, 2019).

The point of this is that if you are over 65, it is more critical than ever to make time in nature a part of your daily routine *if at all possible*. Weekly is better than nothing, if that is all that can be managed. This is a threshold that many seniors in our community can cross with ease, if they just take that first step to find a path that winds along the river, or a little used trail close by their housing. No harm in going with quiet companions or a guide if that makes crossing that threshold a little less alarming.

See how I brought all of that back around to your brain, your brain on nature, and recreation opportunities in and around Montrose!

Future posts will examine related topics such as green exercise and your brain, time spent in nature and your attention span, mental health and mood benefits of time spent in nature, and well, you get the picture.

Be well and get outside,
Lauren Hall Ruddell, PhD.



LIKE US

Colorado-ology

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MINING AND RECLAMATION CONFERENCE IN TELLURIDE SEEKS ARTISTS, WRITERS, SCIENTISTS AND DREAMERS



Valley Floor. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE-Minerals are extracted from the earth to create the tools and equipment used in many daily tasks from working to traveling and being comfortable in our homes.

Imagine developing extraction processes that minimize environmental disturbance and integrate water protection. That's the vision of the nonprofit organizers of the San Juan Mining & Reclamation Conference.

On Sept. 22-24, the eleventh annual conference will be hosted in Telluride by the San Miguel Watershed Coalition, Mountain Studies Institute, Headwaters Alliance, and Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. Inspired by Telluride's strong commitment to visual and performing arts, this year's theme is "Solving Pandora's Box: the application of the arts and humanities to the challenges of mining and reclamation."

The primary goals of this annual conference are to bring together diverse stakeholders to discuss the science and policy of mining, mine lands remediation, and water quality as it relates to non-point source pollution, improving mining practices, and addressing water quality impairments. Hosted in a different San Juan Mountain community each year, the conference highlights the host area's mining heritage and successes in conducting mine reme-



Matterhorn. Courtesy photo.

diation and water quality improvement projects through workshops, field tours, and presentations.

The 2021 event will explore past examples of and future opportunities for incorporating the arts and humanities into various aspects of mining and reclamation project design and implementation. The theme of managing consequences with creative solutions is also intended to inspire discussion of innovative community engagement and collaboration.

"We are excited for the opportunity to integrate artists of all genres into our program, in addition to the innovative scientists and entrepreneurs who we have invited in the past. We value the artists' perspectives and hope their participation this year will inspire conference attendees and stimulate new ideas and appreciation of the issues at hand," said San Miguel Watershed Coalition Interim Executive Director Adrian Bergere, the Telluride-based nonprofit dedicated to giving the communities and stakeholders in

the watershed a voice to direct the future management of watershed resources.

In addition to abstract submissions from science, business, regulatory and nonprofit leaders for talks, demonstrations, and roundtable discussions, the conference committee is seeking proposals from artists including sculptors, painters, textile artists, musicians, dancers, songwriters, and others for art that can be exhibited and performed during the event.

The submission deadlines are June 27 for abstracts and July 9 for artistic proposals.

For the first time ever, the conference committee is also organizing a Fiction Writing Contest around the topic of mining and reclamation. Similar to other submissions, entering the writing contest is free. The submission deadline is August 20. See the conference website for more details on all submission requirements.

The conference will be at the Sheridan Opera House, Peaks Resort and Transfer Warehouse, as well as field trip sites around Telluride. A limited number of rooms is reserved at the Peaks Resort and Spa for 33% off normal prices (\$269 for king or double king rooms) for a limited time. Conference attendees can use the conference [registration link](http://www.mountainstudies.org/sjmrc) tied to the special code, or ask for "San Juan Mining Conference" when registering to receive the discount. The nonprofit organizers are also seeking sponsors to help support the administration of the conference and fund conference events. Sponsorship information is available at <http://www.mountainstudies.org/sjmrc>, or by emailing info@mountainstudies.org or calling 970.387.5161. Additional information about the conference theme, submissions and past conferences can be found at <http://www.mountainstudies.org/sjmrc>, or by emailing info@mountainstudies.org or calling 970.387.5161.

FAITH COLUMN: DEACON SPEAKIN' WITH DWIGHT HARP



Anglican Deacon Dwight Harp. Courtesy photo.

By Dwight Harp

MONTROSE-I built the summers of my youth around my work. It wasn't work really because I loved it. From my sophomore year in high school my weekends and after school was spent at the local radio station. My shifts increased during the summers. I was a disc jockey.

"In the summertime when all the leaves and trees are green and the redbird sings..." That Roger Miller tune sets the tone for some of my favorite memories of summer. Being a disc jockey as I grew up, music played a big part in my emotional formation. After Mom died I knew I had at least one fan tuned in-Dad.

I remember finishing a newscast and then looking at the board and the mic switch was in the off position. I had to call Dad to insure I'd hadn't just read five minutes of Associated Press copy to myself and the audience heard nothing. I even quizzed him about a story to make sure he wasn't just being nice and supportive. Yes, if the mic failed, there's always music.

Country was the first format I worked. I could choose really classic songs from Hank Williams or other giants of that era from an awesome library. Our format was: current-current-recurrent-oldie... Every fourth song was really a classic.

Eclectic describes my musical tastes. Hank Williams, yes. But also, Julie Andrews. My heart swells when I hear her singing, "The hills are alive with the sound of music..." When that motion picture came to town, I was first at the box office. I love musicals to this day. Suffice it to say, music made most of my days in the summertime. No school meant more time to work. I loved my disc-jockey work. Sign-on shifts turned out to be my niche.

My dad rose early and he sent my black cocker spaniel down the hall to get me out

of bed early. Early became natural for me. I liked thinking I was waking the town. I kinda did. People had to wake a little to "get" the jokes I'd relate. I've been a "G-rated" jokester for a long time.

How will you remember this summer?

Will it be a summer of love like back in the 'Hippy-60's?" Consider for yourself whether there is any basis for this being a new Summer of Love for you.

Most Christians consider themselves loving people, even though not in the same sense as the 1960's "Summer of Love." The two great commandments, we all know, call us to love God and love one another. Surely most of us get that part right. But how do we escape the barrage of discord and dissension headlining our news and media outlets. Standing up for what is right has become less important than criticizing, and even demonizing, the other side just because we think they are wrong. Too often it seems our hate grows louder and louder.

The Middle East and Third world countries have their issues and have had for many years, but that's not all. Not too long ago we didn't have to travel very far to find Roman Catholics and Protestants killing each other in an English-speaking country from which some of us descended. But where does our hate come from? We don't talk about hate much in church or other places. Hate is hard to talk about. It's easier and feels better to talk about love, or perhaps not loving enough.

Our weekly liturgy ensures we confess that we have not loved God with our whole hearts, and not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Is that the same as confessing my hate for someone? I pray love and hate aren't binary emotions with nothing in-between.

Do we hate (or not love) someone because they are not just like me?

Racial differences are just one aspect of the problem, for the basis of hate can be any kind of fear or insecurity. We acted out in anger and outrage, it gets dangerous, as when Cain slew Abel.

Another musical I really like is "South Pacific!" "I'm gonna wash that man right out of my hair...and send him on his way..." is a scene etched into my memory. But

there's another scene that brings today's subject clearly into focus. Lieutenant Cable sings to, the Pacific Island girl, Liat, this song. The lyrics sharpen the point on today's subject.:

*"You've got to be taught
To hate and fear,
You've got to be taught
From year to year,
It's got to be drummed
In you dear little ear,
You've got to be carefully taught.
You've got to be taught to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made,
And people whose skin is a different shade,
You've got to be taught before it's too late,
Before you are six, or seven, or eight,
To hate all the people your relatives hate,
You've got to be carefully taught,
You've got to be carefully taught."*

Those lyrics say clearly what I think needs to be said and learned by all, because every life does matter.

South Pacific opened on Broadway in 1949 and the movie came out nine years later. How much have we learned in those seventy plus years?

Jesus did his best to carefully teach His disciples. He knew they needed to be carefully taught so as to unlearn their hate for others, especially for the Samaritans, but also for anyone who was not considered one of God's chosen people. He taught the Jewish leaders that the fact of being a descendant of one of Jacob's twelve sons was not all that significant in God's eyes. Their fear of such teaching led them to His crucifixion, the ultimate cancellation. But that certainly didn't end the story of His love. Was His unconditional love enough to cancel hate?

It was meant to be! As painful as it may be, take time to wonder and wander in your mind what you, by your words and actions, are teaching those around you? What impressions do you create on those who interact with you either professionally or socially. I pray that it is not who to hate and/or how to hate.

As followers of Jesus of Nazareth, there need be no one who is, to us, a hated Samaritan.

Jesus forgives our history of hate and teaches us to hate no one. We can then remember this summer as THE SUMMER WE CANCELLED HATE!

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMEA MOVES LOCAL GRID INTO FIRE PROTECTION MODE

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Due to extraordinarily high temperatures and dry weather, last night Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) put in effect its fire prevention procedures. The precautionary measures rely more heavily on fieldwork by operations personnel and less on the use of DMEA's automated and remotely controlled equipment. This special mode of operations greatly reduces the risk of a fire being started by electrical equipment but does come with ramifications: DMEA members may experience longer than normal power outages.

"Our fire precaution procedures can extend the length of power outages in some cases. For instance, under normal circumstances, we can reconnect equipment remotely from our office. In fire prevention mode, we require our crew members to have eyes on the equipment before any attempt at restoration. This reduces our fire risk, but does take more time," explained Troy Hall, DMEA Operations Manager.

DMEA asks for member patience and, when necessary, cooperation. It's especially important for members to report any issues or damage to DMEA immediately. In many cases, a single phone call can save hours of searching by helping the co-op narrow its focus and pinpoint the cause of an outage. DMEA asks members who observe anything that seems out of the ordinary concerning power lines or power equipment to:

First and foremost—stay clear of the area in question

Call DMEA's main number at 877-687-3632 to report the situation

"Providing safe and reliable power to our members is our number one priority. But, outages will happen and members should always be prepared – weather, wildlife, cars hitting poles, and the like can all result in outages," said Hall. "We ask for our members' patience and assistance as we reduce fire risk and hopefully get through this time safely."

DMEA will return to normal operating

procedures when the fire danger rating decreases to a safe level. DMEA reminds members to always report outages by calling 877-687-3632. Members are urged

to report all outages and not rely on others to call in. Email and social media are not reliable for reporting outages, as they are not continuously monitored.

Enjoy Independent Living with Us!



Independent Living Apartment Homes

Discover a variety of large, private living spaces in a comfortable, home-like community where you can be as independent as you like. And there's the added benefit of neighbors nearby and conveniences like cooked meals and housekeeping services, if desired.

We have it all! Call today to arrange a visit.

We look forward to meeting you.

Lease by June 30 and enjoy half off July rent!



The Homestead at Montrose

1819 Pavilion Drive
Montrose CO 81401
970-964-3400
homesteadatmontrose.org



Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: EDUCATION

MHS 2ND SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

The following students were named to the Honor Roll for the 2nd Semester 2020-2021 School year at Montrose High School. To be eligible for Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least six classes and earn a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74.

9th Grade

Kyden Adams, Giovanni Aguirre, Irving Alcantara-Chavez, Cruz Almaraz-Flores, Ivana Arellano-Villegas, Amelia Balzarini, Joseph Blubaugh, Addison Bogart, Stephanie Carroll, Kolton Cohick, Sheldon Collin, Chiara Coronado-Rosales, Lesly Corrales-Lerma, Aria Cummings, Laura Diaz, Jonathan Dreitlein, Elijah Echols, Garret Edgell, Hayley Eldridge, Stevie Firkins, Gaililea Garcia, Danyelle Gleason, Jacob Gloria, Samantha Go, Landon Herald-Linville, Elliott Highland, Autumn Huchel-Sullender, Jaxon Kattner, Caden Kay, Bridget Kingery, Julie Ledesma-Suarez, Natalie Lopoez-Ramirez, Nyah Loyd, Brentt Lucero, Brandi Martinez, Jonas Maxwell, Cian McPhail, Garrett Mitchell, Lilly Moore, Arayah Mora, Laticia Mora, Olivia Muzik, Violet Noel, Cristal Padron-Garcia, Taygan Rocco, Ilse Rosales, Cailey Sanchez, Chase Semones, Lizeth Serafin-Morales, Gabriel Silva, Alexandra Stambaugh, Alonzo Trujillo, Julian Urquizo-Munroe, Gage Wareham, Titus Weese, Jack White, and Alena Yarbrough

10th Grade

Nadia Aguilar, Kamron Alegria, Adam Arellano, Cynthia Barboza, Kendyll Bernatis, Logan Boyers, Jacob Brooks, Altan Brown, America Chavez-Carrera, Giselle Cisneros, Jasmin Cisneros, Quincy Cooling, Yasmin Cornejo-Martin, Mauricio Coronado, Grace Davidson, Tara Duncan, Natasha Duncan, Jason English, Brooklynne Gurney, Grace Hotsenpiller, McKenzie Howell, Zakary Kuretech, Donoval Matamoros-Perea, Gail Mendoza Josiah Mora, Emily Raphael, Raul Rascon-Banda, Jeovanny Roman-Valdez, Lizbeth Sandoval-Morales, Claire Taylor, Jaxxon Tosi, Alicea Vigil, Jarrett Whitcomb, and Ingrid Zuniga

11th Grade

Ann Acevedo, Grace Ansell, Ailianna Ayers, Wesley Booher, Duncan Canfield,

Nyobi Cramer, Hallie Fenton, Luca Field-Licon, Abby Hauptmann, Joseph Kersen, Jakota Leiby, Israel Marquez, Brianna Martinez, Mia Martinez, Savanna Martinez, Madisen Matoush, Madalyn Morin, Isabela Serrano, Makayla Shreeves, JayDee Skees, Madison Smith, Kaiden Tafoya, Eduardo Vasquez-Suarez, and Mari Wilson

12th Grade

Henry Allison, Tyler Eckerman, Viridiana Gonzalez, Chelsey Hernandez-Bogarin, Sierra Maestas, Vanessa Ortega-Almanza, Tyler Reed, and Hannah Ryser

The following students were named to the Principal's Honor Roll for the 2nd Semester 2020-2021 school year at Montrose High School. To be eligible for the Principal's Honor Roll, students must be enrolled in at least six classes, excluding pass/fail classes, and earn a grade point average of 3.75 and above. An asterisk denotes all A's.

9th Grade

Giada Amundson*, Jackson Barnett, Hunter Barton*, Austine Berry*, Parker Blackford*, Andie Blowers*, Kolter Booth, Christina Boutwell, Danika Bush, Kenzie Bush*, Bailey Cheezum*, Olivia Cook, Kendyl Cox, Ruby Crane, John Cruz*, Zander DelaRosa, Lillian Dickerson*, Mia Duncan*, Ivan Edstrom, Vivian Encarnacion*, Abygayle England, Joaquin Eudave, Landon Farley*, Shandra Findley*, Kenneth Flanders*, John Flower*, Vaughn Gann, Emma Gomez*, Kallie Good, Aleah Goodwin, Blake Griffin*, Brandon Grijalva-Castro, Jadyn Hall, Kyrstyn Hall*, Seth Hassee*, Annabelle Hawkins*, Yarisbel Hernandez-Serrano*, Harrison Hilderbrand, Cutter Hudson, Carter Hughes*, Dylan Jessop*, Zoey Kasamis*, Jaxon Kelley*, Jaxon Killen, Savannah Kolb, Joseph Kubin, Abigail Lambert*, Elizabeth Lee, Gabrielle Lewis, Madison Lucero, Norma Maldonado-Flores*, Logen Matoush, James Maunakea*, Maryellen McCracken*, Nathan McWilliams, Grace Moore, Rhyann Neary*, Micah Nichols*, Leonor Nieves-Chavez*, Morgan Nutter*, Rylee Palmer, Olivia Palmer*, Ashlee Petranovich*, Jaella Price, Daisy Ramirez, Gabriel Robertson*, Rachel

Robuck*, Amy Scriffiny, Victoria Serna-Uscanga, Breyana Shipley*, Kathryn Storry*, Kaden Tanner, McKenzie Taylor, Jericho Tosi, Natalie Trask*, Ellie Trendera, Tahlia Trevino*, Kyle Ullmann*, Christopher Vargas-Gomez*, Eleanor Waldon*, Colton Ward*, Aubrielle Weaver*, Sean Welsh*, Tiffany Wu*, and Melaina Yender*

10th Grade

Samantha Beer, Connor Bell*, Ciana Belier*, Tatum Berry*, Aiden Bugarin*, Gadiel Castillo*, Sydnee Coldiron, Kiersten Conrad, Vane Couturier*, Caitlyn Dillon*, David Dominguez*, Kate Donohoe*, Adia Eberling*, Logan Files*, Sheldon Frasier*, Luis Gonzalez, Yesenia Gonzalez*, Jonas Graff*, Tyler Graves*, Olivia Guseman*, Jennifer Gutierrez-Camacho, Kenadee Hadlock, Alise Hardie, Natalie Hernandez*, Bridget Hernandez, Trinity Huff, Clair Hunt*, Sarah Imus*, Jesus Jimenez, Andrew Jutten*, Riley Kettell*, Gwendolyn Kingery, Naomi Lee, Leonel Lopez, Mekhi Mangrum*, Rocco Manuel*, Selene Marquez, Damaris Mendes, Lucero Mireles-Rodales, Isabella Montonati, Faith Moore, Lucas Motley*, Alyssa Oman*, Kelsey Parra*, Cole Patterson*, Alexander Radovich*, Edwin Ramos*, Yaphet Reyes-Powell, Carolina Rubalcaba, Tyson Saunders*, Tashi Sherpa*, Benjamin Silverberg, Joseph Simo*, Aaron Simpson*, Micah Simpson*, Brianna Stone*, Abigail Tracey, Maria VanArsdale, Dallas Willshire*, Lena Wilson, and Colten Withee

Principal's Honor Roll Continued:

11th Grade

Charlie Andrade-Saenz, Caitlin Bailey, Tessa Bailey, Kate Barnett*, Liam Berryhill*, Julia Beshoar*, Brooks Blackford*, Trystan Blundell, Taneya Booth, Ashly Brown, Danielle Brueggeman, Leo Burton*, Alayna Bustin*, Alexia Chavez, James Cheezum*, Paige Coddington, Paige Collins, Josephine Coulter, Grace Cross, Titus Diaz-Ruiz*, Lara Edeker, Matteson Embrey, Ashley Erdmier, Aiyanna Fabian, Taylor Foster*, Bode Greiner, William Griffin, Lillian Hamilton*, Jacob Hanson, Sarah Hartman*, Joan Heredia, Noel Huchel-Sullender, Collin Huffer*, Aiden

MHS 2ND SEMESTER HONOR ROLL From previous pg

Hutto*, Morgan Johnson*, Jacob Kettell, Jaedyn Key*, Shon LaBarr*, Zephaniah Luchavez, Rachel Maddox*, Abigail Martin, Cullen Masterson, Dane McCoid, Amy McCracken*, Valerie Merritt*, Siera Miha-vetz*, Gabriel Miller*, Yovanna Montoya-Briseno, Nathaniel Murphy*, Megan Neubaum*, Kail Nichols, Josiah Nichols, Michael Nikolaev, Ashley Ortega, Sarah Packard*, Michelle Padilla, Benjamin Per-fors, Jake Peterson, Samantha Phillips, Savannah Piquette, Melissa Portillo-

Hernandez, Samuel Preston*, William Ramsay, Alexis Ray, Ethan Robertson, Siya Salunke, Logan Semones, Elijah Tafoya*, Jacob Thompson, Maiah Thompson, Jon-nie Trujillo-Johnston, Brendan Ullmann,, Carissa Walker*, Corbin Whittington, Eric Williams*, Bridger Wilson, and Taylor Ya-nosky*, **12th Grade**
Emily Arndt*, Bailey Beard, Brianna Bond, Zachary Cagle*, Aliczander Cheairs*, Jor-dan Copeland, Hector Diaz-Segura, Veroni-ca Games-Jaquez*, Keagan Goodwin*,

Jadyn Gorham*, Natalia Graham, Jacob Green, Josephine Gross*, Sharfa Hossain, Jackson Imus*, Lizbeth Jaime-Mayorga*, Jordan Jennings, Jonah Johnson, Tobin Lanford, Payton Lee-Parker, Josiah Lopez, Jadonn Mangrum, Nels Motley, Caitlin Ogoe*, Zachary Oldroyd*, Mahlia Perez*, Abigail Phillips*, Hailey Sella*, Joshua Simpson, Denise Terrazas-Corona*, Kate-lynn Thompson*, Justine Valdez*, Alyssa VanVleet, Alexander Wheeler, and Gabriel Wigington.

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE: South-ern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email ad-

dress:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website:

www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-Sario

Worship service times: 9 AM for Sunday Worship, Monday Night Bible Study 6:30-8pm

Summit Church Montrose preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Chris-tians to serve the Lord.

Summit Church is a group of diverse peo-ple, (widows, retired couples, families with

adult children, families with young and school aged children, and recent high school and college graduates).

Our services are in English, but many in our congregation also speak Spanish, as we partner with Verdad Y Vida (a Spanish congregation meeting in the same build-ing).

We have a children's area we call "Base Camp" for children ages birth to Kinder-garten during the Sunday Service.

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

MONTROSE-As a way of serving the faith community in Montrose, the Montrose Mirror is in the process of establishing a Church Directory.

If your congregation or fellowship would like to be included in the directory, please supply the following information to the

Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address

Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

Please give a one sentence description of your church and its mission in the Mont-rose community.

Please give a one or two sentence descrip-tion of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles).

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

RECORD TURNOUT @ JUNE 17 MADA BIKE TO WORK DAY



MABA Bike to Work Day was held June 17. Courtesy photo.



A display of numbers from MABA's Bucks for Biking program, Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Thursday, June 17 was the Montrose Area Bicycle Alliance (MABA)'s June Bike to Work Day.

MABA Board Member Jeff Rice notes, "We had a record turnout of 61 bikers who stopped by San Juan Brews for a free coffee (donated by San Juan Brews) and a free breakfast burrito (provided by Montrose DART). A lot of the riders were participants of our Bucks for Biking program going on this month and it was great to

see them.

"Around 10 participants said they actually hadn't biked to work prior to the Bucks for Biking program. It is great to hear that the program has provided enough inspiration for some Montrose citizens to start biking to work."

Interestingly, there are more women bikers than men, Rice said.

"When talking to the public it is often women who have more questions about what to do regarding their hair or attire or

sweating. It is so great that these women have found a way that works for them in order to bike to work."

Here are some photos from the event along with some numbers from the program at the halfway point [on pg 39](#).

"The numbers of cars off the streets is incredible along with the miles biked so far," Rice said.

"Our numbers are still going really well even as temperatures are hitting triple digits."

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

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-Registration now open for Sept 2021 - Apr 2022 COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY, an international nondenominational Bible study. Studying Revelation Sep 2021-Jan 2022 and Christian Living (1,2,3 John, Jude & Philemon) Feb-Apr 2022. In person for women and children of all ages on Wednesday mornings 9-11. Virtual/Zoom for women Thursday evenings 6-7:15. Contact 720-635-0091 to register or for more information. Or come to our first meeting Wed., Sep. 8, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1840 E. Niagara St., Montrose, at 9AM.

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

June 4-July 2-Montrose Center for the Arts (MCA) will present its Second Annual Square Deal Show and Auction all through June. The show opening and reception will be Friday, June 4 from 5 – 7 at MCA located at 11 S. Park in Montrose. Bidding will be open until the end of our July First Friday event on July 2. Please call MCA at (970) 787-9428 for details or questions.

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.

June 22-Join us for a summertime frame of mind! Volunteers of America National Services Positive Aging Expo, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Homestead at Montrose (1819 Pavilion Drive) back lawn.

June 26-27-The Montrose Amateur Radio Club will participate in the nationwide Field Day, sponsored by the American Amateur Relay League, on Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27, 2021 on Sunset Mesa. To reach Field Day drive west on West Main Street, turn left on Chipeta Drive and then turn left again onto Sunset Mesa. Climb the hill and look for the antennas on the north end of the Mesa. For hams visiting the site the talk-in frequency is the Cedaredge Repeater of 147.195+, tone: 107. For more information contact Lew French at 970-417-6142, visit <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>, or visit the Montrose Amateur Radio on Facebook.

June 26--Former Delta resident Justin Charles Stauffer is releasing his first novel, and will be in town for a book launch event. Stauffer will be at Doghouse Espresso, 449 Main Street in Delta, from 10 am – 1 pm on Saturday, June 26, for the book launch and signing. Books are \$27.95. Please stop by to reconnect with Stauffer and his family, and pick up a copy of the book.

June 26-One of the more prolific thirty-something songwriters working in the Folk/Americana genre today, John Statz has released nine studio albums and performed all over North America and Europe over the course of his 15-year career. Statz will perform at Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery on June 26; the show starts at 7:30 (doors at 7) and tickets can be had here: <https://healthyrhythmartgallery.bigcartel.com/product/hrms-presents-john-statz-a-night-of-folk-america-music>.

June 27-On Sunday, June 27 the Montrose Community Band is happy to present their annual Free Patriot Concert. Location: Montrose Pavilion, 3 – 5 p.m. Come and enjoy your favorite marches and a refreshing dose of Americana.

July 1-MABA Cruiser Ride. We will meet at Rotary Park at 6:30p for participants to socialize and enjoy their BYOB. The theme for that ride is Freedom Ride and hopefully riders can get their Red, White, and Blue out. Wigs, silly outfits, and decorated bikes are always welcomed.

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 information.

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

MIRROR IMAGES...OUT & ABOUT!



After annual training operations in the dirt and mud, the military brought its vehicles to The Wash on N. Townsend to wash off all the dirt and mud.

Photos by Paul Arbogast



READY TO SELL YOUR BUSINESS?

WE HAVE BUYERS FOR YOUR BUSINESS.

LET'S TALK!

The market for selling a business has never been better!

Find out what **your business is worth**, while buyers are in acquisition mode.

Call me for details and a business valuation.



SHANE COPELAND

Certified/Licensed Business Broker

970-417-1516

scopeland@sunbeltnetwork.com



www.sunbeltnetwork.com/grand-junction-co/