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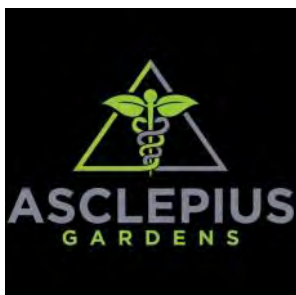
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# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh news for busy people!

Issue No. 449 Oct. 4, 2021

## DMEA NOT SEEING BUDGETED DROP IN COAL REVENUES



**Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Controller Andy Penfield (far right), stepped into the acting Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position which was recently vacated by Wade Pynes. Penfield is a six-year employee of DMEA.**  
*Photo by Gail Marvel*

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE The Sept. 28 Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors meeting, held in the Black Canyon Board Room, was called to order at 3 p.m.

DMEA co-op members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments, which is scheduled for 5 p.m.

Seven board members were present in person. Currently there are two DMEA board vacancies on the nine-member board. The vacancies occurred when Chris Hauck, District 5, passed away unexpectedly on July 29; and when former Board Secretary/Treasurer Brad Harding, District 3, resigned in early August because he moved to the Front Range.

*Continued pg 25*

## RE-1J BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATED ON FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Following the swearing in of Applicant Tom West to the vacant District D seat during the work session/meeting on Sept. 28, the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education heard an update on the progress of the facilities master plan.

RE-1J Property Services Director Philip Bailey introduced the presentation, and Ken Greg of RTA Architects shared slides and information on the progress made to date. Information included scheduling; demographics; school assessment findings; district-wide and grade-level priorities; and a sample web site designed to keep constituents informed throughout the planning process.

Data driven analysis of district facilities reveals planning elements, ranked by the severity of consequences if left unaddressed. Capacity analyses were created for all schools.

Greg discussed how the data-driven analysis will allow the plan to evolve as changes are implemented. "Being able to use a master plan over time...a living document, is really important," he said.

*Continued pg 3*



**Among the recommendations included in the RE-1J facilities master plan report is to replace Montrose High School, above, with a new facility.**

in this  
issue

**RE-1J Board Interview**  
**Two for District D Seat!**

**Contested races for three seats**  
**on RE-1J Board of Education!**

**Montrose Regional**  
**Crime Stoppers Alert!**



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CONTESTED RACES FOR THREE SEATS ON RE-1J BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE/OLATHE--Candidates for RE-1J board of Education November, 2021 include: District A Director Jeff Bachman, seeking re-election to a four-year term. Read Bachman's [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#) here.

Running for a four-year term in District C are Candidates Alice Murphy, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#); and Andrew Neal, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#).

Seeking re-election to the District E seat for a four-year term is Sarah Fishering, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#). District E challengers include Cortney Loyd, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#).

Seeking re-election to the District F seat for a two-year term is Eric Kelley, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#). Challengers include Dawn Schieldt, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#).

Seeking re-election to the District G seat for a four-year term is Stephen Bush, [Notice of Intent to be a Candidate](#) and [Bio](#).

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# RE-1J BOARD UPDATED ON FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

## From pg 1

said.

Planning efforts are currently in Phase D, Master Plan Development, Greg said. There have so far been six meetings of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Schools where enrollment is expected to grow over the next five years will have capacity issues, including Oak Grove and Cottonwood elementaries and Montrose High School.

Superintendent Carrie Stephenson addressed the need for more Early Childhood Education spots. The State of Colorado is emphasizing universal preschool, she noted. "That puts us in a precarious position with classroom space."

The need for Early Childhood Center

(ECC) spots is almost certain to grow, Board Vice President Sarah Fishering said, noting that private early childhood education providers in Montrose County are at full capacity, and there is a high attrition rate. "We can expect to see more demand, above and beyond," Fishering said.

Listed priorities for RE-1J facilities include minimum maintenance threshold; expansion of the ECC program; greater elementary school capacity; Peak Academy either move to a new location or build a new facility; remove modular buildings across the district; replace Montrose High School; improve Olathe Middle/High School; and improve Centennial Middle School.

If implemented, the project website would give full transparency to decision making, Superintendent Stephenson said. The stated priorities are recommendations, not decisions. "All of this data will be very helpful for us in planning for the future."

Board President Gayle Johnson said that the facilities master plan is among the district's most important accomplishments. "I thoroughly enjoy what you have done here," Johnson said. "We have needed to do this for years."

Following the presentation, the board voted to adjourn.

Read the full RE-1J facilities [master plan report](#) here.



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#### *Special to the Mirror*

**PUEBLO**—As part of the National Fire Prevention Week, participating agencies have committed to promoting a social media campaign to enhance the public's awareness of fire's role in forming the landscape. Fire is one of the most powerful forces of nature. While fire can be devastating and frightening, it is also essential for a healthy ecosystem. Is fire our friend or our foe? The answer is not simple because it all depends. Participating agencies will address this topic during National Fire Prevention Week.

Cooperating agencies recognize all parties stand to gain from even stronger collaboration. Mutually beneficial enhancement opportunities will only grow as the agencies continue to develop partnerships with key messaging that provides for clear and accurate information toward public officials, the public and media.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### PARTIAL CLOSURE FOR LITTLE CIMARRON ROAD AND FALL CREEK TRAILHEAD

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests issued a closure order for motorized vehicles on National Forest System Road (NFSR) #864—Little Cimarron Road from the Alpine/Little Cimarron Trailhead to the Fall Creek Trailhead beginning Oct. 2 through Oct. 13. The closure order also has a Restricted Area—Section 34 of Township 46 North, Range 05 West, N.M.P.M. The purpose of the closure is for public health and safety during the Fall Creek Trailhead Expansion Project. This project will expand the parking area at Fall Creek and Failes Creek Trailheads and provide additional infrastructure. The closure area encompasses areas near the trailhead where logging operations will be occurring, as well as heavy equipment moving material in the parking area.

Forest Officials ask the public to know before you go. Additional closure signs will

be placed on National Forest System roads and trails.

Travelers and forest visitors are asked to pay attention to the road and their fellow travelers. Follow all signs, be alert and avoid areas where heavy equipment is working.

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](#)).

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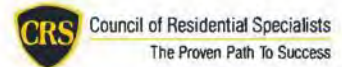
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# BOARD OF EDUCATION INTERVIEWS TWO FOR DISTRICT D SEAT; APPOINTS TOM WEST TO SERVE



**Applicant Jodi Woodden answered questions and discussed her interest in serving on the Board of Education.**

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—On Tuesday, Sept. 28, the Montrose County RE-1J Board of Education met for a work session/meeting. All were in attendance, including Board of Education President Gayle Johnson, Vice President Sarah Fishering, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District G Director Stephen Bush, District F Director Eric Kelley, and District A Director Jeff Bachman, who was present via video feed.

## DISTRICT D INTERVIEWS

The Board interviewed two applicants for the open District D seat formerly held by Shawn Carroll, who has moved out of District D. Applicants included Tom West, a former Board of Education President who was subject to term limits in 2019, and Jodi Wooden, a local parent.

Questions included a candidate's reason for wanting to serve, their vision of excellence for the district, guidelines for school board members on social media, the role of the Board of Education, the advantages and disadvantages of the current collective bargaining system with the Uncom-

pahgre Education Association (UEA), the candidate's connection to the school district, the day to day role of school board members, how the candidate would respond to a call from a parent complaining about a teacher, whether the candidate would support board of education decisions with which they do not agree, the role of the superintendent, and the current state of the school district.

West was first to interview, noting that he has contributed "a lot" to the school district over the years and hopes to continue. West came here in 1983 to serve as a football coach, and taught subjects such as history and driver's education for 33 years. All of his boys were students in RE-1J schools. "I am proud of what they have achieved...as a school district we have got to be proud of all of our kids."

The community can have an excellent school district by maintaining facilities, ensuring the safety of students, and ensuring equality for everybody. Social media is a fact of life for today's officials, but "the buck stops" with the Board President



**Applicant Tom West, term limited in 2019, was sworn in to fill the open District D seat.**

and Vice President, West said. "It's how you respond back to it."

Board of Education members serve as the diplomats of the school district and must seek common ground to ensure that decisions are made in the best interests of students. Collective bargaining is a balancing act between what is affordable to the district and what is acceptable through the negotiations process, he noted. The Superintendent, not the Board of Education, oversees day-to-day operations of the district. "She's the boss," West said, noting that the current superintendent was hired by a selection process that he was not part of. "We are putting a lot of responsibility on that person to be able to direct the day-to-day operations of the school district."

Any calls from parents would be referred to the building principal, as there is a chain of command. "There are steps which you need to take," West said. The Board of Education must come together to make decisions, he said. Current challenges facing the district include the state's mandate to replace the Indians mascot at Montrose High School. "We're up against the wall," West said. "It's the law now."

A balanced budget continues to be a priority, he said. "What about the finances now?"

The killing of a relatively young black person in the U.S. in 2020 has changed the whole perspective of the world, West said. "It made us more focused...it took the



## ***BOARD OF EDUCATION INTERVIEWS TWO FOR DISTRICT D SEAT; APPOINTS TOM WEST From previous pg***

wheels off the bus.”

West also mentioned Critical Race Theory (CRT), saying that teaching CRT in elementary schools would be a little too soon.

“It’s really a college situation...sorry to go off on a tangent.”

Woodden said that she has never served on a board before, and first and foremost, her motivation for applying to the District D seat was to ensure that the needs of kids and teachers are being met. “I am interested in being there for kids,” she said.

The school district is well run and has an excellence to it, she said. The role of the school board is to set policy, to oversee but not micromanage the superintendent, and to oversee finances. As a board of education director she would respect confidentiality rules, and would not use her personal social media for board purposes.

Woodden said she is not familiar with the collective bargaining process and would need to learn more. If, as a school board member, she received a phone from a parent upset with a teacher, Woodden said she would encourage that parent to take their concerns to the teacher first. “I would encourage parents to have a good relationship with their child’s teacher.”

Her own students are home schooled now, she said. Woodden later told the *Mirror* reporter that homeschooling her children was no reflection on the local schools, which she sees as excellent, but the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

Woodden also emphasized the importance of remaining cordial to other board members despite any disagreements. She asked the board several questions of her own, regarding decision-making processes, protocol, and the RE-1J web site.

### **DISCUSSION OF APPLICANTS**

Board of Education directors discussed both applicants prior to voting to appoint West to the District D seat. District G Director Stephen Bush abstained from the vote for personal reasons.

District A Director Jeff Bachman noted

that West brings experience and the perspective of a lifelong educator and former member of the Board of Education. “I also think Jodi brings some newness to the board...I like the idea of bringing in someone new, with fresh energy.”

District B Director Jacob Suppes said that West brings known experience to the board. “I would like to see Jodi find out more about what the board does, and about the school system,” he said. While Woodden is a good person and a great candidate, whoever is chosen for the District D seat will have to step in and start running. The fact that Woodden home schools her own children could give some people a bitter taste in their mouth, Suppes said, adding that he raised two children in the local schools.

District F Director Eric Kelley expressed thanks to West and Woodden. Still, “I’m not going to lie, I am with Jake on the home school—it’s a tough pill to swallow.”

To home school sends a mixed message for a Board of Education member, Kelley said. Also, “You’ve got to come in here with a big thirst for understanding how the system works.”

Bachman said that there is a learning curve for new board members. “Home school doesn’t concern me,” Bachman said, noting that his children are not presently in district schools, though they were at the time he became a board member.

Suppes said, “We are here to support the community and the school district. What perception are you giving people of our school district when our own children are not in the school district?”

The Board of Education represents more than 6,000 students and their families, he said, “I have nothing against home school...but when you serve on the school board you are representing a group of people whose children are in your schools. “What are you showing these parents?”

District G Director Stephen Bush said that he had “no clue” when he was first appointed to the board. “It’s a lot of learning—I am still learning,” he said. “It can be

done.”

Kelley said, “Nothing against parents who home school...there is a little conflict of interest there.”

Board Vice President Sarah Fishing said that the experience of a previously serving board member would be valuable right now. “We have to pick the right person for the job based on the information that we have.” With more than 30 years of experience in the district, West would fill an important niche that would otherwise be left empty when Johnson, also a former RE-1J educator, leaves the board due to term limits in November. “Having that experience represented is really important.”

Fishing said that she supports Bachman’s decision in his specific situation and was privately schooled herself as a child. Still, she placed her own children in the public schools at the very first opportunity. “Otherwise, what am I doing on the board?” The Board of Education must endorse the activities of the district, she said.

Directors said during the discussion that they had received phone calls and emails from the public in support of both candidates.

Following the interviews and discussion, the Board of Education took a brief recess, reconvening at 6:30pm. Following approval of the agenda, the board accepted Suppes’ nomination to appoint Tom West to fill the District D seat. All voted in favor of the nomination with the exception of Bush, who abstained from voting for personal reasons.

Johnson administered the Oath of Office to West, and he joined the board at the table.

### **MASTER CAPITAL PLAN UPDATE/ DISCUSSION**

Ken Greg of RTA Architects presented a detailed report on the progress of the facilities master plan (see related article in this issue of the *Mirror*.)

Following the facilities master plan presentation, the meeting was adjourned.



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### GROUP THINK IS NOT IN OUR BEST INTEREST; LET'S ALL VOTE INTELLIGENTLY FOR THE BEST INDIVIDUALS

*Editor:*

The slate listing of candidates for school board is clever, but speaks to a social agenda rather than that of independent effort and points of view. Even with an effort among the candidates to claim that they speak for themselves, they still hold to a certain script which would be unwelcome in a collaborative school board setting. Candidates must be open-minded and willing to listen, collaborate, and reach consensus in the common interests of our students, teachers, staff, and the community. Group think is not in our best interest. Let's all vote intelligently for the best individuals.

*Wayne Quade, Montrose*



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### 16TH OKTOBERFEST TO BE OCT. 9 AT MONTROSE AMPHITHEATER

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The 16th Annual Montrose Oktoberfest, benefiting All Points Transit, will be the inaugural event at the new Montrose Rotary Amphitheater in Cerise Park in Montrose on Saturday, Oct. 9 from 1pm - 6pm. The event is being presented by TEI Rock Drills, Telluride Express and the Montrose Homebrewers Association. "It is an honor for All Points Transit and Oktoberfest to host the very first concert and event at the beautiful new amphitheater.

The City of Montrose is a great partner and we appreciate everyone's hard work to make this happen!" said Sarah Curtis, Executive Director of All Points Transit.

Tickets are available at Montrose-BeerFest.com, and each ticket includes beer tastings from numerous local, regional, and national breweries. Live music from Iron Horse, Zolopht and Cousin Curtiss will fill the stage, and plenty of fun entertainment options will be available.

Food trucks will be on site for food purchases. Blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged.

Tickets are \$35 online, or \$45 at the gate. Quantities are limited, so pre-sale is recommended. Oktoberfest has been a staple of the Montrose fall calendar for 16 years, and it is the key local fundraiser for All Points Transit. Top-level sponsors include TEI Rock Drills, Telluride Express, Alpine Bank, David & Gaynelle Mize, Stryker & Company, Mayfly Outdoors, City of Montrose, Homestead Circus Productions, Flower Motor Company, Performance Auto Body, San Miguel Power Association and The Liquor Store.

All Points Transit is a 501c3 non-profit organization that has been consistently serving the community for over 35 years. All Points Transit provides safe, reliable, and convenient transportation to older adults, people with disabilities, and the general public in communities throughout four counties on the western slope of Colorado.

For more information, contact Sarah Curtis, Executive Director of All Points Transit, at 970-249-8865.

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- 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.
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# MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS ALERT



Photos courtesy Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers.

## Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Police Department needs the public's help locating a vehicle. On 9/25/2021 at about 5:30 PM, the occupants of a Jeep Wrangler shot a young boy with a pellet gun as he was walking on Woodgate Road, south of the Rec Center.

The Jeep should be a 2018 or newer Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon, that is kind of a flat (non-metallic) gray color. The hard top and optional fender flares are

the same color as the body. It also has optional LED headlamps and LED turn signals.

Attached are still photos of the involved vehicle taken from a surveillance camera nearby.

If you recognize the vehicle pictured or have any information that could be helpful, please call Crime Stoppers anonymously at (970)249-8500, use the app P3 Tips, or provide information via



P3Tips.com. Crimes Stoppers wants your information, not your identity. If the Tip results in an arrest, the Tipster may receive a cash award of up to \$1000. For additional information, please view our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers](https://www.facebook.com/montroseregionalcrimestoppers). Crime Prevention and crime solution are everyone's responsibility.

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## RACE FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS IS SUPPOSED TO BE NON-PARTISAN

*Editor:*

In the Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, issue of the Montrose Daily Press was an article regarding school board candidates. The race for school board members is supposed to be NON-PARTISAN. The event held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Circle 3 Cowboy Church was anything but NON-PARTISAN. The local Montrose County Republican Party has their own slate of candidates which they are highly funding, as evidenced by all the signs located all over Montrose. The Party is being open about their sponsoring of their candidates but this race is supposed to be NON-PARTISAN. So then the event was held in a Republican venue, sponsored by the Montrose County Republican Party, moderated by the local GOP chairman, Spencer Hamner, and the questions asked of the candidates were Republican generated. How much more PARTISAN can an event be that is supposed to be NON-PARTISAN.

Just like the National Republican Party generating the "Big Lie" about the 2020 election, the local Republican Party is generating the "Big Lie" about issues affecting our local Montrose County School District RE-1J. If this Republican slate of candidates is elected to the Montrose County School District Board, are they going to be PUPPETS of the Montrose Republican Party or are they going to be independent, critical thinkers which is what is needed on our local school board?

*Connie Pittenger, Montrose*

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**1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Exhibits are Open to the Public

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**★ Higher Education**  
**★ Associated Organizations**

**Thank you to our Event Sponsors!**



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### JARABE MEXICANO @ THE WRIGHT

*Special to the Mirror*

OURAY-The Ouray County Performing Arts Guild presents Jarabe Mexicano on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wright Opera House in Ouray. The group features Mexican Folk, Rock & Roll, Tex-Mex, Latin Rock, and Reggae-Cumbia. Stringed folk instruments accompanied by lively percussion, Jarabe's dramatic, harmonized vocals are in Spanish and English. [ocpag.org](http://ocpag.org) for tickets and information. Below, courtesy photo.



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Montrose Republicans

# *Lincoln Reagan*

Dinner ★ Fundraiser

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*Montrose Pavilion - 1800 E Pavilion Place*

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- **Visit with Candidates**
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**Brief Message at 6:30p by**



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BOEBERT**  
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**Ticket holders only**

★ **Together We Can Elect Republicans** ★



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### GMUG ENGINEER CHOSEN FOR PRESTIGIOUS STEM AWARD

*Special to Art & Sol*

DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announces Daris Matos, GMUG assistant forest engineer will receive one of industry's most important honors in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) during the Women of Color (WOC) STEM Conference — Digital Twin Experience (DTX). WOC DTX 2021—a Multicultural Event—will be held Oct. 7–9. This year's

theme, "Reset to Rise: It's A New Day!" reflects the global push to overcome the challenges of 2020 and move forward.

For more than two decades, awards presented at this leading [conference](#) have served the dual purpose of showcasing outstanding achievements in STEM and highlighting the significant barriers for women in the workforce. Recognition is more critical than ever as women's representation among the STEM occupational



**Daris Matos, GMUG assistant forest engineer. Courtesy photo.**

clusters has not changed markedly since 2016. Women made up a quarter or fewer of workers in computing and engineering in 2019. "I feel honored to be among some amazing talented women and I hope this encourages young women everywhere and helps them to realize that anything is possible" said Daris, "If your passion is in science, technology, engineering or math, don't give up. Keep shooting for the stars" she added.

According to Monica Emerson, National Chair of the Women of Color in STEM Conference, "Daris was selected because she is among an extraordinary group of forward-thinking people in STEM. This year, the nominees represented the most diverse collection of executive professionals we have had the pleasure of evaluating. From managers to vice presidents, they stand out as superior authorities in their respective fields."

"It is a great honor for Daris to receive this recognition" said GMUG Forest Supervisor Chad Stewart, "her hard work has improved the health of our forests and this award highlights her passion for engineering and her strong desire to be a role model for young women everywhere. I am thrilled she's being recognized for all of her hard work" he added.

For more information about WOC DTX 2021, visit <https://intouch.ccgmag.com/mpage/woc-stem-conference-home>. For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the [forest website](#) or [www.westslopefireinformation.com](http://www.westslopefireinformation.com). Connect with us or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).



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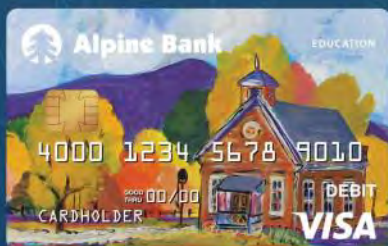


# Teacher Reimbursement Program

**Alpine Bank will reimburse teachers for school supplies for their classrooms, up to \$200, before November 1, 2021!\***

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*Allie - Math /STEM*



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\*In order to be reimbursed you must have an existing account or open a new account with Alpine Bank and currently be employed as a teacher with the Montrose or Delta County School Districts. Reimbursement will be made within two weeks of presentation of valid receipts dated between 8/1/2021 – 11/1/2021.

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# Photoshop 101

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*Kathryn R. Burke*

970-729-1188

kathryn.burke.01@gmail.com

This fall, I am teaching technology workshops at various locations. Group lessons and private instruction are both available. Call, text, or E-mail for date, time, location. 1 hour.



# Photoshop 102

Beginners Photoshop. Demonstrations and practice sessions. Lots

*Kathryn R. Burke*

970-729-1188

kathryn.burke.01@gmail.com

Learn basic moves to create and edit a Photoshop document working with the Properties Palette. Learn how to edit, save as pdf, print, transmit files. Personal attention. You will need your laptop & Photoshop (I can help you install it). Call, text, or email for dates, times, location. 1-1/2 hour workshop. Class Limit 10. Private instruction also available at my home studio.



# COVID-19 Vaccination Sites in Montrose County



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## GENOA PHARMACY

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## SAFeway PHARMACY

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## WALMART PHARMACY

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[www.walmart.com/covid](http://www.walmart.com/covid)

## CVS PHARMACY

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## CSU SYSTEM TO STRENGTHEN ITS INVESTMENT IN RURAL COLORADO

*By Colorado State University System  
Chancellor Tony Frank*

COLORADO—Over the past year and a half, Colorado's rural communities have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic, as well as by drought, fires, the pullout of extraction industries from some communities, and other challenges such as lack of access to reliable internet service. These communities are resilient and strong — and together, we can optimize that strength and the potential of these communities for future generations.

The Board of Governors of the CSU System this summer made an unprecedented decision to invest \$8.58 million over the next three years in expanded support for rural Colorado students and communities. With this new investment, we will be providing additional scholarship and financial support for 4-H students and alumni from rural areas, with a goal of increasing rural student enrollment by 40 percent and closing graduation gaps. We'll also be working on creating a new Extension model focused on the needs of older adults, sort of a 4-H for senior Coloradans. We'll be focused on supporting a concrete set of efforts to improve health, promote vibrant communities and a thriving rural economy for Colorado.

Higher education's highest responsibility is to educate our students, but land-grant universities also have — as part of their statutory mission—a commitment to serve the whole state with research, engagement, and access to opportunities for learning. CSU has always treated that mission as a high calling, and this action by our Board enables us to move needed programs and opportunities ahead much more rapidly at a time when the need is

particularly great.

At all of our CSU System campuses, our goal is to ensure that any student — every student — in Colorado with the desire for a college education has that chance. This can be at large research university. It can be at a smaller regional comprehensive university with diversity that exceeds that of the population of our state. It can be at a fully on-line university, even if you're not college age and are working and raising your own family. Our campuses all share the same foundational goal: open doors to human improvement.

And while this goal hasn't wavered, time has clearly broadened who we serve and how we do it. As a school founded and forever committed to be Colorado's agricultural campus, CSU now faces the reality that the urbanization of our nation has resulted in the majority of students coming from the Front Range and areas near a metropolitan center.

In Lincoln's day, the children coming out of rural America were nearly 100 percent new to the concept of a college education, and we recognized the need to support them differently — in that case with a new system of universities. Over time, we expanded that approach of special support to help many others new to the college experience — veterans on the GI Bill and first-generation students being prime examples. But while we did so, challenges also remained in rural America, and these have grown in recent years. Today, a lot of kids in smaller, rural areas around our state are again struggling to see themselves at their own state university, which is now in many cases larger than the towns in which they were raised.

And those towns' connection to Color-

ado's land-grant university — which runs the county 4-H programs, manages the State Forest Service, operates research stations in all corners of the state to support the needs of the agricultural community, and ensures there are Extension staff serving every Colorado county — has also changed. The concept of having an Extension agent who serves as a multidisciplinary expert in a community is our commitment and starting point — and those positions traditionally tended to be farm-and-ranch oriented. But the specialization and sophistication of large-scale agriculture that feeds our world demands expertise beyond the scope of this traditional system. And the needs of rural communities have also expanded beyond agricultural production. So Extension has shifted to a model of partnership with county commissioners, where local needs — defined by the local community — can be paired with the appropriate parts of a large, modern research university. In this way, the evolution of CSU Extension has allowed it to become an important voice for the needs of communities, whether urban or rural. As a land grant university, our mission is truly to serve the entire state. So even as we improve our connections to underserved urban communities, we remain firmly committed to understanding and expanding opportunities for service within the communities we were originally born to serve a century and a half ago.

This latest investment by the CSU System is a testament to that commitment. To learn more about what's planned and why, visit:

<https://engagement.colostate.edu/reach-partnerships/expanding-rural-engagement/>

Some things never go out of style.

#montrosemirror



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### 12TH ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SET FOR OCT. 9

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-On Saturday, Oct. 9, 11 a.m. - The 12th Annual Blessing of the Animals takes place at Lions Park, 602 N. Nevada. Children may bring stuffed animals to be blessed. Photographs of beloved animals will also be blessed. Sponsored by the Spiritual Awareness Center. 970-252-0908.

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## ***DMEA NOT SEEING DROP IN COAL REVENUES From pg 1***

Visitors at the meeting included Paonia resident Steven Morris and Steve Metheny, a former longtime DMEA employee who currently serves as Director of the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Montrose Campus.

Morris introduced himself as a possible candidate to fill the District 3 seat vacancy, which will be up for election in the Spring of 2022. He said, "I'm coming to find out what you guys do."

The District 5 seat, previously held by Chris Hauck, is in the southwest Montrose area and two-plus years remain on the term.

During meetings the board of directors hear verbal summary reports of their monthly meetings and activities; however, neither the co-op membership nor the media have access to the written reports submitted for board approval.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening meeting prayer, determination of a quorum and approval of the consent agenda (Membership Report and approval of minutes from the August 2021 Regular Board Meeting).

### **Board Committee Items**

**Finance – Audit – Rate Committee (FAR)** – Ken Watson, Chair.

Watson said, "We did not meet. The next meeting date is October 19<sup>th</sup> and the main topics will be the budget and the construction audit."

**Engineering – Construction – Energy Services Committee (ECES)** – Stacia Cannon, Chair.

Cannon said, "We did not meet in September. No report."

**Member Relations – Energy Services Committee** – Bill Patterson, Chair.

Patterson said, "We did not meet."

**Executive Committee** – Kyle Martinez, Chair

Martinez said, "We have not met in a while. I don't know of any meetings in the future, possibly December."

**Financial Report with Variance Report** – Andy Penfield, Controller and acting CFO. Penfield, a six-year employee of DMEA, stepped into the CFO position which was recently vacated by Wade Pynes.

Penfield commented briefly on the written report. He said, "No real big variances. Western United budgeted [\$49,000] to come in last month, came in this month." The \$49,000 from Western United to DMEA is the second installment paid out for 2014 patronage.

Enno Heuscher said, "We budgeted for a drop [in revenue] in coal power, but they didn't drop."

CEO Alyssa Roberts said, "Energy markets are working right now. It's a bonus for us right now so we'll take it."

**CEO Report** - Alyssa Roberts, CEO.

Roberts said, "We are receiving CFO [Chief Financial Officer] applications and moving forward. I've had a lot of meetings with stakeholders, like Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). We are still looking for a Vegetation Manager. We're looking for an arborist with supervisory experience. We may have to be more creative with solutions."

HR Director Kathy McKie noted that positions are harder to fill because the recent hurricane area is drawing employees. She said, "Hurricane workers are now making \$200,000 to \$300,000." McKie also updated the board on Membership Appreciation Days. She said, "Member Appreciation Days for Montrose will be held on the 13th and in Delta on the 20<sup>th</sup>."

**August 2021 System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI)** - Alyssa Roberts, CEO.

Roberts said, "There is nothing to report." Stacia Cannon said, "We are getting close to the 90-minute threshold. What are the consequences of going above the guidelines?"

Roberts said, "We are significantly under the guidelines."

Bill Patterson said, "San Miguel [Power] is higher than we are."

**Non-Privileged Legal Report** - Jeff Hurd, Attorney.

Hurd reported on recent legal activities which included the CoBank Loan Facility, clean-up on the backend of loans, grant agreements, progress with FERC on transmissions, Dark Fiber Network agreement, and (power) pole agreements. He said, "I'll review the rest of the report in Execu-

tive Session."

**WUES Report (Western United Electrical Association)** – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, "I apologize. I thought I sent out the minutes of the meeting. I'll email them out to the board. July was another record setting month [with revenues]. Certain transformer [supplies] are low. It's 42 weeks out for transformers. They are talking about other manufacturers."

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

Lockhart said, "We had a meeting in Grand Lake. A lot of budget work. Not a lot of big stuff in the budget, insurance components. They are asking for \$100,000 for energy innovation for large scale meetings. CREA safety piece is really good."

### **Other Business**

Becky Mashburn was promoted to Member Relations Manager.

### **Chris Hauck Recognition**

Executive Assistant Amy Taylor led the discussion on the Hauck Memorial Recognition. Options included plaques, scholarships, and a donation to Lighthouse Ministries.

The Member Relations Committee will review the options. Funding for the memorial will come from the Unclaimed Capital Credit Fund.

**Privileged Information Request** - Alyssa Roberts, CEO.

An engineering survey was requested by Denver resident Laura Lynch. The request was not made on behalf of a DMEA member and it was unclear why the request was made. The board moved to decline the request.

### **Retirement Resolution for Greg Hobbs**

The Retirement Resolution for Greg Hobbs, a 15-year employee, was approved unanimously.

### **Updated Banking Signatory Resolution**

With the departure of former CFO Wade Pynes, a new banking signatory resolution was required. Resolution 2021-32 was approved unanimously.

### **Vote on Changes to RS Plan (via Resolution)**

The Retirement Savings Plan (RS Plan) calls for an increase in premiums. The



## ***DMEA NOT SEEING DROP IN COAL REVENUES From previous pg***

increase would go from 4.65 percent to 5.15 percent for participating employees.

### **Future Meetings**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. on Oct. 26.

### **Member Comments 5 P.M.**

There were no member comments.

### **Executive Session**

-Privileged Corporate, Litigation, and Regulatory Matters

-Power Supply Update

-Potential Power Purchase Agreement Discussion

-Demand Response Purchase Agreement Discussion

-Hydro Facilities

### **Summary Following Executive Session**

In an email Executive Assistant Amy Taylor provided a summary of action taken following the Executive Session:

-Vote on Power Purchase Agreement -

Unanimously approved a power purchase agreement.

-Vote on Demand Response Purchase Agreement - Unanimously approved a demand response purchase agreement.

-Resolution re: Hydro Facilities - Unanimously approved a resolution on hydro facilities.

Dist 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449,

[bpatterson@montrose.net](mailto:bpatterson@montrose.net)

Dist 2 - Kyle Martinez, 970-615-7124,

[kyle@touchofcarepcp.com](mailto:kyle@touchofcarepcp.com)

Dist 3 - Vacant

Dist 4 - Ken Watson, 970-275-2100, [kennethrwatson@gmail.com](mailto:kennethrwatson@gmail.com)

Dist 5 - Vacant

Dist 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071,

[damon.lockhart@dmea.com](mailto:damon.lockhart@dmea.com)

Dist 7 - Enno Heuscher, 970-270-

6523, [enno.heuscher@dmea.com](mailto:enno.heuscher@dmea.com)

Dist 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-

207-8831, [stacia.cannon@dmea.com](mailto:stacia.cannon@dmea.com)

Dist 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-

275-1808, [jock.fleming@dmea.com](mailto:jock.fleming@dmea.com)

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# Montrose Elks Lodge #1053

801 S. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401

## Winter Collection for Veterans

Montrose Elks Lodge is collecting Winter items for Veterans in need until Veterans Day; distribution day.

Items being collected include:

- \* Cold weather apparel (**coats, hats, gloves**)
- \* Blankets and Sleeping Bags
- \* Hand Warmers (in packets)
- \*\*\* Wool Socks (most asked for item)
- \* Dry snacks (like crackers in packets)
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- \* Cat food, dog food (a lot of Veterans have an animal for protection or a helper animal issued for a disabled Veteran)



**38 homeless USA Veterans will die from exposure every day this Winter.**

*Some wonder, will I survive the night?*

**Make a difference,  
reach out and help!**

*Please check your closets and if you have an extra Winter coat, or Wool Socks, deliver them to the Montrose Elks Lodge for distribution to Veterans.*





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### VISIT ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION'S WEBSITE FOR FALL COLOR NEWS

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-Autumn has arrived in the Northern Hemisphere. What better way to spend the cool, crisp days of fall then to visit your favorite national forest or national grassland? Numerous opportunities exist to hike, bike, or view the fall colors from the comfort of your own vehicle. Visit the Rocky Mountain Region's website for up-to-date information on the changing foliage to help plan your travel route. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r2/fallcolors>. Enjoy your fall foliage tour and be sure to know before you go! For outdoor safety tips visit <https://www.fs.fed.us/visit/know-before-you-go>. For recreation information visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r2/recreation/?cid=fseprd780803> At right, Mirror file photo.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### MAINSTREAM MEDIA PROPAGATES LEFTIST NARRATIVE, NOT TRUTH

*Editor:*

After thirteen of our young military were murdered in Kabul due to Biden's malfeasance, our president made a speech threatening the killers. When a few days later it was announced that an ISIS terrorist on the way to another terror attack was hit with a missile, I suggested to my wife to take that with a grain of salt, given this administration's inability to be truthful. Sure enough, a week or so later it was verified that it was an aid worker working for the US, two other innocent adults, and seven children that were hit.

Unfortunately, you won't find much negative about this administration in the mainstream media, who long ago abandoned any pretense of journalistic integrity. They no longer consider reporting facts to be their function. Instead, they exist to propagate the left-wing narrative. A recent political cartoon is a good example, depicting a hoard of migrants behind a US border wall desperately seeking asylum, while on this side of the wall are employers desperately seeking employees. So, this administration creates a labor shortage by paying people not to work, and then uses that labor shortage in a weak attempt to "explain" eliminating our

southern border --- and the pseudo-journalists willingly facilitate such dishonesty.

Most media won't call out this administration's southern border malfeasance or the Biden Afghanistan fiasco. Other facts you won't hear about in the MSM: The unmistakable shift to anti-Semitism by the Democratic party. (AOC efforts to strip funds for Israel's Iron Dome protecting innocent civilians from rocket attacks. Kamala Harris praising an anti-Semitic college student accusing Israel of genocide.) Out of control crime in Dem-run cities. (Democrat-run Chicago installing bleeding control kits throughout the city as an answer to out-of-control crime. Minneapolis turning into "Murderapolis" after its Democrat city council voted to dismantle its police department and later slashed \$8 million from its budget.)

Destruction of our economy. (Biden's pork-spending, economy-destroying, foist government into every aspect of American lives, \$3.5 trillion spending boondoggle. You know, the one Biden and Pelosi say costs nothing.) Biden's vaunted foreign policy skills --- "diplomacy is back". (The skills that just had France recall its US ambassador and Mexico ship Biden a full-

blown Haitian migrant surge unlike any in US history, to say nothing about Biden's betrayal of our European allies in Afghanistan.) Wuhan virus truths. (The person leading our response to the disaster [Fauci] is the same person who is the director of the organization that funded "gain of function" research at the very Chinese lab where the virus originated. "Gain of function" = adding a new function to a natural virus to make it deadly to humans.)

Usurping parental authority to raise their own children and advocating racial hatred. (Virginia Democrat governor candidate McAuliffe: "I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach". Lying about teaching Critical Race Theory in schools and demonizing parents for resisting.)

If media was interested in the truth rather than the left's propaganda, it would not continue to cover up Biden's failures, ignore his mental shortcomings, and ignore evidence of Biden family corruption. A good story would be an analysis of which of Biden's disasters are due to his incompetence and which are simply intended to damage this once great nation.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*



*ANONYMOUS*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BUSTANG OUTRIDER BEGINS SERVICE ON TELLURIDE – GRAND JUNCTION ROUTE

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION — The Colorado Department of Transportation's Bustang Outrider celebrated the start of service

today between Telluride and Grand Junction. This route will provide vital connections between southwestern Colorado and Grand Junction and support Outrider's

existing Durango-Grand Junction line.

In addition to Telluride, regularly scheduled stops include Placerville, Ridgway, Montrose, Olathe, Delta and four stops in Grand Junction — at the Grand Valley Transfer Center, VA Western Colorado Health Care System, St. Mary's Medical Center and the Grand Junction Regional Airport, where the route launch celebration event was held.

"This service increases access to medical, shopping, and airport services for riders between Telluride and Grand Junction, the length and frequency of this service will allow riders to make a one-day round trip to Grand Junction from Telluride," said CDOT's Division of Transit and Rail Director Amber Blake. "We are excited to respond to the needs of our ridership in this part of the state."

The Telluride-Grand Junction route currently is running five days per week. Based on demand, weekend service could be added at a future date.

Fares are set at 17 cents per mile. Seniors (65 years and older) children 2-11 and disabled individuals ride the bus at half price. Caretakers for disabled individuals and children younger than 2 years old ride free.

Alpine Express is operating the route for CDOT, which partners with local operators for all Bustang Outrider routes.

Riders can purchase tickets through the new Bustang Outrider mobile app that is available to download from Google Play and the App Store or pay when boarding the bus using cash only (no bills larger than \$20).

Riders can also subscribe to receive alerts for any route at [ridebustang.com/Text-Outrider](https://ridebustang.com/Text-Outrider) or text "OUTRIDER" to 833-711-0252.

Outrider currently services five routes: Gunnison-Denver, Alamosa-Pueblo, Lamar-Colorado Springs, Durango-Grand Junction and Craig-Denver.

Two new Outrider routes are set to begin service in 2021, including Sterling-Greeley/Sterling-Denver and Trinidad-Pueblo.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### PREVENTING SUICIDES: AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY DISCUSSION



Nicolas Taylor, PhD. Courtesy photo.

#### *Special to the Mirror*

The Center for Mental Health hosted a community forum on Tuesday, Sept. 21 to discuss suicides and suicide prevention in our communities.

September is Suicide Prevention Month and The Center, as the community mental health organization serving our community, has taken a leadership role across our communities to prevent suicides. The Center believes that suicides are preventable and recognizes that all of us in our community can play a role in helping to stop them.

This forum was designed to educate community members and organizations on how to recognize the warning signs and risk factors, how to talk to someone considering suicide, and how to get them the help they need.

Nicolas Taylor, PhD, who has lived in Montrose and been a practicing psychologist for over 20 years, spoke about the importance of talking with someone who shows warning signs of suicide.

Dr. Taylor encouraged attendees if they are worried about someone to first manage their own thoughts and fears, and then ask directly and listen without judgment. Taylor continued "it is important to get the person talking and then listen to them. Don't try to fix things immediately. Ask about plans and take the steps needed to keep the person safe. Finally, there are great resources to help you. Take advantage of them and encourage help-seeking."

Ed Hagins, a Licensed Professional Counselor at The Center since 2009 who has

worked in the field of mental health for more than 25 years, spoke about the incidence of suicide in our community (Colorado ranks fifth among all states in the number of completed suicides), as well as some of the risk factors. Said Hagins, "Over 47,000 people died in the US by suicide in 2019 with just over 1300 of those being Coloradans. That gives us a rate of suicide nationally of 14.5 suicides per 100,000 Americans and 22 suicides per 100,000 Coloradans. In The Center for Mental Health's six county region, we saw suicide rates that year of 31 per 100,000 for Delta, 32 for Gunnison, no rate reported for Hinsdale, 19 for Montrose, 40 for Ouray (an anomaly year), 16 for San Miguel, and a region-wide rate of 23."

Hagins went on to say that the research literature is also reporting the impact of suicide is far reaching with, "...on average 135 people being directly exposed to any given suicide, 53 of those having short term disruptions to their life, 25 of them having a major life disruption, and 11 having much more devastating effects. In essence the action of one has immediate and lasting impacts on the many."

He also spoke about risk factors as well indicating, "risk factors are characteristics of a person or their environment that increase the likelihood that they will die by suicide. Some of these risk factors include prior suicide attempts, mental illness, access to lethal means, social isolation, rugged Western individualism we find commonplace and very valued on the Western Slope or being a part of a higher risk group like veterans who die at a rate of approximately 20 per day or LGBTQ+. These types of risk factors contribute to the number of suicides we experience here in our rural and frontier region."

Laura Byard, a clinical director at The Center since 2016, spoke about the close relationship The Center has developed with law enforcement, including having mental health professionals responding with law enforcement when needed.

Byard also spoke about the Crisis Walk-In Center which opened to the community on September 16, 2019, "This facility is

open 24/7, 365 days a year. It is there to help people in a crisis, regardless of their ability to pay. If someone needs help, you can take them there. After evaluation, if appropriate, they can also stay there for three-five days until they have stabilized, and the crisis has passed."

Byard also spoke about The Center's work in treating suicidality, "We specialize in the treatment of suicidality. It's really a unique and specialized field that we can offer care in our community. Our clinicians are trained in evidence-based programs that allow them to assess and manage suicidality in their client."

In addition to professional treatment and services to address suicidality, The Center offers free Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training to community members interested in learning more about how to help a friend, loved one or coworker who is experiencing thoughts of suicide. This 90-minute class is available online on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month from 12:00 to 1:30pm. QPR teaches you what to look for, how to talk to someone, and how to refer them to professionals to help. Register for the next class on October 7<sup>th</sup> or learn about future learning opportunities by visiting their website at [www.centermh.org/classes](http://www.centermh.org/classes).

"As a community mental health center, we help 1000s of people over 10,000 square miles get the services they need," said Shelly J. Spalding, The Center's Chief Executive Officer. "We want to be sure that people get the help they need when they need it—that's our Vision. We're fortunate to have a tremendous staff, and the facilities to help people in moments of crisis get back on a path to their best life."

If you would like to learn more about suicide prevention in our community, visit The Center's website at

[www.centermh.org/services/suicide-prevention/](http://www.centermh.org/services/suicide-prevention/). You can also register for a class at [www.centermh.org/classes](http://www.centermh.org/classes).

If you have a mental health emergency, please contact The Center Crisis and Support Line available 24/7/365 at 970-252-6220 or call Colorado Crisis Services at 844-493-TALK.





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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### CONCERNED ABOUT QUALITY OF OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

*Editor:*

I am a citizen of Montrose County and concerned about the quality of our children's education. There have been reports from teachers that critical race theory has come in through the back door. We have seen a horrific bill passed (HB19-1032 Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education) which will sexualize our kids from kindergarten through high school. Finally, but not exhaustively, we have witnessed Montrose County test scores plummet in the STEM subjects. According to [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com), only 43% of our students are proficient in reading, and 27% are proficient in math. This is unacceptable! Who is responsible? I believe our Montrose County School Board and superintendent are. They are allowing curriculum into our schools that teach subjects only parents should teach their kids, and do not produce critical thinking. Also, our test scores prove that the STEM subjects are not emphasized enough. The Board has the pow-

er to implement or reject these harmful curriculums, but it appears what is good for the Front Range is good for our students. Montrose is not the Front Range. We want our kids to learn the skills they need to have a productive life, not be propagandized with the narratives of our day. The current Board is supposed to instruct the superintendent what to do, but the reality is the superintendent tells the board what to do and acts as its supervisor. The board meeting handbook states that the Board is supposed to supervise the superintendent. Also, board members are supposed to receive information about agenda items before meetings so they can be discussed openly. Every meeting I have attended has lacked discussion on agenda items, only a vote, thus the public is unable to hear the "why" the item was approved or denied. Why is discussion withheld from the public? According to Board Operating Practices, it states, "We will function as a 'body corporate' which means that we take action only as a group at regular or called Board meetings" (emphasis added). It is time for a change in leadership. Power needs to return to the parents. We have an opportunity to vote for three candidates who have a sincere desire to transform our education system so our children are taught the basics, and critical thinking. Dawn Schieldt, Andrew Neal and Courtney Loyd are serious about representing parents, children and the taxpayers of our county, keeping critical race theory out of our schools, follow the guidelines of the board, review and discuss all curriculum, and determine if it is appropriate for our schools, make sure students are prepared for higher education, and are determined to be open and transparent about their decisions. Please vote on November 2 for transformation in our schools! Sincerely, Leah Vandersluis, Montrose

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Please vote on November 2 for transformation in our schools!

Sincerely,

Leah Vandersluis, Montrose

### DO YOU PUBLISH THAT ROT BECAUSE IT REFLECTS YOUR OWN AGENDA?

*To the editor:*

Where are the letters to the editor extolling the beauty of Montrose and the Western Slope? Those praising our brave health care workers, teachers, all public servants, and all of the grocery store workers and other retail workers? Why are the only letters published those filled with vitriol and hate? Those who constantly criticize those in government...as if they could even hold a candle to most of them.

Why is there this extreme belligerent ignorance about facts in Montrose County? Intelligence seems to be largely missing here, at least from those who feel that their hate needs to be published. I enjoy the news in your publication but am sickened by the hate speech. Do you publish that rot because it reflects your own agenda?

Jeanette Ritchey, Montrose

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## PUBLISHER'S CORNER: LEFTISTS OF AMERICA, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?



**Paul Arbogast.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

*By Paul Arbogast,*  
*Mirror Publisher*  
MONTROSE-  
What the hell has happened to the Left in America?

I generally put myself in the 'old' category. I do this because even as a very young kid, I sat off in a

corner and watched the broadcast news as my dad was watching, so I saw a lot of what was reported and going on back in the days when the news just reported the facts. Sadly, those days are long behind us, and we have a few generations of people who never witnessed it. Yes, to the younger folks, there was a time--long before the internet, cable TV, and dark money funding for media--where news outlets just told you what was going on, without inserting any opinion or agenda. That is a rare thing to find any more.

There was also a time where both of the big political parties were more moderate. Yes, they still tried to belittle and demonize each other, but the more moderate members of each party ruled and worked together on significant issues. Anyone who pays attention knows that is no longer the case. Double standards and hypocrisy rule modern politics, so no real progress is ever made.

I have many times stated that I am unaffiliated (the legal term in Colorado, though I prefer independent) and I am no fan of either party. I am also one to call out people for using too wide of a paintbrush, or in terms of logical fallacies, 'sweeping generalization'. So, while I am about to talk about and question those on the left, I must start by saying I understand all that follows, is not indicative of every person who registers and votes as a Democrat. I do see the extremism and hate on both sides, but the Anti-American extremism of the left has become impossible to ignore. Let's start with so-called 'cancel cul-

ture'. There can no longer be public figures to look up to, as everyone is so deeply scrutinized, that one single 'wrong' (to modern society) invalidates any good that an individual has done. This erases pretty much all of our history. From an independent view, this is insanity. You must consider the context of the times, and you must understand that, as humans, we are all flawed. I bet that if I bothered to investigate the lives of those that want to cancel others, I could find all your flaws as well, and get the 'cancel' mob to run over you.

I also see a federal government using health care policy to further divide us. Yes, there are those on the right who see mask and vaccine mandates as attacks on personal freedom. Yet on the other side, I constantly see those on the left belittling and insulting those who do not 'do as I say.' From suggesting those who do not comply with vaccines being left out of any other healthcare, to wishing someone would die 'from' COVID so you would 'understand.' To say such things, or wish such things on others, is not to be a good human being. I took seriously my oath when I joined the Navy; I may not agree with what you say or your beliefs, but I will fight for your right to say and believe those things.

Let's talk about the whole eviction moratorium for a minute. In theory, probably a decent idea, those who lost jobs or hours because of shutdowns may need some sort of help in terms of housing. Let's leave out the fact that it was the decisions made by state governments that caused this issue, let's focus on the landlords. Some of the most recent available data from the IRS shows that more than 10 million people filed with rental income, meaning over 10 million individuals are landlords. This is estimated to be at least 10 times more than the number of landlords that are business entities. It's not a big money maker for those individuals who own one or two properties--and most of them are making payments on the

property rather than owning it completely. So, what happens when the government says renters do not have to pay and cannot be evicted, and those landlords, who owe, don't make enough money to cover that shortfall, for more than a year? Ah, those unintended consequences of bad policy of course, property is eventually lost. But you will not find a lot of data or research on this, because remember, you were taught that landlords were bad--just greedy, rich people. Some will respond that Congress authorized \$46.5 billion to help people pay their rent, but the most recent information shows that only about \$3 billion of that has been disbursed. Again, we see big government creating an issue that it runs in to help with, and they screw that up as well, while hurting 10's of millions of Americans. Is this really what you want more of?

On a personal note, I worked for a German company for many years and had the opportunity to spend time in Germany. One of the things that really hit me deep, was that when we had people here pushing to remove statues and rename streets and buildings, the younger generations in Germany told me that we were on the wrong path. They said erasing history was bad, and they have experience with that. That for good or bad, the lessons of history were important, and that by erasing them, you truly do risk repeating them. They pointed to a rise in extremism there because it was illegal to talk and teach about their own history.

Of course, the past year has shown us more hypocrisy from both sides of the aisle. The most striking thing to me is the whole 'my body, my choice'. While originally a slogan for those on the left related to abortion, the right has picked this up for the COVID vaccine. I will say both sides show their hypocrisy on this one. I am one that believes in freedom, even freedoms we do not personally agree with, so I support the concept of 'my body, my choice'. But I also think that if you believe in it, it should be an 'across



## ***LEFTISTS OF AMERICA, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU? From previous pg***

board' thing, meaning it applies to abortion, the vaccine, drugs, prostitution, or any other thing that is illegal per current government laws. I do not need to agree with these things, but if I say I support, 'my body, my choice' and do not support the rights of others in every situation, am I not a hypocrite?

When words such as "woman" and "mother" are erased by the Federal government and intolerant organizations like the ACLU, how inclusive are we being? When politicians see themselves as red carpet celebrities, who go unmasked before the cameras while being catered to by a masked servant class, why should we respect them?

The American left has become highly authoritarian, and accustomed to a compliant servant class. Leftist politicians and pundits know best, and damn it you will comply because they are smarter than everyone else. I do know registered Democrats who are tired of this, and do not support some of the modern authoritarian extremism. But to the rest of you, do you

not see the danger in the path you are taking? Do you not understand that if you set a precedent, eventually the pendulum will swing? As an example, the right lost their minds over Obama and his 'I have a pen' philosophy towards executive orders. They were right to do so --but only when Trump took office and used that precedent, did the left complain.

Both sides should have complained in both cases because we are a Republic, and we have a constitution that sets up a balance of power. But from Obama on, the use of executive orders to bypass the legislature and the whole balance of power has moved us from a Republic to more of an elected Monarchy. That is not acceptable.

Finally, 'Build back better' seems to be a euphemism for "Big Brother," jammed as it is with nonsense that will cripple the economy if not destroy the nation. From requiring banks to report every single transaction over \$600 to catch 'tax cheaters' (when most of the real tax cheaters and inside traders live and work in DC), to

mileage taxes on your car, that you already pay taxes on (and already pay massive taxes on the gas it uses) that will simply increase costs in our supply chain (thus costs to us), to a tax on each cow a rancher has to offset the carbon from their farts. Nope, not joking about that one at all. It literally would make it more expensive to raise beef than what they can make selling beef. These are just a few items across THOUSANDS of pages of nonsense, most of which will be passed without those voting YEA ever actually reading it. Build back better than what??

I believe one party rule never leads to good, and both are needed so long as the imperfect two party system exists. So please, open your eyes and pay attention to the damage you are doing by further dividing the nation with authoritarian bull. Because too many of us, left and right, are so busy being Republican or Democrat that we are forgetting to be good people, and what the world needs is good people, not party members or authoritarians who do not tolerate dissent.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### NEWS RELEASE-ALPINE BANK AWARDS THREE NONPROFITS \$1,876 IN HONOR OF COLORADO DAY



*End of the Trail Rescue. Courtesy photo.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-Like the Colorado River, Alpine Bank was born and raised in Colorado. Colorado Day, the state's anniversary of joining the union in 1876, is now officially recognized annually, on August 1. To celebrate in 2021, Alpine Bank leadership created a celebratory sweepstakes to reward volunteerism and the vital work of community nonprofits in the state. Participants were asked to nominate their favorite nonprofit on the Alpine Bank Facebook page, making it eligible to win a grant of \$1,876. In addition, the bank promoted volunteerism both internally with its employees, and externally with its customers. From nearly 900 nominees, three community nonprofits were selected by random drawing and each was awarded \$1,876. They include the End of the Trail Rescue, the JP Pritchard Foundation and the Snowmass Chapel.

"Supporting our community is foundation-



*The Snowmass Chapel. Courtesy photo.*

al to Alpine Bank's mission," says Glen Jammarron, president of Alpine Bank. "Our enthusiasm for supporting the causes, charities and organizations in Colorado is clearly matched by our customers, who engaged in this first-time sweepstakes with so many nominations of nonprofits they're passionate about."

End of the Trail Rescue is an Olathe nonprofit offering abused and neglected horses a second chance to be care for, nurtured and valued. The JP Pritchard Foundation of Durango helps young people in need, with an emphasis on vocational training, counseling, medical services, rehabilitation and education. The Snowmass Chapel is a dynamic community of faith, serving residents and visitors to Snowmass.



*The JP Pritchard Foundation. Courtesy photo.*

During the month of July, in advance of Colorado Day, Alpine Bank's nearly 800 employees engaged in 1,050 volunteer hours. Alpine Bank's corporate, compensated volunteer program supports 19,200+ hours of community volunteer time each year. Employees can take 24 hours of annual paid volunteer time to help with causes that are as different as each individual, within a program that has grown organically.

*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**



# MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL MOUNTAIN BIKE TEAM RIDES TO VICTORY



At right, riders pictured at the Snowmass race. Above, MHS Freshman biker Kaston Kail. Courtesy photos.



## Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-The Montrose High School Mountain Bike Team was formed just four years ago, according to Team Director and Coach Laurie Brandt.

Today the team is a force to be reckoned with, with 29 riders and 19 coaches, all of whom are certified to coach at least Level 1.

Montrose is a Division Two team and competes against teams of similar size, with a season that begins in early August and ends in late October.

There are races every other weekend starting in September, according to Brandt, and the season culminates in a State Championship. Racing categories include Freshman, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity for both boys and girls, with eight categories racing over the course of a race day.

Colorado is divided into regions and racers compete against teams in their region for most of the season, allowing them to qualify for the State Championships.

Montrose High School competes in the Piedra Region, racing in Nathrop, Snowmass, Eagle, and Durango.

"Not all of our riders choose to race," Brandt said. "We want to be inclusive to all kids who want to learn to be better mountain bikers, so there is not a requirement to race. At our last two races, we had 21 racers. Of the four boys' categories and four girls' categories, we have kids in all categories except for Sophomore girls. This provides diversity in skills, experience, age, and gender. It is truly a coed sport and it's fun to see the kids support each other at the races and in practice, whether they are boys or girls."

At both the Nathrop race and the Snowmass race, Montrose won the Division Two team award for the most points for top 10 finishers.

Five of the top 10 finishers were girls. "We plan on working to help develop mountain biking in our community with boys and girls at a younger age," Brandt said. In addition to Coach Brant, Dr. Tim

Judkins serves as Head Coach, the team's Parent Coordinator is Chris Brown, and Liz Burton manages the finances.

Though the team receives no financial support from the school, insurance and racing costs are covered through Colorado League fees and rider team fees.

The team also has a number of sponsors at different levels who assist with financial needs and equipment support.

"The races are a lot of fun," Brandt said. "The kids and parents camp or stay in hotels; we have a team potluck dinner the night before the race where we strategize for the next day, and everyone supports the kids who are racing throughout the day. Coaches take kids on their pre-race warmups and the courses are set up to be very spectator friendly."

"It is heartwarming to see the efforts these kids put out and the support from our entire team of riders, coaches, parents and friends," she said. "It is truly a team sport and there is wonderful camaraderie and happiness."





## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### WHY INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING IS IMPORTANT TO MONTROSE

*Editor:*

In the history of our country citizens have always had to take the lead in bringing to the forefront agenda items to others especially to those that hold elected positions, management positions of trust and those that just do not care to be troubled with what the citizenry deems important.

I mean, once elected they know it all.

We have also learned that the fourth estate often has an agenda of its own. In other words, news outlets are definitely not to be trusted. Just look at the record, the President of the United States is trusted by less than half of those who voted for him; the media by less than 20% of its readers. Even democrats who elected him don't trust him to tell the truth, and this a man who has been one of our senators for what, 40 years?

So if the media will not hold these fore flushers to task and when the media is not trusted anyway, to whom does the responsibility to fall? The people must be the guardsmen who hold all of them accountable.

In our own lovely village of Montrose we have some exemplary examples of why citizens must come to the fore. Almost every time we have not we have been or continue to be fleeced by our elected officials. A few years ago, for whatever reasons, the County Commission tried to steal (sell) your hospital. Strong willed citizens took the helm and the hospital is still ours.

Taxation is robbery. It is taking money from those who by the sweat of their brow earned it. And redirected it to the uses of those who did not earn it. Not just welfare recipients who need a 'leg up' to get back on their feet but to millionaires who are given the money by the officials in the name of incentives to do thus-and-

so for the good of the community. Yeah, right! Robin Hood did it. I wonder how much his activity helped the community outside Sherwood Forrest. Decent streets might be a better service to us all.

You know, if the city gave me a million dollars this year, a year from now I could return it to them with a significant increase. If you gave it to me with the unenforceable promissory note such as MURA uses you could count on getting back NOTHING. And that is exactly what MURA will return to Montrose 5, 10 or 15 years hence. It has already been five years and nothing has been returned. In short Montroseans, based on a \$10 million 'loan' to MURA you have not been paid \$2,500,000 in interest THAT OUR TREASURY WILL NEVER SEE. And the deal you just can't beat is that the City borrowed \$4.8 million dollars at interest from a bank in order to fund the MURA business and that note requires interest payments to boot. A few more potholes that will remain forever unfilled!

And you all think that you are protected because there is a city attorney and an assistant city attorney. Ladies and gentlemen, you pay their salaries but they are hired to protect THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITY, NOT YOU. Not one whit of protecting you from them or their misdeeds. The Divots (now Rusty Putter) matter presently pending before the State Ethics Board is one example where there was a management contract in effect between the City and the Divots manager yet the City staff and elected officials' knowledge and participation in the matter has yet to be exposed. The City position is that they had nothing to do with it while one of their citizens got fleeced by one of their councilmen. They said it was a private matter. How can a City contract with a

City citizen by a Councilman NOT be a city matter?

Then there is the ongoing HUB -Cobble Creek matter that continues to boil over. Why is it that another multimillionaire needs to be given multi-millions of dollars of your tax money to build something that it seems that nobody wants?

If these 'make no money' projects are so fabulous then let these multimillionaire's find their own financing (or take it out of their own pockets) to make the wheels turn for them. Remember, worthwhile business ventures can always find private funding to make them work. These loans, grants or whatever are simply the payoff to the rich from the poor.

The next time you drive into City market southeast parking lot entrance as you approach off Woodgate the huge hole and tire buster is on the city street.

It took years before the people of Montrose County trusted the County Commissioner's after the last three got dismissed. Of course, the new ones are not perfect, but they are a model to be patterned after and TRUST has not been an issue for the past few years. In my opinion as well as many that I talk to the County Commissioner's deserve a solid A plus.

As always what we know is important, what we do not know is critical and what the city sells us, and the press reports must be citizens top concern .

But beware, most of these cockamamie ideas start off with "We are really excited about this!" by a councilor (puppet) or by the city manager (puppeteer) subsequent to the public knowing nothing about it.

**Ask yourself , WHY INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING IS IMPORTANT TO MONTROSE?**

**Your own answer might astound you.**

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*



**Always digging for  
spot on news.**



# The Mirror

*now weekly*

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



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### RE: MONTROSE DAILY PRESS, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2021 — USFS TO INITIATE STATUS REVIEW OF GRAY WOLF

#### Editor:

The groups requesting and supporting this review are not interested in the welfare of the wolf but what the wolf can do for them.

As wolf populations are allowed to go unchecked because they are listed as threatened or endangered the devastation to wildlife herds and domestic livestock would be catastrophic. The major reduction of the number of these animals is what the group is hoping for. Over the years they have done all they can to stop big game hunting, keep livestock out public lands, and strive to keep humans from consuming red meat. Wolf populations unchecked would go a long way to reach those goals.

In the states where wolves have migrated to or been reintroduced, their numbers have proliferated quickly. Because of the devastation of wildlife herds and the cost to pay ranchers for their losses, the number of packs have been reduced. It is difficult to maintain a balance between pred-

tor and prey when wolves are not listed but when listed it is nearly impossible.

Some of the stories my father told me of the dust bowl days in southeastern Colorado are similar to wolves as predators. During those years coyote numbers became greater and their natural prey (jack rabbits) became scarce. Coyotes became pack animals so they could expand their menu. No domestic dog was safe. For their safety the dogs would run between the legs of horses for protection. Some of the wolf menu was after birth but as a pack they harassed the birth mother and if she did not stay to protect the calf the calf was also coyote lunch.

The West is burning because of many different reasons. For the last few years most of the western states have been working on different forms of fire mitigation to help slow the fire or lay it down. This can be by clearcutting, thinning trees, or encouraging aspen or other flora that is not explosive in fires. There are documentaries of wildfires burning out of control in

forests where livestock grazing was not allowed but become manageable in areas where grazing existed. Cattle knock down fire ladders and slow the spread of fire. Grazing permittees are usually very good stewards of the land they have leased from federal land managers. The permittees depend on healthy land and forage every year to maintain their livelihood.

Sometimes plans pushed forward for nefarious reasons cause destructive unintended consequences.

One of these consequences for no longer having large game hunting is economics. At the present time Montrose County sees an economic driver of about \$50million per year because of hunting and fishing. Most Western Slope communities depend heavily on agricultural activities. Most of this could disappear along with millions of dollars of our economy from ranching and farming if wolves receive special protections.

*Ralph W. Files, Montrose*

*History of Old Tyme Recreation, Ouray & San Juans,*  
Wed., Oct. 13, noon at MCA. Doors open 11:30 brown bag lunch.  
With Gail Saunders, photo archivist for Ouray County Historical Museum  
*Don't miss this one - it's our last Wednesday History program this year.*



FREE. **Reservations requested** (so we have enough chairs! Coffee, desert, water provided.

**Signup online at [mc4arts.com/programs](http://mc4arts.com/programs) or call 970-787-9428**

**MONTROSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 11 S. PARK AVE. MONTROSE CO.**



## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### *In loving memory of* **LYNN JAMES “JIM” WALTERS**

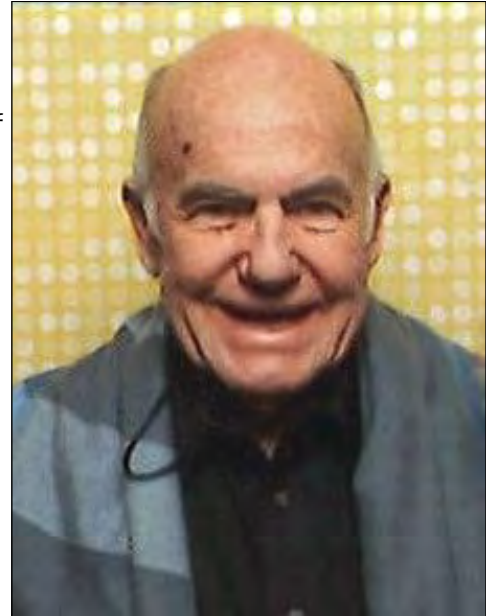
Jim, as he was fondly called by close friends, passed away on September 12, 2021, at Montrose Memorial in Hospital. He had been diagnosed six weeks before with heart failure, to which he succumbed.

Jim was a voracious and eclectic reader. He called himself an auto didact, he was self-taught. A psychologist once told him he was a “nomadic intellectual”.

Jim was a veteran of both the Army and the Air Force, through those two institutions he saw so much of the world, including Europe and the near, middle and far east. He lived in Montrose for the past three years at Cimarron Village Apartments. And had previously lived and worked in Olathe for several years. He then spent some time living on the road in his truck, during that experience he became extremely resourceful. He never married and had no children. Lynn James was a true and beloved friend. He was kind and generous of spirit, always anticipating the needs of others and putting them before his own. Jim was preceded in death by his parents: Lynn and Clara Walters, and one brother, Frank Teel. He is survived by brother, Billy Teel and his niece, Becky Lyles.

Military honors and Interment will take place on Wednesday, October 6, at 1 PM at the Veteran’s Memorial Cemetery in Grand Junction, CO.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. 970-249-2121



# The Mirror:

*For coverage that never leaves  
our readers out in cold ...*



[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)



## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### BETTY JEAN KIKER

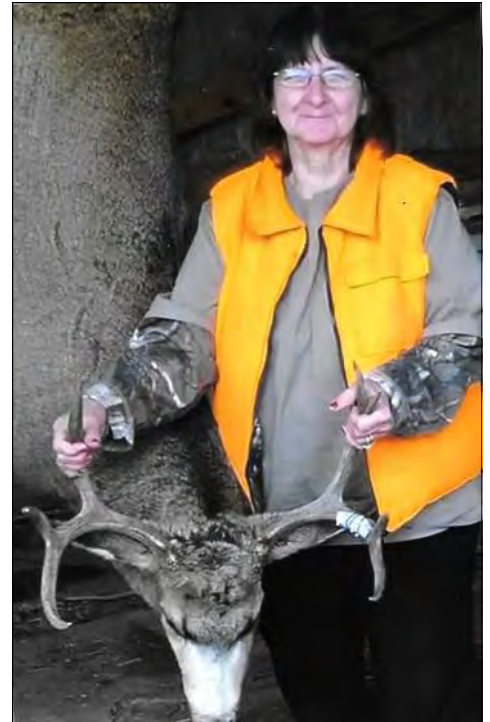
*November 21, 1948 - September 21, 2021*

BETTY JEAN KIKER was born in Montrose Co November 21, 1948 to Charles and Mary E Martin. She peacefully passed away September 21, 2021 at St Mary's Hospital at the age of 72. She travelled at a young age with her family living in Uravan, Co and Silverton, Co. In 1957 the family moved back to Montrose, Colorado where she would live out her life. She experienced so much in her life and was such a humble person. She also lived in Hotchkiss, Co and New Mexico. She didn't mind travelling but never turned down the opportunity to go somewhere. She married Bill Henderson in 1967 and they had a son July 3 1968, sadly he passed the next day. Elvis was her love and obsession. Bill and Betty divorced and around 1971 she married John Vreeland. They loved to ride motorcycles around Colorado together and go gambling. John and Betty divorced in the 80s.

She was so full of love and compassion. She spent a lot of time watching her nieces and nephews grow up. She seemed to never miss an important event. She was always there to cheer you on or give an ear to listen. She met Pete and they married around 1990. She worked around Montrose at hotels doing housekeeping. She loved to clean

and had a specific way of doing it too, if you didn't clean it like she expected you would have to go back and do it again. She loved to hunt, play games on her phone, do puzzles, watch movies and loved to watch her nieces and nephews play sports.

She was always the one cheering the loudest. She loved family barbecues and sitting around her brother-in law's fire pit. She always made her famous potato salad (highly requested from the family of course) and passed the recipe to a niece. Family was so important to her and she was always someone you could count on. She was a giver not a taker and loved to take care of people. Whenever she was needed she was right there no questions asked. She had the purest heart, strongest love and an impact that will last forever. Betty's presence will always be unmatched. She is loved so deeply and missed dearly. She is preceded in death by her father Charles Martin, mother Mary E Martin, sisters Norma Yates and Judy Black, nieces Virginia Yates, Kristina Maddox and Shelly Sanderson, brother in laws Ed Maddox and Jack Black, ex husband John Vreeland and son Kenneth Henderson. She is survived by her husband Pete Kiker, step-daughter Joe Anne Crews husband



Clyde, step-son Trey Kiker, brother Ted Martin, sister Debbie Maddox, sister Peggy Morris-Thompson husband Russ, sister Robin May husband Bob, sister Tabatha Arnold, brother in law John Yates, 6 grandkids, 15 great grandkids, 12 nieces, 7 nephews, 15 great nieces, 13 great nephews, 2 great great nieces and 1 great great nephew.

**CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.**





## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### TERI KURETICH

*September 25, 1961-September 27, 2021*

TERI KURETICH loving wife, mother, and grandmother of Paonia Co, passed away on September 27th, 2021, at Colorado Canyons Hospital in Fruita Co.

Teri was born September 25th, 1961, in Ann Arbor Michigan to Ken and Diane Richards. Diane preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Joseph Kuretich: her children Josh (Melissa) Kuretich: her daughter Jennifer (Tony) Wachowicz: Her grandchildren, Alexia, Zak, Hailey, Jacob, and Hannah; her sisters Lisa Schemanske and Micki Thomas as well as her brother Bob Richards all of Michigan.

Teri loved spending time with her family.

Christmas was her favorite time of year especially driving along looking at the lights.

She was an amazing mom and grandma. Never missed a sports game or school concert. She loved her job at the Paonia Care Center where she was an activities assistant. She loved and cherished her grandbabies.

Teri will be missed by so many people that loved her and she touched so many lives.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make a charitable donation to the St Jude Children's Research Hospital.

A celebration of life will take place in the Spring.



### HAROLD EARL WOLFE

*June 12, 1926- September 26, 2021*



HAROLD E WOLFE, age 95, passed away on Sunday September 26 with family around him. Harold was born in Parma, MO. to Pearl and Ethan Wolfe. He grew up in Ft. Wayne, IN. He followed in his

father's footsteps to be a barber at 15 years of age and went to barber colleges in Indianapolis and at St Louis. He joined the navy at 17 years of age to serve on several aircraft carriers in the Pacific during WWII. He received a Purple Heart during his service and was honorably discharged.

In 1946, he married Florence S Staak. They had three children together and were married 68 years.

After WWII, he returned to Indiana and worked as a barber and heavy equipment operator.

He was adventurous and decided to go to Alaska and homestead a piece of land. While in Alaska he was called back into the service for the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1952.

Eventually, the family moved to Delta Colorado, where they lived for fifty

years.

He did many things including barbering, managed a ranch, farming, heavy equipment operator, carpentry, carpet, and linoleum installation. Two of his great loves were hunting and fishing. The family was always well provided for with meat, fish, and a great garden. In the last fifteen years, Harold and Florence moved to Olathe where they enjoyed retirement.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents, son Michael, and his wife Florence. He is survived by his sister Sylvia Bennion, his children Greg Wolfe and Kay Quick, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

A memorial service will be held 12:30-3:30 pm Sunday, Oct 10, at the Warrior Resource Center, 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way, Montrose, CO 81401.



ISSUE 336 Oct. 4

## ART &amp; SOL

## LET THERE BE LIGHTS - AND POWER

By Bob Cox

REGIONAL-In mid 1884 Thomas A. Edison wrote an op-ed-style article for *Carl Pretzel's Weekly*. Edison wrote that he was responding to questions raised about the use of electricity. Edison wrote:

*I am often asked in regard to the probable progress of electricity in the future; what it is likely to do and what may be done with it. One answer really comprehends all. I believe that in time it will be the almost universal form in which energy or power will be used. All who are interested in electrical science have a certain stock of questions, which are asked over and over again whenever an opportunity presents itself. I have made a small collection of those oftenest propounded, and will here answer some of them. One asks, "Will electricity be the universal beast of burden of the future? Will it carry us and our parcels, hew our wood, draw our wood, cut our grain, cook our food, heat and light our houses as well as furnish the motive power of our mills and factories?" This beneficent result will, I think, be attained when electrical science has reached the point when electricity can be produced directly from the oxidation of combustibles instead of interpolating a boiler and steam engine in the process. Professor Tice defines electricity as the soul of the universe; the vital element of all moving matter, and I am asked if I am of the same opinion. I believe*

*it is merely one form of motion, and the highest yet discovered.*

The use of electrical power and the driving science of that power were just beginning in 1884, but Edison and others knew that it was the power of the future. The next three decades proved them right. Toward the end of the article were these words:

*The question I am oftenest asked is, "Can electric appliances for light, heat and power ever be sufficiently cheapened to become available to the poor?" This stage of electrical development has already been reached in light and power. Electricity will prove itself a boon to the poor by breaking up aggregated industries. This, I believe will be its greatest mission. It will subdivide power so that each operator can have his own, at a trifling cost, to do what he pleases with. My belief is that in fifty years, or possibly sooner, we shall reach the electrical millennium—the day when electricity will do its perfect work and be the general servitor of the people. The*



**The large pipe, seen here just above the bridge near the Box Canyon entrance, carried water to the Ouray power plant. A few hundred feet below the bridge the pipe crosses the canyon. The power plant is located just below the south end of Oak Street. Photo by Bob Cox**

*perfection of electrical science will, I think, have even a greater effect upon the industries, consequently upon the general condition of the people, than the introduction of steam.*

However, when Edison was asked if electricity would be as useful to the farmer as to the manufacturers, he said no, but assured that the power would prove useful to the household.

Within a few years the proliferation of electrical power plants was noted throughout the world, and the mining

Continued next pg



## LET THERE BE LIGHTS - AND POWER *From previous pg*

industry in Western Colorado was no exception. In August of 1896, the State University of Colorado announced that the Board of Regents ordered that some 'valuable instruments' be added to the Department of Civil Engineering and the electrical equipment of the Department of Electrical Engineering. They received accolades from several sources. The *Silverite-Plaindealer* in Ouray opined on August 28, 1896 that the additions made to the engineering departments made them 'the best in the country.'

One of the most significant advances to the use of power in the mining industry came about in 1897. On February 4, 1897 the *Ouray Herald* reprinted an article that first appeared a few days earlier in the *San Juan Miner*. The article was enlightening, in part it read:

*W. J. Madden, the engineer who has charge of constructing the new flume from Trout Lake to the electric power plant near Ames, for the Telluride Power and Transmission Company, has been in Telluride for the past week. This flume, which is just being completed, under the supervision of Mr. Madden, is 12,840 feet in length, the head gate being the outlet of Trout Lake. The capacity of the flume is 1,200 cubic feet per minute and the fall is 81 feet. From the terminal of the flume the water is conducted through iron pipe to the power plant and the fall from the pressure box to the 1500 horsepower Pelton wheel at the plant is 901 feet. The Telluride Power and Transmission Company's plant as now completed, with its new water wheels and dynamos, is the second largest of the kind in the United States, the largest being situated at Niagara Falls.*

A few months later, on September 10, 1897, the *Silverite-Plaindealer* printed another interesting development:

*To Harness the San Miguel River*  
An enterprise, which means great things for southwestern Colorado, was started yesterday. Articles of incorporation were filed by The Bridal Veil Electric Company, which will operate in San Miguel and

*Ouray counties. It is proposed by this company to harness the San Miguel River just below the celebrated Bridal Veil Falls and use the power to operate an immense electric plant, which will furnish electricity for lighting and power purposes to both San Miguel and Ouray counties. The principal mission of the company will be to light the towns of Telluride and Ouray, but the mines of the section will also be lighted and power furnished. The directors of the company are T. Walter Beam, David Swickheimer and E F. Richardson. The capital stock has been placed at \$100,000. One of the directors said yesterday that machinery for the big plant is already on the road and that \$60,000 will be spent as rapidly as possible in putting it in place. Inside of four months it is expected to have the plant in operation.*

In mid-October of 1898 both the *Ouray Herald* and the *Telluride Journal* reported the Camp Bird mine made arrangements for purchasing the power necessary for operation from the Telluride Transmission Company. W.B. Searl and his assistants surveyed a line from Savage Basin to the Camp Bird. The line, when completed, stretched some 20 miles from the Ames Power Plant.

Barely one year later, on September 29, 1899, a large headline in the *Silverite-Plaindealer* read, "\$100,000 Being Spent on Plant for Ouray." The article stated that not much attention was being paid to the project, but Colonel Charles H. Nix, the president of Ouray Electric Light and Power, had surveyors mapping out a route for a pipeline in the canyon above Ouray. The pipe, when completed, would carry water over two miles to supply the Ouray power plant. The article went on:

*The most expansive and modern electric dynamos and other machinery will be put in, the contract for the same being let to the Stanly Electric Works of Massachusetts, the largest electrical works in the world... It will furnish power to all mines in this section that want to use power for drills, milling or lighting purposes, and will*

*give power to all machinery in the city, better and cheaper than any other kind. PLAINDEALER has already placed its order for an electric motor, and will discard steam as soon as the new plant is in operation.*

One month later rumors were circulating that Otto Mears was planning on building an electric railroad from Ouray to Ironton. While the project never reached fruition, Mears, Colonel Nix and General Fred Watson were confirmed to have been meeting in Denver, where the idea was proposed.

It was obvious that the City of Ouray took the information seriously. A notice was printed in the *Plaindealer* on November 8, 1901:

### AN ORDINANCE

*An ordinance relating to the San Juan Railway and Electric Company, granting to the company, its successors and assigns, the right to construct, maintain and operate an electric railway and an electric power plant in the city of Ouray, and a right of way along and across the streets, avenues, alleys and public highways of said city for the erection and maintenance of poles and air suspension of wires for the transmission and distribution of electricity, and a right of way over, through, along and across the streets, avenues, alleys and public highways of said city for the construction, operation and maintenance of electric railway thereon.*

Another project that went by the wayside was a proposal in July of 1900 to build a power plant in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. The stated purpose of the plant was to generate and transmit electric power to the mines and mills in the vicinity of Ouray.

Over the next few years other power plants were built. Some failed and some are still in operation. On August 19, 1904 the *Plaindealer* reported on information obtained from the *Denver News*:  
*Electricity and Colorado's Future*  
*As the eye beholds the heights of the Rockies, the rapid streams, which roar down their flanks and the cities and towns*



## LET THERE BE LIGHTS - AND POWER From previous pg

among or near the mountains the wonder is that water power is not used more extensively than it is for the development of electricity. In the Denver News appears the

details of a new enterprise of this character which will be completed by May 1 next, and which will exercise a powerful influence on the growth of Durango, Silverton,

Ouray and other towns in the southwestern part of the state. By diversion of the waters of Cascade Creek from their natural channel they are made to flow through steel pipes down a precipice 997 feet in height, thus generating tremendous power. Six thousand horsepower will be developed at once and is intended to be increased. With a voltage of 50,000 the power is transmissible a distance of 100 miles or more. It will be used at the smelter in Durango, at various mills and for the lighting of cities and towns.

By Christmas of 1911 electrical power to homes and businesses in Ouray had become commonplace. The Ouray Electric Power and Light Company ran a number of ads promoting the purchase of electric toasters, electric toasting ovens, electric irons and electric warming pads, water heaters, curling irons and sewing machines--all said to be 'very appropriate' as appreciated Christmas gifts.

## 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 is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization.



**GET THE MIRROR  
DELIVERED IN YOUR  
EMAIL.**

**OUR ARMS ARE GETTING  
A BIT TIRED.**



# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

**Affiliation:** Presbyterian  
**Address:** 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM - 12PM  
**Contact Information:**  
970-249-4732,

[inform@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:inform@fpcmontrose.com),  
[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)  
**In Transition-Currently:**  
Howard Davidson  
Paul Parsons  
Merle Bierma  
Worship Service times:  
9:30AM,

Student Worship at 6PM  
*We strive to encourage, challenge and support one another through spiritual growth, worship, and service in our community, country, and world.*  
*We also encourage children and youth to grow their relationship with Christ through our children and student ministries*

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist  
**Address:** 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
**Contact Information:** 970-249-3716,

[office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [montroseumc.org](http://montroseumc.org)  
**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Lisa Petty  
**Worship service times:** 9:30 a.m. Casual Contemporary Worship & 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship  
10:30 - Social/Devotional Time  
*Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully*

*inclusive, loving and just servants of Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with and without children, from diapers to dentures. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come and discover hope, joy, peace and purpose.*

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Affiliation:** Southern Baptist  
**Address:** 1598 E. Niagara Road, Montrose, CO 81401  
**Office Hours:** Tues-Thurs, 9am-4pm  
**Contact information:**  
Phone: 970.249.4887  
website: [www.RosemontBaptist.org](http://www.RosemontBaptist.org)  
email: [office@rosemontbaptist.org](mailto:office@rosemontbaptist.org)  
**Senior Pastor:** Rolland Kenneson  
**Worship Service Times:** Our engaging and relevant Sunday Worship Service is at

10:45 AM. We also have Bible Study for All Ages Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. We provide a professionally-staffed nursery throughout both.  
*Rosemont Baptist's desire is to passionately bring people face-to-face with the life-changing power of Jesus Christ. We are a multigenerational church from different walks of life who love Jesus, love each other, and love our community. Everyone comes dressed in whatever is comfortable. We love meeting new people no*

*matter what stage of life they are in.*  
**Children's services:** *We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be worshipers of Jesus.*  
*We provide a nursery for children under four years old with paid staff providing excellent care during Sunday Morning Bible Study and Worship Service.*

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

**Denomination affiliation:** Independent Interfaith  
**Address:** Meeting at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Montrose  
Office hours: Tues-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm,  
**Home Office** – 970-252-0908  
**Contact information:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908,

[arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org),  
[www.spiritaware.org](http://www.spiritaware.org)  
**Name of current pastor:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.  
**Worship service times:** Unity Service at 11 a.m., Adult Discussion at 9:30 a.m., Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m.

*The Spiritual Awareness Center is an inter-faith spiritual community welcoming spiritual seekers and people of all faiths, providing a safe place to explore and nurture the individual's unique connection to the Divine through Unity services, classes, family and community projects, including the Great Community Giveaway and Wellness Fair.*

## SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

**Denomination affiliation:** Southern Baptist  
**Address:** 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403  
**Office hours:** Varies  
**Contact information:**  
phone number: 970-275-7026  
email address: [summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)  
website:

[www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://www.summitchurchmontrose.org)  
**Name of current Senior Pastor:** John DeSario  
**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 Christians 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 building). We have a children's area we call "Base Camp" for children ages birth to Kindergarten during the Sunday Service.*



# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

## VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent Baptist

**Address:** 2890 N Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

**Contact Information:** Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at [info@vbcmontrose.org](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

**Worship Service Times:** Sunday School at 9:30am, Sunday AM Service at 10:30am, Sunday PM Service at 6pm, Wednesday Night Service at 6:30pm (all services include childcare)

*Victory Baptist Church exists to exalt God, edify saints, and evangelize the lost.*

*Demographics: Victory Baptist serves everyone with age-appropriate classes, groups, and activities. Families with children make up the majority of VBC with young adults, singles, middle-aged couples, and seniors comprising the rest.*

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene

**Address:** 705 South 12th Street

**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 9 am-Noon and by Appointment

**Contact Information:** Office Phone 970

249-9213, [mncfirst@gmail.com](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com),

[www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://www.montrosenazarenechurch.org)

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook

**Services Sunday:** Worship 10 AM, Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM Worship includes age-appropriate children's ministry during adult worship.

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

**Demographics:** Our church consists of older and younger people. We have younger families with children and young teens and older adults as well. We also support the work of Calvary Ranch Colorado and its addiction recovery ministry.

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)

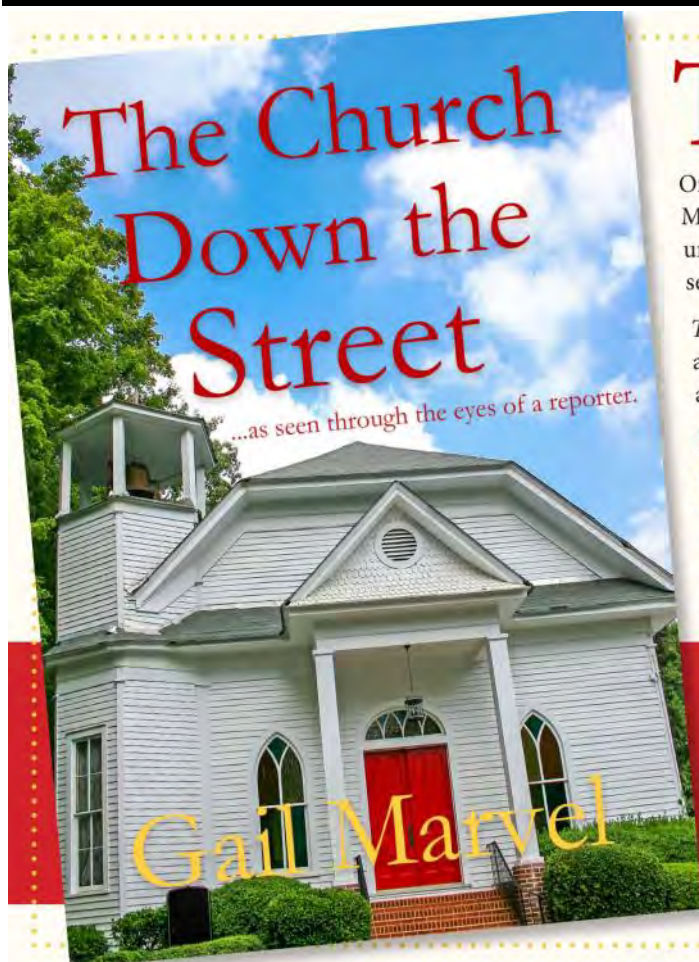
Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?



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

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

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

### Readers will:

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

Gail Marvel's book, *The Church Down the Street*, is available online at Amazon.com and [wingedpublications.com](http://wingedpublications.com).

**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author & Reporter





*Montrose Elks Lodge #1053*  
*801 So. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401*

# Elks Bingo

**Tuesday Oct 5, 2021**

***Progressive Game #2***

***\$500 Must Go!***

***Progressive Game #6***

***\$7,567***

**Win by reaching Bingo with 53 #s or fewer**

***Laugh a little louder***  
***Smile a little bigger,***  
***And just live life better***  
***at Montrose Elks Bingo.***



**Doors Open at 4:30 PM, Early Bird starts at 6:30 PM.**  
**Main Bingo Session starts at 7:00 PM**



# YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – DOUSING DEPRESSION



*By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.*

## *Greetings Mirrorites!*

As I mentioned in my last article, I have been struggling with long Covid for over a year now. Fatigue and shortness of breath have been constant companions, but I still try to hike, or at least stroll daily for 45 minutes to an hour. Throughout lockdown and Covid recovery, I have had reason to bemoan the current state of world, national, and personal affairs. But I have not been depressed. Can exposure to nature help “buffer” against depression? I have suffered from depression in the past, when living in an urban environment and working a civil service job that required a long and stressful commute. So why not these days when so many other people are suffering with Covid related mental health challenges, chief among them being depression?

It turns out that my current living arrangements in a rural setting, the companionship of my animals, and my daily exposure to nature may have buffered me from the worst of the pandemic’s effects on mental health. And apparently, it all started long, long ago.

I was raised in wildland interface/suburban San Diego. Fortunately, at that time in America, helicopter parenting was not a thing, and us kids ranged far and wide, many miles at a time, on horseback. Good times and sweet memories, but there was more going on in my developing brain than I could possibly have imagined, and science was clueless about it, until now.



*A bucolic scene that contains plenty of depression beating beauty.*

Turns out, people who not only live in cities as adults, but were raised in them as well, are at far greater risk of a variety of mental illnesses than folks like me. For instance, Canadian researcher Jens Pruessner found that: “the risk for anxiety disorders is 21 per cent higher for people *from* the city, who also have a 39 per cent increase for mood disorders.” Functional magnetic resonance imaging scans have revealed that the brains of those raised in and still living in cities react differently to stress, as reported in the journal *Nature*. The region of the brain called the amygdala – the ancient brain region involved in mood and emotions such as fear and aggression – was more active among the volunteers raised in cities. All study participants showed increased neuronal activation within the limbic system – that old reptile brain area containing the amygdala. Within this network, neural activation in the amygdala correlated with the size of the city in which an individual resided. Urban dwellers seemed to have an extra energized reptile brain.

A hyperactive amygdala is like a hyperactive child, bouncing all over the place for no apparent reason. A quiet amygdala is a happy amygdala. Unrelieved city living, especially for those with small social cir-

cles, is a perfect brew for depression. And for anyone with a genetic predisposition, urban living with no nature around is a real poisoned arrow. And not just the amygdala is offended by a lack of nature.

Neural activation of the perigenual anterior cingulate cortex – a region implicated in the processing of social stress – is positively correlated with how long a participant had lived in a city during their childhood. Those participants reporting an urban upbringing, not just urban adulthood living, had a more active cingulate cortex – a region involved in regulating stress – while carrying out certain mental tasks.

Why does this occur? Psychologists and psycho-evolutionary theory researchers have argued that the human brain has not developed to cope with life surrounded by thousands of strangers. Don’t get me wrong, some things about city life are wonderful, and some people thrive in a throbbing social milieu full of fine dining and high culture and the arts. But many do not. I am definitely one of those. My father suffered from chronic anxiety and my mother from depression. So, I have a genetic whammie to contend with. My father coped by daily, very long walks with the dog, summers as a zoo bus-driver, and later in life, summers as a park ranger in

*Continued next pg*



## ***YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – DOUSING DEPRESSION From previous pg***

in Glacier National Park. And it seemed to add years and much happiness to his life.

Nature is the best cure for the blues for many people, myself included. Depression is the most prevalent mental disorder in the world, with 5 percent of folks suffering with it. That's 264 million people or so. In the US, the depression rate is more than seven percent, with more than 17 million people effected. Equally alarming, the risk of developing psychosis – a psychiatric disorder associated with hallucinations, delusions, paranoia and disorganized thought – is 77 percent higher in urban than in rural dwellers.

Research that supports the uplifting effects of nature on the urban brain is abundant. For instance, a study in Brisbane, Australia, found that visits to outdoor greenspaces of 30 minutes or more per week resulted in a 7 percent reduction in depression and 9 percent reduction in high-blood pressure. Another undertaken in the south of England showed 50 percent less depression and 56 percent less anxiety in neighborhoods with more than 30 percent forest cover.

But we have to make an effort to mindfully engage in a nature cure. Yes, urban living can be depressing, but other recent findings show that small town living can sometimes be equally depressing! A Canadian study engaging older people from

lots of different municipal densities found an 11.6 percent depression rate in urban areas; 14.0 Percent in small town zones; 9.0 percent in predominantly rural regions.

Even in predominantly rural regions, living alone, perceiving one's income as inadequate, and having some sort of functional impairment were associated with depression. Increasing income inequality, the looming healthcare work force crisis, and social network disruption due to COVID may begin to increase those difficulties. For instance again, upper Midwest small-town dweller and researcher Dr. Kristi Phillips fears increasing rates of depression in small town and rural communities. She has personally witnessed increased rates of mental illness in her region, due in part to a general reluctance among small-town residents and farmers to talk openly about their mental health — or to seek care from a mental health professional. Though Phillips observes a growing willingness among urban folk to talk about their mental health, in small towns across America, people still tend to keep their psychological struggles close to the vest. Many, many farm families are bearing the brunt of this trend. Although outdoors daily surrounded by fields and woodlots many farm families feel that they can't afford the time or the energy to

lounge in nature.

In my personal experience, I have had to zealously guard my nature time from friends and family who want to come to my farm for a free vacation. They are always welcome, and they always have a list of chores waiting for them as soon as they set their luggage down. They heave a sigh and repeat my visitor mantra back to me... "I know, I know, *everybody works!*" Only in this manner have I been able to hold back the desperate hordes of city-folk who want to sit on my porch watching me clean the barn while they sip on chilled wine coolers. Once chores are done, equitably, only then do we *all* lounge with wine in the garden or take a goat hike together. Spending time in nature, for me, keeps me off anti-depressants, and I regard that time as sacred and inviolable.

For those readers who feel sad, or totally anhedonic (completely emotionless, which is how I experience depression), it's critical to make time for nature 'bathing'. Do it often and guard it fiercely. Your increasingly quiet and relaxed reptile brain will thank you for it.

Be well, laugh with friends, and get outside.

As always, questions and comments cheerfully replied to when plopped into an email and sent to [agescapesnow@gmail.com](mailto:agescapesnow@gmail.com).



***ANONYMOUS***

Download The APP. ***P3TIPS*** 

***MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS***

*see something, say something*



## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### ORVIS HOT SPRINGS RECOGNIZED AS OCTOBER 2021 RACC MEMBER OF THE MONTH

#### Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Orvis Hot Springs is being recognized as the October 2021 Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) Member of the Month. This RACC program is an ongoing effort to provide the community and visitors with information about local businesses and organizations and promote shopping in the local area.

"Orvis Hot Springs has long been a sacred place of healing for the Tabeguache band of the Utes, who lived in the Uncompahgre River valley before Mexican and European settlement. Led by famed Ute Chief Ouray, the Tabeguache soaked in the hot springs to receive its calming affects and curative powers. The springs were actually too hot for the Ute people, so they created small pools around the springs in an effort to cool it," explained Orvis Hot Springs General Manager Mindy Kinsella.

Today, Orvis Hot Springs is a clothing optional, natural hot springs resort that does not heat or treat our water in any way. Orvis offers camping, lodging rooms, massage, and day use.

"Our hot springs have seven main naturally-occurring minerals with various health



*Orvis Hot Springs has been recognized as the October 2021 RACC Member of the Month. Courtesy photo.*

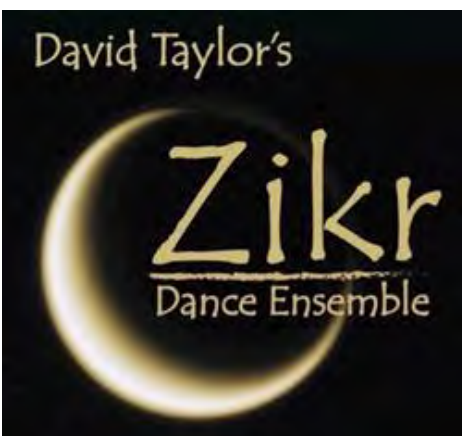
benefits. The waters here are most famous for their lithium content, highly sought after due to its soothing effects that naturally melt away stress and anxiety. A soak can reduce the effects of conditions such as arthritis and eczema, by improving the function of many of the body's vital systems. We do not have any sulfur smell in our hot springs," said Kinsella.

Learn more about Orvis Hot Springs at <https://orvishotsprings.com/>, visit Orvis at

1585 County Rd. 3, Ridgway, CO 81432, and contact the hot springs at 970-626-5324 and [Info@orvishotsprings.com](mailto:Info@orvishotsprings.com). For information about health and wellness amenities in Ridgway, go to on <https://ridgwaycolorado.com/businesses/medical-health-wellness>.

To read the full interview about this Ridgway Chamber Member of the Month, go to <https://ridgwaycolorado.com/news-events/orvis-hot-springs-october-2021->

### DENVER'S ZIKR DANCE ENSEMBLE RETURNS TO OURAY



#### Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-On Sunday, Oct. 17 at 4pm, the Zikr Dance Ensemble comes to Ouray's Wright Opera House. The Zikr Dance En-

semble's 2021 Fall Season is entitled "Lifting the Veil" and will feature a new work, likewise titled, by Zikr Artistic Director David Taylor. "Lifting the Veil" explores the hidden forces that have been directing and assisting mankind behind the scenes for centuries and which now are being revealed for the first time in our current age. The work features breathtaking film projections and digital graphic effects created by cutting-edge visual artist Travis Powell from Deep Space Drive-In and a stunning set design by internationally acclaimed visual artist George Peters. Also on the program will be the critically acclaimed "Runes", and "Oracle", both hailed as masterpieces, with "Oracle" featuring a new set by not-

ed Denver designer Jeff Rusnak.

The Zikr Dance Ensemble is Denver's most unique contemporary ballet company, featuring an international roster of world class dance artists and mesmerizing choreography by Artistic Director and Denver dance icon David Taylor. Critics have hailed Zikr productions as being "...cloaked in palpable mystique, international flair, and raw edge" and ...."with a strong foundation in both ballet and modern dance and an inspirational calling to pull from ancient traditions. Zikr's performances are beautiful, artistic and not to be missed."

When: Sunday, October 17, 4 pm

Where: Wright Opera House  
472 Main St., Ouray, CO 81427

Tickets: OCPAG.ORG



## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### THE BATTLE FOR BEARS EARS: 120 YEARS OF CONSERVATION HISTORY

#### Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Chipeta Archaeological Society is proud to welcome speaker Ralph R.E. Burrillo on Oct. 9, 7:30pm to the Holiday Inn Express. Southeastern Utah has one of the richest and most diverse sagas of human history, dating back at least 12,000 years. Since its popularization starting in the 1870s, the rich material heritage of Ancestral Puebloan farmsteads, granaries, rock art, and cliff dwellings have faced steady threats from development, grazing, looting, and - increasingly - recreational visitation. Efforts to implement legislative protection have existed for almost as long

but have always lagged far behind the pace of the impacts they are meant to curtail. Now they are on a collision course whose fate is yet to be determined.

Ralph R.E. Burrillo is an archaeologist, author, and conservation advocate. His writing has appeared in *Archaeology Southwest*, *Colorado Plateau Advocate*, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, *Blue Mountain Shadows*, *The Moab Times*, *The Navajo-Hopi Observer*, *Kiva*, *The Gulch*, *The Dust*, *The Archaeological Record*, *Flag Live*, *The San Juan Record*, and *Southwestern Lore*. He is also the author of *Behind the Bears Ears: Exploring the Cultural and Natural*

*Histories of a Sacred Landscape*, which was chosen by ForeWord Book Reviews as their critic's choice in nonfiction for the year 2020. He currently splits his time between Scottsdale and Flagstaff, AZ. Chipeta Archaeological Society is proud to announce this wonderful speaker to the public on Oct. 9, 7:30pm at the Holiday Inn Express. We encourage you to come to learn about the Bears Ears area through this program. There is a \$10/person charge at the door. For more information please email [sjicas2@gmail.com](mailto:sjicas2@gmail.com). Masks will be encouraged and there will be social distancing observed.

### FESTIVAL PROGRAM REVEALED FOR 2021 TELLURIDE HORROR SHOW

#### Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE-Telluride Horror Show has announced the full program for its 12th film festival, scheduled for Oct. 15-17, 2021 in the picturesque mountain resort town of Telluride, Colorado.

ANTLERS will close out the weekend at the Palm Theatre, providing attendees with an opportunity to see the highly-anticipated release from Searchlight Pictures, Producers Guillermo del Toro, David S. Goyer and J. Miles Dale, and Director Scott Cooper (*Hostiles*, *Crazy Heart*). The film stars Keri Russell (*The Americans*, *Waitress*) and Jesse Plemons (*Breaking*

*Bad, Fargo*). In addition to ANTLERS, Telluride Horror Show has programmed an international line-up of films from 18 countries along with a roster of genre authors including Stephen Graham Jones, Paul Tremblay, and Jeremy Robert Johnson. For the first time in two years, festival organizers will greet horror fans in person. "We're beyond grateful to be able to welcome our attendees back to Telluride, from all over the country - with a high energy film line-up that includes long-time festival alumni and talented newcomers," said festival director Ted Wilson. "We couldn't be more excited to be offline and

back in the mountains, with a ravenous bunch of diehard horror fans." Three-Day Passes are almost sold out for the weekend. Visit the [online box office](#) for details. Three-Day Passes include access to all films and a number of Special Events, including Fright or Wrong Horror Trivia, the Ice Scream Social, Pig Roast, Folks Up Party, and Last Call at the Last Dollar. The festival also offers free events, open to the public, including the 2021 Horror Summit, Vinegar Syndrome Booth, and Creepy Campfire Tales featuring guest authors Stephen Graham Jones, Paul Tremblay, and Jeremy Robert Johnson.



## Photoshop 101

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Personalized instruction geared to your specific needs.



**MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS 10th ANNUAL  
MONTROSE PIONEER SOCIAL  
HONORING  
“The Hartman Family”**

**October 16, 2021**

**SOCIAL AND PROGRAM AT 2:00 PM  
ADMISSION DONATIONS AT THE DOOR  
Montrose United Methodist Church  
19 S. Park Ave.**





# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

**FREETHINKERS** meet 1st Sunday of the month at 1pm. more info at 970-708-8333.

**NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS** welcomes adults who are new to Montrose or have been here awhile, who would enjoy learning more about the area and participate in social activities. [2021-22 meeting info](#). We will hold our first monthly meeting on Wednesday September 8 in our [new location](#). All other meetings will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (October, November, and January – May). 10am-11:30am in the downstairs meeting hall of Cedar Creek Church, 222 S. Townsend and S. 3<sup>rd</sup>. enter through the side door on S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Hope to meet you there! Contact Patti 951-544-6289 if you have questions.

**THE MONTROSE GENEALOGY CENTER** at 700 E. Main St. is now open Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 1-4 p.m. or call for an appointment: 970-240-1755. Free help and resources for your family history research.”

(The center is sponsored by the non-profit organization, Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society.)

**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** -Saturdays from 9 am-1 pm.. **Location:** Montrose Centennial Plaza . 81401 **Cost:** Free to attend.

**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

All Month. Montrose Center for the Arts. Montrose Visual Arts Guild, main gallery. Dave Kaufmann, wood-turning, Columbine room. [Details here](#).

**Oct.5-** Let it Flow, Alcohol Ink Painting. Jana Adams. Montrose Center for the Arts. [Register here](#).

**Oct. 6-** Watercolor Wednesday. Jodine Broskovak. Montrose Center for the Arts. [Register here](#).

**Oct. 9-**The 16th Annual Montrose Oktoberfest, benefiting All Points Transit, will be the inaugural event at the new Montrose Rotary Amphitheater in Cerise Park in Montrose on Saturday, October 9th from 1pm - 6pm. Tickets are \$35 online, or \$45 at the gate.

**Oct. 9-Saturday, Oct. 9 11 a.m. - 12th Annual Blessing of the Animals** at Lions Park, 602 N. Nevada. Children may bring stuffed animals to be blessed. Photographs of beloved animals will also be blessed. Sponsored by the Spiritual Awareness Center. 970-252-0908.

**Oct. 9-Marko Marino Plein Air Painting 9am-2pm. \$40.** [Montrose Center for the Arts. Register here.](#)

**Oct 11-6:30** Citizens' Climate Lobby meets in person at Montrose Library meeting rm, Nonpartisan, national nonprofit-info at 970-765-9095.

**Oct. 13.** History Wednesday: noon- 2 pm. Brown Bag lunch. With Gail Saunders, *Old Tyme Recreation in Western Colorado*. Montrose Center for the Arts. **FREE**

**Oct. 15-**Montrose Area Wood Turners Art Exhibition and Sale at Cobble Creek Clubhouse, 699 Cobble Drive, 4-7pm.

**Oct. 15-**Justine Willis Toms, host of New Dimensions Radio, will be the featured speaker and presenter at Ridgway Spirit Fest, which will take place at the 4H Center in Ridgway, Colorado on Oct. 15-17, 2021. Visit [www.RidgwaySpiritFest.com](http://www.RidgwaySpiritFest.com) for tickets and more information. In-person tickets are limited.

**Oct. 16-** Beasies Are Back. Rene Fisher. Kids class at Montrose Center for the Arts. [Register here](#).

**Oct. 17** at 4pm, the Zikr Dance Ensemble comes to Ouray's Wright Opera House. For information and Tickets: [OCPAG.ORG](http://OCPAG.ORG)

**Oct. 19-** Let it Flow, Alcohol Ink Painting. Jana Adams. Montrose Center for the Arts. [Register here](#).

**Oct. 26-27** Abstraction 102: Design and Composition. Pat Jeffers. Montrose Center for the Arts. [Register here](#).



Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
970-275-0646

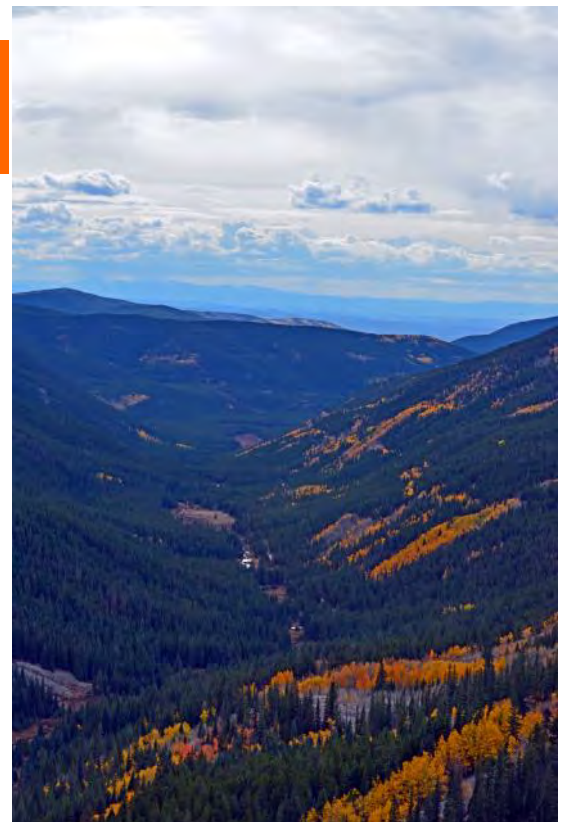
[Editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:Editor@montrosemirror.com)

[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)

## AUTUMN BEAUTY...

*Below, some local dogs and their human companions enjoyed a walk along the trail near the pedestrian bridge Sunday.*

*At right, Photographer Deb Reimann captured this view of the historic Alpine Tunnel Road near Pitkin.*



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

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For info:

[laurenhallruddell.com](http://laurenhallruddell.com)