



www.montrosecounty.net



www.scottsprinting.com



www.alpinebank.com



www.montrosehospital.com



https://the-res.com/



http://www.asclepiusgardens.com/



# Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 459 Dec. 13 2021

Fresh news for busy people!

# COUNCIL LOOKS AT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DEFINITION, WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES



A new north end Connect Trail restroom at the Colorado Yurt Company's new property, above, will be constructed as part of a public/private partnership with the City of Montrose. Mirror staff photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council met for a regularly scheduled work session on Monday, Dec. 6. All councilors were present, with Councilor Anthony Russo attending virtually from Costa Rica. Mayor Doug Glaspell opened the session, which began with the introduction of new City employees. Joining the City team are Animal Control Officer Rebecca Dillon; Rusty Putter Restaurant Manager Shelli Spiers; Deputy Clerk of Court Dona Hawken; Utilities Worker Kendall Delp; and Streets Division Worker Jason Schroer.

Dillon comes to the City of Montrose after four years with Mesa County Animal Control. "I really enjoy working outside, working with animals," she said.

Spiers was born and raised

**Continued Pg 27** 

# CITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION AFTER AUDIT FINDINGS; ELECTION FOR OPEN SEATS IS APRIL 5

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Though all councilors were present for the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, Dec.7, it took several minutes for Councilor Anthony Russo to join the meeting virtually. Representing the City Youth Council was Amy Scriffiny.

Mayor Doug Glaspell led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, and reminded of those who lost their lives at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

#### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank had no changes to the meeting agenda.

#### **CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from the public on non-agenda items.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

In a roll call vote overseen by Deputy City Clerk Mikayla Unruh, Council voted to approve minutes of the November 15, 2021 special City Council meeting and the November 16, 2021 regular City Council meeting as presented.

Continued pg 17



With an <u>election coming up April 5</u>, four out of the five seats will be open on the Montrose City Council.

in this

<u>Rev. Arlyn Macdonald on</u> <u>The true Meaning of Christmas!</u> <u>Cheri Isgreen demonstrates</u> <u>poured watercolor technique!</u> <u>Twyla Righter:</u> <u>Humor for the Holidays!</u>

#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**



TIRE GUARANTEE

CONTINUE CHANGE STATES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

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

- 0 16 major name brand tires
  - 30-day price guarantee
  - All makes and models
  - FREE Alignment Check

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

#### **Voted BEST in SIX different categories!**

- · BEST New Auto Dealer
- BEST Oil Change Shop
- BEST Tire Store



- BEST Auto Repair
- · BEST Mechanic (Greg Ellis)
- BEST Auto Salesperson (Manny Vargas)





970-252-3673

MontroseFordNissan.com

#### MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWAL REMINDERS RESUME JAN. 3

Special to the Mirror

LAKEWOOD- Due to programming updates needed to comply with the Sustainability Of The Transportation System Act, motor vehicle registration renewal reminders for Coloradans' whose vehicle registrations expire in January 2022 will not be mailed in December.

These registration renewal reminders will start being sent on Jan. 3

The programming includes an \$11 reduction in the Road Safety surcharge for 2022 among other Sustainability Of The Transportation System Act updates.

The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) encourages Coloradans to check when their vehicle registration expires and plan accordingly since December renewal reminders won't be mailed until Jan. 3, 2022.

The DMV offers a variety of online tools to help Coloradans with vehicle registration, including registration renewals, first-time vehicle registration, registration fees estimator and much more. Additionally, Coloradans who reside in participating counties can access DMV motor vehicle services at one of the state's 52 MV Express Kiosks.

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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

Founder and Editor: Caitlin Switzer

For additional information and advertising opportunities, please contact:

Editor@MontroseMirror.com

970-275-0646

www.MontroseMirror.com

www.Facebook.com/MontroseMirror

www.Instagram.com/MontroseMirror

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



MEMBER OF THE ONLINE NEWS ASSOCIATION

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021

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

# STEPPING DOWN...AND STEPPING UP

#### Editor:

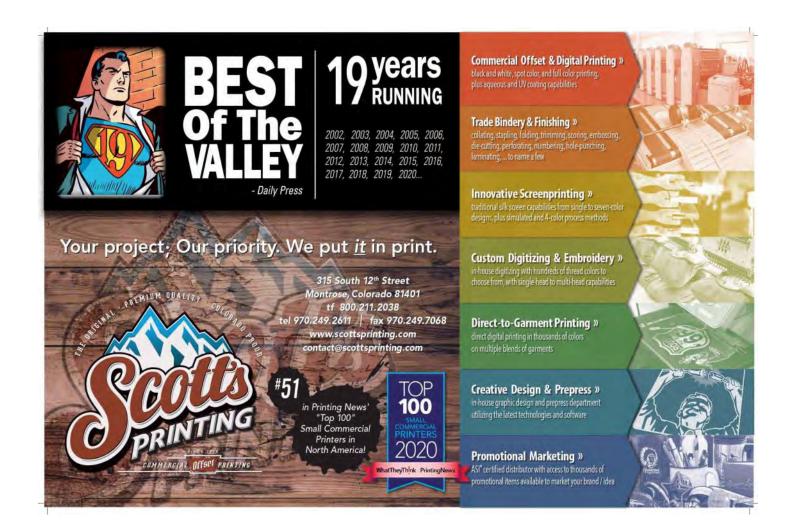
I want to start by thanking all those that have given positive feedback on the things I have covered and written for the Mirror, it means a lot to me. As you know I ran for city council the last cycle, it was after that when I began to take photos and write stuff for the Mirror. I have been asked many times if I would run again, and I always said no. I have had a few people talk to me about it and given it more thought. While I certainly cover things I think are issues with our local government, and I want to see some change, I am also a bit worried that people will not step up to challenge those who will probably be running again to retain their spots. Because of this I have decided to throw my hat into

the ring again this year. I already talk the talk in my op-eds, so I should do as I wish others would, and walk the walk. Because I plan to run, I am stepping down from my position as Publisher, and will not be covering anything about the city, to avoid any conflicts. If I lose, I will be back writing as I have been for the past few years, if I win, I will be on a hiatus while in the position, maybe occasionally doing new business stories or profiles on local artists or other non-government related stories. The one thing I ask of people is if you are not registered, please do so. If you have moved since registering, get online and update your information so you vote counts. Turnout for local elections is historically small, and we need to change

that. If you know others that are not registered, urge them to get registered. Last time I learned a lot of people I know were either not registered or had never bothered to vote in a local election. A point I made the last time I ran was that on a federal level, your voice is one of 10's of millions, but here in the city of Montrose, your voice is one of 12 thousand.

Local elections allow your voice to be more powerful, and local issues quite often have a more direct impact on your quality of life. So please get out and vote, and make sure your friends and family do as well. You can register to vote on the Colorado Secretary of State's web page here.

Paul Arbogast, Montrose



## I AM YOUR GRI

(GRADUATE OF REALTOR INSITUTE)

I AM DEDICATED TO PROVIDING

EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE, AND WILL

ADVOCATE FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE

READY TO BUY OR SELL A HOME.



# Diane Haynes Associate Broker Cell:970-596-3521 dianehaynesrealtor@gmail.com

Leslie Gore
Associate Broker
Cell: 970-275-3195
LeslieGoreRealtor@gmail.com







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

#### Reasons to List in the Winter Months

**FEWER HOMES ON THE MARKET -** While there may be less buyers out there, people who look at a home during the holidays are more serious...they are ready to buy.

**MORE SERIOUS BUYERS**- There are fewer homes for buyers to look at during the holidays which means lees competition for you. Less competition equals more money!

**READY TO SHOW**- Your home shows well when it is decorated for the Holidays.



Kenzie VanArsdale PSA, ABR, SRF, SRS Associate Broker (720)361-7305 Kenzievanarsdalerealtor@ gmail.com



Christine Kersen GRI, RSPS, GREEN Associate Broker (970)318-1389 christinekersen5@gmail.com The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021

#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **COUNTY ADOPTS 2022 BUDGET FEATURING AIRPORT TERMINAL EXPANSION**

Special to the Mirror MONTROSE - The Montrose Board of County Commissioners formally adopted the 2022 proposed budget of \$121,668,439 million. Adoption of the final budget included minimal changes from the recommended budget presented by County Manager Jon Waschbusch in October. These changes include funding for an update of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, a grant match for Hazard Mitigation Planning and the addition of a communicable disease specialist in public health. The final budget includes three new deputies for the sheriff's office which was an adjustment from the five deputies included in the proposed budget. Collectively, the changes resulted in the final budget being \$144,254 less than the draft budget.

"I am incredibly proud of the hard work of our team," said County Manager Jon Waschbusch. "Over the past two years we have streamlined the budget process—making things easier for our team internally and continuing to deliver on the county's commitment to financial transparency. The county remains in strong financial condition and we are continually updating our models and projections to assure financial sustainability."

The highlight of this year's budget is the Montrose Regional Airport terminal expansion capital project. This project, which has been in planning stages for seven years, was approved by the board in September. At this time, around \$12 million of the project is being funded by a Federal Aviation Administration grant from the Airport Improvement Fund. Construction is already underway at the airport and project updates can be found at //flymontrose.com/construction.

"I firmly believe 2022 will be a banner year for Montrose County," said Hansen. "The terminal expansion will significantly improve accessibility for passengers, provide added opportunities for growth at

the airport, and continue the airport's history as a major economic contributor for the area."

The 2022 ending balance for all funds is projected around \$67.3 million, which is an increase in \$3.2 million from the previous year. This change is primarily due to a temporary increase in federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as well as transfers into the capital

improvement funds for projects in the coming years.

The proposed budget presentation may be found <u>here</u>. The adopted budget will be posted to the website in January once it is certified by the state. As a reminder, current county financials are available 24/7 <u>here</u>. For more information about Montrose County, please visit <u>montrosecounty</u>.net.



Spencer Hamner PA-C Se habla Español

# Spencer Hamner provides safe, sophisticated care featuring:

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

Make Integrated Dermatology of Montrose your skincare destination of choice!

3480 Wolverine Dr. Suite F Montrose, CO 81401

Open M-F 8AM-5PM

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



www.IntegratedDermatologyofMontrose.com

## **OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS**

#### CITY OF MONTROSE TAXPAYERS, EXPECT WHAT YOU INSPECT...

Editor:

T'was the month before Christmas, and all through the town, not a creature was stirring, except.....

Montrose City Ordinance no 2576 5-2-1. - Imposition of tax

Hotel, motel, short term rental, apartment Rubber stamping Tuesday, December 7th, hotel, lodging house, motor hotel, guest house, guest ranch, or other similar lodg-

ing business

Add .9 percent!!

Restaurants, cafes, coffee shops, and like places for food and drink (you GO Rusty Putter!).

Add .8%

following November 7th passage, implementing January 4th of 2022.

Our City Council at work, with most revenue base increases for 2021 approximately 25% = \$\$ millions.

Expect what you inspect.

Always looking out for constituents, are

Ho hummm.

Why get involved? Ron Smith, Montrose





#### 7190 1900 RD. • Delta, co 81416 • Info@asclepiusgardens.com



- Approx. 55 Acres 4 commercial teachinggrade greenhouses
- Approx. 22,000 sq. ft. equipped with automation, advanced water wall, and engineered ventilation
- · Domestic & pond water irrigation capabilities
- 8 commercial shade structures
- Approx. 26,000 sq. ft. with automated overhead irrigation from our pond
- Approx. 1 million-gallon pond fed from the Gunnison River, saturated with solar aeration, and home to our plants' food source of approx.
   3,000 well-fed trout. Our unique approach takes this fish-derived nutrient-rich water and delivers it to our plants.
- 10,000 sq. ft. Commercial Retail building (Interior still under construction)
- 720 sq. ft. veggie cool room and display (under construction)

- Approx. 20 acres of gourmet veggies, fruits, and melons planted in raised beds each year and watered with a direct-root delivery soaker system from our pond at up to 1,000 GPM of filtered nutrient-rich pond water.
- Farmers Market, Commercial Retail, and Restaurant-direct veggie supplies
- Farmers Market options this year grown in the field. The general public may shop at our Farmers Market starting this fall, Tues.—Sat.
- We have a small variety of seedlings for sale, however due to construction delays it will be next year before we will have large inventory of vegetable plants available for retail or sales of 4-pack seedlings and mature vegetable plants for sale to the home gardener.
- There is a large variety of direct sown veggies in our massive garden.

- COVID-Safe OUTDOOR SHOPPING EXPERIENCE
- Large garden & Farmers market in the Fall
- email for additional information or to establish a commercial account



The Montrose Mirror December 13, 2021

# MULTIPLE JOB OPENINGS, NO FEES HIRING NOW

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

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

#### Positions include:

- General Labor
- Construction
- Welding
- CDL Driver

(970) 249-5202 525 East Main Street Montrose, CO 81401 ExpressPros.com





BRIGHTEN THE HOLIDAYS
WITH COLORADO
PARKS & WILDLIFE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – With a number of activities and gifting occasions slated for the upcoming weeks, Colorado Parks and Wildlife invites you to celebrate the holiday season with us. Whether you prefer snowshoeing across a snowy landscape or warming up by a crackling fire with a magazine, our state parks and online store offers a wide selection of activities and items for you to enjoy with loved ones.

#### **State Park Events**

Several state parks have organized fun outdoor activities for all ages to mark the holidays. Join us for some nature crafting at Mueller State Park, a nighttime light parade at Barr Lake State Park or walk through one of our parks with a naturalist guide. Experience everything the great outdoors has to offer including watching the last full moon of 2021 rise, or warm up with some hot chocolate and cookies for story time with our park rangers. Visit the CPW Calendar to find holiday activities at a state park near you.



249 8500 ANONYMOUS

Download The APP. P3TIPS PARTIES CRIME STOPPERS

see something, say something

#### **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

# **SCHOOL THREAT PREVENTED BY TIP**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Last week, Montrose County School District (MCSD) was alerted of a credible threat of violence to Olathe Middle School (OMS) when a student reported to OMS administration that another student threatened to harm individuals on campus on the bus ride home. The school and school district immediately activated School Threat Assessment Team (STAT) protocols which included interviews with parents and the family, as well as a report to the Montrose County Sheriff's Office (MCSO). The MCSO is presently investigating the threat and the investigation is ongoing.

"Three years ago, MCSD established a team of district employees and community partners to work together to keep our community safe," said school district Executive Director of Operations James Pavlich. "Through the partnership of schools, law enforcement, and mental health professionals, we are better able to identify and process threats of violence to students and schools. We were able to catch this threat early and use the process as it is intended to stop acts of violence against our children. We have established a working culture of speaking up and working together to keep our schools safe."

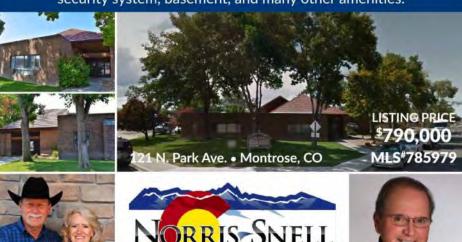
"Montrose County Sheriff's Office takes all threats seriously. Public safety is our top priority—along with the Montrose County School District, the safety and security of students, staff, and community is very important," said MCSO Commander Ty Cox. "We know an incident like this can be scary, but with the report, law enforcement was able to handle the issue before anything happened. We know it takes courage to stand up and do the right thing, and I'm proud of those who alerted authorities."

School operations will continue as nor-

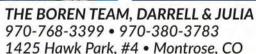
mal. School staff and law enforcement remain vigilant toward the safety of all students and staff. The school resource officer from the Montrose County Sheriff's Office will be available at the Olathe schools and community members can expect an increased law enforcement presence on and around campus this week.

These matters are of serious concern to the community and we continue to encourage students and parents to report potential threats of violence. As always, if you are aware of a threat to the safety of any school, call 911, or if you prefer to remain anonymous, report to Safe2Tell at safe2tell.org, or by calling 1-877-542-7233 or you can download the Safe2Tell app.

**4,658 Sq. Ft. Professional Office Space in Downtown Montrose.**Ample parking space with 2 entrances, 3 kitchenettes, 2 restrooms, security system, basement, and many other amenities.



REAL ESTATE



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



The Montrose Mirror December 13, 2021





SOLO ACOUSTIC BASS

DECEMBER 17TH, 2021 ADMISSION: \$15

DOORS: 6:30PM SHOW: 7PM

HEALTHY RHYTHM ART GALLERY
232 E. MAIN STREET, MONTROSE, CO
WWW.HEALTHYRHYTHM.NET

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021

# THE CENTER SQUARE: STATEWIDE NEWS

#### **CRIME HAD \$27B PRICE TAG FOR COLORADANS LAST YEAR**

## The Center Square

By Robert Davis

The Center Square contributor

(The Center Square) – An economic analysis of crime in Colorado found it cost the state approximately \$27 billion last year.

The <u>report</u>, compiled by the free enterprise think tank Common Sense Institute (CSI), compared crime data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Colorado Crime Stats, a database that is funded by the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority.

"Given the concerning trends and high costs, it is imperative that policy makers implement timely, transparent, and actionable accountability metrics, that allow them to diagnose specific system level problems and individual policy decisions across the multiple dimensions of criminal justice in Colorado," the report said.

According to the report, more than \$8.5 billion of the total came from tangible costs such as property damage and physical injury. Intangible costs such as victim suffering and emotional distress accounted for the remaining \$19 billion in damages, the report found. The average monthly crime rate has increased by 28% over the last decade, including a 15% jump between November 2019 and November 2020, according to CSI.

The report also noted increases in motor vehicle thefts and retail crime in the state, which accounted for between \$1.2 to \$1.6 billion in damages. CSI added that auto thefts have risen by 135% since 2010, good enough to rank Colorado as one of the 10 worst states for such crimes.

For comparison, the national average of reported car thefts increased by just 3%, according to the report.

The think tank said two issues are contrib-

uting to the state's crime increase: the policy trend toward de-carceration of criminals and reduced severity of punishments. During the pandemic, lawmakers passed several bills allowing prisons and jails to de-populate in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The bills allowed many low-level offenders to serve their sentences at home or in non-congregate settings.

The report's authors said they hope the analysis will inspire "practical solutions to what is, in part, an economic issue."

"All victims know that crime is intensely personal," the report said. "Most people never fully recover from the impact of being victimized. Behind every statistic of violent crime, theft of valued possessions or any violation of one's right to live a safe and secure life, is a person and that person's family and friends — are each damaged by a criminal act.

# OUR CURRENT COLORADO BUSINESS LISTINGS!

- Land Survey Business
- Chinese Restaurant
- Kitchen, Bath, & Interior Design Company
- Winery
- Automotive Repair Shops
- Relocatable Sports Equipment Fabrication Company
- Industrial/Commercial Sales & Repair w/Real Estate
- Excavation Business

**More Listings Coming Soon!** 



Contact Shane today for more information!



SHANE COPELAND
Certified/Licensed Business Broker
970-417-1516

scopeland@sunbeltnetwork.com

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



Michelle Klippert | crs, gri, sfr, sres, ABR Broker/Owner Cell: 970-275-3016 MichelleKlippertRealtor@gmail.com

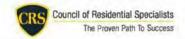
#### 10261 3100 Road, Hotchkiss

Classic Victorian farm house on Rogers Mesa. This magnificent home has been updated with new plumbing and electric prior to this owner. This included new kitchen with solid cherry cabinets, granite counter tops and tile flooring, updated bathrooms and heating system. Gorgeous entry with original fir floors and fabulous staircase. 5 bedroom with formal dining, and an awesome sunroom. Hot water system for heating can be used 2 ways. Either by wood for an economical way to heat or of that by way of new system that uses propane. A home with character and history that will enhance your lifestyle and enjoyment of the property! \$723,000 MLS#786939

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







# Experienced, Educated, Certified, Smart



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

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

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

Personal, Professional, Property Brokers

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

# **OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS**

# IT'S LONG PAST TIME FOR RELIEF FROM REGRESSIVE TAX ON GROCERIES

Editor:

Every day brings worse economic news for most every citizen, as we have seen, gas prices continue to rise, along with the costs of every commodity, even the cost of the food that is critical to our very survival. Exacerbated by a crippled supply chain, rising inflation continues to erode individual purchasing power, and is especially harmful to low and middle income families. Unfortunately, poor political policies on the national level seem to have doomed us all to more of the same for the next few years. Despite this, our local Montrose City government is projecting higher taxes and spending. Last week I focused on the regressive grocery tax as it relates to Montrose County. This week the emphasis is on the City of Montrose, and how it sucks an inordinate amount of money out of the grocery budgets of every citizen in the city. In a Thanksgiving Day insert in the MDP, City Manager Bill Bell was quoted as saying," ...today we are being asked to do more with less", so lets take a closer look at how much "less" the city has to work with.

For 2021, the city projects that actual revenues will exceed budget by \$ 6.7 million, while budgeting a \$3.9 million increase for 2022. Through September 2021, sales & use taxes are up a whopping 20.2% over budget! As for expenditures, the city projects 20-21 to end with over \$ 29.8 million spent, which is \$2.9 million OVER budget. The 2022 budget is

projecting a \$1.3 mil lion increase in spending over the 2021 budget Thanks to taxpayer dollar giveaways to private industry, such as MURA Colorado Outdoors and Hub, it seems the city is doing more with a WHOLE LOT MORE, all at taxpayer expense, especially when it comes to lining contractor "incentive" pockets!! In regards to the City of Montrose grocery tax, the city charges 3.88% on the sale of groceries for home consumption. If you buy those groceries in the city, the county charges 1.75%. Consequently you are pay-

ing a total of 5.58% just to eat at home as inflation increases! Some may say that really doesn't amount to much, but does it? A recent CORA request showed that in 2020 [during Covid] and to date in 2021, the city gouged grocery budgets in Montrose for over \$8.5 million! When you consider that the city web site claims a city population of 19,238, that means the city collected over \$982 from the mouths of every man, woman, and child residing in and buying groceries in the city limits during that period! For an average family of four, that's a total of \$3,928! That's a lot of groceries!

Note for the Fact Checkers: All information came from the city website and a CORA request.

With a 13% poverty rate, per capita income a low \$28,000, 24% of the population on or eligible for Social Security, Sharing Ministries assisting 5300 families per month, the county assisting 2500 families per month, over 45% of school children on Dee Laird, Montrose

food assistance on top of rising inflation and reduced disposable income for everyone, you might wonder why our elected officials haven't at least considered eliminating the sales tax on groceries that would benefit every citizen?

Yet, City records show a history of growing tax collections and spending, with little consideration for residents.

If you buy your groceries in the City of Montrose and agree the sales tax on groceries is detrimental to your food budget, call or write your City Council members and insist on the elimination of that regressive tax! Unless you let them know your opinion they will assume you're happy paying those taxes on your groceries, and there is no chance of that tax going away!

Contacts for City Council Doug Glaspell 970-249-

5538 dglaspell@cityofmontrose.org Anthony Russo 843-452-6309 arusso@cityofmontrose.org

David Reed 970-209-

0949 idreed@cityofmontrose.org

970-497-Dave Frank

9923 dfrank@cityofmontrose.org

Barbara Bynum 970-901-

bbynum@cityofmontrose.org 9191 Council can chose to eliminate that tax, or put the question on the April 2022 ballot for all to vote on. Their actions will speak loudly about how much they are concerned about the welfare of City of Montrose residents.

# **The Mirror:** many views, one newspaper.

#### **COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **NEW SHORT-TERM COLORADO FORECAST FINDS GROWTH WILL CONTINUE**

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Economic activity in Colorado rebounded to its pre-pandemic high in September 2021 and the economy is projected to continue to expand, according to a new quarterly report released by the reestablished Colorado Futures Center at

Colorado State University System.
The new forecast, called the ColoradoCast, is a short-term (6 month) economic forecast in the state – it is the only forecast in the state that evaluates data with less than a one-year timeframe, thus filling a gap related to economic data sets re-

leased within Colorado.

By April 2022 (the ColoradoCast forecast horizon of 6 months) the Colorado economy is projected to be growing at an annual rate of 6.45%, a slowdown from the more robust annualized rates of growth at the end of 2021, but still a healthy rate of growth relative to the months immediately preceding the pandemic.

While the ColoradoCast projects continued economic growth for the state, unknowns such as the newly emergent Omicron variant pose real and significant risks to the forecast, said Phyllis Resnick, lead economist on the report and executive director of the Colorado Futures Center.

"In comparison with a previously unpublished third quarter 2021 run of the ColoradoCast, the current forecast shows a slight decline in both the size of the Colorado economy and the annualized rate of growth," said Resnick. "While the slowing in the forecast is slight, it does suggest that the enduring pandemic, along with the emerging supply chain and labor market stresses, over time are presenting modest headwinds to the economic recovery."

Subsequent forecasts will be released quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

#### About the ColoradoCast:

The ColoradoCast is a short-term (approximately 6 months ahead) economic forecast for the Colorado economy developed by the Colorado Futures Center, a 501c3 organization dedicated to informing about economic, fiscal and public policy issues impacting community economic health and quality of life. It is designed to forecast a well-known contemporaneous measure of statewide economic activity, the Coincident Economic Activity Index for Colorado, developed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The Coincident Economic Activity Index includes four indicators: nonfarm payroll employment, the unemployment rate, average hours worked in manufacturing and wages and salaries. The trend for the index is set to match the trend for gross state product.

# Join Our Team!



Join our team and make a real difference in the lives of those in your community!

When you begin a career with us, expect the support you need to succeed in your role, respect for your individuality and beliefs, and opportunities for personal and professional development.

voa.jobs.net

Nursing | Dietary | Life Enrichment Administrative | Transportation



EOE / M/F /Vets /Disabled

©2021 Volunteers of America National Services.

Ve are designated tax-exempt 501 (C) 3 organization

#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **CDOT REPAIRS LANDSLIDE ON CO 133 NORTH OF PAONIA**

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON COUNTY — The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), in cooperation with Williams Construction, will perform landslide repairs to Colorado Highway 133 north of Paonia. The project will prevent ongoing landslide activity from further damaging the roadway. Work began Nov. 15 and will continue through May 2022 with a winter shutdown.

The project consists of slope stabilization by use of ground anchors, prefabricated concrete panels, and drain pipes. Once the slope has been stabilized, roadway repairs shall be completed. This project will benefit the public by improving safety and function of this section of highway. The safety improvements will take place on CO 133 from MP 21.6 to 21.8 north of Paonia. The location is immediately west of Paonia Reservoir and Kebler Corner.

This landslide repair project will ensure motorists can move safely and reliably through this section of the roadway for years to come. It will be critically important for motorists to adhere to work zone safety throughout the duration of this project as we enhance the functionality of this intersection.

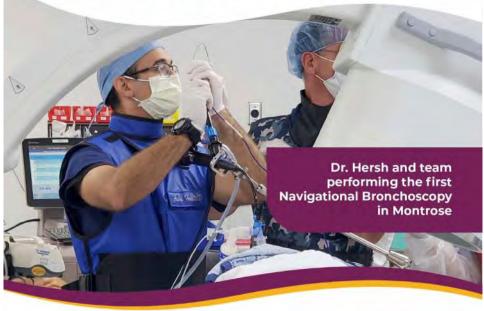
#### **Traffic Impacts**

Motorists will encounter road and shoulder work on CO 133. Traffic impacts include:

-Working hours will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.

-Various shoulder and lane closures will take place within the work zone. Minimal traffic delays are expected.

## Caring for you like family means **ACCESS TO THE ADVANCED CARE YOU NEED**





#### Let's Grow Together. **Advertise with** The Mirror!

Highly Effective & Unique Ad Opportunities, including Print, Email, Online, Facebook, and more. editor@montroseMirror.com

970-275-0646

## You want the best for your family.

**Montrose Regional Health** provides access to advanced technology and specialty care for our communities, including **Navigational Bronchoscopies** for early detection of lung cancer.



800 S. 3rd Street

Montrose, CO 81401

970-249-2211

MontroseHealth.com





#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### WINTER SHUTDOWN IN PLACE FOR US 50 SETTLEMENT REPAIR PROJECT NEAR DELTA

Special to the Mirror

**DELTA & MESA COUNTIES - After a busy** construction season, the Colorado Department of Transportation and contract partner Elam Construction have suspended work for the winter on the US Highway 50 settlement repair project. The project includes a new asphalt surface and will significantly improve dips and bumps on a section of US 50 between Grand Junction and Delta, from Mile Point 47.6 to MP 66.7. Upon completion, drivers will experience a smoother, safer ride on the welltraveled roadway. Additional work was added to the original contract in order to complete necessary improvements on the eastern end of the project. As a result, the project is now a multi-year project and work will continue in spring 2022. Photos of the project are available here.

Crews worked expeditiously throughout the 2021 construction season and accomplished:

Full-depth reclamation at multiple locations

Lane level paving

Top mat paving Guardrail installation Striping

The project focuses on a 2" hot mix asphalt overlay and guardrail installation that will meet new safety standard requirements. The HMA will add approximately 10 years of life to the highway, a smoother road surface and will eliminate ruts and road damage. The new guardrail will be 31" high instead of 27" high to help vehicles remain on the road more effectively, making the highway safer for the traveling public.

The project received \$15 million in federal stimulus funds this year. The funding was part of the total \$150 million CDOT received in federal money from the COVID -19 relief package and stimulus funds in an For additional information about this proomnibus appropriations package. Local agency stakeholders gathered with CDOT this spring for a short groundbreaking ceremony for the project.

The project team will return to work in spring 2022 to complete additional top mat paving, rumble strip installation, re-



Courtesy photo CDOT.

maining guardrail installations and striping. The multi-year project has an anticipated completion timeline of early summer 2022.

**Project Information** ject: Call the project information line at (970) 878-8255.

Email the project team at: resurfacingproject@gmail.com Visit the project website at: https:// www.codot.gov/projects/us50-delta-mesa -county-resurfacing

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the ee exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom speech, or of the press; or the right of the ple peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

#### CITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS AFTER AUDIT FINDINGS From pg 1

#### **2020 AUDIT PRESENTATION**

City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg introduced the 2020 Audit presentation. The Audit was prepared by Watson Coon Ryan LLC of Denver. The completed audit is on the City's web site. Audit Partner Kelly Watson joined the presentation to discuss the findings. A yellow book audit was required of the City this year, Watson said. A Corrective Action Plan is included in the audit.

Among the items to be corrected: Final 2019 numbers weren't available in a timely manner and the City was not able to reconcile capital assets or pension activity during the year ended Dec. 31, 2020; in one instance a receipt was reported twice; and in another, an expenditure involving a direct payment of \$30K to a contractor to create a daycare at a local gym was not in compliance with qualifications for reimbursement under guidelines for use of Coronavirus relief funding.

Council voted to accept the 2020 Audit as presented.

#### ORDINANCE 2570-SECOND READING

Council voted to adopt <u>Supplemental</u> <u>Budget Ordinance 2570</u> on second reading, amending Ordinance No. 2514 which appropriated funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2021; said expenditures of the City of Montrose over and above those anticipated at the time of the adoption of the original budget for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank thanked Wittenberg and her staff, "...Your entire department has done an incredibly complex job with grace and dignity. Thank you very much."

"It's always nice to hear that we have had a good audit," Mayor Doug Glaspell said.

# NEW ARTS LIQUOR LICENSE-MONTROSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Assistant City Attorney Chris Dowsey presented the <u>application</u> by the Montrose Center for the Arts, a full-time, all-inclusive arts center located at 11 South Park Avenue. MCA President Jodine Bascovak was present to provide background information and to answer questions. An arts liquor license is available only to non-profits that promote the arts, and only while art is on display. The application was

approved.

#### **ORDINANCE 2571-SECOND READING**

Deputy City Clerk Mikayla Unruh presented Ordinance 2571, amending the City Council district boundaries by the adoption of a new Council District Map, and by its insertion into the Official Code of the City of Montrose, and by repeal of the old Council District Map. Ordinance 2571 was discussed previously in work session and on First Reading.

Council voted to adopt Ordinance 2571 as presented.

### RESOLUTION 2021-28-MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

Also presented by Unruh and adopted by Council was Resolution 2021-28, authorizing the conduct of a mail ballot election for the City of Montrose General Municipal Election of April 5, 2022. Candidate information will be available on the City's web site by Dec.13.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021-29**

Council voted to adopt Resolution 2021-29, authorizing filing of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) grant application for the Peace Officers Mental Health Support grant program. Community Program Manager Kendall Cramer presented information on the grant application. The grant provides financial support for law enforcement agencies to provide mental health services for peace officers.

#### ORDINANCE 2572 AND ORDINANCE 2573-SECOND READING

As discussed previously in work session and on First Reading, Council voted to approve <u>Ordinance 2572</u> on second reading for the annexation of the Grace Community Church Addition II as well as <u>Ordinance 2573</u> on Second reading, zoning the Grace Community Church Addition II as R-3 Medium Density District.

#### **ORDINANCE 2574-SECOND READING**

Prior to discussion and vote on <u>proposed</u> Ordinance 2574, Councilor J. David Reed recused himself due to a possible conflict of interest.

Ordinance 2574, authorizing the disposal of real property, Lot 1 Air Park Way Minor Subdivision, conveys the property through a special <u>warranty deed</u> to Stryker & Company, Inc. Planner Amy Sharp said that the property was originally to be conveyed via quit claim deed, but the method of conveyance was changed to a special warran-

ty deed at the request of the applicant. With Reed recused from the vote, Council voted to adopt Ordinance 2574 on Second reading.

#### **ORDINANCE 2575-FIRST READING**

To ensure uniform zoning on the land where the new Public Safety building is located, Planner I William Reis presented Ordinance 2575, amending the zoning designation of a portion of the Police Department Amended Plat, located at 434 South 1st Street, from B-1 Central Business District to P Public District. Staff recommends approval.

Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2575 on First Reading.

#### **ORDINANCE 2576-SECOND READING**

As discussed previously in work session and on First Reading, Assistant City Attorney Chris Dowsey presented <u>Ordinance 2576</u>, to repeal and reenact the City's Municipal Code pursuant to § 5-2-1 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose. The term used was changed from hotel room tax to excise tax since work session, Dowsey said, as restaurants are covered in the ordinance, which addresses the responsibility of marketplace facilitators to collect and remit excise tax on sales made within the City of Montrose.

"This is a really, really good program,"
Councilor Russo said. "This is really going to help the local businesses streamline the process."

Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2576.

# 2022 SANITARY SEWER CURED IN PLACE PIPE BID AWARD

Utilities Manager David Bries presented a renewal of an annually renewable 2020 three-year contract with Insituform Technologies, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$250,000, for cured in place lining of sanitary sewers.

Council voted unanimously to renew the contract with Insituform Technologies, LLC.

#### FORD VEHICLE PURCHASE AWARD

Public Works Manager Jim Scheid presented a request to purchase 20 Ford vehicles from Sill-Terhar Motors in Broomfield for the total purchase price of \$856,827.52. Councilor Barbara Bynum said that only two qualified bids were received, from businesses located on the Front Range and in Texas.

#### CITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS AFTER AUDIT From previous pg

Council voted to approve the purchase. **EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AND SOLE** 

# **SOURCE WAIVER REQUEST**

Scheid presented for consideration a request to purchase two refuse trucks and two Vactor trucks from Faris Machinery in Grand Junction for the total purchase price of \$1,950,478.34; Council voted to approve the purchase.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING FITNESS **EQUIPMENT PURCHASE**

Scheid also presented the final item, the requested purchase of Lifetime Fitness/ Hammer Strength brand fitness equipment from Advanced Exercise for a total of \$71,551.60. Similar, and in some cases the same, equipment is used at the Montrose Community Recreation Center, Scheid said. "...This equipment fits our needs, and is a good suit for the police department," he said. "It also potentially opens up opportunities for future cost savings when it comes to maintaining or repairing the equipment."

Mayor Pro Tem Frank said, "...this is not going to be exclusively for the use of our police force but it's going to be available to other city employees as well."

There will be a training procedure and a scheduling procedure for equipment use,

The new public safety building was designed with the fitness center in mind, Mayor Glaspell said.

Council voted unanimously to approve

the purchase.

#### STAFF REPORTS

City Manager Bill Bell spent time discussing a recent article he had read about the City's budget, an article that he referred to as "misleading based on some of the language that was used." Bell said, "...We had a discussion with the person writing the article." He listed ways in which he had corrected the writer.

Councilor Reed said, "...We are the largest city in Colorado that supports itself on the sales tax revenues and we do not have a property tax in the city, something I think we should be very proud of."

Bell said, "Yeah. I think we're really proud of having a streamlined government here. We provide the most service possible with the least number of people. And we take care of those people that we do have by trying to keep up with the market the best we can...we are really proud of being a city that can lead by example here in Colorado."

Frank said that the city's budgeting process is very conservative. "...We don't do pie in the sky budgets. Our budgets are very solid, down to earth, and very consistent." All budgets are available online, Councilor Bynum said.

Police Chief Blaine Hall presented an update on the new public safety building, the brick is being laid for the exterior. "It really City Council connected. matches the downtown civic look, and what city hall kind of communicates," Hall

said. Community tours will be given. Hall read a letter from a dispatcher on a recent incident, about the rescue of the members of a local household from a situation involving carbon monoxide. All five occupants of the home were transported to the hospital and survived. Hall thanked those who helped make the rescue happen and reminded the public to check furnaces and keep a carbon monoxide alarm in the house. Hall thanked City staff, council, management, and everyone who supports the police department and its programs. "...Really we're supported by our entire City staff...thank you to our city council and our city management team

Councilor Reed said what a magnificent job city staff did with the parade of Lights. Reed thanked specific City staff and council, Youth Councilors Gunnison Clamp and Harrison Hall, all of City staff, and Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hansen for their help. "You are the lifeblood. We thank and appreciate you."

Mayor Pro Tem Frank thanked Parade of Lights Judge Donny Morales as well. Councilor Bynum thanked outgoing City Attorney Steve Alcorn for his eight years of service with the City.

Calling in from the road, Councilor Russo thanked IT Director Greg Story for keeping

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021

# I AM YOUR CRS



I am honored to be your 2021

Colorado Certified Residential Specialist

Agent of the year!



DRIVEN BY SERVICE.
TESTED BY EXPERIENCE.
PROVEN BY SUCCESS.



#### Michelle Klippert, CRS

Broker/Owner The Real Estate Store 500 E Main St Montrose CO 81401 970-275-3016





Experienced, Educated, Certified, Smart



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

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

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

Personal, Professional, Property Brokers

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

#### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **GMUG BIDS FAREWELL TO GUNNISON DISTRICT RANGER**

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON— The Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce the departure of Gunnison District Ranger, Matt McCombs. McCombs will become the new State Forester for Colorado and the Director of the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) in January 2022. Matt's last day of work with the U.S. Forest Service will be Jan. 2.

Since Matt's arrival to the GMUG, he has been instrumental in creating multiple partnerships and innovations that were critical to meeting the needs of the Gunnison Valley, uniting different interests in service to the common good while building foundational relationships that will far outlive his tenure. Matt brought new energy to the Forest along with a vast public relations background and a unique hardwiring toward collaboration or as he describes "doing something better together than you could not have done on your own."

"I am deeply honored to have been selected as the new Director of Colorado State Forest Service and Colorado's next State Forester," said McCombs. "My time here on the Gunnison provided a fantastic opportunity to build working models in collaboration, climate adaptation and shared stewardship while enjoying the support and encouragement of a remarkable staff and innovation-minded community of forest lovers." McCombs continued, "I'll be taking these models to scale as Colorado's next State Forester while leaving a piece of my heart buried here in the Gunnison Country."

"Matt's unique character, collaborative nature, and deep sense of public service will be greatly missed," said Chad Stewart, GMUG Forest Supervisor. "He will be a perfect fit as the new State Forester for Colorado. We are thrilled to see him transition to this new role and look forward to continuing working with him in the new position."

"I've been fortunate to witness Matt's outstanding abilities to bring together diverse stakeholders to achieve stewardship during his tenure in the Gunnison Basin. Although the basin will miss Matt, I am incredibly excited for the future of the Colorado State Forest Service and our partners under his leadership. Expect big things from Matt!" said Sam Pankratz, former Supervisory Forester in the CSFS Gunnison Field Office. For information and updates on current fire restrictions, conditions, and recreation opportunities on the Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests visit the forest website. Connect with us on social media (Twitter and Facebook).



discomfort, Minor skin conditions, Minor injuries, Sprains and strains, Simple cuts, puncture wounds, animal or insect bites

8:00 am - 6:00 pm closed for lunch from 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm



Walk-ins welcome

155 STAFFORD LANE, DELTA, CO

# **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### CITY COUNCIL APPROVES NEW DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — City Councilors voted unanimously last Tuesday to approve slight changes to City Council district boundaries to account for an increase in city population following the release of 2020 Census data earlier this year.

The Montrose City Charter directs the council to adjust the district boundaries within one year of the publication of the latest census data. In this case, the 2020 Census was released in August 2021, making August 2022 the deadline to modify district boundaries..

According to City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo, Article I, Section 13 of the Charter of the City of Montrose states "the City Council shall divide the city by ordinance into four council districts of approximately equal population, to be numbered 1 through 4 ..." The charter further states that district boundaries shall be adjusted from time to time by the City Council as required to maintain approximately equal

populations in each district and that "such an adjustment shall be made within one year following the publication of the results of each United States Decennial Census."

At the Nov. 1 work session, the council was presented with the current City Council district map showing the population for each district, along with six new options for adjusting the boundaries as required by the City Charter. The total population of the City of Montrose, according to the 2020 Census, is 20,293, which sets a target of 5,073 per district. On Nov. 16 the council unanimously passed Ordinance 2571 on first reading and selected "Option 7" as the updated City Council district map. An ordinance brought before the City Council must have a vote of approval on both a first and second reading of the ordinance. Ordinance 2571 was passed unanimously on second reading Tuesday, which will make the new district map official at the start of 2022.

Pursuant to the City Charter, if the City Council desires to make district adjustments effective for the April 2022 municipal election, the adjustments must be adopted prior to Tuesday, January 4, which is the first day that nomination petitions may be circulated for that election. The City Charter also outlines that the council may adjust the boundaries prior to the next municipal election but is not required to do so. The City Charter states, "changes in district boundaries shall not be effective for any election unless adopted prior to the time petitions for nominations may be circulated for that election. Nomination petitions for all Councilors shall be signed by at least 25 registered electors residing anywhere within

DelPiccolo said 2022 election information, including the City Council district map, would be made available for potential candidates by mid-December at CityofMontrose.org/Election.

the City."

FREE ONE-TIME
15 MINUTES PHONE
CONSULTATION



#### Open for Appointments Only!

Monday & Wednesday: 8 AM -5 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM - 6 PM

Thursday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Friday: 8 AM - 3 PM

#### Contact Us

121 N. Park Ave, Montrose, Colorado 81401 970.615.7065

tracie@neurobasedspeechsolutions.com www.neurobasedspeechsolutions.com

We accept insurance!



#### We specialize in:

- · Post Concussive Syndrome
  - Brain Injury Rehabilitation
    - Stroke Rehabilitation
- · COVID-19 Long Hauler Impairments
  - Parkinson's Disease, ALS
  - And a variety of other complex,
     Cognitive Communication Disorders
    - neurobasedspeechsolutions
    - Tracie Bearden | wanderlustslp



# You can make a difference.

In a time when we're all looking for ways to support our community, we encourage you to shop locally and use your Alpine Bank Loyalty Debit Card\*. Every time you use it, Alpine Bank donates 10 cents to causes you care about, right here at home. And those dimes add up!

#SmallAndMighty #SupportSmallBusinesses

\*Alpine Bank debit cards are available with no annual fee to individuals with an Alpine Bank checking account.





INDEPENDENCE • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY • LOYALTY

CONVENIENT LOCATIONS ACROSS COLORADO

ALPINEBANK.COM | MEMBER FDIC

# **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **DMEA PAYMENT AND BILLING PROCESS RESUMES**

Special to the Mirror MONTROSE & DELTA- On Friday, Dec. 10, Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) began accepting member payments and reissuing energy bills. After a malicious network attack on Nov. 7, coop members had been unable to pay their

bills, as well as receive bills.

"We are so grateful for the support and patience our members have shown us over the past month," said DMEA CEO Alyssa Clemsen Roberts. "The path to fullservice restoration has been longer than we originally hoped, but as of today, DMEA can begin processing member payments."

DMEA encourages its members to make payments using the online account management tool SmartHub. Once logged in, members can make payments 24/7, update payment information, and monitor their energy use. Alternative payment options include dropping off payments at DMEA drop boxes located throughout its service territory and in-person payments. DMEA's Montrose lobby is open to walk-in traffic, but occupancy is limited to two members at a time.

Over the next few weeks, DMEA members can expect to receive their energy bills. DMEA will first send members the bills it could not issue in November. Those bills will have a compressed payment schedule and will be followed shortly by current statements for December.

"The majority of our members will receive back-to-back energy bills over the next few weeks. We know this incident comes at an unfortunate time. I want to remind members that DMEA will not charge late fees or disconnect any services for non-payment through January 31 of next year," said Clemsen.

DMEA will also offer temporary threemonth payment arrangements for members who need additional time to pay their bills. Many local organizations also provide bill payment assistance. A list of assistance organizations is available on DMEA's website at https:// www.dmea.com/bill-assistance.

Members can stay updated on DMEA's

progress toward complete service restorabilling schedules, automatic payment intion at www.dmea.com by visiting the Network Restorations Updates page. The page is routinely updated with information as it is available, such as detailed

formation, and payment assistance options.

For more information, visit www.dmea.com.



© 2021 Volunteers of America National Services, All Rights Reserved, We are designated tax-exempt under section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code



making a contribution today.

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: HUMOR

#### WHAT TO TALK ABOUT OVER THE HOLIDAYS? A GUIDE FOR LIBERTARIANS

By Twyla Righter

MONTROSE-Are you a Libertarian? (This is a person with a philosophical belief that government should be severely limited... We are often confused with Republicans but we are a bit different in culture and way more militantly anti-government.... (Think diet anarchists.))

If you are a Libertarian and you do find that the desire to limit governmental intrusions into personal life decisions has gotten really (like REALLY) unpopular and untenable these past couple years- the following is a list of topics that you should be able to discuss with your non-Libertarian friends without having any drama.

First, a quick reminder, back in the times of long, long, ago in a kingdom not far away known as 'Montrose 2019' - you could actually be friends with those who were not of the same political leanings. We used to have fun friendly conversations without everyone getting awkward or mean. Remember that?

The time of yore when the ranchers and the hippies; the lefty Boulder/California transplants and the locals with streets that have their family names could all genuinely like one another? It was a time of such innocence

In those days we were all aware of a few hot button topics to avoid. We didn't discuss religion or politics and we were pretty well safe. The easiest way to do this was to avoid those sensitive topics and instead to discuss things that, while maybe a bit more banal, were also mutually interesting. This list of apolitical topics has been shrinking so I figured I'd help us all. So - here's a complete guide to noncontroversial topics for the libertarianminded person to discuss on the holidays: Tip #1 - Talk about pets. Pets are cute everyone likes dogs (except for me... I mean they sniff behinds and engage in sexual proclivity in front of me in the most awkward moments with zero shame... but whatever - you guys all seem to really like dogs and I can tolerate them - so discuss pets!) Although it turns out that they can both get and spread that germy thing that's destroying our ability to be friends

and they NEVER double mask or get shots or social distance and since it spreads through poop (did I mention that they willingly sniff that stuff (and worse!!!) they aren't exactly being cautious. Which isn't really fair. The children have been miserable for almost two years but the dog gets to run around, mask free, romantically assaulting the mail truck because...? Dogs are the privileged elites apparently. You know what? Maybe just don't discuss nets

Tip #2 - How about skiing? I mean it's Colorado! Everyone loves to ski! I know there's a lot of political back and forth over the etiquette of the gondolas... or the chair lift - or restaurants and magical rules regarding how food instantly removes risk... or how it's been crazy warm this year and the climate is certainly chang... you know what? Let's forget skiing. That's too controversial too.

I've got it! Football! Our high school team this year was AWESOME!!! And although the Broncos are not, they've been worse and everyone seems to actually like the players and we think they are good people! Just don't bring up the past years of protesting the anthem and why if you have a loved one in the service who has permanent nerve damage (like my stepbrother) it was incredibly insensitive and rather insulting and how that put you in some bizarre situation with having to defend your total support for all levels of tan -ness in all of humanity and your ability to recognize that certain communities are absolutely harmed by terrible policies (that the government is usually responsible for - which is why you are a libertarian/decaffeinated-anarchist...) but that doesn't mean that the military shouldn't have the respec... Forget it - no football. Basketball is even worse these days. Yeah -no basketball is way worse... Not women's soccer - in fact all women's sports come with the issue that no one knows what a woman actually is anymore and if you have an athletic daughter then you now have to contend with the fact that someone else's athletic 'identifies as a daughter' might take the state championship from your 'doesn't have to identify'

version of a daughter. Let's just skip sports. Well... hmmmm what CAN we all find in common? Used to be the weather but you know, climate hoozy-whatsit will get everyone angry... What is available to actually bring people together and allow us to share



Twyla Righter.
Courtesy photo.

in community and joy?

Not cars. That gets into energy politics and if an electric car should really be called a 'coal car;' and if government subsidies for electric cars aren't just a tax credit directly to the wealthy at the expense of... Nope - no cars. Maybe travel... no - that's full of potential land mines. Education - No. Comedy - no. Art - Nope. Man, there's just nothing off limits to the drama of today.

Booze?

Ummm... yes? I think that's safe!
The left loves to drink - the right loves to drink. There aren't even lefty drinks vs righty drinks. Beer? Everyone loves beer.
Wine is appreciated by all. Tequila, whiskey, vodka? Check, check, check.
Ok... so I apologize to my Mormon friends and my t-totalers and those who have substance abuse issues. It's not that your beliefs and needs don't deserve respect and support... we are just to the point that dogs and snow are too controversial and who saw that coming?

To my alcohol accepting libertarian friends I have our current subject for safe and pleasant camaraderie this holiday season. Get highly interested in booze and booze adjacent topics. That's your safety zone.

Merry ... you know... whatever isn't offensive to whomever you want to greet and Happy New Year to those who aren't offended by the European defined Catholic centric New Year that we will likely celebrate in a few weeks (with booze).



delivered fresh to your phone each week!
We are working with
970VIP to enable our text blast service!



Text MIRROR to 55678 now to opt-in to our NEWS TEXT alerts!

By joining The Montrose Mirror VIP News Alerts, I agree to receive ongoing messages at the number provided. Consent is not required to purchase goods or services. Message frequency may vary.

Reply HELP for help, STOP to cancel. Message & Data rates may apply.

Ts & Cs / Privacy Policy @ www.therevenuegenerator.com/terms\_of\_use.asp TEXT mirror TO 55678

MONTROSEMIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

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

# THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

#### Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of our entire community to thank all the wonderful volunteers who took time out of their lives to prepare and also deliver over 2000 Thanksgiving dinners to people. I especially want to acknowledge and thank Kevin and Bobbie Kuns for being strong leaders in setting an awesome example of bringing a community together to reach out to people to 'make the world a better place to live'! In these challenging

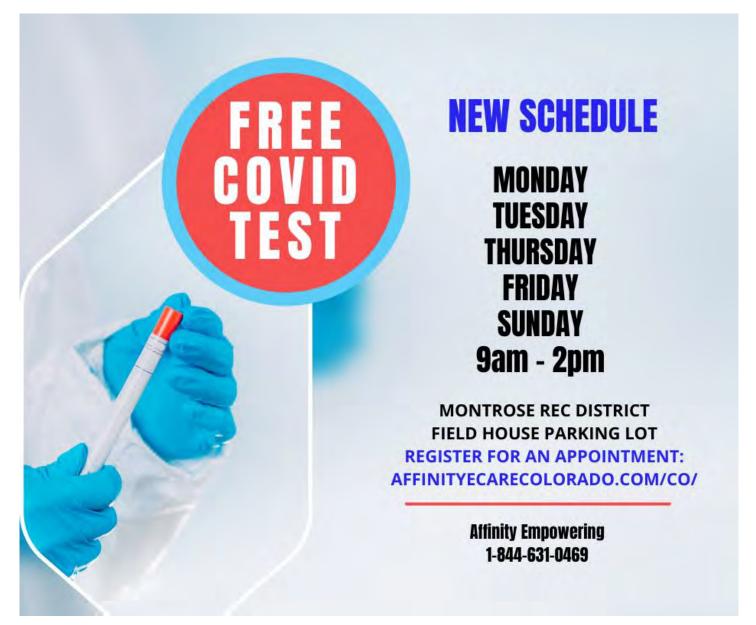
times we are living in at present with so much fear, anger, sadness, negativity, 'point, bash and blame' divisiveness and isolation, they both set a good example of how to get past the divide and bring people together for the good of the whole community. Let's all follow their guidance and reach out to others and be kind, loving, compassionate and giving to help our neighbors whatever their belief system is and especially if it is different from ours. Let's come together as a community and

make this a peaceful and safe place to live. We all want the same things in life, good health, loving relationships, prosperity and to feel safe.

We are all in this together! Thank you to the Kuns for their leadership in setting such a wonderful example on how we can all work together for a common goal of good for the community.

Kathy Rigale . Montrose

Kathy Riggle , Montrose Member of NAMI, National Alliance of Mental Illness



#### CITY LOOKS AT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DEFINITION From pg 1

in Montrose, she said. "I love it here, I am an avid golfer, and when this job...came open I thought what the heck...two of my favorite things, the service industry and golf, combined together...I've got a great, great team out there...I am happy to be on the city team."

Hawken has a varied background and hopes to bring her strengths to the job. Originally from Colorado Springs, she came to the Western Slope with her family and has lived in the North Fork Valley. "...I really wanted to see what Montrose has to offer...Overall, I 'm excited to be here."

Delp grew up on a Kansas farm and worked in the Colorado ski industry prior to coming here. "I appreciate the opportunity and really like Montrose so far," he said.

Schroer comes to Montrose from Granby, "I love the outdoors and I love Montrose," he said.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Community Engagement Specialist Ross Valdez presented a proposed <u>Resolution</u> involving a <u>code modification</u> for supportive housing. Outgoing City Attorney Stephen Alcorn was present for the discussion.

Background-A memo from Valdez to Council states," City Staff have undertaken a review of the Municipal Code Title 4, Chapter 4, Sections 2, 10, 14,17, and 18 in order to add a definition for supportive housing and define where these uses are allowed. This Code amendment increases solutions available to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness or atrisk of homelessness, and have a barrier to employment and housing stability by allowing supportive housing as a conditional use in the following zoning districts: OR Office-Residential District, B-3 General Commercial District, I-1 Light Industrial District, and I-2 General Commercial District. The Code currently does not allow for facilities that have onsite supportive services and housing for those experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. The proposed definition of supportive housing specifies that this use is not on an emergency or nightly basis, and therefore does not include facilities that are commonly referred to as homeless shelters.



The Monday, Dec. 6 Montrose City Council work session began with the introduction of new employees, including Rusty Putter Restaurant Manager Shelli Spiers, speaking. <u>City of Montrose Youtube video screen capture.</u>

Occupancy of supportive housing is intended to be long term with stays of 30 consecutive days or more. This Code amendment will make an important clarification in our Code, in order for supportive housing developers to understand the allowed locations for this type of use."

Council spent time talking about the recommended definition of supportive housing: "Supportive housing means housing that includes supportive services to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness and have a barrier to employment and housing stability. Occupancy of such a facility is intended to be long term and not on a nightly or emergency basis, and stays shall be 30 consecutive days or more at the facility. These barriers can include, but are not limited to, mental illness, chemical dependency, or other disabling chronic health conditions. On-site supportive services can include, but are not limited to, health and dental care, behavioral health care, mental health services, substance abuse services, case management, life skills training, food access, assistance with transportation, childcare assistance, and dependent care."

Councilor J. David Reed asked staff to consider impacts to existing facilities. "...I just want to be sure that we don't put some other institution in violation if we adopt this."

Councilor Russo asked, "...Can we put something in that if they already exist that they are kind of grandfathered in so that we don't have to go backward and it protects them anyway?" Russo noted that many senior living facilities house people who could potentially be at risk of homelessness.

Bell said that staff would refine the language of the resolution. Assisted living facilities are regulated in a different segment of the code under skilled nursing facilities.

"So that's a whole different segment of the code; They can't just go into residential neighborhoods either."

Community Program Manager Kendall Cramer discussed Resolution 2021-29, concerning a Peace officer Mental Health Support grant application to the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). No match would be required.

Utilities manager David Bries discussed a Sanitary Sewer Cured in Place Pipe Bid Award Recommendation to Insituform Technologies, LLC, not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$250,000, which is included in the 2022 Wastewater Collection Budget for sanitary sewer pipe lining. Public Works Manager Jim Scheid presented information on a Ford Vehicle Purchase Award Recommendation for the purchase of 20 Ford vehicles from Sill-Terhar Motors in Broomfield, one of two

Continued next pg

# CITY LOOKS AT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DEFINITION From previous pg

bidders, for \$856,827.52. The other bidder was Caldwell County Chevrolet Ford, Caldwell TX, with a bid of \$1,016,463.
Scheid presented information on the third phase of the City's Wayfinding project, and authorization of a total of \$191,500 to be awarded to American Classic Sign Manufacturer(ACSM) for the fabrication and installation of Wayfinding Signage Phase III.

Background-A memo from Scheid to Council states, "In recent years the City of Montrose has completed Wayfinding Sign Project phase I and II (2018 and 2019). Public Works coordinates with the City's DART Board to establish the priorities for the upcoming Wayfinding phases. Through this coordination Phase I included the large directional signs on our major arterials like Main St and Townsend Ave. Phase II included arrival signage at all of our Parks. Both phases included visitor kiosks (total of three) and destination arrival signs such as the one at the entrance to the Animal Services facility. Phase III is proposed to include parking lot signage, park rule signs, visitor kiosks, directional signage to the Amphitheater, trail maps and destination arrival signs at Cerro Summit. In February of 2020 the City issued an RFP for phase III. Four proposals were received for the fabrication and installation of the Wayfinding Signs. All bids are considered qualified and complete. ACSM had the highest score using the proposal selection criteria and their bid is considered to be the best value to the City of Montrose...this project is included in the 2022 budget within Streets Division (100-5115-540-000, \$175,000.00) and in the Parks Division (100-5150-221-000, \$16,500.00). The total project budget is \$191,500." Information on the North Connect Trail **Restroom Construction Contract award** recommendation was also presented by Scheid, including authorization and award of funds in the amount of \$344,855.93 for the construction of the North Connect Trail Restroom and award of a contract with Stryker and Company, Inc. for

\$255,305.39 as the Construction Contractor.

Background-A memo from Scheid to Council states, "This restroom would be located along the Connect Trail at the North end near Colorado Outdoors and would be a shared use facility part of a public/private partnership between the City of Montrose and Colorado Yurt Company. There will be restrooms facing the trail for public use and shower facilities on the rear of the building for use by Colorado Yurt Company. The City of Montrose issued an RFQ/P for the Design/Build Construction services for the new restroom facility in September of 2021."

Also included with the deal is a <u>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)</u> with Colorado Yurt Company, the <u>memo notes</u>:

"...the MOA is between the City of Montrose and Colorado Yurt Company for the construction of this project, Colorado Yurt would be dedicating the property (valued at \$18,200) necessary for the restroom facility and contributing \$27,800.00 towards the construction costs. The combined total of these contributions is \$46,000 which is equal to the estimated costs of the shower portion of the project...The City would contract Stryker and Company to build the restroom-shower facility and maintain the facility (janitorial on the restroom side only, structurally and mechanically for the entire facility). The City of Montrose included \$200,000 in the 2022 Capital Improvements Parks Budget (100-5150-962-000) as a placeholder for this project because little was known about the details of the project until after the 2022 budget was established. The overall impact to the Parks Capital Improvement Budget is \$317,055.93 (total project costs -\$27.8k), which is \$117,055.93 over the budgeted amount and could be supplemented in 2022 if necessary."

The City will maintain the facility; the Yurt Company will provide janitorial services on the shower side of the facility. Councilor Russo questioned whether the City should

ask for a greater contribution from the Colorado Yurt Company.

Bell said that the trails have seen increased traffic and a restroom is needed. "When COVID hit and our trails saw more than double the usages compared to normal, one of the main things we heard from the community was a need for a public restroom at the north end of the trail, otherwise people are going in the woods all along the trail. So, there's a huge public need for a restroom on that end...we were already talking about building that." "So it's something that we would probably have done whether Colorado Yurt moved there or not," Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank said, saying that there are cost savings in partnering with Colorado Yurt.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION/STAFF COMMENTS**Council thanked staff for their efforts to put on a successful Parade of Lights on Dec. 4.

"...All in all it's a win-win-win," he said.

"...That was such an enjoyable and fun event...I think the community really responded well," Frank said. "It looked like we had thousands of people there...you guys did a fantastic job."

Reed said the parade was wonderful and thanked specific staff and councilors and others for their roles. "...I thought the evening was great...we had a huge crowd and the weather couldn't have been better."

Everything was well-planned and well controlled, Mayor Glaspell said. He also thanked staff at the Montrose Pavilion, where the Valley Symphony performed recently.

Glaspell recently enjoyed a visit to Johnson Elementary School and received a thank you from students.

Community Program Manager Kendall Cramer shared news about grants received, including a \$250K grant to assist with rehabilitation of the Potato Growers building and a grant to target gray and black-market marijuana of around \$22K. Following further discussion, Mayor Glaspell closed the work session.



#### **COMMUNITY OBITUARIES**

#### **RUTH ATWOOD**



RUTH ATWOOD was born west of Oak Grove in her grandparents' home. The daughter of Basil and Dortha Atwood. She went to Oak Grove School for one year, then moved to the Peach Valley area and attended school in Delta County for one year. She then moved to Olathe, CO where she attended school through high school.

She was active in F.H.A. Bond and became a Majorette her junior year.

After graduating she worked for F.W. Woolworth, Ma Bell, and she waited tables in Anderson Drug, Black Canyon, Mary's Old and New Café's, and the Steak House, all of which have closed down. She moved to Denver and worked at Dunn and Bradstreet for a short while. She then moved back to Montrose. She was married to Fred Romero, and they had three children. Geri Shannep of Denver, Jeannie and Fred Romero of Montrose; There are three grandsons and three great grandsons. The marriage ended in divorce.

She spent her last few years volunteering at the pavilion and AARP tax aid. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Crippin Funeral Home.

# EDITH FAY MARTIN DAVIS June 19, 1954 -December 3, 2021

EDITH FAY MARTIN DAVIS went home to Jesus on December 3, 2021, at the age of 67.

Edie was born to Earl and Laveta Martin on June 19, 1954 in Craig, CO. She was the second of three children. She enjoyed growing up on Great Divide and attending school at Little Snake River Valley in Baggs, WY. After finishing high school, Edie attended college for accounting in Colorado Springs, CO. Edie was a devoted and loyal employee working for Cook Chevrolet in Craig, CO until her retirement in 2013, just over 39 years!

Edie married her husband, Larry Davis in November, 2006. They moved from Craig, CO to Delta, CO in 2014 following their retirements. In addition to being a dedicated and loving wife, step-mother, aunt, daughter, sister, and friend; Edie also loved farming, ranching, hunting, fishing, camping, and going on all sorts of adventures. She had an amazing smile and warm demeanor. She enjoyed tending her animals and spending time with family and friends. Throughout her life, she held an unwavering faith in God, and she felt extremely blessed to be a part of her church family at Delta Church of Christ.

Edie joins her husband (Larry Davis), father (Earl Martin), nephew (Francis Martin), and niece (Florence Martin) in Heaven. She is survived by her mother (Laveta Martin), sister (Esther Clark), brother (Lawrence Martin), step-children (Sheila Davis and Dan Davis), nieces and nephews (Nancy Hoffman, Selina Clark, Forrest Martin, and Earl Martin), grandchildren (4), great grandchildren (7), and numerous other extended family members.

Edie's service will be held at 11:00 am, Tuesday December 14, 2021 at the Delta

Church of Christ located at 164 Grand Blvd, Delta, CO. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Delta Church of Christ.



# **COMMUNITY OBITUARIES**

# ARLENE ZWIEFELHOFER February 25, 1936 ~ December 3, 2021

ARLENE ZWIEFELHOFER passed away at her residence, surrounded by those she loved, on December 3, 2021,.

She was born to Edgar and Thelma Baker on February 25, 1936, in Gardner, Colorado and she was raised in the Gardner area.

Arlene attended high school in Walsenburg and graduated from Del Norte High School.

She worked in various occupations throughout her life, including waitressing, a letter carrier, and secretarial work.

Arlene retired after working as a secretary for the Army Induction Center in Montrose and the VA Hospital in Grand Junction.

Arlene married Robert "Bob" Zwiefelhofer in Montrose, Colorado in 1974, he preceded her in death on October 1, 2010.

She is survived by a son Ken (Carol) Smedly of Norwood, 2 Grandsons, Kenny (Kylie) and Nicholas (Rheann) Smedly all of Montrose, and seven Grandchildren.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family and no formal service is planned.



# LETITIA (TISHA) ELAINE BARBER January 22, 1975 – November 30, 2021



LETITIA ELAINE SHIPLEY was born at Fort Carson, Colorado, on January 22, 1975 to Thomas and Darlene (Cowell) Shipley. She left this world in peace from complications of sepsis on November 30, 2021, at Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs Colorado.

She moved with her family to Olathe at one year old. She started school at Olathe Elementary and graduated from Olathe High School in 1993.

Tisha loved the fact that she started and finished school in the same place and still knew all her childhood friends.

Tisha married Lonnie Adair in 2000 and had one son Jacob Adair. They divorced in 2003. Tisha then met the love of her life Brandon Barber in 2004. They married on May 14, 2005 and had 2 sons, Lukus and Warrick.

Tisha spent her working life helping people, whether it was at Wal-Mart, Community Options, and finally having a Host Home for Special Needs Adult.

Tisha belonged to the American Legion Auxiliary Post 24 in Olathe and loved helping with Bingo. She loved bowling, fishing, and crafting, painting, and spending time with friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her brother Roger Shipley.

She is survived by her husband Brandon, her sons Jacob, Lukus and Warrick of Montrose. Her parents Tom and Darlene Shipley of Olathe. Her brother Bill and Letha Shipley of Olathe, her sister Darla Shipley of Olathe. Her brother in law Robert & Candace Springer of Delta, her sister in law Danielle Springer of Las Vegas and her Mother and father in law Linda and Mark Francisco of Delta. She is survived by seven Nieces and four Nephews and several great nieces and nephews.

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

#### **COMMUNITY OBITUARIES**

#### VICKIE BORN

VICKIE L. BORN lived in Montrose, Colorado for the past three years of her life in the care of her devoted husband, Gary. She died quickly and peacefully at home in the presence of her family that had loved and cared for her as she suffered with dementia in her last season of life. Vickie was the first born to Julia and Bill Jones in 1951. Her parents preceded her in death. She is survived by her sister Debbie (Butch) Daniels, of Montrose, who was a faithful caregiver up to her last moments on this earth. She was also the sister of Pamela (Chuck) Peterson who is with Jesus. Vickie is survived by her five children: Andrea (Harvey) Vijverberg of Montrose, CO, Michael (Emily) Born, of Tabernash, CO, Rachel (Rich) Born of Grandlake, CO, Debbie (Tom) Born-Wright, of Vilcabamba, Ecuador,

and Barbara (Carlos) Guerra of Rio Ranch, MN. Her legacy includes eleven grandchildren, and one great grandchild with three more on the way. She loved all the babies!

Vickie grew up in North Highlands, CA and attended Biola Christian college, earning her Mrs. degree in 1971 by marrying her junior high school sweetheart. She also attended Denver Baptist Bible College. Vickie is known to have said, when first seeing Gary on passing by his seventh-grade classroom, "That's the one!"

They celebrated fifty years of marriage this past year. She was a faithful wife, homemaker, and mother to her five children as well as to countless others who felt at home with her. She loved to read to children, and in her later days she en-

couraged any young mom with children that she saw in public. When her children were grown, she worked a variety of jobs that allowed her to serve people. She was a pharmacy clerk, a waitress, a children's librarian, a thrift store clerk, and a food bank volunteer. She always taught Sunday School and served in her church wherever there were opportunities. She looked out for people who were in need and loved them sacrificially, even opening her home them. Her love for Jesus compelled her to serve all. A service to celebrate her life will be held at Celebration Church in Montrose on Tuesday, December 14th at 11am with a private graveside service at Grandview Cemetery, and an Open House for friends and family to follow at the home of Debbie Daniels.

# Harold Eugene Manhart, MD September 17, 1930 -December 5, 2021

Following a prolonged fight with cancer, Harold Eugene Manhart, MD passed away at his Home in Montrose, CO, December 5, 2021. Harold was born to Lewis F Manhart and Villa Kramer, 9/17/1930 in Parma, OH.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother Lauren Manhart and sister Margaret Denzer. He is survived by his brother Dr Richard Manhart and sister Jeanne Lewis. Harold married the love of his life Sharon L Ruh, in Columbus Ohio 6/26/1956. He is survived by Sharon and his three children, Grant, Scott and Anne, grand children Katarina, Kenton, Logan, Chase, Louis, and Claire, and great grand-child Brantley.

Harold grew up in Bowling Green OH where he attended elementary through high School and attended college at Bowling Green State University. He attended Ohio State University where he received his MD. He returned to OSU for his specialty training in Otolaryngology following his service in the US Army. He

was assigned to the 82 & 101 Airborne in Fort Bragg, NC as a flight surgeon and was always proud of and humbled by the work he did with the WW2 & Korea Veterans.

Harold specialized in pediatric ENT practice in Madison WI from 1963-1983. His love of the west brought him to Montrose Colorado in 1983 where he established a medical practice that served all of Southwest Colorado. Following retirement from clinical practice, Harold became Vice president of medical affairs at Wisconsin Blue Cross/Blue Shield and went on to develop and apply Information Technology systems to healthcare services in the 1990s. Growing up in rural Ohio provided Harold a strong connection to the land. In 1966 he purchased a dairy farm in Wisconsin with his eye on rehabilitating it to a productive conservation tree farm specializing in American Walnut. Over the ensuing 55 years his effort has been rewarded with multiple recognition including Conservation Farm of the year on 2 occasions. He was a member of the Wisconsin Woodland owners Association, American Walnut council and the American Chestnut foundation.

Harold was a patron of the arts as an avid lover of music and also a skilled wood worker. He learned to paint with many of his esteemed artist friends in the Mountain West in his late 8os and went on to pioneer the art form of preserved Bonsai sculpture which won awards at several art shows in the Southwest.

In Montrose Harold was active in Rotary, Medical association, Archeology society, and the Ute Indian Museum. He was instrumental in modernizing the museum and funds for its renovation. Memorial services will be held later in the upcoming year and any donations can be made in his name to the Ute Indian Museum or plant a tree in his honor.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Mr. Manhart's Family.

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021

#### **COMMUNITY OBITUARIES**

#### DONALD E. LABARR SR.

DONALD E. LABARR SR., 90, died peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on December 9, 2021.

He was born in 1931 in Montrose, Co., to Mabel (Sanburg) LaBarr and Raymond B. LaBarr, and spent his entire life in Montrose.

He attended school in Montrose and graduated from Montrose High School in 1949. His college years included Mesa State College and the University of Nebraska.

He began ranching as a young man, but his stint in ranching was interrupted by the Korean War. After an Honorable Discharge, he returned to Montrose and spent the majority of his life farming and running the LaBarr dairy operation. During that time, the dairy received the highest producing herd in Colorado award one year, and the highest butterfat per

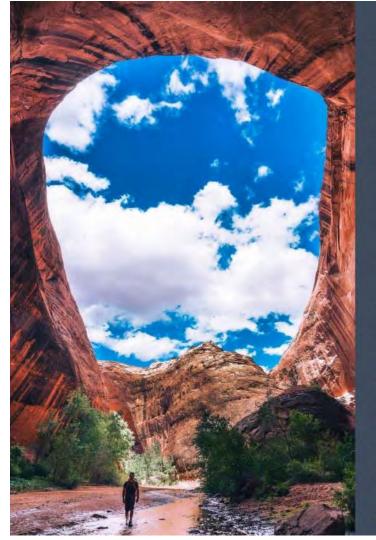
cow award the next year.

He is survived by his children, Donald E. LaBarr Jr., Martha LaBarr, and Lori Relkin, as well as many grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

His affiliations included the Uncompangre Cattlemen, the National Rifle Association, and the Methodist and Christian churches. He served as president of the Riverside Uncompangre Parent-Teacher Association, was Master of the Montrose Masonic Lodge, and, as Exalted Ruler of the Montrose Elks, was a state winner of the 11 o'clock toast and flag. He served on the faculty advisory board of Colorado State University's dairy and veterinary schools.

He enjoyed theater, particularly the performances at Mesa State College and by the Magic Circle Players, holding season tickets for years. Over the past several years, he was able to travel to Brazil, Argentina, Scotland, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Israel, Mexico, Canada, Russia and the Ukraine.n

He, in his later years, described himself as a man who worked hard but played hard too, and shared that his life was filled with mostly pleasurable times with friends, family, and business associates, with most of his goals accomplished. There will be a viewing at Crippin Funeral Home located at 802 E. Main Street, Montrose, CO., 81401 from 4-6 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. A funeral service will be held at Crippin Funeral Home at 10 AM on Thursday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, followed by a graveside service at Grand View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Donald's memory to: HopeWest Hospice, 725 S. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Montrose, Co., 81401.



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

#### LAUREN HALL RUDDELL, PHD

Coaching and Consulting
Services offered. Free initial
1/2 hour consultation.
For inquiries:
agescapesnow@gmail.com
For info:

laurenhallruddell.com



# THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

By Rev. Arlyn Macdonald MONTROSE-For centuries people have searched for the true spirit of Christmas. Some searched for it intellectually, thinking great thoughts about the birth of Jesus, about all that is symbolized in such a simple, but profound story. They insist the true spirit is found in how we think about Christmas.

Others dismiss the symbols and focus on the feelings of love, the love of the mother, of the father, the shepherds, the wisemen, the angels, and God. They insist that the feelings of the story are the true spirit of Christmas. The true spirit is to *feel* the love of Christmas.

Still others perceive the story from a strictly spiritual perspective and insist that the true spirit of Christmas is found through prayer and meditation. We are to lift up our consciousness by focusing on the Divine and then we will know the true spirit of Christmas. Today's seekers try to find the spirit of Christmas through creating new modern symbols. This year Macy's introduced Tip Toe, a new reindeer, at its annual Thanksgiving Day parade. Tip Toe joins Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Frosty the Snowman, the Grinch, Elf, the characters from the Polar Express, the Littlest Angel, the Little Drummer Boy, and Santa Claus. They all have a story to tell us about the true spirit of Christmas.

Old and new movies also try to show us the true spirit of Christmas. The old favorites of "It's a Wonderful Life," "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street," "The Nutcracker," all the traditional animated films, and the Hallmark movies, remind us that the true spirit of Christmas is here somewhere, waiting to be discovered. Perhaps we will find it in the newest movie planned for release this Christmas season.

Where is the true spirit of Christmas to be found? In the Parade of Lights, the craft shows, the street decorations, the Christmas concerts, the children's Christmas plays, or singing along to the "Messiah?" Is it found in the lights that decorate our homes and neighborhoods? Is it found on our computers, as we order all our Christmas presents online this year with free shipping? Is it found on Black Friday or Cyber Monday or Giving Tuesday? Is it found in the toy drives, the free meals, the carolers? Is it found in the Christmas Eve services or on Christmas Day in church? Is it found in the family gatherings with grandma and grandpa opening presents on Christmas morning or in the delight of the children as they unwrap more toys? Is it found in the cookies, the candy, or holiday pies? Is it found in the prayers that families say together or the reading of the Christmas story? Is it found in the lighting of the Advent candles or the Menorah or the candles of Kwanzaa? Or in any of the cultural and family traditions of the sea-

The true spirit of Christmas is not found in any **one** of these, but in **all** the ways that we think about, feel, celebrate, and create for Christmas. It doesn't matter how you celebrate the holidays, what matters is this season fills your heart and your mind and your soul with love and compassion. It



What is the true gift of Christmas? Creative commons image.

matters that you reach out to your family and to others to make their Christmas brighter, and that you take time to pray and be grateful for all your blessings. The true spirit of Christmas is YOU. You are the expression of God's Love. You have within you all of the qualities that the story of the birth of that tiny baby long ago still brings into the world. Love, Light, Peace, Joy, Hope, are the messages of the Christmas story and all the messages of all the myriad symbols and celebrations of the season. You are meant to hear them, to bring them into your life, and to practice them every day, not just at Christmas. You are the true spirit of Christmas. May this Christmas season, despite the challenges we face, be the best celebration ever as we turn our minds, hearts, and souls to the most important quality of life – Love. It was love that was born on Christmas morning so long ago and it is love that continues to support and sustain us. May Love express in new and wonderful ways through you and through all of us this season as we say with the angels, "Peace on earth and goodwill to all."

# ATPRECEDENCE

# DECEMBER 10

TIM VEAZY
FEATURING HELEN HIGHWATER & HARRY KNIPE

DECEMBER 17

DECEMBER 2 4
CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

EDIT

DECEMBER 31

NEW YORK NEW YEARS WITH SWING CITY EXPRESS

JANUARY 7

TEEN DANCE NIGHT WITH DJ ERIK VALDEZ

MUSIC STARTS AT 7PM S10 COVER

- VENUE SPACE FOR RENT -

WESTERN COLORADO'S MOST BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC CONCERT HALL AND EVENT CENTER, AN ICON OF MONTROSE MAIN STREET FOR MORE

THAN 100 YEARS. TAKE A TOUR EVERY TUESDAY THURSDAY & FRIDAY

FROM 4PM-7PM.

- PRECEDENCEPRODUCTIONS.COM

511 EAST MAIN STREET MONTROSE (970)209-0298

# COVID-19 Testing Sites in Montrose County

# AFFINITY MONTROSE REC FIELD HOUSE

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI, SUN 9am - 2pm 25 Colorado Ave, Montrose www.affinityecarecolorado.com/co

#### CEDAR POINT HEALTH/ URGENT CARE

836 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose 970-249-2118 www.cedarpointhealth.com/testing

#### DR. MINDY MILLER/ TRAILHEAD CLINICS

Available for new/existing patients. 1329 S Townsend Ave, Montrose 970-240-8199 www.trailheadclinics.com

#### NORTHSIDE HEALTH CENTER

528 N. Uncompandere, Montrose 970-240-6438 www.facebook.com/northsidechildheathcenter

#### (WEST END) BASIN CLINIC

421 Adams St, Naturita 970-865-2665 www.basinclinic.org

#### PEAK FAMILY MEDICINE

Available for new/existing patients 1550 East Niagara Road , Montrose 970-497-4921 www.peakpros.org

#### PIC PLACE

Available for new/ existing patients. 87 Merchant Dr, Montrose 970-252-8896 www.pic.place

# RIVER VALLEY FAMILY HEALTHCARE CENTER

Available for new/existing patients 1010 S Rio Grande Ave, Montrose 970-497-3333

> 308 Main St, Olathe 970-323-6141 www.rivervalleyfhc.com

#### WALGREENS PHARMACY

Testing is available on a limited basis. 2351 South Townsend Ave, Montrose 970-252-1743 www.walgreens.com/pharmacy

Please reach out to one of the providers listed to schedule a COVID-19 test.

For additional regional testing sites, please visit www.montrosecountyjic.com updated 11/8/21

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 37

## MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

#### 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,

www.montrosenazarenechurch.org

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, in-

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, 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.

form@fpcmontrose.com, www.fpcmontrose.com In Transition-Currently: **Howard Davidson** 

Worship Service times: 9:30AM, Student

Worship at 6PM

Merle Bierma

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 chil-

dren and student ministries

office@montroseumc.org, 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 email: 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 lifechanging 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 worshippers 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 Mac-

donald, 970-252-0908,

arlyn@spiritaware.org, 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 interfaith 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.

## MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

#### **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:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-Sario

Worship service times: 9 AM for Sunday Worship, Monday Night Bible Study 6:30-8pm Summit Church Montrose preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the Lord. Summit Church is a group of diverse people, (widows, retired couples, families with adult children, families with young and school aged children, and recent high school and college graduates). Our services are in English, but many in our congregation also speak Spanish, as we partner with Verdad Y Vida (a Spanish congregation meeting in the same build-

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

### VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH **OF MONTROSE**

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent **Baptist** 

Address: 2890 N Townsend Ave., Mont-

rose, CO 81401

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm Contact Information: Phone (970) 2496874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org;

website: 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 in-

clude 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.

## Church Directory

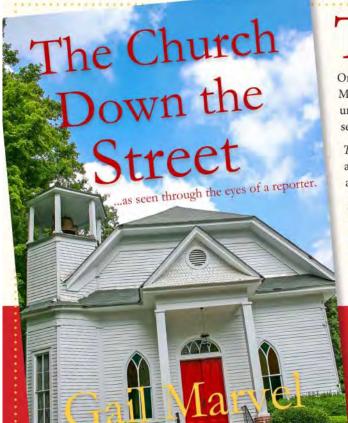
Mirror Editorial Staff

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.

Brief description of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles).

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?



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.

> GAIL MARVEL Montrose Author & Reporter



The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 39



## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

# CITY PROGRAM MANAGER HELPS SECURE GRANT FOR RENOVATION OF MONTROSE POTATO GROWERS BUILDING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The City of Montrose has been selected by the Colorado State Historical Fund to receive \$250,000 to support rehabilitation of the 1908 Montrose Potato Growers Association building located at 39 West Main Street.

In July, the City Council approved a request to file a grant application with History Colorado State Historical Fund on behalf of High Oasis, LLC for the proposed work. High Oasis, LLC was required to have a fiscal sponsor to apply.

According to Community Program Manager Kendall Cramer, the city will serve as a pass-through entity for the grant award and as the grant administrator but will not provide any direct cash for the project.

The city's application was one of only 41 applications that were funded among the 79 that were received by the State Historical Fund during the August 2021 round, according to Cramer.

Grant funds will be used for stabilization and rehabilitation of the historic decks around the building, window and door restoration, and exterior masonry repointing.

High Oasis, LLC must provide at least a 1:1 match or 50 percent of the total \$550,381 estimated project cost.

"Securing this award is an example of the benefits of collaboration between the public and private sector," Cramer said. "Rehabilitation of the historic Montrose Potato Growers Building is important not only for the city's historic preservation efforts, but also for the economic vitality

of Main Street and our community."

The building is one of the most iconic structures in Montrose, having served a vital role in making Montrose a regional hub for agriculture. It was completed in 1908 but was underused since the 1960s and fell into disrepair.

High Oasis, LLC represented by David and Greg Fishering, invested heavily in the building to stabilize it prior to the submission of the grant application. They have replaced the roof, the floor, and the associated structural supports. Their plans are to use the renovated building to create a public tasting room for their spirits, produced at Storm King Distilling Co., and retail space for their business and local entrepreneurs.

"The grant is an enabling force that will allow us to move forward with rehabilitating the building in a fashion that maintains its historic integrity while also making it a viable commercial space. We can't wait to get started and get this building back into use for the community," David Fishering said.

Local construction company Stryker & Company, Inc. was selected to complete the project in accordance with the city's procurement policy.

High Oasis will enter into a contract with the city for the completion of the project and will be required to provide invoices and copies of paid receipts in order to be reimbursed by the State Historical Fund. The Potato Growers Association building was added to the city's register of historic places in October 2019. The Historic

Preservation Commission approved the proposed rehabilitative work in March 2020. All work will be completed to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties: Standards for Rehabilitation.

"We are super excited that History Colorado has awarded the city the grant to begin the historic rehabilitation project on the Montrose Potato Growers building. We are grateful to the city for being a supportive partner in our project and submitting the grant on our behalf and look forward to working with them to see this phase of the project through," Fishering said.

The historic brick structure was built in 1908 after the original wooden structure burned earlier that same year. The building was a warehouse for the Montrose Fruit Growers Association, the Montrose Fruit and Produce Association, and later on for the Montrose Potato Growers Association. The building is significant for its association with the agricultural history of Montrose and the Western Slope. Historical records indicate that wool was stored in the warehouse throughout the 1940s and potatoes were stored in the building in the 1950s, according to David Fishering, a co-owner of the building. He said additional documents show the building was used for cold storage for local restaurants in the 1960s.

In 2020 the building was added to the National Register of Historic Places and the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties.



The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 41

## LIVE MUSIC ROUNDUP, WEEK OF DEC. 13

By Paul Arbogast

### **Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery:**

- Friday, Dec. 17, 7 PM - Paul Jarvis

### **Horsefly Brewery:**

- Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6:30 PM - Open Mic Night

#### Mesa Theater, Grand Junction:

- Saturday, Dec. 18, 8 PM - Stray Grass / w Still House String Band

### Storm King Distillery:

- Saturday, Dec. 18, 7 PM Cousin Curtiss **Town Hall Tavern:**
- Saturday, Dec. 18, 7 PM Farmer in the Sky

### **Upstairs at Precedence:**

-Friday, Dec. 17-Hugh Phillips



# It's Your **Business!**

Let's Grow Together. **Advertise** with The Mirror!

970-275-0646

## **Holiday Catering Options:**

Pahgre's 970-249-6442

My Favorite Muffin 970-765-0076

Heidi's Brooklyn Deli 970-240-1605

> Rib City 970-249-7427

Stone House 970-240-8899

Mimo's 970-249-0616

Camp Robber 970-240-1590

Liquor:

Beer Barn II 970-249-5550

House of Spirits 970-240-4799



Jimmer's Steak & BBQ 970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara 970-249-2460

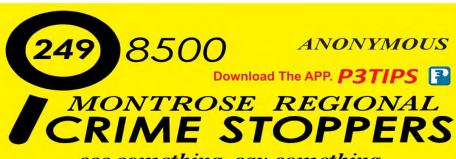
Alpen Confections 970-648-0609

Remington's at the Bridges 970-252-1119

> Lighthouse Eatery 970-964-4424

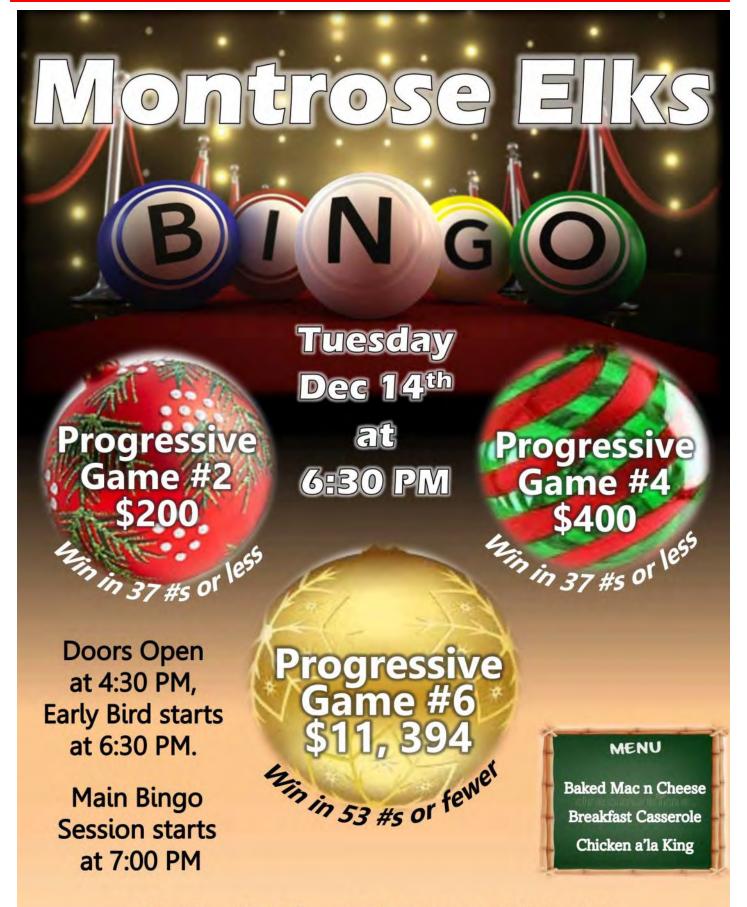


DineOutMontrose,com



see something, say something

The Montrose Mirror December 13, 2021



801 South Hillcrest, Montrose, CO 81401

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 43

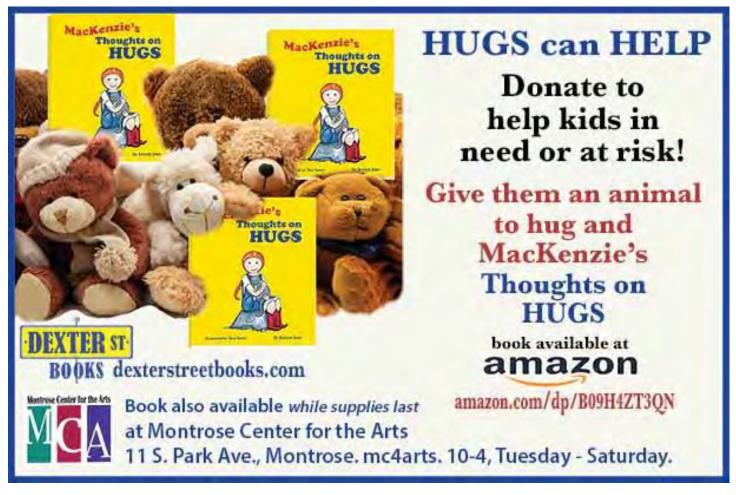
## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

# HUGS CAN HELP

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Do you know a child in need or a child at risk? These kids, especially, need hugs. Several people in our community (unnamed by request) have found a way to donate hugs to needy children by combining soft, huggable stuffed animals with a book about all the ways you can give hugs—hugging toes, hands, head, heart, and more. Pick up some cuddle buddies in a local toy department to give along with copies of *MacKenzie's Thoughts on Hugs* to kids who need a hug!

MacKenzie's Thoughts on Hugs, by Bonnie Jean is available on Amazon. A few copies are also available now at the Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 S. Park Ave. (Open 10-4, Tuesday through Saturday and Christmas Eve, 10 am - 1 pm.)







# LOCAL ARTIST CHERI ISGREEN DEMONSTRATES POURED WATERCOLOR TECHNIQUE



Cheri Isgreen demonstrates poured watercolor technique. Photo by Virginia Blackstock.

MONTROSE-Well-respected local artist, Cheri Isgreen is offering a three-part demonstration series at Montrose Center for the Arts.

Held every Wednesday from 2-3:30 pm at



Second mask and pour of medium values. Credit Courtesy of the artist.

the art center, the workshops take the participants through a process from value drawing to final painting. The first week she made a value drawing, masked the areas she wanted to remain white, then made her first pour in the lightest value.

After it dried, a second mask was applied, and she made a subsequent pour of medium values.

This week, Wednesday the 15, she will demonstrate masking for the third pour and introduce some non-traditional techniques for pouring and handling small details. "I hope to make the fourth pour if I can get the surface to dry in time," she explained. On the final Wednesday, Dec. 22, Cheri will remove the mask, and "All of a sudden, the painting appears!" She will complete the final steps to resolve the painting.

The demonstrations are fascinating, with equal appeal to artists at all levels, and even non-artists, that just want to learn, "How do you do that?"

Register here. [link: https://mc4arts.com/product/12-15-21-program-cheri-isgreendemo-critique/]

Demonstration is free and open to the public. Registration not necessary but is greatly appreciated.



# Cheri Isgreen Vemo & Critique

2-3:30 pm, Wed., Pec. 8, 15, 22 FREE to the Public

Painting demonstration at 2 pm. Followed by critique of your work, if you would like to bring some in.

Register here, mc4arts/education or, just come in to the Art Center and join Cheri and guests



Montrose Center for the Arts, 11 S. Park Ave., Montrose CO. I 970-787-9428 | mc4arts.com

The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 45

## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

## **LOCAL CHOIR INVITES COMMUNITY TO CHRISTMAS CANTATA DEC. 19**

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-A local musician is watching her work come to life this Sunday, as Can It Be? A Christmas Cantata will be officially performed for the first time.

Emily – who serves as choir director at Victory Baptist Church – started with an idea. "With all the pain, suffering and disillusionment we all experience today - I wanted to point to the solution for it all." She compiled music that would flow with the timeline of her idea, then filled in original narration and identified the proper scripture passages to include.

It has been an extensive process for Emily, who began work on the cantata several months ago. The choir and musicians have been practicing since August. The cantata will include a full choir with piano and cello accompaniment. She selected narrators and has been practicing with them to ensure the right feel and flow for the production.

Some might suggest it's a lot of work for one performance. Why not just choose one of the cantatas that were already available?

"As I was looking through different options in June...what was available, in my opinion, just didn't quite satisfy the need to affirm that Christmas does have the answer for the brokenness that we see in today's world," says Emily, remarking on what makes her material different from the other cantatas that have been produced. "The pandemic, political unrest, turmoil abroad, and more; Christmas doesn't stop at the manger scene. The story continues. I wanted to tell that story."

The one word that comes to mind when she reflects on what Montrose-area residents will enjoy on Dec. 19? "Hope," says Emily. "It's a common theme we toss around at Christmas but usually in obscure to the community. For more information, and abstract ways. It's a word that often

numbs the pain or temporarily lifts us from the sadness, the despair that seems to surround us. It makes us feel good for a while, and then once the gifts are opened and the lights and decorations are put away, the reality of this broken world hits us all over again. This Christmas, I want people to know that there truly is hope for our brokenness. This hope is a Person, and His name is Jesus Christ."

How will it feel to have her work be performed for all to see? "I'll probably have a better answer after the cantata!" she jokes. "It's been an honor to see our church come together to work so hard on this project. I'm humbled by their efforts."

Can It Be? A Christmas Cantata will be performed Sunday, December 19th at Victory Baptist Church, 2890 N. Townsend Ave. in Montrose. Entry is free and open call (970) 249-6874.





The Montrose Mirror | December 13, 2021 Page 47

## 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. <u>2021-22 meeting info</u>. Meetings <u>will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month</u> (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 of 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**

**Dec. 13**-Citizens' Climate Lobby monthly meeting Dec. 13, Monday 5:30 Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan national environmental group. Recent Al Gore Ted Talk, All welcome 970-765-9095 info.

Dec. 14-Montrose Elks Bingo, 801 South Hillcrest. 6:30pm.

Dec. 17-Paul Jarvis at Healthy Rhythm Gallery, 232 East Main Street 6:30pm. Tickets \$15.

**Dec. 19**-Sunday at 3 pm "Making Spirits Bright" Free Annual Christmas Concert by the Montrose Community Band @ the Montrose Pavilion. Come to relax for a while, warm your hearts, and help you enjoy the season.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

# MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER EXPANDS MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS in 2022 – The New Horizons Band of Montrose

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE—"It's never too late" is a cliché that is coming to life, thanks to a new band program for those 50+. Starting in February, the Montrose Senior Center will offer a band instrument class for beginners or those who haven't played a band instrument for many years. No previous musical experience is required. Classes will be taught by retired band director/music educator Kim Lundgren.

Classes will be on Wednesday mornings, 9:30 to 10:30 AM, from February 2 to April

27, 2022 at the Montrose Senior Center. There is no class on April 13. The fee for 12 classes is \$60, and registration is made through the Montrose Recreation District. Information about registration is in the Winter Recreation District booklet.

Participants will need to provide their own band instrument and supplies. Participants can learn to play are clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or baritone/euphonium.

There will be an Informational Meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 9:30 am at

the Montrose Senior Center, 1800 Pavilion Drive, 81401. Information shared will include how to obtain a quality and affordable band instrument, instrument repair, and supplies needed.

This new band program is organized in partnership with the New Horizons International Music Association, founded in 1991 to encourage music making for those 50+. According to NHIMA founder Roy Ernst, "Playing music in groups supports good mental and physical health, besides being an unending source of joy."

## MONTROSEM I R R O R

Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646 <u>Editor@montrosemirror.com</u>

www.montrosemirror.com

## MIRROR IMAGES: OUT & ABOUT





Aove, Christmas decorations brighten spirits from a country road. At left, sunshine and mountains can be seen through a building frame at the Colorado Outdoors project.

Photo B. Switzer



Tacos El Gordo 970-964-4022

Horsefly Brewing 970-249-6889

Remington's at the Bridges 970-252-1119

> Lighthouse Eatery 970-964-4424

> > Rio Bravo 970-964-4477

Jimmer's Steak & BBQ 970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara 970-249-2460

> El Jimador 970-249-8990

Buckaroos Slices & Scoops 970-787-9437

# DineOutMontrose.com



San Juan Brews 970-901-8594

Camp Robber 970-240-1590

Crash Burger 970-249-0825

Heidi's Brooklyn Deli 970-240-1605

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

Tacos & Beer 970-964-4448

Alpen Confections 970-648-0609

Busy Corner White Kitchen 970-323-6215 Trattoria de Sofia 970-249-0433

> Rib City 970-249-7427

Double Barrel Taco Co. 970-417-4340

> Stone House 970-240-8899

Cold Stone Creamery 970-252-8014

> Mimo's 970-249-0616

Pahgre's 970-249-6442

My Favorite Muffin 970-765-0076

Sidelines Sports Bar 970-765-0129

