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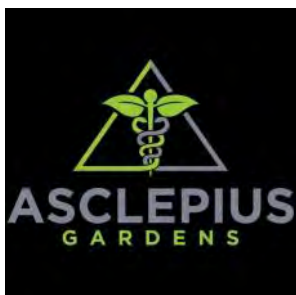
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# the Montrose Mirror

Issue No. 464 Jan. 17 2022

Honoring a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on MLK Day, 2022

## MPD SGT COURTNEY JONES MEETS WITH RESIDENTS OF SAN JUAN APTS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS OVER DRUGS, CRIME, NON-RESIDENTS SLEEPING IN COMMON AREAS

By Gail Marvel

**MONTROSE-Background:** The Monroe Group owns and operates two apartment complexes in Montrose; the Cottonwood Apartments located at 1650 Encanto Place and the San Juan Apartments located at 1650 Church Street. The web site information for Cottonwood Apartments states, "Each Property is Professionally Managed On-Site."

The San Juan Apartments is billed as "Senior Housing" and the three-story facility has 76 one-bedroom apartments. In the last few months this building had gone through extensive renovations including new floors, air conditioners, windows, range and hood, faucets, and ceiling fans.

Eighty-year-old Judy Miller, a three-year resident, gave the *Mirror* a tour of her refurbished apartment. She said "It took some time for construction, but this is a big building. They finished the remodel on December 31<sup>st</sup>. By and large I'm very happy. I've told people if they can find

[Continued pg 8](#)



*San Juan Apartments, a senior housing facility, is plagued with drug dealers and homeless people gaining access to the facility. Sixty-six-year-old Coleen, a four-year resident said, "Is anything being done about this? About homeless peoples coming in here? They trash our laundry room. They don't belong here. I don't feel safe anymore." Photo by Gail Marvel.*

## RE-1J BOARD UPDATES COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS; HEARS THREAT AND SUICIDE ASSESSMENT UPDATE



*Students at Montrose High School, above, have been holding hours of focus groups to generate student input on the replacement of the Indians mascot, RE-1J District D Director Tom West said at the Board of Education meeting on Jan. 11. Board of Education President Sarah Fishing asked for public opinion survey data as well.*

By Caitlin Switzer

**MONTROSE-**The Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education gathered at District Offices for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 11. Present were Board of Education President Sarah Fishing, Board of Education Vice President Jeff Bachman, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, District D Director Tom West, and District F Director Eric Kelley. Not present was District G Director Stephen Bush.

Fishing called the meeting to order. "Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance."

The board voted to approve the meeting agenda.

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

RE-1J Public Information Officer Matt Jenkins introduced Montrose High School (MHS) Sophomore Emma Gomez, who performed on

[Continued pg 11](#)

in this  
issue

[Montrose Giving Club](#)  
*Will meet again in May!*

[Lauren Hall Ruddell:](#)  
*Your Brain on Nature!*

[Western Colorado Soil](#)  
*Health Conference!*

[Montrose County Assessor:](#)  
*2021 Property Tax Information!*



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### 2022 MINISTERIAL SCHOOL BEGINS

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Applications for the next three-year program to study for the ministry are now available from the Spiritual Development Institute, the school of the Spiritual Awareness Center. This in-depth program prepares the student for entering any branch of ministry with a firm foundation in spiritual education, ethics, and commitment to service. Upon graduation students may apply for ordination through the Spiritual Awareness Center.

Classes will be online utilizing email, Zoom meetings, and discussions. Students are expected to submit weekly homework assignments. The application deadline is January 21 with classes beginning the first week of February.

Class information is available at [www.spiritaware.org](http://www.spiritaware.org) under the Spiritual Development Institute. A nonrefundable fee of \$10 is required with the application, together with a resume, and two letters of recommendation. Call Rev. Dr. Macdonald at 970-252-0908 for more information on how to apply.

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado, to a readership of over 15,000 residents of Western Colorado. Founder, Editor, and Publisher: Caitlin Switzer

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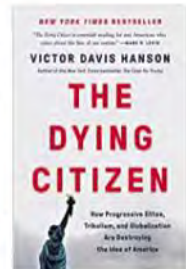


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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### HEALTHY RHYTHM ART GALLERY PRESENTS *RESIDUAL ROOTS*

*Special to the Mirror*

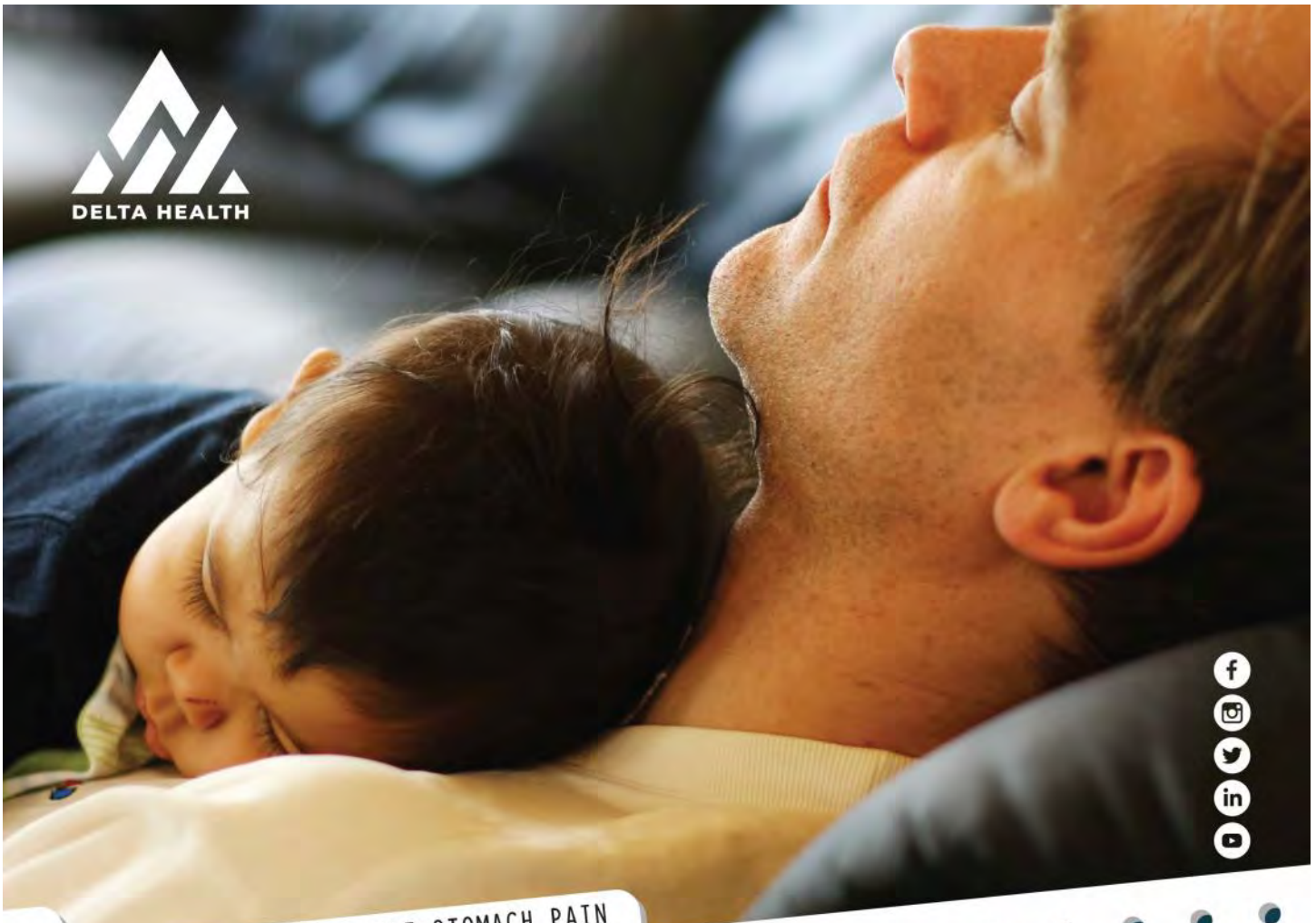
MONTROSE-Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery presents *Residual Roots: An Art Exhibit by Cie*. The Artist Reception will be Friday evening, Jan. 28, 2022. One-of-a-kind handcrafted Wood Art pieces will be on

display for viewing and purchase. Exhibit overview and Q&A session with Cie will be part of Artist Reception festivities. Wine and refreshments will be provided. Lanoue Dubois Winery will pour wines at the Artist Reception. Individuals must be

21+ years of age with a valid I.D. to consume alcohol.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### LOSS AND BEREAVEMENT GROUP DUE TO COVID 19

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Dates for Touch of Care  
COVID-19 Grief Group are as follows: Jan.  
4 - Noon & 5:30pm  
Jan. 25 - Noon

Feb. 22 - Noon  
March 29 -Noon  
April 26 - Noon  
Facilitators-  
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITY ANNOUNCES MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CLOSURES

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — The City of Montrose will be closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. City Hall, the Downtown Visitor Center, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Montrose Pavilion, and the City Shop will all be closed.

Police Department offices will be closed but officers will be on duty and responding to calls. The Black Canyon Golf Course

will be open. Trash and recycling schedules will be adjusted for the holiday. City residential trash customers who would normally receive service on Monday, Jan. 17, will instead be served on Tuesday, Jan. 18, and Wednesday, Jan. 19.

For trash routes normally scheduled for Monday, Jan. 17, residences south of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50 will receive trash collection services on Tuesday,

Jan. 18. For residences north of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50, trash pickup will occur on Wednesday, Jan. 19.

Recycling customers who would normally receive collection service Monday, Jan. 17, will instead be served Friday, Jan. 21.

Residents with questions about route adjustments are encouraged to call City Hall at 970.240.1400 or visit [CityofMontrose.org/Trash](http://CityofMontrose.org/Trash).

### SIGN UP FOR A GUIDED SNOWSHOE/SKI TOUR OF THE RED MOUNTAIN MINING DISTRICT

#### Special to the Mirror

OURAY—Sign up for a Guided Snowshoe/Ski Tour of the Red Mountain Mining District on Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join Ouray Historian Don Paulson for a fun, informative adventure on snowshoes to historic mine sites including the Yankee Girl Mine frame. Moderate difficulty level (elevation: 8,000-plus). Meeting Place: Ouray Visitor Center, [1230 Main St., Ouray, CO 81427](http://1230MainSt.,Ouray,CO81427) (from there we will carpool to CR 31).

What to Bring: snowshoes or nordic skis, poles, appropriate clothing & accessories to keep you comfy & happy, lunch, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, small binoculars, a camera (smart phones work fine), friends, kids, but please leave your furry friends at home. Registration: spaces are limited to 18. Do not delay, sign up now!

We kindly request a \$35 donation to support our nonprofit tour hosts, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership and Ouray County Historical Society (\$20 for full-time students). More information & registration: [www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events](http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events); info@uncompahgrewatershed.org or leave a message at 970-325-3010.



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## MPD SGT COURTNEY JONES MEETS WITH RESIDENTS OF SENIOR HOUSING TO ADDRESS CONCERNS *From pg 1*

another place as nice as this for the money then they can move.”

Although Miller is satisfied with the facility improvements, there are other issues plaguing the complex. She said, “There is a drug problem [drug dealers]. People know it’s going on but they either can’t prove it, or they don’t want to get involved. There is a problem with thefts. Not in the apartments, but it happens in the common areas like the hallways, the community room, and from the kitchen refrigerator.”

An email source who wants to remain anonymous, said, “I live in Cottonwood Apartments just next door. We have the same drug problems. Same excuses. No resolutions. The real problem is that the property manager is only here half time. Because of the two properties, she doesn’t know what is going on. We have complained. And complained. And complained about drug issues. She is NOT confrontational.”

### **Report on San Juan Apartments residents meeting held on Jan. 12, 2022:**

On Jan. 12, approximately two-dozen residents of the San Juan Apartments assembled for a regularly scheduled monthly meeting; however, Mark, the president of the group, dispensed with the treasurer’s report and new business and deemed this a Special Meeting to discuss only Safety and Security issues. Of primary concern were resident drug dealers and homeless people gaining access to the facility. Although the facility management was invited to attend the meeting, they were not in attendance.

The San Juan Apartments are not totally Senior Housing, they are also HUD (Department of Housing and Urban Development) Section 8 housing, which means residents are a combination of senior citizens and residents with disabilities.

The three-story facility has laundry rooms on each floor and a large community room with a kitchen area. Of the approximately 100 residents, many do not participate in social activities or group meetings. While there are some long-term residents, the turnover in residents often makes it difficult to distinguish residents from visitors.

Mark said, “Wooddora (Wooddora-Rose Eisenhower) is in charge of the whole meeting. No members are to give out any names [accusations toward other residents] in any presentation.”

Eisenhower introduced Sgt. Courtney Jones of the Montrose Police Department (MPD), as well as members of the media. She said, “We need to be

respectful of our guests. We have valid concerns and issues about the safety in this building. Extracurricular activities that are occurring here are a concern to me. This is an elderly community...there are illicit drugs in here; that is of concern.”

Opening up the meeting for discussion, Eisenhower asked residents to give their name and, if they felt comfortable, to also state their age.

Eighty-six-year-old Delrena, a 20-year resident said, “I’ve seen a lot of first-hand things.”

Sixty-six-year-old Coleen, a four-year resident said, “Is anything being done about this? About homeless peoples coming in here? They trash our laundry room. They don’t belong here. I don’t feel safe anymore. For two weeks we’ve experienced entry doors not working.”

John, 76-years-old, said, “They’ve been letting people in and they just put up a sign a few days ago. Don’t let tenants in that they don’t know. That’s a very important piece of the puzzle. Homeless and drug users are making people feel unsafe in the building. Two nights in a row one homeless guy — now I’m not against homeless people, but there is a need to respect the elderly here. It’s a manage-



**San Juan Apartment resident Wooddora-Rose Eisenhower (left) listens as Montrose Police Department (MPD) Sgt. Courtney Jones offers advice on Safety and Security issues in the senior housing facility. Photo by Gail Marvel.**

ment issue.”

Eighty-year-old Judy, who is a three-year resident said, “At least two-months there was no lock and people coming in and going out.” When Judy discovered a homeless man in the entry, she asked the man if he were a resident. “He said, ‘no I’m here to visit a friend.’ I told him he needed to leave and he tried to jerk the door out of my hand. They come in and sleep on the couches.”

One resident noted that within the last couple of days the laundry room on the third floor required extensive cleaning when a homeless person defecated in the washing machine and put excrement on the floor and the walls.

Kathy, a 14-year resident, said, “I’ve seen people come and go from this place, I don’t like what we are seeing and hearing. The emergency door has been [left] open for [construction] workers to come and go in and out. At night it wasn’t locked. There were five little kids laying on the step sleeping. I told the woman [with them] you can’t sleep here. She said, ‘I have to keep my kids warm. I’ve done it for weeks.’ There are different homeless [people] sitting and sleeping in the exits. I reported it to Tiffany, nothing’s been done

**Continued next pg**



## MPD SGT COURTNEY JONES MEETS WITH RESIDENTS OF SENIOR HOUSING TO ADDRESS CONCERNS *From previous pg*

about it.”

Kathy noted that when she has confronted homeless individuals, they will tell her that it's none of her business. She said, “Up until two-days ago they were sleeping in the stairwells.”

Another resident stated, “By 9 p.m. it's residents only, but someone opens the fire doors. It's mismanagement.”

Sixty-four-year-old Cindy said, “We saw a person come in the community room, open the refrigerator and leave. We checked the fire door and called the cops, but they didn't find her. That was two or three weeks ago. We want positive changes.”

Fred, a seven-year resident said, “I called the cops on two of them [homeless].”

John added to Fred's comment, “The one possibly belonged here, but he lied about who he was. He said he lives in one of the two-bedroom apartments. We don't have two-bedroom apartments. I sent a two-page email to the manager and never heard back. When they do comment [on our concerns] they ding us [written reprimand]. They [management] don't give

adequate info to the new people coming in.”

Coleen said, “Why isn't management allowed to do anything?”

Julie said, “It's not up to us to enforce. It's up to management. The management has to answer to someone.”

It was noted that both HUD and CHFA (Colorado Housing Finance Authority) have oversight and have been contacted on various occasions with somewhat limited response to resident's concerns. Coleen said, “CHFA has not done anything.” While some residents faulted the lack of building enforcement on local management, others faulted corporate directorship.

After hearing comments from residents, Montrose Police Department (MPD) Sgt. Courtney Jones addressed the group. She said, “This is very concerning to us. With children [sleeping on the stairs] we may need to get social services involved. We want to keep our citizens safe and equip you with as much [information] as we can to keep you safe. It is critically important that you call when issues are occurring.

With the change in management, we are not getting as many calls [as we used to].”

Jones offered advice, “If you see something, say something to the admin. Call us. We need it documented that there are more issues occurring. Look out for one another — it looks like you are doing that. Always lock your doors, your car doors. Call at the time you see the crime and the problem; drugs being handed back and forth. We need the time of day and the cast of characters. Reporting is the biggest thing.” Jones stated that the facility could be added to the list of Direct Patrol.

Residents mentioned the complex is on Federal property and there is marijuana wafting through the halls and into their apartments. Jones noted that PD does not enforce Federal Law, but Colorado Law. Jones said, “We can't begin unless it's reported.” One resident responded, “Management puts pressure on us that we are not supposed to call. We invited management today, but they didn't come.”

Jones said, “We want you to call. We can't help you unless you call.”



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SPRING 2022

# CRAFT SHOW

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Thursday, March 10  
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#### Selling:

Friday, March 11  
9:30am – 6pm  
Saturday, March 12  
9am – 4pm

#### Cost:

**\$80 total** for both days  
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### THE FLEA MARKET CRAFT SHOW

#### Set Up:

Thursday, March 31  
Starting at Noon

#### Selling:

Friday, April 1  
9:30am – 6pm  
Saturday, April 2  
9am – 4pm

#### Cost:

**\$80 total** for both days  
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### THE MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND CRAFT SHOW

#### Set Up:

Thursday, May 5  
Starting at Noon

#### Selling:

Friday, May 6  
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Saturday, May 7  
9am – 4pm

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## RE-1J BOARD UPDATES COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS *From pg 1*

the violin. Gomez played the piece that she performed at the 2020 *Montrose Got Talent* fundraiser event. In addition to violin, Gomez plays piano and percussion instruments.

Auditions for this year's *Montrose Got Talent* event take place Jan. 18 and all students and community members are invited to audition to compete, Jenkins said.

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND RECOGNITION

Jenkins presented recent donations and community partnerships:

The San Juan Healthcare Foundation has donated \$1,180 to support the Virtual New Me Puberty Program for the Fifth-grade classes at Cottonwood, Peak, Oak Grove, Johnson, and Pomona elementary schools. These programs are facilitated through the Denver Museum of Nature & Science and will be held virtually the last week of January;

Peer Kindness has donated \$4,245 to Columbine Middle School, of which \$3,245 will be used for WEB Training to promote positive culture and \$1,000 will support the STUCCO for the Align with Kind Program.

### AWARDS

Oak Grove Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher Misty Miller was selected for the January Golden Apple Award from KREX TV, Jenkins said. "Over 22 years she's put so many kids on a path to success."

### DISCUSSION OF BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Fishing led a discussion of the board's advisory committees. She suggested retaining the finance and facilities committees and moving discussions of curriculum from committee level to the board of education's work sessions.

Board Vice President Jeff Bachman asked what committees the district currently has; Secretary to the Board Laurie Laird said that committees include Building and Grounds; Curriculum; Finance; Technology; Safety; and Allergies.

Two board members serve on the mascot committee, which will be dissolved when the situation is resolved Fishing said. She asked how best to approach the secu-

rity committee.

Bachman stressed the importance of board involvement with security issues. "...I think for us to be enlightened to those things and be a part of that, even ahead of a meeting, it is important."

RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said there is presently no active safety committee.

"Right now it's not in effect...you certainly could choose board members to represent a security committee and then use that on as-needed basis if something were to arise," Stephenson said.

"I think it's good to have some involvement there," Bachman said, noting the value of having information prior to security presentations by Executive Director of Operations James Pavlich.

"I also see the benefit of Jim presenting," Bachman said, "...but to have that information before Jim presents, so that we know as a board how to advise Carrie where the board's going...If we present and then move forward, we're just getting information on something that's already happened...there's not really an approval for us," he said.

Currently serving on the facilities committee are Kelley and Bachman; they will remain. Fishing and District C Director Alice Murphy will serve on the Finance committee.

District B Director Jacob Suppes and District G Director Stephen Bush will continue to serve on the security committee.

There will be other opportunities to serve plenty of time on committees, Fishing said.

West, who serves on the mascot committee, said that the mascot situation is ever evolving. MHS Principal James Barnhill is working to get more students involved in the process. "He will be having another meeting next week," West said. "...Mr. Barnhill's included a lot of students, and they will be getting back to the committee...they'll be getting it narrowed down pretty quickly."

Fishing asked if there are plans to collect actual survey data on public opinion. PIO Matt Jenkins said that MHS has held student focus group meetings. "...If they don't do a survey they're going to justify

the thinking behind why they didn't do a survey.

"I do want to highlight what Mr. West just said, to Mr. Barnhill's credit," Jenkins said. "The grownups on the committee had come up with some nominations and had done some hard work and conversations, but Mr. Barnhill said we do not have near enough student input on this, and he intentionally convened during the school day over the last two weeks...four different focus groups...my hats off to him for really making sure the student voice has been in the process."

West said, "I think you are going to be amazed... if you want to look at a survey, with all of the student input and adults, it's going to get narrowed down pretty close to what everybody thought it would be."

"I do really want to see a survey," Fishing said. "...I'd really like that if it's at all possible. Sorry."

She asked for advisory committee updates; Kelley gave an update on the Facilities Committee.

"So, we've been prioritizing the needs of the district, in a certain sequence and order," Kelley said. "Now the plan is to develop a strategic plan of how we're going to implement that plan to fix those deficiencies and help improve the district's real estate."

The facilities planning process is coming to an end and the plan will be presented to the board. There will be an interactive website too. "It's going to be a working document that will change over time because the needs change," Kelley said. "...I'm excited to see it all together."

West said that if there is going to be a Security Committee, "I'd like for you to call it 'Security and Safety.'"

Fishing asked for a new board policy lead. She has served in the role prior previously, researching and presenting new and revised board policies.

"It is quite helpful to have a board member who is focused on that." Murphy agreed to serve as board policy lead for future meetings.

### COMMUNITY INPUT

Addressing the Board of Education were Olathe Fifth graders Rylynn and Cindy,



# RE-1J BOARD UPDATES COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

## From previous pg

joined by two small children holding a construction paper invitation. This month, the Fifth graders and Miss Stacy's class at the Olathe Early Childhood Center are welcoming the Board of Education and District Office staff to Donuts with Heart. "Donuts with heart is where every month, a group chooses a group of people who are important to our school to honor them with a donut breakfast," Rylyn said, "Fifth graders might ask you about the work you do."

Donuts with Heart this month will be at 7:30am on Wednesday, Jan 19, in the gym at Olathe Elementary School. There will be different kinds of juice and donuts to choose from, Cindy said.

"I know we're not supposed to respond, but that was super excellent," Fishing said.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson gave an update on COVID.

"...The CDC did change their mitigation recommendations," she said. "...we had to wait a little bit of time for CDPHE to review those recommendations and get caught up...CDPHE did revise their guidance for schools, that's the guidance we follow.

"...you received, as did parents and staff, the revised mitigation strategies, which are less in many cases even though we know that Omicron is very prevalent and growing in our community," Stephenson said. "But we were able to revise those mitigation strategies, so we're happy about that."

Executive Director of Operations James Pavlich presented a detailed [Threat and Suicide Assessment Update](#).

Pavlich noted. "...It takes time and it's a long-range focus...Montrose is the perfect place to do this well. We see the national narrative all the time...it's depressing, okay? We see the drip, drip, drip of target violence across the nation and it's horrifying. It's scary. But I'm proud to live here and I'm so impressed with our staff, our families, and students and our agencies that have stepped up...the hours they're committing a week to keep our students

and families safe is not insignificant.

"...Threat Assessment is not a perfect science," Pavlich said, after detailing a three-pronged approach that brings together schools, mental health, and law enforcement professionals. "This process is here... and it protects our students."

The Board of Education was appreciative. "This is fantastic," Suppes said. "I wish we would have done this 40 years ago. When I was school resource officer we had a kid kill himself at Centennial Middle School, shot himself in the head right in the parking lot. If we would have had this maybe it could have saved this boy's life...I'm an old cop; new things are hard to get me to roll with, this is fantastic. You guys are doing a great job. Thank you."

Fishing said. "Thank you for all the hard work that goes into this, and thank you to the community partners as well...I think it's important for the community to have heard about this again...to send that message out there again, if you hear something, see something, say something, because you can actually save a life or you can really change a situation from something that could go really, badly, wrong to something where you can really get someone some help...and to know that they can trust the process, because it does take a lot of trust."

In December the Colorado Suicide Prevention Office recognized Pavlich and Montrose Police Commander Matt Smith as "Rock stars" when it comes to suicide prevention, Superintendent Stephenson said.

### ENROLLMENT REPORT

RE-1J Director of Finance Emily Imus presented the [enrollment report](#). January enrollment is 6,078, which is 13 more students than last month, Imus said. Compared to last year at this time the count is 272 students higher.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC) REPORT

ECC Director Penny Harris shared an update with attachments including a [data report](#) and [letter from Head Start](#).

Harris said, "On November 30th we received the guidance that I've been waiting

for, to implement our mandated vaccination for Head Start employees and volunteers and consultants that work with children and families that are funded by Headstart."

Also, everybody two years old and above must now wear a mask, Harris said.

As of Jan. 31, everyone will be required to be vaccinated or have an exemption, and those who have an exemption will have to agree to weekly tests, she said.

"And everybody will be masked, ages two years old and up," Harris said. "There are some mask waivers which we can approve for people who have contraindicating conditions or if it's a safety issue for those younger children."

Harris said, "We plan to move forward with the help of the district to make sure that we're in compliance with the mandate."

Fishing said, "I understand that this has been really, really difficult for your team and for your staff in the ECC program. Thank you for all of your communication."

A parent herself, Fishing thanked Harris and her team for helping to prepare students and their families. "...Five-year-olds don't like shocks, they really don't...it would be really awful if they came in on February 1<sup>st</sup> and it was just slung at them...It's been hard for everybody."

Children will not be forced to wear masks, rather, it will be a learning process, Harris said. If a kid needs a mask break, they will get a mask break, and students will not wear masks when they eat or during rest periods.

"We'll probably lose some staff," Harris said, "So I will be searching for staff to fill slots...Hopefully I will be able to maintain classrooms and keep them open...I am a little fearful that we might have temporary closures due to not having enough staff to teach the preschoolers."

Nobody wants to see classrooms close or to lose a single staff member, Fishing said. "We also need to be compliant with the Head Start Program," she said. "If we lost our Head Start Program it would be a huge detriment to our community and some of our most in-need families, for

# RE-1J BOARD UPDATES COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

## From previous pg

for that level of care and that age group. It's a really hard line."

Harris said that Head Start has been serving preschool-age children here since 1991. "We bring in \$1.2 Million dollars and serve 102 Head Start kids and families. If we lose a grant, the impact that that has for a lifetime is huge, so yes, we

are going to work to be in compliance."

### CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items including the revised Personnel Report were approved as presented.

### NEW BUSINESS

The Board voted to adopt Resolutions 01-2022 Amended Budget Adoption 2021-

2022; and 02-2022 Authorizing Use of Portion of Beginning Fund Balance 2021-2022, as presented by Imus.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned. The Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education will meet for a work session on Tuesday, Jan. 25 and for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8.

## COVID-19 Hospitalizations

On **January 12, 2022**, the total number of patients hospitalized with a COVID-19 illness was **7**.



Unvaccinated



Fully vaccinated

### 7 Hospitalized

- 5 unvaccinated
- 2 vaccinated



### 4 in the ICU

- 3 unvaccinated
- 1 vaccinated



### 1 on Ventilators

- 1 unvaccinated
- 0 vaccinated



Total hospitalized with COVID during the timeframe 10-1-21 through 12-15-21 was **211**.

27.49% Vaccinated • 0.47% Partially Vaccinated  
62.09% Not Vaccinated • 9.95% Unknown Vaccine Status



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# MONTROSE COUNTY ASSESSOR 2021 RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

## Why did the 2021 residential property taxes increase so much?

In mid-January 2022, approximately 21,800 Montrose County property owners will receive their 2021 property tax statements, which are payable in 2022. For most, the tax amount owed for their residential property will be about 20% higher than it was last year. There are several reasons for this noticeable tax increase and this article attempts to break down and explain the reasons.

First, a review of the basic property tax calculation formula will help citizens to better understand why taxes have increased. In Colorado, the statewide mathematical formula for calculating property taxes is as follows:

**Market Value X Assessment Rate = Assessed Value X Mill Levy = Property Tax**

The market value is established every two years by the County Assessor's Office. Values are based on actual sales transactions of property within the county. For tax year 2021, sales that occurred between 1-1-2019 and 6-30-2020 were used to establish the 2021 tax year valuations. These higher 2021 values represented local market appreciation between the prior appraisal date of 6-30-2018 and the current 6-30-2020 appraisal date. For most residential properties, the average market value increased about 15% to 20% over this two-year period.

The statewide residential assessment rate for tax year 2021 was 7.15%. This simply means that you are only taxed on 7.15% of your overall residential market value. For example, if your home is valued at \$300,000, your assessed value is \$21,450. Historically, the Gallagher Amendment to the Colorado Constitution adjusted this statewide residential rate downward as the overall residential valuation within the state increased. In prior years, these large statewide increases in residential market valuation were offset by a reduction in the residential assessment rate. For instance, in 2017 when the local market values increased 15%, the statewide residential assessment rate was reduced

by 10% due to Gallagher. This reduction in the assessment rate mitigated what would have been a healthy 15% property tax increase for that year. However, in November 2020, Colorado voters approved the passage of Amendment B. This amendment removed Gallagher from the Colorado Constitution which ultimately resulted in no downward reduction to the statewide residential assessment rate for tax year 2021. Basically, this created a situation where any increase in market values proportionally increased the assessed valuations by the same amount. Meaning, everyone's residential market value and assessed value both increased about 15% to 20%.

The last component of property taxes is the mill levy. Mill levies are established by the individual taxing entities that provide services within a specific geographic area of the county. Mills are simply multipliers or rates used to determine revenue based on a taxing entities total assessed value. If your property is located in downtown Montrose, you pay taxes to the following entities (County, Montrose Schools, Montrose Fire, Montrose Library, Recreation District, etc...) the summation of all of these taxing entities mills creates your total mill levy. In this example, a downtown Montrose property would have a total of 68.937 mills. In other words, you pay \$68.937 for each \$1,000 of assessed value. In the prior example, a home with a market value of \$300,000 and a corresponding assessed value of \$21,450 with a total levy of 68.937 mills would pay \$1,478.70 in property taxes.

This leads to the question, if the residential assessed values increased by 15% to 20%, why did taxes increase on average closer to 20% for 2021, payable 2022? It was because some of the larger taxing entities increased their mill levies for 2021. As an example, Montrose School District's mill levy increased 2.5%, Montrose County's mill levy increased 3.9%, and the Montrose Recreation District's mill levy increased 11.1%. To further elaborate on this example, the total as-



*Brad Hughes, Montrose County Assessor*

essed value for the Montrose Recreation District increased 12.45%, plus they also increased their mill levy by 11.1%. The net result will be an additional 24.9% in tax revenue for tax year 2021, collected in 2022.

In summary, property taxes increased this year primarily due to the 15% to 20% increase in market values between 2018 and 2020. The residential assessment rate remained at 7.15% and was not reduced by way of the Gallagher Amendment due to the passage of Amendment B in November 2020. Lastly, the majority of mill levies remain unchanged or increased. As a result of these three factors, there was approximately a 20% tax increase for most residential and vacant land property owners. Overall, 2021 tax increases for commercial and industrial properties were closer to 10% due to the fact their market values did not appreciate as much over the two-year assessment period. However, residential properties in certain areas may see closer to a 40% tax increase for 2021. These properties are mostly located in western Montrose County in the Nucla/Naturita area. They experienced relatively higher market appreciation for 2021, plus their voters approved a 3.48 mill school bond and the Nucla-Naturita Fire District increased its



# MONTROSE COUNTY ASSESSOR 2021 RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION From previous pg

mill levy by 9.1%.

What should you expect in the future regarding property taxes? The future is always uncertain, yet we do know a few things. Tax year 2022 is a non-reappraisal year, also referred to as an intervening year. Most properties are not re-assessed in the second year of the two-year statewide reappraisal cycle. As a result, 2022 tax year bills which are payable in 2023 should be relatively flat. It will not be until the 2023 reappraisal when Montrose County will see a tremendous increase in residential market values. These values will be based on the drastically higher priced sales that occurred in all of 2021 and the first half of 2022. The result could be residential properties increasing another 25% to 35% in value for tax years 2023/2024.

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What to Bring: snowshoes or nordic skis, poles, appropriate clothing & accessories to keep you comfy & happy, lunch, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, small binoculars, a camera (smart phones work fine), friends, kids, but please leave your furry friends at home

Registration: spaces are limited to 18. Do not delay, sign up now!

We kindly request a \$35 donation to support our nonprofit, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. (\$20 for full-time students).

More information & registration: [www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events;info@uncompahgrewatershed.org](http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events;info@uncompahgrewatershed.org) or leave a message at 970-325-3010.

Regarding future assessment rates, there will be a slight reduction in the residential assessment rate for tax year 2022 and 2023 due to the passage of Senate Bill 21-293. This law allows for a temporary two year reduction in the residential assessment rate from 7.15% to 6.95%. This reduction will only slightly lower the residential assessed values for tax year 2022. Accordingly, it will only offset a small portion of the tremendous market valuation increases projected for 2023. Changes in future mill levies are undeterminable at

this time.

Unless market values decline, the legislature reduces assessment rates, or taxing entities reduce their mill levies, most can expect future increases in their residential property taxes for tax year 2023.

If you have further questions please contact the Montrose Assessor's Office at (970) 249-3753, email us at [assessor@montrosecounty.net](mailto:assessor@montrosecounty.net), or visit in-person at 320 South 1st Street-Courthouse, Lower Level Monday through Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# WILL CORAM WORK ACROSS THE AISLE IN DC AND SUPPORT 'BUILD BACK BETTER?'

*Editor:*

I see by the paper that State Senator Don Coram is running for Congress in the 3rd Congressional District. Says he's running as a "Moderate".

One of his stated goals is to "...give a notice to both parties, Republican and Democrat: if you think rhetoric and confusion and trying to tear down our nation is your secret to success – if you think that's your future – I'm going to tell you right now: your party has no future." WOW! You tell 'em Don. I'm sure Kevin McCarthy (the current Republican leader in the House) is sitting by the phone, waiting for instructions on how to work with the other side of the aisle. Nancy Pelosi (the current speaker of the House) probably has a list of bills ready for Don to add his name as a sponsor.

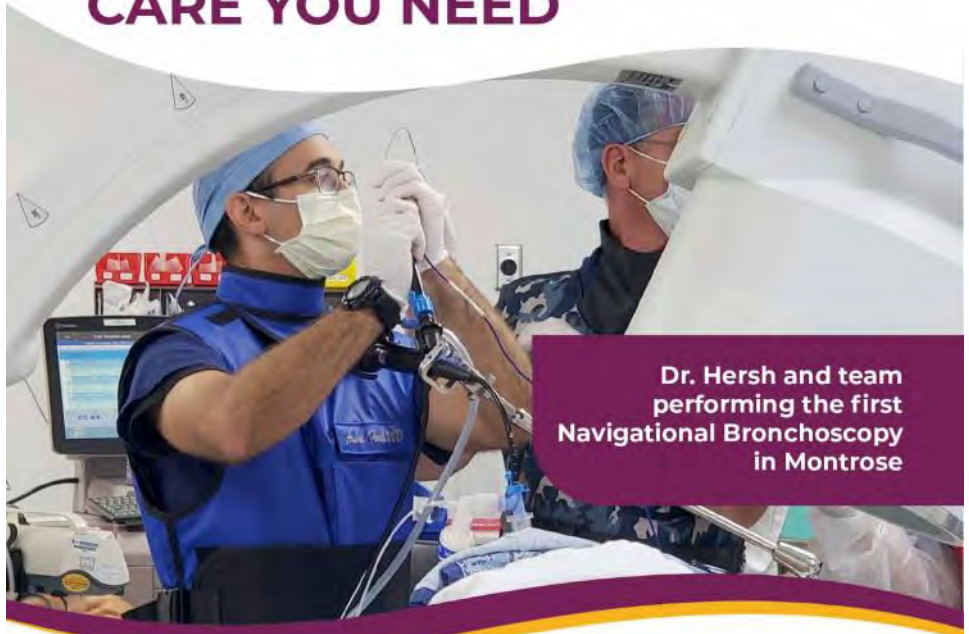
After all, that is how he has operated in the State Senate – signing on as a sponsor to Democrat bills. But he calls it being a moderate, reaching across the aisle. I suppose he is ready to reach across the aisle in DC and support "Build Back Better" and the Democrat takeover of voting laws.

Probably supports the crushing of our energy sector and keeping the southern border open. Maybe somebody should ask just what does he mean by wanting to work across the aisle in DC. Fact is, we

already have a Congresswoman and we know where she stands on these and other important issues. I believe I'll just stick with Lauren Boebert.

*Ben Alexander, Montrose*

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January 20–22

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- Thursday, January 20, 4–8 p.m.
- Friday, January 21, 12–4 p.m.
- Saturday, January 22, 12–4 p.m.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### HOW DO WE RETURN CIVILITY TO POLITICAL ARGUMENT?

*Editor:*

I fully understand your policy of printing outlandish letters from the "usual suspects".

But when they make outrageous and false claims about numbers of murders ascribed to BLM and other groups - no matter which pole the lies come from - why give them the forum?

I do not expect you or any media outlet to universally fact-check those who send you letters.

But this is how Drumpf's Big Lie has not only survived, but prospered.

Hitler knew and exploited this phenomenon, just as his acolyte Drumpf has done. How do we return civility to political argument?

How do we encourage people to stop calling all right-wing leaners "Nazis" and

all left-wing leaners "Communists"?

Or is there a center any more?

If not, then we are lost.

If there is, how to foster engagement that

actually means something and helps us all?

Thanks for listening.

*Tim Conner, Montrose*

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## THE CENTER SQUARE-STATEWIDE NEWS

# MESA COUNTY GRAND JURY TO INVESTIGATE ELECTION TAMPERING, MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS

By Robert Davis

The Center Square contributor

(The Center Square) – A grand jury will hear evidence concerning election equipment tampering and misconduct allegations against Mesa County Clerk and Recorder Tina Peters, Colorado authorities said Thursday.

Mesa County District Attorney Dan Rubinstein and Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser did not name Peters directly in a press release about the investigation, though they did cite “allegations of tampering with Mesa County election equipment and official misconduct.”

“Over the past few months, we have made progress in the multi-agency investigation into allegations of Mesa County election equipment tampering and official misconduct,” the statement said. “The Mesa County grand jury accepted the case on Jan. 12 and will assist with the investigation.”

“This investigation will be thorough and guided by the facts and the law,” it continued. “More information will be made available when the prosecutors are ethically and legally permitted to provide additional details. To maintain the impartiality of the investigation, we have no further comment at this time.”

Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold began investigating Peters' office for official misconduct in August after images were posted online that purported to show passwords to Mesa County voting machines. Griswold ordered Mesa County to replace all its voting machines, a move that cost county taxpayers more than \$90,000.

She also filed a lawsuit to have Peters removed from office since Colorado law doesn't allow the secretary of state to take the action unilaterally. The lawsuit successfully stripped Peters of her duty to oversee county elections but did not re-

move her from office.

Griswold has instead offered Peters a pathway to regaining her oversight duties as long as she agrees to have another designated election official overseeing her work, according to a KKCO 11 News report.

Peters has denied any wrongdoing in the case. During a rally held in front of the Mesa County Justice Center on Thursday, Peters told supporters that she will “stay and fight” the allegations against her, and that she is seeking reelection to her post, The Colorado Sun reported.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### GMUG ANNOUNCES WILDER- HIGHLANDS PILE BURNING PROJECT

GUNNISON— Fire Management Officials from the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Gunnison Ranger District have announced plans to initiate the burning of slash piles over the next few weeks. The piles are the result of the Wilder-Highlands Mountain Pine Beetle (MBP) Response Project. MBP is an urgent, holistic forest management project on National Forest System and private lands. The slash piles are located 10 miles northeast of Gunnison along National Forest System Road (NFSR) #743. The pile burns will occur throughout January, pending favorable weather. Slash piles have been created to remove debris and vegetation (fuels) to help reduce the risk of larger wildfires. The piles are burned in project areas where other means of disposal were not feasible. The public is reminded not to call 911 or emergency services if smoke is visible in specific burn areas. Slash piles areas and possible dates will be posted on the [GMUG Fire Info Facebook page](#). The safety of firefighters and the public are the most important factors considered when planning prescribed fires. Fire managers have obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for each of the planned pile burns.

For more information on how prescribed fire smoke may affect your health, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the [forest website](#) or [www.westslopefireinformation.com](http://www.westslopefireinformation.com). Connect with us or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

For more information on how prescribed burning and pile burning smoke may affect your health, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

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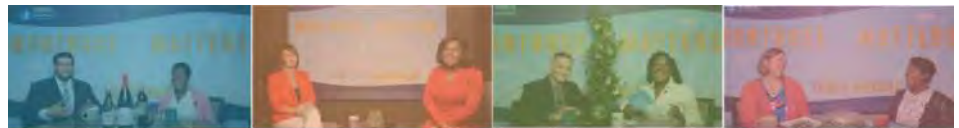
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*"For me, it's about giving a voice to the people, businesses and leaders in our community. The fact that we mix in laughter and shenanigans when we can is just icing on the cake."*

~ Tonya Maddox

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### WHY THE SAME THREE IDIOTS ARE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO WRITE IS BEYOND THE IMAGINABLE

*Editor:*

Just can't read the letters to the editor anymore please take me off your mailing list. Why the same three idiots are allowed to continue to write is beyond the imaginable

Your paper continues to feed misinformation and lies to Montrose.

Sorry for the ones that can't sort this out but shame on you. This has been over the top for months and only feeds hate and misinformation and helps to divide our small community.

Thanks for removing me from you're mailing list

*Lynn Carretta, Montrose*



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MURA PROJECT RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE- The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) and Colorado Outdoors, LLC, have been selected to receive up to \$2 million in grant funding for tenant site improvements for the Flex Buildings within the MURA development under the Colorado Community Revitalization Grant Program.

The Colorado Office of Economic Development's Colorado Creative Industries Division (OEDIT-CCI), in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs Division of Local Government (DOLA-DLG), is overseeing implementation of the grant program. Colorado Senate Bill 21-252 established the program, which allocates \$65 million for organizations looking to

revitalize buildings or start new construction.

OEDIT-CCI approved the grant request from MURA and Colorado Outdoors at their Dec. 16, 2021, meeting. Per the program description: "The Colorado Community Revitalization Grant provides gap funding for projects in creative districts, historic districts, main streets or neighborhood commercial centers. This grant will support creative projects that combine creative industry workforce housing, commercial spaces, performance space, community gathering spaces, child care centers, and retail partnerships for the purpose of economic recovery and diversification by supporting creative sector entrepreneurs, artisans, and community non-profit organizations."

Projects may receive up to \$5 million in funding, however, grant funding may not exceed 50 percent of the project cost. Funds can be used broadly to meet the needs of the commercial district. The only ineligible costs identified are general operating expenses and developers' fees.

The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority is an eligible applicant and Colorado Outdoors' request for gap financing for the Flex Buildings meets the criteria of the grant program. The Flex Buildings at Colorado Outdoors, located on the north end of the MURA development, are two equally sized 27,500-square-foot buildings that provide space for lease. The buildings were designed to be flexible in use to encourage various uses such as retail, office space, restaurants, and light manufacturing. The cost to complete tenant site improvements for the Flex Buildings at Colorado Outdoors has increased by over 200 percent, or \$2.6 million due to the Pandemic. A 1:1 grant match is required. The match will be covered by horizontal infrastructure improvements provided by MURA (\$1,100,000) and Colorado Outdoors' planned investment of \$1.5M for tenant site improvements. This project will have a Land Use Restriction Agreement (LURA) recorded in county records to ensure that the agreed-upon number of commercial suites for creative industries will only be leased to businesses in the creative industries and will remain in place for 20 years.

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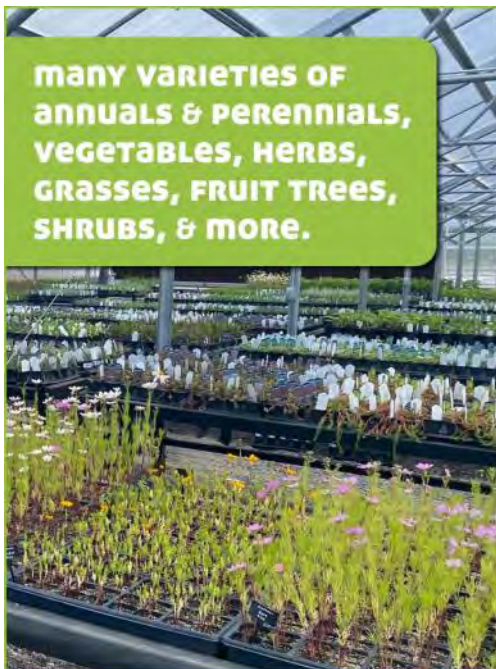
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Date & Time: Saturday, March 19, 6:30-9 p.m. Doors open at 6. Place: Ouray County 4H Event Center, 22739 Highway 550, Ridgway, CO 81432 Tickets: \$25 online in advance; \$30 event day at the door. Online ticket purchase opens by Feb. 1. Ticket information: [info@fishrigs.com](mailto:info@fishrigs.com)

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### WE WERE HERE, LA TIERRA DE AZTLAN; THIS IS OUR COUNTRY

*Editor:*

Your letter by ed henrie about us, mixed Native Americans, mexican indians, hispanic, latinos, latinx, chicanos, mexican americans, spanish americans, or any other names you wish to call my people, being mostly democratic voters, shows that he has no right nor idea of how to explain how we vote! We don't even agree on what to call ourselves. The wild claims by this person has caused me to reply to the misinformation that he is spreading. I come from a very huge family group and we have many republicans. We don't ever vote the same as a group, we have different lives, different ideas, we are not carbon copies.

While criticizing everything Democrats have tried to do, not even one year in office, and not mentioning the obstruction of the republicans and attempted coup of our government! Sir you know nothing of

my people and by your ignorant letter, you do not want to understand. To try to make us the same, to put us in the same basket is extreme ignorance, as your politics. When people claim that the former president is their savior, as he has claimed, I have little association with these people, including family members, because I only have one savior, the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

My people have had our land, water rights, culture. history, language, and heritage taken or suppressed by both political parties! Your letter indicates that we only want free stuff, not things that we have a right as Americans citizens.

You seem to think that my people are immigrants, just crossed the border, but not even understanding or wish to disregard that we were here, La Tierra de Aztlan, for tens, if not hundreds of thousands of years of habitation of this land,

our country.

Most of the families of the southwest are descendants of Native Americans mixed with other races, spanish, mexicans, french, english, portuguese, jewish, to mention a few.

One of the most revolting, repulsive, idea that I have been hearing from so called republicans are talks of a civil war. This is a demented, can I say insane talk? Some believe that they are going to be like Rambo and not think of the many lives that will be destroyed by WAR.

My people have seen injustice of our rights, but we will not going to leave our homeland, just because you want us to, keep pushing us and we will start pushing back!

By an American, decorated veteran of the Cold War, veteran of the Vietnam Era, and did not hide when drafted.

*C. E. Trujillo*

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# BOCC RESTRUCTURES FOR 2022; LAYS CITIZEN WITH NO FAMILY TO REST

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All three commissioners were present as the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a special meeting on Tuesday, Jan.11. BOCC Chair Sue Hansen welcomed all to the meeting, Pastor Buddy Cook of First Church of the Nazarene delivered the invocation.

Cook expressed thanks for a special day, "...We thank you for our commissioners, for their staff, and for all who are here, who serve our county so well. We just pray your blessing upon them, we ask for your wisdom and guidance as they enter this New Year..."

Undersheriff George Jackson led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments heard from the public.

## COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Jon Waschbusch made one change to the meeting agenda, moving Item D-4--Consideration and approval of payment of expenses for mortuary services for an unclaimed deceased Montrose County resident, to be provided by Crippin Funeral Home, in the amount of \$2,337.09--from the Consent Agenda to General Business as Item E-1.

## REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Outgoing BOCC Chair Sue Hansen thanked her fellow commissioners for being supportive and for operating as a real team. The Chair has no special powers, but is charged with running the meetings, she noted.

"This is a special day, it's the reorganization of the board," Hansen said. "It's actually the time where I have to give up my crown, which is a sad day...it's been my pleasure to serve as the chair of the board."

Commissioner Keith Caddy was elected Chair for 2022, with Hansen to serve as Vice Chair. Commissioners voted to approve Resolution No. 1-2022, concerning annual appointments and reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners, as reviewed by Counsel.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items were approved



*Pastor Buddy Cook of First Church of the Nazarene spoke in remembrance of James Denton at the special meeting of the BOCC on Jan. 11.*

unanimously as amended, with Resolution No. 2-2022 assigned to Consent Agenda Item Two, regarding deposit of funds by the County Treasurer and designation of approved financial institutions for the deposit of County funds in accordance with CRS 30-10-708.

## GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Commissioners considered Item E-1, approving payment of expenses for mortuary services for an unclaimed deceased Montrose County resident, to be provided by Crippin Funeral Home, in the amount of \$2,337.09, pursuant to C.R.S. 30-10-618.

Said Hansen, "...We have the unfortunate news that a gentleman passed who had no family, we tried to find family but he had none, nobody came forward, so it is the County's responsibility to take responsibility for this individual...it speaks to some of the challenges we have socially in our communities. It is particularly sad that somebody has to be buried without anybody to attend."

She asked Pastor Buddy Cook to speak. Cook said, "...We will take the opportunity today to remember James Denton...his spirit we leave with God for we know he

will do what is right...we pray for those who knew James...who might have known him in life and who now would be grieved by his death if they knew...we thank you for those who cared for him, the police, the coroners, all those who were involved in his care, we thank you for them and we commit him to you in Jesus' name, Amen."

Hansen passed the gavel to Caddy as new BOCC Chair. Commissioners voted to approve payment of expenses for mortuary services for an unclaimed deceased Montrose County resident, to be provided by Crippin Funeral Home, in the amount of \$2,337.09, pursuant to C.R.S. 30-10-618.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOCC convened in executive session for review of a Citizen Review Panel (CRP) recommendation. Following executive session, commissioners returned to regular session.

County Attorney Marti Whitmore said the only things discussed were related to the Citizen Review panel. The BOCC voted to accept the recommendation of the panel and reject the complainant's argument, directing staff to send a letter in reference.

With no further business the session was adjourned.

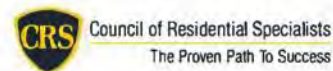


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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# RESPECT COVID SHOT CHOICES

Editor:

The scene: You have a bank robber trying to get away from capture by kidnapping a pretty young damsel. A police sniper is poised to 'take the shot'. A hero if he only hits the bad guy but a reckless poorly trained cop if he kills the hostage. What does he do?

Similarly the hesitation of much of our public to take the Covid vaccination, to the extreme consternation of politicians and bureaucratic doctors and scientists as well. Should we 'take the shot'?

I will repeat from my earlier article on the subject:

1. In the fifties after the Salk Polio Vaccine came out it was approved by the FDA BUT one company made some 300,000 doses with live virus. Imagine what happened.
2. In the sixties, Thalidomide was given to pregnant women to help with morning sickness. It helped that but created some 30,000 so called Thalidomide babies born malformed. Would not a bit of puking been better than a deformed child? Thalidomide had been FDA approved.
3. Remember Agent Orange of the Vietnam era. Our illustrious president of the era, "Lying Lyndon", touted it as 'completely safe'. He was backed up by "Edsel MacNamara" who said the same. It was not so! Thousands of Veterans of Vietnam have serious and fatal health problems from being around Agent Orange and the areas where it was used.
4. From 1992 to 2013 many of our servicemen were made to take MEFLOQUINE for the prevention of malaria. There were several better and safer drugs but DOD used this one because it was cheapest.

The troops knew the stuff had horrible side effects and so they made names for the crazy's it caused the night after taking it. (MEFLOQUINE Monday, WACKO Wednesday and PSYCO Sunday) Oddly in 2004 DOD stopped giving it to pilots (I wonder why) but continued to use it with ground troops (thanks a lot, DOD because it was cheaper and so were infantrymen). Concurrently, there was a DOD policy not to record its use in a member's Service Record Book. OUR GOVERNMENT not only knew the stuff was bad but conspired to cover it up AND AVOID PAYING LAWSUITS BY NOT KEEPING RECORDS OF ITS USE.

There are probably plenty more examples of our wonderful Government and Veterans Administration covering up the use of unapproved and/or dangerous drugs. How about the LSD tests in the '50's? But the most alarming is MAKING members take things like MEFLOQUINE; making GI's tromp through jungles saturated with Agent Orange and approving other drugs without exhaustive testing. To this day, the VA refuses to admit that MEFLOQUINE has deleterious effects on the human mind and nervous system. But that is not the issue here.

THE ISSUE IS that our government has consistently, over my lifetime lied, lied and lied about the effects of stuff that they have forced into the men and women of the armed forces and in the case of #'s 1 & 2 above approved bad drugs for private sector use.

Facts are surfacing in Congress that Mr. Fauci and his crowd were instrumental in causing the pandemic. This old geezer

who cannot be consistent in his testimony from one day to the next, is telling our NATION and its 330 million people what to do and what drugs are safe to use. (only good if it costs more)

Personally, I continue to enjoy two separate cancers as the result of Agent Orange used freely by the Army because 'Lying Lyndon' and 'Edsel MacNamara' said it was safe.

Now let's look at the Covid 'shots'. They are safe so say the Feds led by President Biden. Well they are not. There are validated tests that show that they foster heart disease. Who knows what they do to the unborn or to a ten year old who just had the shots. We do not. At 80 years young I took the shot---because of insistence by my family. But what about a 20 year old prospective father or mother. Would you, if you were them, want to risk a deformed or handicapped child? Like a Thalidomide child of the '60s? Hell no! Or nightmares from the likes of MEFLOQUINE? Or flashbacks from 'safe' government experiments with LSD? Or the kids (now adults) in wheelchairs or Iron Lungs because of the faulty Salk vaccine? THOUSANDS of our well educated dedicated patriotic American health care professionals are trying to opt out of taking the shot.

A sane, thinking American parent should be obligated to evaluate this situation. What do these doctors and nurses know that we only suspect? Health care professionals generally know what is right, wrong or doubtful in their field---who better to listen to?

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## CORAM IS THE BEST CHOICE FOR CONGRESS

Editor:

**swag-ger**

/ˈswagər/

verb

walk or behave in a very confident and typically arrogant or aggressive way.

"he swaggered along the corridor"

Lauren Boebert, Colorado's 3<sup>rd</sup> District member of the US House, went to congress with swagger, a sidearm on her hip, and not much else. She has been outspoken and has issued plenty of sound bites in the name of conservatism, without any meaningful ideas, legislation, or general acuity when it comes to understanding why she is in DC. I had been willing to give her the benefit of the doubt about whether she could be an effective legislator.

My patience is now shredded.

Dennis Anderson, publisher of the Montrose Daily Press borrowed a Yiddish word to describe what we have seen so far with Ms. Boebert:

**schtick**

/SHtik/

noun

**INFORMAL**

noun: **schtick**

a gimmick, comic routine, style of performance, etc. associated with a particular person.

"there are many great comics who have based their stand-up schtick on observational comedy"

He nailed it.

Given the lack of quick draw contests and truckers wanting a second cup of coffee, the congresswoman is left to raising funds, poking Nancy Pelosi with a stick (not a terrible thing), insulting people, and doing photo ops with anybody who will stand still long enough.

Others have had enough as well. Enter the fray, Colorado District 6 Senator Don Coram. Coram is everything Boebert is not. He is a serious student of govern-

ment, an accomplished and effective legislator even when the (R) team is outnumbered in the hallowed halls on Colfax Ave. Don Coram has thrown his thoroughly trampled Stetson into the ring, aiming to "primary" (the verb) Boebert back to Rifle. I endorse his efforts and wish him God speed.

I have known the Senator for a little more than three years. I have known only one other state level legislator in my lifetime, who was as resolute and effective as is Coram. Harold Giss, Arizona State Senator from Yuma, was dedicated and effective to the point of his own bankruptcy. Harold was attending to the people's business in Phoenix instead of his business back home.

Senator Coram is a moderate, by his own words. His moderation and ability to work across the aisle is the reason that he is one of the most productive lawmakers whom I have ever seen. Hands across the aisle have garnered the senator a few slings and arrows from some folks back here in the home camp. But, in the long run, the Western Slope has gotten a fair deal and a good chunk of excellent representation from Mr. Coram. That makes him the right guy for this job.

Coram has an uphill battle over the next five and a half months. He starts at ground zero on fund raising, while his opponent has better than \$2 million in her war chest. And make no mistake, as Doub-Ya used to say, *war* is the right word.

The war with Boebert actually started before the election in 2020, when Coram was anything but silent about Boebert's abilities or her "schtick." His disdain and opposition to her run got him more than a few catcalls from the back bench and his own constituents who were happy to see any Republican in the seat.

Now, he is putting his money, his life, his record, and himself on the line. He and I have not talked much about the run. I was

at the Republican Women's meeting when he first floated the idea. He had suggested it in private a couple of times previously, so I was not surprised.

A mutual friend asked me what I thought about Don's decision, and I said, "Honestly I am nervous about it. The incumbent has a \$2 million head start on funding and has the incumbent advantage. Plus, he's got a legislative session to work through this spring."

But Don is a clever guy. He is dedicated. He has a lot of friends. He has tons of experience. He has been targeted by the opposition before. His wife Dianna once told about seeing people going through their trash cans, doing "opposition research." On that note, "they ain't see nothin' yet." A Facebook friend of mine commented on my post of the news story of Coram's announcement, "career politician," he wrote. I think that was a dig. I differ with the assessment. Don has only been in the legislature for 11 years of his life. The previous six decades were spent on the farm/ranch, in business, and helping his neighbors. Now, here is the cold, hard fact. The fight is with someone with a mean girl attitude, the endorsement of Donald Trump, and she's the incumbent. With that, "uphill" takes on a whole new meaning.

But Don Coram is willing to take on the far left and the far right to bet his and our Western Colorado future on the 60 percent of the voters who are still grounded in American Values and are looking for a few good men and women to represent them in Congress. I think Don Coram is one of those good men.

*Michael Cox, Montrose*

*Michael Cox is a former Montrose Daily Press columnist and a 60-year media veteran. He lives in Montrose and continues to write and lend his talents to philanthropic work. Email him at [mcox@burrocreekpictures.com](mailto:mcox@burrocreekpictures.com)*

## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# DID CORAM HELP CHANGE HEMP LAWS, THEN GET INVOLVED IN THE HEMP BUSINESS?

*Editor:*

We have all seen instances of individuals elected to Congress, who entered office and became astoundingly wealthy by ostensibly using the power of their public office for personal gain. A gross conflict of interest by any standard! Sadly it is beginning to come to light that Colorado is not immune from that malignancy.

For over a month now, The Montrose Daily Press Publisher Dennis Anderson has fawned over Don Coram choosing to run against Lauren Boebert since he has been re-districted out of office. Touting his "ability to reach across the aisle" to get things done, Coram apparently feels he is a better choice to break Washington deadlock by "reaching across the aisle" to work with the likes of, Talib, AOC, Omar, and all the other radical

progressive socialists working to destroy this country.

My initial concern with Coram several years ago revolved around his reported involvement in changing the hemp laws in Colorado, then becoming involved in the hemp business. That certainly seemed to me to be one of those instances of gross conflict of interest. Now it seems the chickens are coming back to roost and I would encourage readers to visit <https://corruptcoram.com> to review the timeline of that particular issue and form your own opinion. I'm beginning to wonder why Anderson and The MDP never picked up on this conflict of interest?

The true measure of a politician is not what he claims to be, but the positions he takes and the measures he supports. You can bet there is more coming on Coram as

his voting records undergo more intense scrutiny and are brought to public light in future weeks. The obvious attempt by Dennis Anderson to malign Congresswoman Lauren Boebert's campaign for reelection is more than obvious. The people of Montrose County that support her, also have their opinions. I urge everyone to do their own research regarding Don Coram's voting record and background. Elections have consequences.

*Dee Laird, Montrose*

*Note: The above letter was also sent to The Montrose Daily Press, but because of their liberal penchant for "fact checking" [ie: censoring certain opinion content], as well as the obvious fact they have chosen to go "all in" to support Coram's candidacy, it will be interesting to see if they publish this letter.*

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## LADY LIBERTY MUST BE IN HORRIBLE ANGUISH RIGHT NOW

*Editor;*

Rush Limbaugh used to say, "ladies and gentlemen, we are quickly losing our English language". He was talking about how Democrats manipulate and twist the meaning of words. If he were alive today, he would be linking the word "insurrection" to the Democrat party for accusing the demonstrators on Jan. 6, 2021 of insurrection. Democrats are still screaming that it was an "armed" and "deadly insurrection". See Rush's point? They have wrongly attached adjectives and verbs to describe an incident so they can call it an "insurrection". They lied by accusing the participants of being "armed" and they lied by calling the activity "deadly" when the only death was caused by Pelosi's Capitol police. The truth is they didn't find anyone armed that day except the phony so-called Capital police officer who shot an innocent, unarmed Trump supporter, Ashli Babbitt. Where is the prosecution of that officer for murder? Or is he being protected by Nancy Pelosi who is responsible for capitol security? After all, he only killed a Trump supporter! The criminal statutes state very clearly a life can be taken only in self defense situations where a person is in fear of death or imminent serious bodily injury. The Democrats lie when they say it was a "deadly" insurrection because no one died that day from injuries. They said a police officer was killed by a fire extinguisher, but that turned out to be a lie. He died days later from a medical condition. There were four others who died several days later who were present that day, but all of them also died from unrelated medical causes. But yet, Democrats are screaming that five people died that day because of Trump. As stated, the only death that day was from Pelosi's security officer. No, Rush would have been right about losing the English language. Democrats should know what the definition of an insurrection is. What happened on Jan. 6 was not an insurrection. If they want to educate themselves they should read about what real insurrec-

tions look like;

The American Revolution of 1776 was actually labeled an "insurrection" by the British government. There were numerous events of tyrannical government abuses by the British that led to the Revolution and it was the average armed American citizens and farmers who defeated the powerful British military. This is exactly what frightens the tyrannical Democrat party of today. Strangely enough those events were similar to current events of today. In 1786 the United States entered into an economic crisis where overtaxed farmers began losing their property to debt collectors. Shays' rebellion was organized and an armed insurrection ensued. The Richmond Bread Riots of 1863 occurred because of food supply lines being choked off from the Civil War and inflation was soaring. Many riots and armed insurrections occurred by starving and armed women taking to the streets and ransacking warehouses for food. Again in 1863 New York City became victim of the largest insurrection in American history when hordes of men poured into the streets to protest the federal draft lottery. The law excluded blacks and allowed wealthy men to pay \$300 to buy their way out. The resulting insurrection and riots claimed more than 100 lives and millions of dollars in property damage. In 1898, the Wilmington Insurrection saw over 2,000 armed men take to the streets in Wilmington, N. Carolina to protest Democrat politicians and businessmen intent on dissolving the city's biracial, majority-Republican government. (Just recently in a Georgia speech Joe Biden was ranting about so-called Jim Crow laws decades ago, but he didn't tell his crowd those laws were enacted by Democrats!) Once in power, they banished prominent black leaders from the city and joined other Democrats in instituting a wave of Jim Crow laws suppressing black voting rights. Despite its illegality, state and federal officials allowed that power grab to proceed. In 1946, the Battle of Athens, (Tennessee) occurred. The

small farming community had spent the 1940s dominated by a crooked political machine led by a Democrat sheriff and legislator Paul Cantrell who was known to rig elections through ballot stuffing and voter intimidation. The battle unfolded on Election Day on Aug. 1, 1946 when a group of veterans accused Democrat Cantrell of vote fraud. Armed deputies began beating the GIs. The GIs then armed themselves with rifles and stormed the jail where the fraudulent votes were taken. The deputies finally surrendered and when the votes were counted, the GI candidates were the winners.

There are several common facts throughout all of these true "insurrection" events. 1-It's always Democrats abusing the people and their political power. 2-It's always Democrats who incite and ignite riots and insurrections. 3-It's always Democrats who accuse others of doing what they are doing, or have done. 4-Real insurrections are always armed, violent, and sometimes deadly. 5-Real insurrections include armed conflict, massive property damage, arson, looting, and attacks on both public property and businesses.

In other words, real insurrections look more like the BLM and Antifa riots. But have Democrats denounced their insurrections?

Oh no! those are the Democrat voters! Don't want to make them mad! Democrats deserve credit for protecting their own! In fact our glorious VP, the famous kacklin' Kamala Harris solicited donations so she and her ilk could bail her insurrectionist buddies out of jail! They killed and injured hundreds of people, invaded government buildings including police stations, burning them to the ground, destroyed and looted thousands of private businesses. Yes, Rush was right, we are losing our English language and our Country through manipulation and outright deceit and lies. Right now, Lady Liberty must be in horrible anguish.

*Jerry Bartholome, Montrose*



# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## DON CORAM MUST LET VOTERS KNOW WHERE HE STANDS

*Editor:*

The following is the letter I sent to Don Coram in hopes of understanding where he stands on various issues. His lack of response leads me to believe he would rather 3rd Congressional District voters stay in the dark about what he actually believes? I would still like answers from Mr. Coram to these specific questions. I have read the three recent Montrose Daily Press articles announcing your primary challenge to Representative Lauren Boebert. I have a few comments and some questions to help me understand where you stand on various issues that are important to me and other conservatives in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District. Your response will determine whether or not I support you. I will start with a general concern and then move on to some more specific questions. You are billing yourself as a moderate and, like fellow Republican challenger Marina Zimmerman, you are, in your words, touting your "bipartisan spirit", or in Zimmerman's words, your "willingness to compromise" and "work together with parties on both sides." I haven't followed your years in the Colorado House and Senate to know how successful that approach has been there. Perhaps a spirit of compromise was appropriate at that time with the issues and with the Democrats you were dealing with. I would have to be convinced. I strongly believe that at the national level, the time for Republicans to go along to get along ended in the Obama/Biden years and thereafter when the true motives of the Democratic Party became obvious. My question to you is: At what point in your compromise and bipartisanship do you become part and parcel to the left's efforts to fundamentally change (destroy) this great nation? For example, if Dems want another \$3 trillion unfunded spending spree you know will destroy the middle class, do you "work together" with them to get it down to \$2.5 trillion, and pat yourself on the back because you accomplished something great?

Bipartisanship to Democrats means that when they are in power, they cram everything down our throats. Do you think their efforts to eliminate the filibuster is biparti-

san? Now that the Supreme Court is more balanced, Dems want to pack it with liberals. Is that bipartisan? When they are out of power, bipartisanship means destroy the opposition by any means possible. Do you think the Russian collusion hoax was bipartisan?

Where do you stand on illegal immigration? What would you do to again secure our southern border?

Where do you stand on energy independence and Biden's goal of destroying domestic oil production?

Where do you stand on Critical Race Theory? Zimmerman likes to define it as just an advanced college class not taught anywhere else. Are you concerned about the racist elements of CRT being taught in our schools at all levels across this country?

Democrats like to denigrate any parents who want to be involved in the area of sex education and paint them as ignorant Puritans. Who do you think are primarily responsible for what is taught to our children, the parents or the professional educators? If parents get vocal at school board meetings, should the FBI treat them as terrorists? You have been quoted in the MDP regarding Colorado bills addressing LGBTQ issues as "my opinion on this issue is 'live and let live'", which I mostly agree with. I would add the limitation "as long as your actions do not harm others." One of the bills you opposed was House Bill 1273, which would have prohibited males identifying as females from participating in girls' school sports. Do you support men identifying as women participating in women's sports and using girls' bathrooms and locker rooms? Do you think people objecting to this are somehow, as you said, "judging someone because of their sexual orientation, their race, or their creed"? The recent MDP article quoted you referring to the January 6<sup>th</sup> demonstration as an "insurrection". With no winning issues to run on, and out of sheer desperation, the Democrats latest strategy is to somehow turn the January 6<sup>th</sup> protests into a murderous insurrection of armed terrorists. By using the term "insurrection", which is patently false, you seem to agree with that portrayal. Is that correct? Or do you agree with Lauren Boe-

bert that Pelosi's commission to "investigate" January 6<sup>th</sup> is a "sham witch hunt"?

Your comments on the 2020 election lead me to believe that you also agree with the MDP that anyone believing there was widespread fraud is a nut conspiracy theorist. Is that true? Do you also agree with the Democrats efforts to make our elections less secure and more open to cheating, and that Republican state efforts to ensure election integrity are simply "Jim Crow racism"? Do you agree with Dems plans to take control of elections from the states and give it to the federal government? There is no question where Boebert stands on gun rights. Where do you stand on gun rights? Would you vote for any law that infringes on those 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights? Where do you stand on pro-life issues and Roe vs. Wade?

The MDP is fond of referring to anyone with strong conservative values as "far right" (or conspiracy theorists.) You like to think of America being made up of 10% on the far right and 10% on the far left being in control of everything. Your campaign manager has spoken of the need to "reclaim our party", (I assume from the 10% you mention). Am I to conclude then, that the millions of conservatives (half the country) that celebrated Trump's many successes and are appalled at Biden's absolute failures are somehow either controlled by the people you define as far right, or part of that far right? Perhaps the party your campaign manager envisions was appropriate in dealing with the Democratic Party of JFK and MLK Jr, but can't fathom the Marxist goals of today's Democratic Party?

Sorry Don, but you are going to have to convince me that you are drastically different than that group of RINOS that have Trump living in their head rent free, and either don't realize how destructive Dem policies are, or know but are so afraid of the liberal media they won't take a stand against the craziness. There is no doubt where Lauren Boebert stands on that spectrum. I appreciate that you are a busy man, but I would appreciate your prompt response to my questions.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*

## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### FREDDIE JUAN VALENCIA

*May 15, 1964- October 18, 2021*



FREDDIE JUAN VALENCIA was born on May 15, 1964. Passed away October 18, 2021. Proceeded in death by his mother and father, Fred Elmer Valencia and Evelyn Valencia, Woodson. He is survived by a loving family his wife Angelina Valencia, and two sons Andrew James Valencia, Nathanael Valencia, granddaughter Camila Valencia.

He loved all of his brothers and sisters deeply from within his whole heart. He loved the outdoors and all the wilderness and that's just part of us being native. He cherished every moment and would capture every tear when he could. He will always be in our hearts forever that silly joking man.

### MARK ALLEN RICHARDS

*April 8, 1975 -January 9, 2022*

Austin, Colorado resident, Mark Richards, passed away on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at his residence. He was 46 years of age.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Monday, January 17, 2022 at Taylor Funeral Service Chapel in Delta.

Mark Allen was born on April 8, 1975 to Randy Allen and Linda Sue (Dawson) Richards in Delta. He graduated from Monte Vista High School.

Mark was a heavy equipment operator. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and 4-wheeling.

Mark is survived by his mother, Linda Roberts of Austin, Colorado; his daughter, Brooke Richards (Diego Hernandez) of Cheyenne, Wyoming; a step-brother, Jimmie Roberts of Delta; and a step-sister, Syrana Robert of Utah.



**SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING**



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ANONYMOUS CALL

**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS**



ISSUE 352 Jan. 17, 2022

## ART &amp; SOL

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE –  
SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER

By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.. Courtesy photo.

Your Brain on Nature – Seasonal Affective Disorder

*Greetings Mirrorites!*

The dark days of winter are upon us. They make me wonder if the sun will ever stick around again for longer than a few hours. My mind knows that spring will come again, but enough of the long cold winter nights of the soul already! Dark thoughts emerge, and it is at these times that I make it my life's temporary mission to spend at least 30 minutes in the sun anytime it makes an appearance. I sit out on a deck, bundled up like a kid on the TV show South Park. I turn my face to the illuminating orb like a sunflower. I try to

expose a hand or two for as long as I can take the cold, since I have sunscreen on my face, and I want full exposure to those rays for as long as I can stand it. The neighbors think I'm insane.

I don't suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), at least I don't think I do, but I'm not willing to take chances. I know that endocrine levels decrease with the waning of sunlight after the autumn equinox and that behavioral functions may follow suit. I become hyperphagic. That's not as nasty as it sounds, it just means I can't help but eat too much. I sleep more and earlier. If I let these signs be ignored, then I am at risk of SAD about 4-5 weeks after their onset. I have a slight natural tendency toward depression anyway, so that's why I don't take any chances.

What causes SAD? The answer is...no one friggin' knows for sure. Oh come on guys, you all have been studying this vigorously and trying to shine a light in the dark (pun intended) since 1984. Is it a circadian pacemaker malfunction in some people? Maybe. A retinal pineal receptor issue. Perhaps. Serotonin related? Quite Possibly. And the list goes on. All they really know for sure is that some folks are susceptible, and others aren't. And they do know that the suffering is real, with social

isolation, impaired work performance and even suicidal ideation being the result. So shrinking day length in northern latitudes really is a serious concern for about five to 10 percent of folks living in those climes.

And for women, they are more than four times as likely to suffer than the menfolk. Hence the reasons I take no chances.

For SAD inclined folks, winter lighting indoors is problematic.

The brightness or intensity of light is measured in lumens. For example, when you are indoors, most artificial light is around 400 to 600 lumens. On a sunny day, the brightness ranges from about 1,000 lumens in the shade to more than 6,000 lumens on a large stretch of concrete, like a highway. Our unprotected eyes are comfortable until we get to around 3,500 lumens. When the brightness of the direct or reflected light gets to about 4,000 lumens, our eyes begin to have difficulty absorbing the light and glare is induced, so we squint. At around 10,000 lumens, your eyes are so bombarded that they begin to completely block out the light. Prolonged exposure to light of such intensity can cause damage resulting in temporary or even permanent blindness. That's why unprotected viewing of a large snowfield, which on a bright day can

*Continued next pg*

# ***YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER From previous pg***

day can reflect light at more than 12,000 lumens, can result in being *snowblind*, something folks in the Rockies are abundantly familiar with. So sure, too much is a bad thing for our eyes, but too little is a bad thing for our brains.

Workers, care residents, and recovering patients report poorer outcomes and longer patient stays when confined to dimly-lit spaces. Well-lit spaces that combine natural light with artificial reduce depression and agitation in the elderly (and me as well in winter). People who have rather dark homes are often encouraged to engage in bright light therapy to beat the winter blues.

Bright light therapy, which typically involves sitting near a 'light box' for about half an hour each morning, is currently considered the most effective treatment for SAD. It is reported to work more quickly than medication but does require consistent use upon awakening. It's a hot topic right now, and lots of manufacturers of inferior products have items on the market that promise you 5,000 lux (one lux is equal to one lumen per square meter. It enables us to measure the total "amount" of visible light present and the intensity of the illumination on a surface.) They might indeed deliver this if you keep your face pressed against the screen, which is not advisable. Unless you spend about \$300 smackers for a high-quality light box, you're wasting your money. Most researchers agree that as long as your contraption emits a lux of 10,000, you will derive some good from it. An ideal box will have a large screen that shines light downward, akin to how the sun shines from the sky. Lux declines the farther that you are from the light source, so if you are sitting 2 feet away, the lux will be about 7,500.

Most experts advise people with SAD to spend 30 minutes in front of their light box every day before 8 a.m. for at least three weeks. So one needs to get started right after the equinox. These lamps have no UVB, so don't count on them to stimu-



***Exposure to nature via sunlight outdoors stabilizes serotonin. Courtesy photo.***

lated Vitamin D production in your skin, regardless of how much you spend on them. Some people assume that taking vitamin D supplements can help cure seasonal affective disorder. But studies indicate that is not the case, so there is no point in taking additional vitamin D unless a blood test shows you have a deficiency. If that is the case, that person will need UVB light to make the vitamin. Like the kind that comes from the sun. Plus, light therapy will not work for everyone. People with light sensitivities, bipolar disorder, diabetes, or eye problems should avoid using it. These folks should do like I do, sit outside in midwinter with sunglasses and a bit of sunscreen on nose and cheeks, even if it puzzles and amuses their own neighbors. Let 'em talk, because you will get the last laugh.

The benefits of time outdoors in nature for SAD are really hard to identify because of the prevalence of profit being made from cheap light boxes being sold to SAD saps. But, there is a tiny bit of research to support the benefits, besides saving money. As you read in past articles, exposure

to nature via sunlight outdoors stabilizes serotonin. It stimulates Vitamin D production. It improves cognition and mood through creativity and improved self-regulation. It is a more complete treatment, and it's free.

Yes, it is impossible to engage in seven days a week in winter in this region. But making it a priority and being outside up to 45 minutes whenever possible will help tremendously.

Because sufferers of SAD tend to begin to isolate, they should be extra diligent in making themselves spend time outdoors with friends once a week, snowshoeing, ice skating in Ouray, or heading down to Grand Junction for a day of side-walk cruising in a snow-free environment (most of the winter these days).

This is my advice on this topic. Now excuse me while I struggle into my pac boots and get ready to take the goats on a walk on this brilliantly sunny, incredibly cold, January day.

Stay warm, get happy, and get outdoors. Send questions and comments to:

[agescapesnow@gmail.com](mailto:agescapesnow@gmail.com)



# **Elks Bingo**

## **Tuesday Jan 18, 2022**

**Progressive  
Game #2  
\$500  
Must Go!**

*Jackpot will be awarded  
to 1<sup>st</sup> person to reach Bingo*

**Progressive  
Game #4  
\$400**

*Jackpot can be won  
by reaching Bingo  
in 37 #s or less*

**Progressive Game 6  
\$14,214**

*Win this Jackpot  
by reaching  
Bingo in 53 #s or fewer*

**Doors Open at 4:00 PM  
Games Start at 6:30 PM  
Dinner: Casserole Night**

**Limited Seating  
No Children under 18  
Ticket Required to  
buy Bingo Cards**

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

# KINDNESS - THE BEST NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

By Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald

MONTROSE-We are a couple of weeks into the New Year of 2022 and most of those New Year's resolutions we made are already starting to falter and will soon fade away. That's because they are not sustainable resolutions to help our spiritual growth.

Sustainable New Year's resolutions are based on spiritual principles that help make us better persons, improve our relationships, and strengthen our faith. This year, Kindness is a major theme. Stories about people being kind to one another are on the front pages of newspapers, broadcast on news programs, appear on Facebook, Instagram, and all the social media. There is a new wave of Kindness sweeping the world, a welcome respite in these difficult times.

Kindness is defined as "a quality of being friendly, generous and considerate." Being kind feels good and creates positive bonds between people and all of life. The outpouring of kindness from neighbors, community members, and people outside of Colorado uplifted not only the people affected by the Boulder fires, but all of us who read or heard about their generosity. A kindness bond was created linking people in need with people who really cared.

People who buy coffee or groceries for others show kindness. Cleaning up rivers and streams is a kindness. Rescuing a moose from a basement is a kindness. Comforting those who are grieving is an act of kindness. Speaking loving words and doing small acts of consideration are deeds of kindness. Thinking about helping those in need are thoughts of kindness. Kindness pulls us together in a way that reminds us there is still good in the world.

We see acts of kindness that make a difference in the world even in extreme situations such as Caroline Flack, a young woman who in 2019 posted this message on Instagram: "In a world where you can be anything, be kind." 72 days later she

took her own life, but her message about kindness lives on.

The Greek philosopher, Plato, explains the importance of being kind to others. "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." Our personal battles, although constantly broadcast on social media, are still often hidden. Realizing that everyone you meet is dealing with some difficulty, makes it easier to express our kindness. It's not just the person standing on the street corner begging for help, it could also be someone in our own family or our best friend.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, often speaks of kindness. He says, "My religion is kindness...be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." Wise words to help us understand that kindness is in each of us, and we have every opportunity to practice kindness. Kindness comes straight from the heart and children are our best teachers on how to be kind. There is a very poignant story told about Leo Buscaglia by Ellen Kreidman in *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, condensed version, by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Patty Hansen.

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia was once asked to be a judge in a contest to find the most caring child. The winner was a four-year-old child whose kindness touched everyone in the room. His next-door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had just lost his wife. The four-year-old boy went out into his yard to play and saw the gentleman sitting on a bench all alone and crying. The child stopped playing and went into his neighbor's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there quietly. He sat for quite a while, and then gently climbed down and came home. His



Montrose Police Officer Kaitlyn Danielson shows kindness to a baby citizen in this Mirror file photo from 2018.

mother watched all of this and asked the child what he had said to the neighbor. The boy replied, "Nothing. I just helped him cry."

How many opportunities do we have each day to do a small act of kindness? Often our presence is enough. We don't need words or need to do great acts of service, but simply be there for each other. A smile and warm "good morning" or "thank you," is an act of kindness that can make someone's day.

Unexpected acts of kindness are the most fun. The lady in the market this week was delighted when I pointed out the many bouquets of flowers that were marked down. She thanked me for my kindness in showing them to her and as she was leaving said with a smile, "I'm taking a bouquet home to my neighbor!"

So, instead of trying to keep all those New Year's resolutions that won't last, make a new one to simply be kind. That's the best New Year's resolution we can make because kindness has a way of rippling outward from one to person to many.

Do an act of kindness every day. Think kind thoughts, say only kind words, and know that your kindness is making a difference in the world.

**The Mirror:**  
Coverage with vision for the future.





# NO IN PERSON MEETING UNTIL MAY, BUT MONTROSE GIVING CLUB IS GOING STRONG



Past recipients of Giving Club awards include Dolphin House and Hilltop Community resources. At right, a meeting of the club. Courtesy photos Montrose Giving Club.

## Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-The organizers of the Montrose Giving Club, which is open to women throughout the community, have decided to cancel a planned Feb. 7 meeting due to Covid concerns. Still, "We are alive and well and have great hopes to meet in person in May," founding club member Phoebe Benziger said. "This February will be the start of our sixth year. Over the years we have been able to award more than a quarter of a million dollars to local non-profits."

Donations have ranged from \$7,400 to \$15,700.

The first Montrose Giving Club award, of \$6,000, went to the Montrose Lighthouse in 2017 to support the mission of providing emergency shelter to homeless people. The non-profit Lighthouse Shelter still serves homeless individuals in the Montrose community today, meeting a need that has continued to grow.

In addition to Benziger, founding members of the Montrose Giving Club include

Julie Wolverton, Sue Hansen, Kristy Barrett, and Sarah Fishering.

And for every non-profit organization that has been awarded funds through the Montrose Giving Club, there are countless people and animals whose lives are better as a result.

Over the years Giving Club beneficiaries have included:

*Dolphin House*  
*Lighthouse Ministries*  
*Montrose Volunteer Legal Air Region 10 LEAP*  
*Partners*  
*Christ's Kitchen*  
*Montrose Medical Mission*  
*Altrusa-Haven House Project*  
*Montrose Animal Protection Association (MAPA)*  
*Bright Futures Preschool*  
*Hilltop Community Resources*  
*Montrose Center for the Arts*  
*Girls on the Run of Western Colorado*  
*Mexican American Development Association (MADA)*

*Montrose County School District RE-1J-Technology*  
*Peer Kindness*

*End of the Trail Horse Rescue*  
*Community Options*  
*Housing Resources*

The Montrose Giving Club has grown exponentially over the years, as planned.

"We encourage new members all the time," Benziger said. "We also encourage our members to support us even though we don't meet, by mailing their checks to PO box 1403, Montrose, CO 81401."

"With the monies generated thru the mail, we will add to our May winner," she said. "That promises to be a fun meeting--if nothing else, just being together."

The May 2 meeting of the Montrose Giving Club will be held at the Bridges Golf & Country Club in Montrose at 5:30pm.

# The Mirror: many views, one newspaper.





# VACCINE MOBILE BUS

## NEXT STOP

**Montrose Recreation District  
Field House**

**25 Colorado Ave., Montrose, CO**

**Wednesday, January 19th**

**10am - 6pm**

**Vaccines are free! No ID or insurance needed!**



Walk up or make an appointment:  
<https://montrose-119-cdphe-mvu15.youcanbook.me>



# NEW YEAR. NEW SOCKS.

*Come Find Your Sign.*



328 E. MAIN • MONTROSE

970-249-8323





# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## GRANT NORTHEY NAMED TO SNHU PRESIDENT'S LIST

### Special to Art & Sol

MANCHESTER, NH-- Grant Northey of Montrose (81401) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Fall 2021 President's List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List.

Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must

earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 160,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate

and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH.

Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

## KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATES LLC, OF OURAY PRESENTS PEER KINDNESS WITH \$5,000 IN FUNDS RAISED @ 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL OURAY FESTIVAL OF TREES

### Special to Art & Sol

OURAY – The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Ouray Festival of Trees raised \$5,000 for PEER Kindness on Saturday Dec. 4. It was a magical holiday tradition celebrating PEER Kindness in our community.

What an incredible evening of inspiration and hope.

We are so grateful to all who volunteered from our community, donated and created one-of-a-kind, designer-decorated trees and attended this year's event.

The Mission of PEER Kindness partners with schools, youth programs, community organizations, business and community leaders, families, and youth to reduce bullying and foster a PEER (Positive, Encouraging, Empathetic, Respectful) stance.

For information on how to participate in 2022, please contact Tammy Monroe at 970-765-5770 or at [markandtammy@kw.com](mailto:markandtammy@kw.com)



Courtesy Photo, pictured left to right-Mark Monroe, Tammy Monroe, Deanna Jakino, Beckie Pendergrass of Keller Williams Southwest Associates and Joey, Todd & Maya Haynes from PEER Kindness.

THANK YOU FOR READING.



# Which Came First? Brothels or Bars?

Western History with Kate Burke. Notorious Red-Light Districts

Tuesday, Jan. 18, 1 pm

Golden Circle Senior Center, at the Montrose Pavilion

Room for Distance Seating. Masks Requested.

Free Program



Left: Mattie Silks, one of Colorado's best-known madams



Bar from Clipper Saloon, ca 1890, Telluride, Colo. Now at MMW. Restored by Richard Fike and MMW volunteers

Cosmopolitan Saloon & Gaming Hall, Telluride, Colo.



Belgin Jennie's girls

Squirrel Tooth Alice & Customer



# 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](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com), [www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://www.montrosenazarenechurch.org)

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook  
**Services** Sunday: Worship 10 AM, Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM Worship includes age-appropriate children's ministry during adult worship.  
 Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM  
 Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

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

## 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, [info@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:info@fpcmontrose.com)

[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)  
**In Transition-Currently:** Howard Davidson  
 Merle Bierma  
**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM

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

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist  
**Address:** 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
**Contact Information:** 970-249-3716, [office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org)

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

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

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

*matter what stage of life they are in.*  
**Children's services:** We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be 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 Macdonald, 970-252-0908, [arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org)

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

*The Spiritual Awareness Center is an 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](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)

website: [www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://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, fami-

lies with young and school aged children, and recent high school and college graduates). Our services are in English, but many in our congregation also speak Spanish, as we partner with Verdad Y Vida (a Spanish congregation meeting in the same building).

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

### VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent Baptist

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

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

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

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

website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

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

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

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

#### 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 in-

formation to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

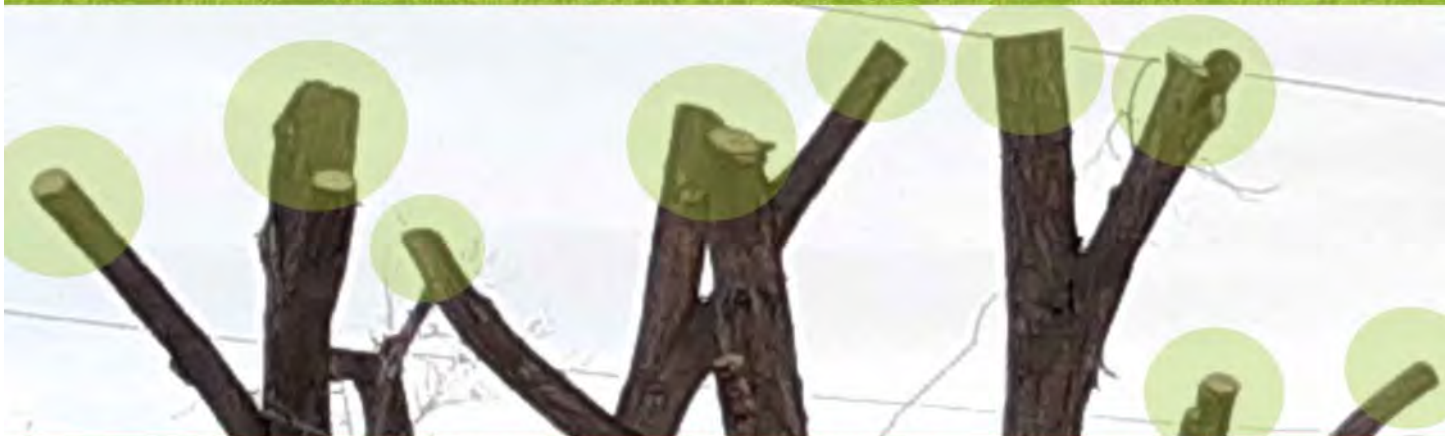
Worship service times

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?

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## LIVE MUSIC ROUNDUP, WEEK OF JANUARY 17

By Paul Arbogast

### Cruiser's Bar, Grand Junction (Horizon Drive):

- Friday, Jan 21, 9:30 PM – Haven Effect
- Saturday, Jan 22, 8 PM – Jason Mayer

### Cruisers, Grand Mesa (Orchard Mesa):

- Thursday, Jan 20, 8 PM – Just as Well/ Truckstop Quickies/Slightly Punk
- Friday, Jan 21, 8:30 PM – Suckafish/Ryan Harrison Acoustic

### Horsefly Brewery:

- Wednesday, Jan 19, 6:30 PM – Open Mic Night

### Precedence Productions:

Friday, Jan. 21-Jordan Carls Quartet- Upstairs at Precedence

### Sidelines Sports Bar:

- Saturday, Jan 22, 9 PM – Union of None

### Two Rivers Tavern, Grand Junction:

- Saturday, Jan 15, 9 PM – Union of None

### Warehouse 25sixty-five, Grand Junction:

- Friday, Jan 21, 7 PM – Frankie Ballard
- Saturday, Jan 22, 7 PM – Mitchell Tenpenny

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### CALEB EGBERT NAMED TO WHEATON COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST FOR FALL 2021

Special to Art & Sol

WHEATON, IL-- Wheaton College student, Caleb Egbert of Montrose, CO, was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To earn Dean's List honors at Wheaton, an undergraduate student must carry 12 or more credit hours and achieve a 3.5 grade point average or higher on the 4.0 scale.

Wheaton College is a coeducational Christian liberal arts college noted for its rigorous academics, integration of faith and learning, and consistent ranking among the top liberal arts colleges in the country. For more information, visit [wheaton.edu](http://wheaton.edu).

## DineOutMontrose.com

### Let's Cater 2022:

**Jimmer's Steak & BBQ**  
970-252-1227

**Pahgre's**  
970-249-6442

**Fiesta Guadalajara**  
970-249-2460

**My Favorite Muffin**  
970-765-0076

**Alpen Confections**  
970-648-0609

**Heidi's Brooklyn Deli**  
970-240-1605

**Remington's at the Bridges**  
970-252-1119

**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





# 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](http://www.affinityecarecolorado.com/co)

**CEDAR POINT HEALTH/  
URGENT CARE**  
836 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose  
970-249-2118  
[www.cedarpointhealth.com/testing](http://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](http://www.trailheadclinics.com)

**NORTHSIDE HEALTH CENTER**  
528 N. Uncompahgre, Montrose  
970-240-6438  
[www.facebook.com/northsidechildhealthcenter](https://www.facebook.com/northsidechildhealthcenter)

**(WEST END) BASIN CLINIC**  
421 Adams St, Naturita  
970-865-2665  
[www.basinclinic.org](http://www.basinclinic.org)

## PEAK FAMILY MEDICINE

Available for new/existing patients  
1550 East Niagara Road , Montrose  
970-497-4921  
[www.peakpros.org](http://www.peakpros.org)

## PIC PLACE

Available for new/ existing patients.  
87 Merchant Dr, Montrose  
970-252-8896  
[www.pic.place](http://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](http://www.rivervalleyfhc.com)

## WALGREENS PHARMACY

Testing is available on a limited basis.  
2351 South Townsend Ave, Montrose  
970-252-1743  
[www.walgreens.com/pharmacy](http://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](http://www.montrosecountyjic.com)  
updated 11/8/21

# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

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

**NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS** welcomes adults who are new to Montrose or have been here awhile, who would enjoy learning more about the area and participate in social activities. 2021-22 meeting info. Meetings will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (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 non-denominational 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

**Jan. 18**-Western History with Kate Burke, Notorious Red Light Districts. 1 pm at the Golden Circle Senior Center at the Montrose Pavilion. Program is free. Masks requested.

**Jan. 28**-Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery presents *Residual Roots: An Art Exhibit by Cie*. The Artist Reception will be Friday evening, Jan. 28, 2022. One-of-a-kind handcrafted Wood Art pieces will be on display for viewing and purchase. Exhibit overview and Q&A session with Cie will be part of Artist Reception festivities. Wine and refreshments will be provided. Lanoue Dubois Winery will pour wines at the Artist Reception. Individuals must be 21+ years of age with a valid I.D. to consume alcohol. Special Acoustic Performance by You Knew Me When. Doors open at 6 PM. Street parking is available.

**March 19**-Come out to enjoy fun and inspiring films about outdoor adventure and conservation through the love of fly fishing, and support projects that protect and restore your local river. This year's venue is the Ouray County Event Center (22739 Highway 550) to provide lots of elbow room! Masks currently required – stay tuned for updates. 100 percent of proceeds go to the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership for maintenance and improvement of riparian areas, fish habitat and recreation areas. Sponsored by RIGS Fly Shop & Guide Service.

6:30-9 p.m. Doors open at 6. Tickets: \$25 online in advance; \$30 event day at the door. Online ticket purchase opens by Feb. 1.

Ticket information: [info@fishrigs.com](mailto:info@fishrigs.com). More information: [uncompahgrewatershed.org/events](http://uncompahgrewatershed.org/events), [info@uncompahgrewatershed.org](mailto:info@uncompahgrewatershed.org), or 970-325-3010.



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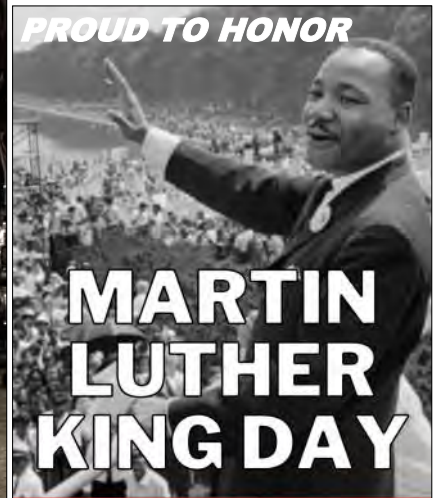
Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
970-275-0646

[Editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:Editor@montrosemirror.com)  
[www.montrosemirror.com](http://www.montrosemirror.com)

## MHS JANUARY DIVISION AWARDS



Montrose High School Division Award students for January are (L-R) Rachel Robuck, Collin Pierce, Kolt Reed, Addison Bogart and Corbin Wittington. Courtesy photo.



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