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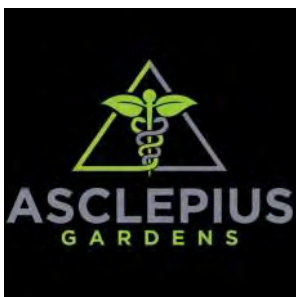
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Issue No. 470 Feb. 28 2022

DMEA INSTITUTES BEST PRACTICES FOR FINANCIALS *Checks to be signed by CEO or CFO; No Longer by Board President or CEO*

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Regular Meeting: The Feb. 22, Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. With the exception of Board President Kyle Martinez, all board members were present either in-person or on Zoom. In the absence of Martinez, Vice President Stacia Cannon chaired the meeting. DMEA co-op members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments, which for this meeting were scheduled for 4 p.m. There were no member comments.

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

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening



In the absence of Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board President Kyle Martinez, Vice President Stacia Cannon (lower left), chaired the regular board meeting on Feb; 22. Board member Bill Patterson (upper right) was a virtual attendee. Photo by Gail Marvel.

[Continued pg 30](#)

BOCC ADOPTS NEW COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS



Montrose County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program Manager Lisa Goetsch presented for adoption the new commissioner districts. (Meeting screen capture).

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All commissioners were present for the meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at 1:30pm on Tuesday, Feb. 22. BOCC Chair Keith Caddy welcomed those in attendance, "Welcome everybody, thanks for showing up on this nice snowy day..."

Father Robert Munday of All Saints Anglican Church delivered the invocation, expressing gratitude. "...We thank you especially for the snow and the moisture that our valley so desperately needs," he said, and prayed for peace and protection for those who live in the Ukraine. Munday also prayed for the BOCC to be granted wisdom.

Commissioners Roger Rash led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

[Continued pg 12](#)

in this
issue

[Forum Entity Unclear:
Bynum in control!](#)

[2022 Women of Distinction
Awards Night!](#)

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[Letters to the Editor!
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM WILL BE MARCH 2

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The League of Women Voters of the Uncompahgre Valley is pleased to facilitate the Montrose City Council Candidate Forum on Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m., to be held in the Montrose City Council Chambers, 107 S. Cascade Avenue, Montrose. It is an opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions, share concerns, and hear candidates' views on issues impacting the city. Montrose City will broadcast the event live and rebroadcast on their public channels until the election is complete. Doors will open at 6 pm, the event starts promptly at 6:30pm. The live broadcast can be viewed on the City of Montrose website at: <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/759/Live-Meetings-Viewer>

Remote viewers can submit questions by 5 p.m., Tuesday March 1 to info@lwv-uv.org

For information go to EVENTS on the LWV website at <https://lwv-uv.org>

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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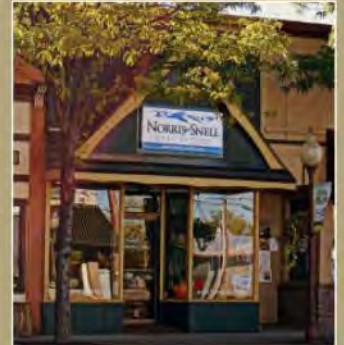
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SBEADMR AND TAYLOR PARK VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCE ANNUAL 30-DAY PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Special to the Mirror

DELTA— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce the availability of fiscal years 2022-2024 Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) and Taylor Park Vegetation Management (Taylor Park EA) planned treatments for public input March 1 through March 30, 2021.

SBEADMR, a forest wide project and Taylor Park EA, a project located on the Gunnison Ranger District, allow for commercial and non-commercial vegetation treatments. Both projects respond to forest health concerns and strive to increase the forest's ability to respond to multiple and interactive stressors including climate change, drought, insect attack and disease. Upcoming treatments include locations on the Paonia, Gunnison, Ouray, Grand Valley and Norwood Ranger Districts.

A StoryMap was created to allow for better viewing of the treatment data and the capability to comment directly on an interactive map displaying the upcoming treatments. A StoryMap is a web application that integrates maps, legends, text, photos and videos. It also provides functionality, such as pop-ups that helps users explore the content. Descriptions and maps of the timber sale treatments, as well as a comment form, are available online at: [SBEADMR and Taylor Park Story Map Comment Platform for treatments in Fiscal Years: 2022-2024](#). We highly encourage use of the Story Map to submit your input on treatments this year however, we will also accept them via email. Please include your name and contact

information with your comment in case further clarification is needed. Alternatively, comments can be submitted to Michael Salazar with the Subject Header: SBEADMR [at michael.salazar@usda.gov](mailto:michael.salazar@usda.gov). Names of commenters will be part of the public record. For more information contact Michael Salazar at michael.salazar@usda.gov.

Other resources and information on these projects:

For more information on [SBEADMR](#) please visit: <https://cfri.colostate.edu/projects/sbeadmr/>

For more information on the [Taylor Park EA](#) please visit: <https://www.centerforpubliclands.org/projects-add/taylor-park>.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

A CANDIDATE SHOULD TALK TO PEOPLE, FIND OUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO CONSTITUENTS

To the Editor,

All those running for city council got an email from the city, they were offering an opportunity to shoot a video to be shared on the city's social media. A short introduction of yourself and why you are running for city council.

Here is the issue I see with this.

They already list who is running for city council, with a photo and a biography, so you can see and learn about who is running. That is pretty effortless in terms of resources of the city and the time its employees spend. But shooting even a short video means more time spent by employees, to be there, to film, to edit.

Should the city be wasting taxpayer money on such things?

Sure, in comparison to their budget, this is a small thing, some may say a trivial point.

But my belief is that all the small things they should not be doing, add up, and cost the citizens plenty. I have already said that I don't believe the city council is fiscally responsible, that growth in spending has outpaced the actual growth of the city, so I cannot support this waste of city resources in terms of money and employee's time.

I see it as the candidate's job to get out and talk to people, let them know why you are running, not the city's job to get the word out for them.

I am out and about almost every day and I am always open to talk about issues people have with the city; that's what a representative of the people should do. In the almost two decades I have lived here, I have not seen previous or current representatives of my district doing it.

To me, representatives that expect you to come to them, rather than them seeking out those they represent to understand the issues, to understand what is important, is wrong headed, and it is a status quo that we need to get rid of.

Paul Arbogast, Montrose

District I Candidate for City Council

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additional sleeping room home is filled with charm and currently is the owner's residence. This space could easily convert to a catering kitchen, or a place for guests and family to rent and stay. A two car detached garage is on the property as is a large open pole barn with reclaimed benches from a local restaurant for additional seating. An additional historic horse barn could be converted into additional Air BnB spaces, and the current owner has plans to convert the old metal grainery into a drive through coffee stand. The Venue currently books several weddings per season and is already booked through October of 2022 hosting 13 weddings. Along with weddings this is the perfect venue for family reunions, business retreats, Holiday parties, and so much more. A new owner would have the benefit of the current owner staying on to train and help with the currently booked weddings, and help with tours of the venue, and keeping the grounds up. Any interested party is welcome to ask for the list of inclusions and exclusions. This is a beautifully maintained historic property located in a quant farming community in SW Colorado. Dreams can come true, and being a part of someone's special event is a heart felt moment that can never be equaled in any other profession. \$2,200,000 MLS#789938



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FORUM ENTITY UNCLEAR; BYNUM IN CONTROL



In a photo from the Forum's Facebook page, City Manager Bill Bell presents as City Public Information Officer William Woody films the program. Courtesy photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—On Wednesday, March 2, the weekly **Forum** at Colorado Mesa University's Cascade Room will welcome the six candidates who are currently running for the Montrose City Council, including long-time City Councilor Barbara Bynum, who has been the public face of the Forum in recent years.

Those who seek independent sources of information, however, may want to look elsewhere to learn more about the candidates for this year's City Council election. While the Forum, which was started almost 12 years ago by the late Jim Austin and Ted Dickinson, with help from Shirley Lewis Bradbury, began as a way for local officials and others to share information with the public, the founders have by now all passed away.

Today Bynum appears to control the gatherings, which formerly took place at Heidi's Delicatessen. She promotes the Forum whenever possible, including from the dais during televised Council meetings.

For Bynum, running unopposed to retain her seat, the Forum gatherings provide legitimacy, networking opportunities, and a free platform.

Last week, the Mirror reached out to City officials for clarification on the City's role

in funding the Forum, asking how much financial and in-kind public support is given to the weekly event, which is regularly filmed for the City's YouTube Channel.

Bynum responded, "Thank you for your interest in Forum. The Forum doesn't receive any financial or in-kind assistance from the City. CMU allows Forum to use the classroom space and A/V equipment. The city records the Forum when they can for local content on their video platform and cable access channel. Forum emails include a link to the previous presentations (when available) for folks that are not able to attend in person."

When asked whether the city's recordings are produced by a volunteer or by paid staff, Bynum said, "The City asked if they could record Forum to use as content. We've never turned down anyone who wants to attend and record...Sometimes media is at Forum and records or takes notes."

Still, the appearance of a possible conflict of interest raises questions about the Forum itself—and about the City's involvement in its own election process. Candidates running for the 2022 Municipal election include:

District 1: Douglas W. Glaspell (Incumbent) and Paul Arbogast

District 2: Anthony Russo (Incumbent) and Ed Ulibarri

District 3: J. David Reed (Incumbent)

At-Large: Barbara Bynum (Incumbent)

Because the Forum currently takes place in the Colorado Mesa University Cascade Room, *the Mirror* reached out to CMU Montrose President Steve Metheny, who promptly returned our call. The Cascade Room is provided at no charge to the Forum, Metheny said. "The University provides the space...there is no charge to anyone, and there are no fees associated with it," he said. Around 50 individuals attend on a weekly basis.

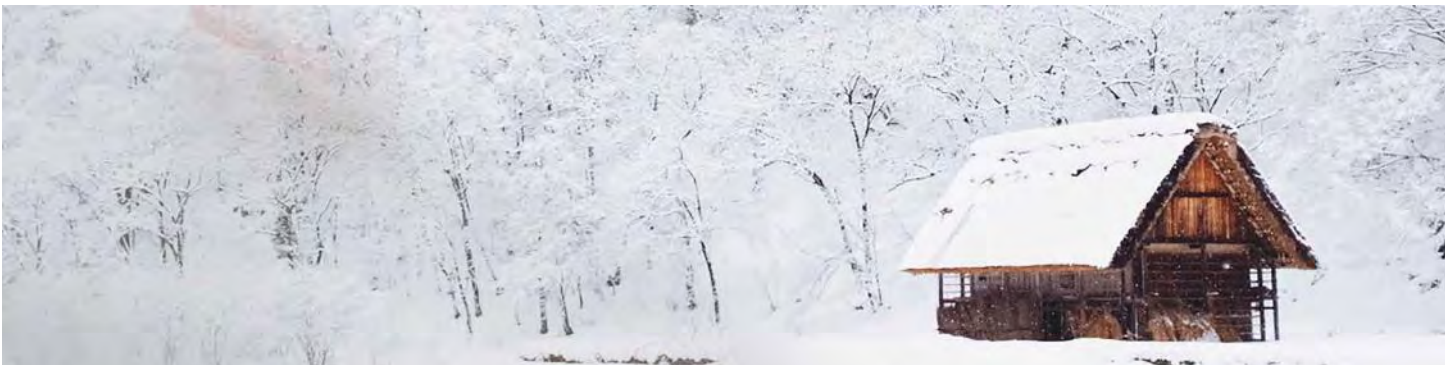
The meetings are bi-partisan, open to everyone, and receive strong support from CMU's main campus, Metheny said.

While the Forum is the most consistent user of the Cascade Room, other groups do use the space.

"It's pretty much available to everybody," Metheny said, noting that for-profit, fee-based users are charged a fee for use of the Cascade Room.

No fee is charged for those who attend Forum meetings, which help to bring people to the CMU Campus who otherwise may not visit or be aware of the University's course offerings.

"It's kind of a win-win," Metheny said.



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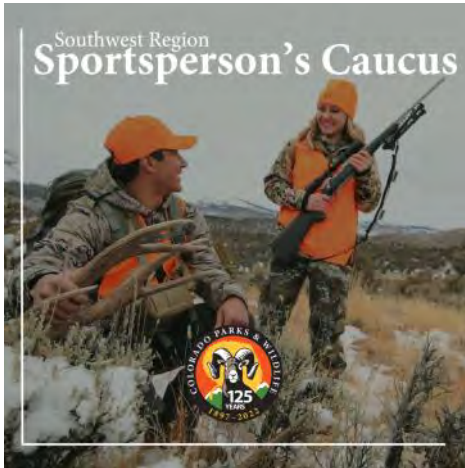
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CPW SOUTHWEST REGION SPORTSPERSON'S CAUCUS TO HIGHLIGHT WESTERN SLOPE ELK, MOUNTAIN LION STUDIES



Special to the Mirror

DURANGO— Sportspersons from across Colorado are invited to Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Southwest Region virtual caucus meeting with Regional Manager Cory Chick and staff to hear updates regarding angling, hunting and other topics within the region.

The meeting will be conducted virtually from 6 -8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 28. It will be streamed live via CPW's statewide Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CoParksWildlife.

"We always look forward to hearing from the public about wildlife issues," Chick said. "Hunters, anglers and landowners can provide us with their unique on-the-ground perspective of what they're seeing out in the field."

The caucus will feature Mia Anstine and Roger Cesario, who represent the CPW Southwest Region caucus as delegates to the statewide Sportsperson's Roundtable.

The featured presentations of the night will come from Jamin Grigg, the senior terrestrial biologist for the Southwest Region. He will present updates on elk and mountain lion studies currently being conducted across the Western Slope.

"We have a number of exciting wildlife studies ongoing here in the Southwest Region, and we're looking forward to providing some updates to the public,"

Grigg said. "The GMU 521 elk project is designed to evaluate elk use of the landscape and how they are responding spatially to hunting pressure. The mountain lion density study is a West Slope-wide effort to radio collar lions in rotating study areas and get better estimates of lion populations across western Colorado."

Other topics that will be discussed in the caucus include:

Aquatics update

The public process on preference points

and license allocations

How the Regional Partnerships Initiative is working to ensure Colorado's land, water and wildlife thrive while also providing for equitable access to quality outdoor recreation experiences.

Update on wolves

The [full caucus agenda can be found on the CPW website](https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Roundtable.aspx). For more information, call 970-375-6708 or go to <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Roundtable.aspx>

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BOCC ADOPTS NEW COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

From pg 1

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Jon Waschbusch asked that all Minutes shown under Consent Agenda Item No. 1 be removed from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners voted to approve Consent Agenda items as amended, with Resolutions No.'s 08-2022 and 09-2022 assigned to [Consent Agenda](#) items Three and 14, respectively.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program Manager Lisa Goetsch presented for adoption the new commissioner districts. The agenda item states, "Per CRS 30-10-306(4), after each federal census of the United States, each district shall be revised or altered and established to assure that each district shall be as equal in

population as possible. Per CRS 30-10-306 (5), no less than thirty days before adopting any resolution to change the boundaries, the BOCC shall hold a public hearing on the proposed district boundaries. Public hearing was held on Jan. 19, 2022."

District descriptions are included in the [meeting packet](#), and a [map](#) is available on the [county web site](#). Caddy opened a public hearing; there were no comments from the public. Goetsch said she has not heard any concerns about the districts. Caddy closed the public hearing.

Commissioners voted to approve [Resolution 10-2022](#), adopting the new districts as presented.

Linda Carl of the Montrose County Sheriff's Office presented for consideration and possible approval the annual [Victims of Crime Act \(VOCA\) grant application](#),

which was unanimously approved. The meeting agenda states, "This grant is with the Division of Criminal Justice, and is a budgeted revenue that pays a partial salary of the Sheriff's Office's Victim Advocate. This grant is effective from Jan. 1, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2024."

Joseph Gaffney of the County Attorney's Office presented [Resolution 11-2022](#), which eliminates the non-statutory requirement that one member of the Montrose County Housing Authority be a member of the BOCC.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planner Tallmadge Richmond presented five minor subdivisions for approval:

- the [Overmyer Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide own acre into two lots at 783 Orchard Road;
- the [Storm King Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide a 20.21-acre parcel into three lots at 68860 Vernal Rd;
- the [Bexley Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide two lots from one acre parcel at Parcel 376732408002, 1079 Oak Grove Road;
- the [Foult Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide a 2.68-acre lot into two lots at Parcel 399503302001; and
- the [Wildland Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide three lots from a 45.22 acre parcel at Parcel 399502200042.

The Planning Commission had recommended approval for each of the minor subdivisions. Caddy asked for comment; no comments were heard from the public. Commissioners voted to approve all five.

Also approved unanimously were the [900 Road Dedication proposal](#), to dedicate right of way along 6900 Road, Parcel 399106200034; and the [Dedication of a Portion of Orange Road](#), proposal to dedicate a portion of Orange Road at Orange Rd/6400 Rd, Parcel 399306400050.

Commissioners voted to approve the [Kindred Spirit Minor Subdivision Amended Plat](#) proposal to alter a plat note at 24125 Horsefly Rd, Parcel 403911402002.

With no further business, Caddy adjourned the meeting at 1:49pm.



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Elizabeth Garner is the Colorado State Demographer and has directed the State Demography Office in the Department of Local Affairs since 2004. Elizabeth travels the state talking with Coloradans about social and economic conditions that are brought about by population shifts. The State Demography Office applies an understanding of demographic trends to changes in a range of areas including the state's economy, workforce, education, housing, migration, and rural populations.

Elizabeth has over 25 years of experience analyzing population and economic trends in Colorado. Her current research agenda involves examining Census 2020 results, demographic impacts from COVID-19, housing supply and demand, and aging.

Elizabeth is an economist and received her B.A. in Business at the University of San Diego and her masters in Agricultural and Resource Economics at Colorado State University. Elizabeth was born and raised in



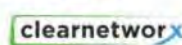
COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs
Office of the Executive Director

Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m.
Plated Lunch at 12:00 p.m.
with Program to Follow
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

\$30 MILLION TO HELP COMMUNITIES ESTABLISH HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS, REDUCE DISEASE AND DEATH IN THOSE SUFFERING FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD), PROVIDE A BRIDGE TO REHABILITATION

Editor:

This is in response to the positions presented in Jerry Bartholome's editorial in the February 21, 2022 issue of The Montrose Mirror.

1. Both Democrats and Republicans have included funding for substance abuse and mental health programs in response to significant increases in drug use and deaths since the COVID-19 outbreak as part of the three economic stimulus Acts passed by Congress. Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan 2021 with NO support from Republicans. Under the TRUMP administration, Democrats fully supported the CARES Act of 2020 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 all stimulus acts providing much needed relief to all of us during the COVID epidemic.

2. The funds allocated to Harm Reduction Programs are supported by the American Medical Association, the Law Enforcement Action Partnership, and State and local government entities because the programs do not increase drug use but instead increase diversions to rehabilitation services, reduce disease, and reduce deaths from overdoses.

3. Syringe service programs, a part of the harm reduction program, have been supported by both Republicans and Democrats in states across the U.S. including Mike Pence in 2015 when he was Governor of Indiana.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Supported by both Democrats and Republicans in Three Economic Stimulus Packages

American Rescue Plan 2021, a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill, was passed in both the House and Senate and signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021.

It includes a \$4 billion budget for substance use disorders with \$30 million allocated to harm reduction facilities. Addiction Center, "Current Funding For Harm

Reduction Programs", Emily Murray, July 6, 2021, <https://www.addictioncenter.com/news/2021/07/current-funding-harm-reduction-programs/>.

\$30 million of the American Rescue Plan funding is allocated to the Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to award grants to States: local, Tribal and territorial governments; Tribal organizations; non-profit community based organizations; and primary and behavioral health organizations to implement **Harm Reduction Programs**.

It is the latest stimulus package passed by Congress during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 was a \$2 trillion stimulus package (**\$425 million went to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (**\$1.5 billion went to the National Institute on Drug Abuse and \$1.8 billion to SAMHSA**) was a nearly \$900 billion stimulus package passed during the **TRUMP** administration. Investopedia, American Rescue Plan (Biden's \$1.9 Trillion Stimulus Package), Erik Haagensen, May 24, 2021, <https://www.investopedia.com/american-rescue-plan-definition-5095694>.

Research in Harm Reduction Services Do Not Increase Usage But Instead Increase Rehabilitation and Reduce Fatal Overdoses

In Bartholome's comments in his editorial, he notes that the \$30M is not just to furnish crack pipes to addicts but includes a long list of "goodies" for addicts helping addicts stay addicted.

First, the Executive Summary for grant applicants notes the purpose of this grant is to support community-based overdose prevention programs, syringe service programs, and other harm reduction services.

For more details of the complete list of activities that every grant recipient must implement – the least of which is a smoking kit/supplies, see pages 7-8 of the grant application. <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/grants/pdf/fy22-harm-reduction-nofo.pdf>

Second, harm reduction programs accept that licit and illicit drug use is part of our world and choose to work to minimize its harmful effects rather than simply ignore or condemn them. Rural Health Information Hub, "Models to Reduce the Harmful Consequences of Substance Use Disorder," <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/substance-abuse/2/harm-reduction>. Strategies reduce improper syringe disposal, provide a gateway for addiction treatment programs, reduce fatal overdoses, and prevent the spread of HIV and HCV using evidence-based methods. Recovery Research Institute, "Harm Reduction Means Respect, Dignity, Compassion," <https://www.recoveryanswers.org/resource/drug-and-alcohol-harm-reduction/>.

Third, harm reduction programs do not increase drug use but rather increases the number who ask for help. CDC, "Summary of Information on The Safety and Effectiveness of Syringe Services Programs (SSPs)," <https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-summary.html>, notes: 1. "Nearly 30 years of research has shown that comprehensive SSPs (Syringe Services Programs) are safe, effective, and cost-saving, do not increase illegal drug use or crime, and play an important role in reducing the transmission of viral hepatitis, HIV and other infections."

2. "Research shows that new users of SSPs are five times more likely to enter drug treatment and about three times more likely to stop using drugs than those who don't use the programs."

The American Medical Association (AMA), "Issue brief: Nation's drug-related over-

Continued next pg

\$30 MILLION TO HELP COMMUNITIES ESTABLISH HARM REDUCTION

From previous pg

dose and death epidemic continues to worsen," February 15, 2022, <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/issue-brief-increases-in-opioid-related-overdose.pdf> notes, among other things, that it supports broadening access to a wide range of harm reduction services including naloxone, sterile needle and syringe exchange services, and drug checking supplies.

Bartholome further contends that funds would be used for smoking pipes. FactCheck.org, "Biden Initiative Funds Drug Overdose Prevention, Not 'Crack Pipes'", Brea Jones, February 17, 2022, <https://www.factcheck.org/2022/02/biden-initiative-funds-drug-overdose-prevention-not-crack-pipes/>, notes: The executive editor of the *Free Beacon* later acknowledged that the HHS spokesperson never said that pipes would be included in the kits, but the paper made that assumption based on "what smoking kits are" rather than a question posed to HHS asking if it was including these pipes in its smoking kits. Other publications have also retracted this statement confirming it to be inaccurate.

HHS has clarified, based on false information in the press, that the grant will not pay for pipes in safe smoking kits.

The Hill, "White House disputes reports of federal funds for crack pipes, and its focus is to reduce significant increases in the opioid epidemic in ways that reduce the spread of disease among users," Brett Samuels, 2/9/22, <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/593566-white-house-disputes-reports-of-federal-funds-for-crack-pipes>. If you've ever managed a grant, you know that you are required to provide detailed information to be reimbursed for expenses.

The *Free Beacon* article also reported that Biden administration was funding the distribution of crack pipes "to advance 'racial

equity.'"

That term references an executive order signed by Biden in January 2021 that requires federal agencies to provide "underserved communities" equal access to federal programs and, in compliance with that order, the notice of funding opportunity for the \$30M Harm Reduction Grant Program includes language that recipients must align with the expectations related to that Executive Order. FactCheck.org, <https://www.factcheck.org/2022/02/biden-initiative-funds-drug-overdose-prevention-not-crack-pipes/>.

Of course, some might now assume syringe service programs are new and yet another attempt by Democrats to support drug addiction. NEPs (also called syringe services programs (SSPs)) have operated since the 1980s.

AMA Journal of Ethics, "Needle Exchange Programs' Status in US Politics," Richard Weinmeyer, JD, MA, MPhil, <https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/needle-exchange-programs-status-us-politics/2016-03>, notes that ideological opposition to needle exchange programs (NEPs) have maintained some restrictions on using federal funds to support these programs since the Public Health and Welfare Act, section 300ee-5, was passed in 1988. During the 1990s, a panel at the Institute of Medicine requested the US government to lift the ban on NEPs based on evidence that **it reduced HIV rates without increasing drug usage**. This result was supported by independent research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, the ban continued. In March 2015, then Governor Mike Pence of Indiana declared a health emergency after an outbreak of HIV in the southeastern part of his state – predominantly rural in nature – largely due to needle sharing by intravenous drug users

abusing the prescription painkiller Opana. Pence called for the opening and funding of a temporary NEPs program where injection drug users could dispose of used syringes and obtain sterile ones. AMA Journal of Ethics, <https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/needle-exchange-programs-status-us-politics/2016-03>.

Following the Indiana HIV outbreak, language was spearheaded in Congress by Senator Mitch McConnell and others to use federal money to pay for operational expenses of NEPs facilities – only banning the use of federal funds to purchase sterile syringes, a small NEPs operational expense. AMA Journal of Ethics, <https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/needle-exchange-programs-status-us-politics/2016-03>.

Once repelled by conservative politicians, needle exchanges are now being endorsed and legalized in Republican-controlled states, KHN, "Needle Exchanges Find New Champions Among Republicans," Victoria Knight, May 9, 2019, <https://khn.org/news/needle-exchanges-find-new-champions-among-republicans/>.

This article notes there are currently 320 needle exchanges nationally. States with Republican legislatures and governors are among the most recent to legalize these programs, and needle exchanges are now legal in 28 states.

Also see Healthline, "Rural Areas Now Supporting Needle Exchange Programs – Here's Why," Bob Curley, May 28, 2019, <https://www.healthline.com/health-news/needle-exchange-programs-are-now-popular-everywhere-heres-why>

Hope this provides a different view of the true use for the \$30 million. It is directed toward supporting harm reduction services to communities in need and to those suffering from substance use disorder (SUD) who need this support.

Sue Schmidt, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2022 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION EVENT MARCH 25 @ MONTROSECOUNTY EVENT CENTER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- The 2022 Women of Distinction event will be held at the Montrose County Event Center on Friday, March 25 at 5:30 PM. There will be a dinner catered by The Stone House with the awards ceremony immediately following the dinner. The honorees will be announced by March 3 and all the honorees since 2017 will be eligible for the coveted Woman of the Year award which will be announced at the awards event.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CURECANTI MEDICAL SOCIETY AWARDS 2022 SCHOLARSHIPS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Curecanti Medical Society (CMS) proudly announces that four area students have been awarded scholarships in honor of the late Doctor George G. Balderston. The CMS Scholarship program originated over thirty years ago to assist students in pursuing a career in the medical field. The Montrose area physicians of the CMS fund the scholarships, which are awarded annually by the Curecanti Medical Society. Each student was awarded between \$500 and \$1,500 to further their education. Recognized this year were Marietta King, enrolled in the Adult-Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program at Walden University, Audrie J. Lee, enrolled in the Bachelor of Science for Business Administration/Healthcare Management degree at Western Governors University, Matthew Smith, completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Regis University, and Sheila Garrison, completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Colorado Mesa University.

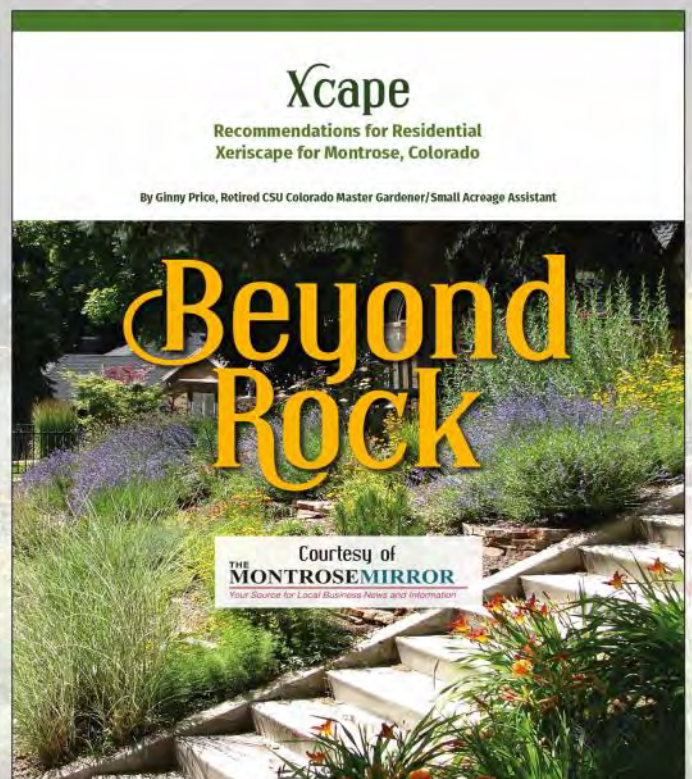


Dr. Gayle Frazzetta, President of the Curecanti Medical Society, is pictured with recipient, Marietta King. Courtesy photo.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LET'S ALL STOP OUR RHETORIC AND SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE

Editor:

At the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, thirteen Ukrainian border guards, stationed on the Black Sea's Snake Island, watched as a Russian warship approached their sovereign nation. The Russians demanded that the border guards lay down their arms and surrender. One of the guards told his brothers that, "This is it," and asked them if he should do what he was about to do. He then responded by saying, "Russian warship, go **** yourself". According to two different sources, all thirteen guards were either killed or were taken prisoner and being held in Crimea.

This is about democracy. This is about liberty.

These are people who are fighting for their freedom. And in America? We're still fighting for our 'liberty' to be anti-vax and maskless? Sure makes our truck convoy protests seem juvenile.

As a democratic country is being overrun by a communist country, we have people like the former president, former secretary of state Pompeo, and media mouthpiece "Tokyo Rose" Carlson speaking out supporting Putin. At a white supremacist rally, that Marjorie Taylor Greene spoke at, the crowd openly chanted "Putin, Putin, Putin". Our former president called Putin a "genius" and said how smart it was of Putin to declare independent states and bring in "peace keepers". Now, doing some backpedaling, they and the GOP, spin the story that what Putin is doing is wrong, but it's all Biden's fault that it is happening. This is not about politics. This is not about elections. It is time to be unified and stop this nonsense.

It is about one thing. The democracy of

Ukraine. There is one man at fault, Vladimir Putin. He is not our friend. He is not our ally. We must stop this blame-game in our country, as it just gives more fuel to Putin to show discontent in the United States. Putin blamed the United States for starting the invasion. The GOP and certain members of media, ignore Putin, and try to place the blame on Biden.

Right now Finland and Sweden are debating within their countries about becoming NATO members. Quick to respond, the Russian Federation has spoken out threatening dire consequences if these two democratic nations join. Even in Russia there are protesters, knowing they may be arrested, speaking out against the war.

We need to get both humanitarian and military aid to the Ukrainians now. This is not easy for me to write. My wife's and my view's are mostly liberal. We have two sons who are active military. No one wants to see their love ones in harm's way.

But can we stand back, can Europe stand back, and let a democratic country be taken by force? Many are afraid that we will end up with a war against the Russian Federation and that it could escalate into a nuclear war.

Do we let Putin continue the atrocities? As Stephen Colbert correctly observed, what Putin means by "Peace Keepers" is that, "he will take a piece here and a piece there and keep them". Are we going to sit back and let Putin take over Ukraine and put in his own government?

Many say we cannot enforce a "no-fly zone" over Ukraine as it will start WWII. The United States, along with NATO members, the rest of Europe and other coun-

tries of the world, all need to stand up united and face this crisis head-on. We cannot afford to keep saying there will be "no boots on the ground". We must make it clear that we will use everything in our arsenal, with the exception of nuclear war heads, to aid the Ukrainian people. When Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, did the United States, the United Nations, and the Coalition of Nations turn a blind eye? January 1991, Desert Storm began. Kuwait was saved.

President Zelensky has refused to leave Ukraine. When the United States offered to evacuate he and his family he replied, "I don't need a ride, I need ammunition." He is not alone in standing up to the Russians.

As Russian troops were entering her city, a Ukrainian woman stood unmoving and confronted the heavily-armed soldiers. She wanted to know why they were there? Why were they invading her country with all their guns? Then she offered a soldier some sunflower seeds (sunflowers being Ukraine's national flower) from her pocket. She said, "Take these seeds and put them in your pockets, so at least sunflowers will grow when you all lie down here [and die]".

This is what liberty and freedom are about. Let's all stop our rhetoric and speak with one voice. Putin is the aggressor. Putin is the cause of this. Putin does not want democracy. We must be prepared to do more than sanctions and waiting at the border.

As I was writing those last words I saw a photo of a woman holding a sign. It reads, "If Russia Stops Fighting There Will Be No War. If Ukraine Stops Fighting, There Will Be No More Ukraine !!!".

Jon Sering, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH NAMED BEST-IN-CLASS EMPLOYER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Health announced last week that it was named a Best-in-Class Employer by Gallagher in its recent Best-In-Class Benchmarking Analysis. The analysis found the hospital excels in optimizing employee and organizational wellbeing.

"This award is definitely an honor, one that is a reflection of the collective efforts of our Board of Directors, Leadership and Human Resources Team. As a whole, we

work really hard to fulfill our vision of being an employer of choice for our communities," said Erin Skees, Chief Human Resources Officer for Montrose Regional Health.

Montrose Regional Health was recognized as an organization that provides innovative solutions for creating organizational structures, workplace policies and total rewards, which inclusively engages and motivates its employees.

The hospital was assigned points based



Montrose Regional Health was recently named a Best-in-Class Employer by Gallagher, a global insurance brokerage, risk management and consulting services firm. Courtesy photo.



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- "Montrose Regional Health takes a proactive and structured approach to planning, developing and implementing comprehensive benefits and HR programs," said William F. Ziebell, CEO of Gallagher's Benefits & HR Consulting Division "In doing so, Montrose Regional Health is able to develop a winning formula to attract, reward and retain the right talent and position the company as a destination employer."

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IS DESTROYING OUR GOVERNMENT AND OUR COUNTRY; BOTH OF COLORADO'S FAILED U.S. SENATORS SHOULD RESIGN

Editor:

What happened to news coverage of cross-border violations of U.S. law? Other political diversions? Even so, tens of thousands of illegal entrants are still pouring across our southern border. The Biden administration is flying them into cities all over the country in an attempt to dilute its effect on American citizens and legal residents. I have not heard one word from either Colorado U.S. Senator about this perfidy on the part of the President. You, Senators, know as well as I that this illegal activity is destroying our government and our country. Your lack of initiative in helping to stop this invasion is, quite simply, treasonous. I suggest that you both resign

immediately as absolute failures in keeping your oath of office to "...support and defend the Constitution..." Come home to Colorado, hide in some far corner of our

state, and spare us your contemptible collaboration as a part of this Biden regime and its ruinous policies.

Alan Metcalfe, Delta

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH INVESTS MORE THAN \$250,000 TO BRING ADVANCED MEDICAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGY TO REGION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— As part of an investment of over \$250,000 to offer its patients advanced medical imaging technology, Montrose Regional Health recently acquired the Symbia Evo Excel from Siemens Healthcare.

"We are thrilled to bring the Symbia Evo Excel to our community," said Cardiologist Riley Foreman, DO, FACP, FACC at Montrose Regional Health. "The Symbia Evo Excel enables our facility to image a wider variety of patients than ever before with higher image quality. And thanks to the generous dimensions of the system's opening, we can maximize patient comfort and image difficult-to-move patients without transferring them from the gurney."

"Siemens Healthcare is proud to provide Montrose Regional Health with its state-of-the-art Symbia Evo Excel," said David Pacitti, President of Siemens Healthcare North America. "Siemens is committed to

offering innovative systems that will better enable Montrose Regional Health to deliver the highest levels of efficient and effective care to patients in the region."

Nuclear cameras such as the Symbia Evo Excel use special imaging techniques to detect radioactive energy emitted from a patient's body and translate it into an image. The equipment does not emit radiation to the patient. Nuclear imaging is used in a number of circumstances including with cancer patients to analyze treatment effectiveness.

Physicians at Montrose Regional Health can now serve a broader range of diverse patient populations and have access to industry-leading image quality to help inform care decisions and improve patient outcomes. The Symbia Evo Excel utilizes a high-capacity patient bed, a 30% larger opening than previous systems and highly flexible detectors. These features are opti-



Keri Brauch, Nuclear Medicine Technologist, demonstrates the Symbia Evo Excel. Montrose Regional Health recently invested over \$250,000 to bring the Symbia Evo Excel nuclear camera to the Montrose region. Courtesy photo.

mized to accommodate obese or critically ill patients and increase the variety of applications physicians can offer, providing comprehensive imaging configurations for general purpose, cardiology, oncology and neurology studies.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FORUM TO HOST MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Forum is hosting Montrose City Council Candidates. The event will be held in Cascade Hall on the Colorado Mesa University Campus on the corner of South Third and Cascade.

When: Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 8 AM until 9 AM

Where: Colorado Mesa University's Cascade Hall on the corner of South 3rd and Cascade in Montrose, CO.

For more information visit: <https://www.visitmontrose.com/event/wednesday-forums/333/>

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PLEASE NOTE

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February 4, 2022

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

EXPECTED REVISIONS TO COLORADO NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Third quarter 2021 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) results indicate Colorado total nonfarm payroll jobs estimates will be revised up for this period with the release of benchmarked estimates in March 2022. September 2021 estimates are expected to be revised up by about 22,600 nonfarm payroll jobs. July and August 2021 estimates are expected to be revised up by about 28,400 and 24,900 nonfarm payroll jobs, respectively.

Applying these results through December 2021 brings estimated total nonfarm payroll jobs in December to 2,801,300. This change brings over the year payroll job growth estimates through December 2021 to 156,400 or 5.9 percent.

The final March 2022 benchmarked series are expected to vary from these estimates due to new seasonal adjustment factors and new estimates of nonfarm payroll jobs not covered by the unemployment insurance program.

Industry sectors expected to undergo an upward revision to payroll jobs estimates in the 3rd quarter¹ include professional and business services (~10,300), construction (~4,800), education and health services (~3,800), financial activities (~3,700), information (~2,900), and manufacturing (~2,300). Payroll jobs estimates for leisure and hospitality and other services may also be revised upward.

The industry sectors expected to undergo a downward revision to payroll jobs estimates are trade, transportation, and utilities (~3,200) and government (~2,100). Payroll jobs estimates for mining and logging may also be revised down.

Total nonfarm payroll job estimates for the Fort Collins (~4,800), Boulder (~2,700), Denver (~2,600), and Grand

Junction (~2,000) Metropolitan Statistical Areas are expected to be revised up in the 3rd quarter¹. Estimates for the Pueblo Metropolitan Statistical Area may also be revised up.

Payroll job estimates for the Greeley

(~2,600) Metropolitan Statistical Area are expected to be revised down in the 3rd quarter. Estimates for the Colorado Springs Metropolitan Statistical Area may also be revised down.

¹Values shown are September estimates.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THERE ARE SITUATIONS WHERE A PERSON CANNOT JUST GO ALONG TO GET ALONG

Editor:

I have a few comments about the two letters in the February 21st Mirror (Jon Sering, Sue Schmidt). First a few things we can agree on. I appreciate Schmidt's emphasizing that she respects those who take the time to express their viewpoints, whether she agrees with those viewpoints or not. She also stresses that we should all do the research, question each writer's purpose in writing, and consider whether those opinions are presented in a respectful manner. Sering encouraged those writers who see opinions they don't like to write their own letters disputing those opinions rather than just stop receiving the Mirror, and to speak out for democracy. I totally agree.

A recurring theme I see in liberals responding to conservative letters, in the Daily Press and Delta Independent as well as the Mirror, is that conservative opinions are conveniently labeled "hateful" and "meant to insight divisiveness". When I see Obama, Biden, and fellow Democrats encouraging racial hatred and other things that I can only conclude are meant to destroy this country, I am going to do all I can to stop that, including writing letters to the editor. Objecting to hate and divisiveness does not warrant being accused of that same thing. Schmidt's letter took exception to a letter written by Chanda Ouimet, in which she poked fun at liberals' debate tactics --- basically saying that the only way a liberal can "win" an argument is to say the opposition is engaging in hate speech. Sering's letter, while having some good points, inadvertently made Ouimet's point by trying to demonize conservative writers ("severe right-wing fringe", "doing nothing to make things better in our country", etc.)

Schmidt, on the other hand, at least tried to stick to the issues and mostly present her opinions with respect, so I gave her letter a more careful reading. She suggested Ouimet didn't know what she was talking about (no credible proof) when she

talked about the Russian hoax, out of control crime in Dem controlled cities, soaring inflation, Biden's lies about Build Back Better, and Dem's focus on being woke. It appears Schmidt is not as well informed about the above issues as she apparently is on election law. I find it hard to believe that anyone would argue that Dems didn't create out of control crime in our cities, that Biden didn't create the soaring inflation, that Biden didn't blatantly lie about BBB, or that Hillary didn't create and finance the Russian hoax.

Liberals cannot deny the facts of Democrats' racist history. Out of sheer desperation, Democrats came up with the story that those racist, KKK, Jim Crow law Democrats somehow morphed into today's Republicans??? Give me a break. Schmidt spent some time suggesting that maybe Biden didn't really mean that anyone opposed to passing his "voter rights" bill was comparable to George Wallace and Bull Connor. I read the speech. If he didn't mean it, why did he say it?

Schmidt wrote a couple of pages challenging Ouimet's opinion that Biden's voting rights bill would unconstitutionally impose federal control of elections in all 50 states. I don't think Schmidt is challenging the fact it would impose federal control, but is of the opinion that it is fully constitutional. She is right in listing prior federal legislation addressing voter rights that had enormous positive benefits for this country. However, the constitution assigns certain functions (like national defense) to the federal government, and anything not specifically defined as a federal function (like election control) constitutionally falls to the states. Conservatives view state efforts in this area as an attempt to strengthen election integrity and prevent voter fraud. They find it ridiculous that Democrats attempt to re-define those efforts as "voter suppression". They view voter ID's as basic to election integrity. Black conservatives also find it highly insulting and condescending that Democrats

think minorities are too stupid to obtain an ID.

Sering's letter also kind of made another point in Ouimet's letter. Ouimet mentions deflection --- the "but Trump _____" approach. When liberals can't challenge an opinion, they deflect and talk about that "evil Trump". Sering is also upset that Democrats/Biden are being blamed for everything. Wait, I thought Biden, the Democrat Senate, and the Democrat House have been in charge during all these (self-inflicted) fiascos.

Sering asked to name one thing Trump accomplished for the American people. Here are a few: Unlike the Clintons, Obamas, Bidens, and Pelosis, Trump went into office rich and came out with a lower net worth, as opposed to getting filthy rich during and after their terms. Trump actually donated his presidential salary to veterans and other charities. Historic peace between Israel and several Arab states, unifying the region against the terrorism-exporting Iranian regime. Energy independence and low gas prices, destroyed by Biden in his first year. Quickly securing the southern border and halting the invasion of illegal immigrants, reversed by Biden in his first few months. Increased opportunities for legal immigration. Inflation rates of less than 1% and mortgage rates down to the lowest level in modern times, totally destroyed with Biden's tax and spend policies. Poverty rates the lowest level ever recorded. Household incomes rising higher in three years than the eight years of Barack Obama. Unemployment, especially minority unemployment, the lowest in 70 years. Black economic advancement to an extent not seen going back several generations. Get tough policy toward North Korea resulting in getting them to the negotiating table and the cessation of nuclear testing and missile tests, since resumed under Biden. Serious economic sanctions against Iran, curtailing their ability to finance proxy wars against their neighbors, as opposed to Biden paying millions of

Continued next pg

THERE ARE SITUATIONS WHERE A PERSON CANNOT JUST GO ALONG TO GET ALONG *From previous pg*

dollars to pay Iran's back UN dues and giving money and encouragement to the Palestinians. Get tough policy toward China, with tariffs and strict export controls, as opposed to Biden's weak policies toward China --- coincidentally with the Biden family receiving some \$30 million dollars directly from Chinese Communist party members. Agreements and preparation for an Afghanistan withdrawal, to be later botched by Biden's amateur hour debacle. A display of toughness and competence toward Russia versus Biden's declining mental capabilities and Harris's obvious limitations, surrendering to Putin over the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, etc. Fur-

ther deterred Iran's ability to wage terror on its neighbors by eliminating the Iranian terrorist Soleimani, versus Biden killing an Afghan "bomber" who turned out to be an ally and a large group of children, and Biden's DOJ labeling parents objecting at school board meetings "domestic terrorists". Implemented an "America First" approach to governing, versus Democrats trying to rewrite America's founding as some racist hell hole rather than the total triumph for liberty that it truly was. Supported the police as opposed to Democrats demonizing and defunding them with the predictable result of out-of-control crime in cities across this nation.

I could continue, but I think you get the picture. If there are people out there that see my opinions as divisive, so be it. I would venture to say that if those same people were in Nazi Germany, they would criticize Dietrich Bonhoeffer for being divisive. And no, I am neither comparing myself to Bonhoeffer nor Democrats to Nazis. I am simply making the point that there are situations where a person cannot just go along to get along. Hopefully everyday Democrats are coming to realize (along with conservatives, independents, blacks, Asians, and Hispanics) that today's Democratic party has created such a situation.
Ed Henrie, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

MONTROSE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY ROCKED BY COMC DECEPTION

Editor:

To say the least, the Montrose community has been seriously rocked by the deception exposed by the Colorado Outdoors Medical Center (COMC) proposal by MURA. Simply put, one of Colorado Outdoors sites is to be filled by a second clinic, privately funded, in competition with MRHH's recently announced addition to our community health services, the Montrose Regional Health Ambulatory Care Center.

We, in the United States, generally believe that competition is a good thing. That is generally speaking when private money is chasing privately produced goods but in the case of health care, especially facilities, this is not so. WHY? Well the hospital for instance, cannot attract customers (income) from outside a reasonable radius and is paid with structured payments of insurance funds. Simply put, if you have too large a building and/or too many doctors, etc. you have too little work for the overhead. While the doctors and nurses may be able to leave for greener (dollars) pastures, the structure and sophisticated machinery cannot leave without leaving that infrastructure unpaid for.

I will guarantee my readers that MRHH studied the supportability, need, sustainability and the costs to be incurred by this addition to 'their plate' of goods and services exhaustively before announcing their plans. I can speak this way because I was on the hospital board when an addition to the existing hospital was proposed, studied, analyzed, discussed, argued and final-

ly decided against construction at that time. That does not mean that the issue is dead, only that at the time of discussion there were more cons than pros to the study. That was 6-10 years ago.

A hospital must cover the costs of all of its services whether those services provide an income or loss---it cannot choose the profitable lines and close down the rest. Some hospitals have eliminated services such as obstetrics and emergency services to eliminate the losses they incur. Specialized clinics do not have to do that, they can pick the good parts of the whole and ignore the rest.

Can you imagine what Montrose would be like if we did not have obstetrics and emergency care 24/7?

COMC wants to pick only the good grapes and let the rest go elsewhere. MURA wants to have a rent paying clinic and aside from whatever they do needing to pay its bills could care less about the service to the city. This is obvious because this is only the third business going to Colorado Outdoors in five years and all three are 'from town' (not 'to be brought to town by Colorado Outdoors').

So why are people upset with this whole 'blindsided' announcement by Colorado Outdoors that they will be having COMC? Could it be that it was never, in the five years of existence so far, mentioned as something that would be considered? Was it ever considered to approach MRHH with a proposal? Well we citizens do not know the answers to these questions and we believe that since tax monies and our medical insurance monies are competing

for a business segment, one of which is almost guaranteed to fail, we want to know now, not when the chickens come home to roost and the bankruptcy court moves in.

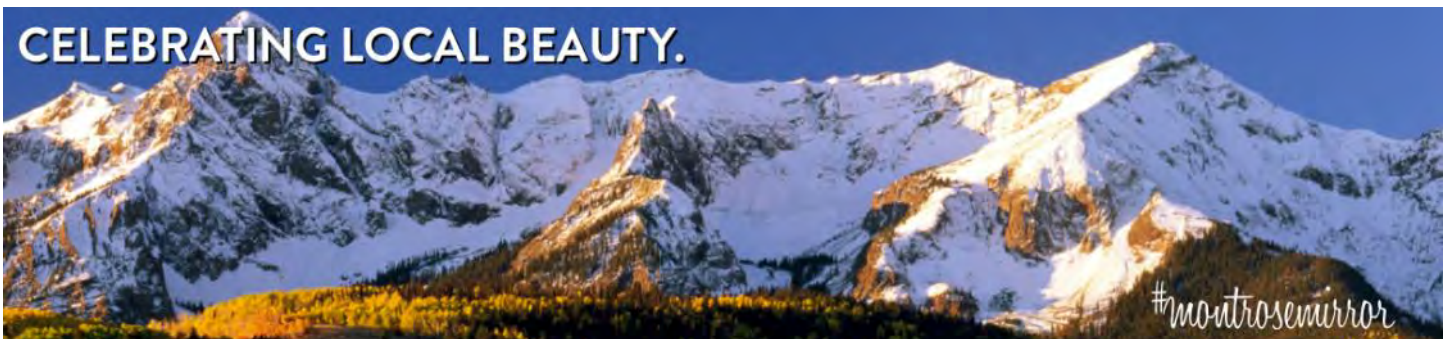
1. When did the city manager, city council and city staff come to know about this 'plan'?
2. Were any of the city council individually aware of this COMC endeavor?
3. How much planning has been accomplished to date?
4. When was MRHH informed of the COMC project and by whom?
5. Who are the financing physicians in this project?
6. Were any of MRHH practicing physicians approached about this project?
7. Who is going to finance the building and equipping of this COMC?
8. Have there been any 'not so public' so called 'public hearings'/discussions of this matter by MURA or the City Council?
9. Have any public monies been pledged, promised or spent to this effort for any purpose whatsoever?

As usual when alarms go off in the public there is always questions as to what nefarious behavior and actions are underfoot.

If the above questions were to be answered quickly and honestly it might help the citizens of Montrose to regain some faith in the honesty and integrity of their city council. As it is council's constituency must be strongly doubting just how much council cares about the city and reaffirms their feeling that it is really all about them and theirs.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

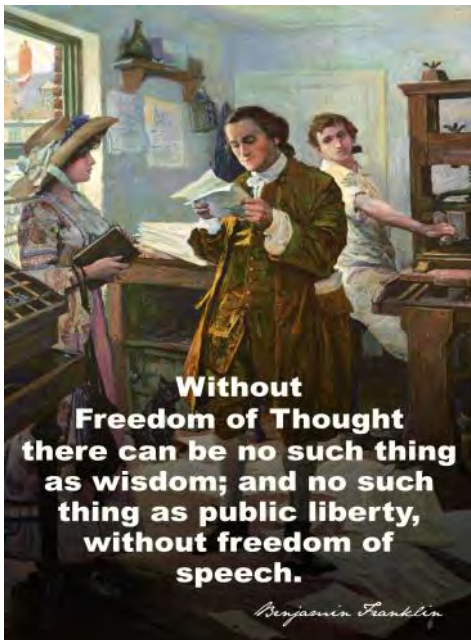
NOMINATION PERIOD FOR DMEA OPEN SEATS STARTS ON MARCH 16

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) is your member-owned rural electric cooperative. It is governed by a nine-member democratically-elected board of directors, and every year, you must elect local representatives to serve on the board. These board members guide the strategic direction of DMEA. The process for becoming a candidate in DMEA's 2022 Board of Directors Election begins next month. Here's what you need to know if you're interested in running.

District 3, District 4, and the South Region positions are up for election this year. Members with a primary residence in one of these areas can submit a nomination petition to run for the board. The nomination period opens March 16, 2022.

[Click here to get started on your nomination.](#)



"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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Western Slope mystery series*

DMEA INSTITUTES BEST PRACTICES FOR FINANCIALS

From pg 1

meeting prayer, determination of a quorum and approval of the consent agenda (Minutes from the January Regular Meeting).

Board Committee Reports

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

Watson said, “We met February 7th...we had good participation from the rest of the board and staff. We had a recap on deferred allocations vs. retirement. Different options for allocation of capitol credits, revenue generation allocation methods. There was an update to BP [Board Policy] 203.” During the upcoming strategy session, the board will review capital credits. Allocations for 2017, 2019 and 2020 will be in accordance with previous years; there was no allocation in 2018.

Jock Fleming said, “[The update] makes the ability to allocate more. We have more options every year.” Staff explained the update reflects industry standards that offer flexibility in allocations and will reflect the board’s values.

Updates to Policy 203 re: Capital Credits were approved unanimously.

Engineering – Construction – Energy Services Committee – Stacia Cannon, Chair.

Cannon said, “We met at 1 p.m. today. The bulk was inter-connection matters, PUC [Public Utilities Commission] guidelines on how to process applications, net metering size and locations. There is a significant amount of time [needed] to figure out how to comply with the PUC. Reporting for staff is difficult to monitor. We will look at the new PUC mandate. We discussed work planning and the status of different projects. This will help with some of our SAIDI [System Average Interruption Index] reports.”

The staff worked on cleaning up the language and formatting of BP 703. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Alyssa Roberts said, “[So] we don’t have to bring everything to the board and the staff can respond.”

Updates to Policy 701 re: Disclosure of Cooperative Information was approved unanimously.

Member Relations Committee – Bill Patterson, Chair.

Patterson, who participated via Zoom, said, “We met February 10th and reviewed a member survey. We looked at the format for the annual meeting that will be on June 16th. It will be late afternoon and evening at the Montrose Recreation Center. DMEA will provide food. The problem we had in Hotchkiss [last year] was running out of food. It will be informal and family friendly. We also discussed elections. There are three people [incumbents] up for election. We are waiting to see what comes out of the applications. If there is a contested election the League of Women Voters will set up forums.”

On the topic of scholarships Patterson said, “Board members will award scholarships personally.”

Patterson called on Member Relations Manager Becky Mashburn to discuss details planned for the annual meeting. Mashburn said, “The event will be 4:30 – 8 p.m. We will have a short business meeting. We will take over the center and welcome [guests] for free. There will be swimming, basketball, wall climbing. The event will be staffed by recreation center employees. Dinner is provided. We will make it easy for families to engage with us.”

Members can vote by mail, or in-person at the annual meeting.

Executive Committee – Kyle Martinez, Chair.

In the absence of Martinez, Cannon reported, “There is no update to share at this time.”

Non-Privileged CEO Report – Alyssa Roberts, CEO.

Roberts said, “We have a new temporary Business Agent who is working on a Code of Excellence. There is a lot of new development right now, we’re looking at supplies.” In the area of unbudgeted items, it was suggested that \$40,000 to \$50,000 would be needed for staff who do not have laptops. The Read office will re-open in April.



The Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) headquarters in Montrose continues to observe COVID protocols for customers.

Roberts gave an Internal Control Update stating that checks would now be signed by the CEO and CFO (Chief Financial Officer). Previously checks were signed by the Board President or the CEO. Roberts said, “For proper controls, checks should be signed by the CEO or CFO. The Best Practices for financials are a separation of staff and the board.” It was noted that the board president could still review.

Kevin Williams asked about the Grand Mesa Substation, a Tri State project. Staff had no information that could be shared at this time.

System Average Interruption Index (SAIDI) Report – Alyssa Roberts, CEO.

The brief discussion included outages cause by 70 MPH winds and auto accidents with power poles.

Financial Report with Variance Report – Gayle Gouker, CFO.

Gouker looked at the end of the calendar year and the big picture comparison. She said, “We know of a few adjustments. There is the \$750,000 deferred revenue in 2016 that we must recognize.”

Gouker highlighted tax adjusted for Elevate, the West Elk Mine unbudgeted, and lower than expected operational expenses.

Gouker said, “The report is in the new format. Do you have any questions or comments on the new look? We want a consistent look.”

Discussion included patronage capital credits, debt service coverage, modified

DMEA INSTITUTES BEST PRACTICES FOR FINANCIALS

From previous pg

debt service coverage, as well as Power Supply changes from 2020 (Tri State) to 2021 (Guzman); 2021 was the first full year with power supplier Guzman.

Non-Privileged Legal Report – Jeff Hurd, Attorney. Hurd previously submitted a written report that included a progress report and status report on legal matters. He said, “There is no new litigation and no progress on settlements. No updates to report. We are working on fiber grant matters and document reviews. I’ll reserve the rest of my report for executive session.”

Representative Reports

Western United Electrical Supply (WUES) Report – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, “They are logging record sales in January. They are expanding [into Nevada], but the expansion will not be at the expense of current members. They are over a year out [to get] transformers, but [Nevada’s needs will] not come at the expense of current member’s needs.”

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

Lockhart said, “I’ve had some classes on cyber security [lengthy report] that I’ll discuss when we have the strategy meeting. There are new officers at CREA. They are watching 20 to 22 [legislative] bills. There is a rundown of bills that DMEA needs to keep an eye on.”

Information Item:

Review Unclaimed Capital Credit Fund Balance - Amy Taylor, Executive Assistant. The review included how funds have been used in previous years.

Other Business

Operation Round Up Trustee Appointment

Diane Reddin’s term ends in April. The new trustee to Operation Round Up is Steven Harper from Hotchkiss. Approved unanimously.

Operation Round Up Audit

The Board unanimously approved an amount not to exceed \$6,750 for the Operation Round Up Audit. Next year the trustees will informally request quotes from a few accounting services for the audit service.

Update Signatories on RUS Grant Financial Forms

The CEO and CFO are the grant signatories.

Next Regular Board Meeting – March 22, 2022.

Executive Session:

- Privileged Legal Reports: Corporate, Litigation, and Regulatory Matters
- Privileged CEO Report
- Member Survey Review
- Privileged Information Request

Executive Session Summary – Amy Taylor, Executive Assistant.

In an email Taylor summarized the executive session. She said, “Upon motion from Director Watson, seconded by Director Fleming, the board unanimously entered into executive session at 3:42 p.m. to discuss a privileged legal update regarding corporate, litigation, and regulatory matters; review a privileged CEO report; and address highlights from the member survey. At 4:43 p.m., upon motion from Director Fleming, seconded by Director Watson, the board unanimously exited executive session. With no other matters to address, the board meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.”

Dist 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449, bpatterson@montrose.net

Dist 2 - Kyle Martinez, 970-615-7124, kyle@touchofcarepcp.com

Dist 3 - Jacob Gray, 970-778-9512, jacob.gray@dmea.com

Dist 4 - Ken Watson, 970-275-2100, kenethrwatson@gmail.com

Dist 5 - Kevin Williams, 406-839-1603, kevin.williams@dmea.com

Dist 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071, damon.lockhart@dmea.com

Dist 7 - Enno Heuscher, 970-270-6523, enno.heuscher@dmea.com

Dist 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-207-8831, stacia.cannon@dmea.com

Dist 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-275-1808, jock.fleming@dmea.com

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

UNCOMPAHGRE VALLEY TRAIL RIDERS DONATE TO SHERIFF'S POSSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse recently received a generous donation from the Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders.

The check was presented by Vice President Rich Jakino on behalf of the 150 families that are members of the club. Vice President Jakino said, "Our club grooms 95 miles of trails for snowmobiles every year and have adopted 91 miles of ATV trails. We raise money by having an annual snowmobile raffle every year."

Posse Director/and PIO, Mark Rackay said, "On behalf of the entire posse, I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders for their support. The money will go towards enhancing our winter rescue gear, helping our members to efficiently and safely conduct wintertime rescue operations. The posse also would like to express thanks to all the members of our community for their continued support, because without community support and generous donation, our posse could not operate."

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse is an entirely volunteer organization, conducting search and rescue, recovery oper-



Pictured (L-R) are Montrose County Sheriff's Posse Director and PIO Mark Rackay, Uncompahgre Valley Trail Riders Vice President Rich Jakino, and MCSO Sheriff's Posse's Paul Gottlieb. Courtesy photo.

ations, traffic control, security and, wildland fire suppression for all of Montrose County. The posse relies on donations from the community to fund opera-

tions, equipment, and training. The posse has been serving Montrose County since 1964. For more information on the posse, please visit www.mcspi.org

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

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY WRITTEN 4-H BEE ESSAY

WIN HIVE BOXES TO GET YOU STARTED IN BEE KEEPING

Essay Topic: Immunity: Threats to Bee Colonies and Methods to Defend Against the Threats.

Honey bee colonies have developed many ways to stay healthy. Their immune responses range from behaviors such as grooming to using materials such as propolis, a plant-derived substance bees coat on the interior of a hive for antimicrobial purposes.

Even the gut of the honey bee contains beneficial bacteria to help the bee stay healthy. In your essay, NAME AT LEAST TWO THREATS (a parasite such as Varroa, a pathogen such as a virus, a predators such as a bear, etc.) to honey bee colonies and then discuss the methods colonies use to defend against the threats.

Put on Your Thinking Cap!

An essential judging criterion is the scope of research you put forth in developing the ideas behind your essay—accounting for 40% of your score.

The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources and the variety of the sources are all evaluated. Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Note that “honeybee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

Eligibility:

The 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition is open to any active 4-H Club members only. Registration for new members is currently open and ends April 31st, 2022.

Awards:

The author of the highest scoring essay will win a bee hive set up and the essays will be published in the Montrose Mirror. Essays will also be framed and displayed at the Montrose County Fair. Questions? Contact Katie Alexander SAM Extension Agent 970-249-3935
Essay requirements

-Essay must be typewritten or computer-generated on single-sided pages and formatted following standard manuscript format using double-spaced type and 12pt font in legible font face.

-Essay must encompass the designated topic in 750 to 1,000 words. Word count does not include sources, works cited or the writer’s biographical statement.

-All factual statements and interview references must be cited in a “sources” or “bibliography” list.

-Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research, 40%; (b) accuracy, 30%; (c) creativity, 10%;

(d) conciseness, 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic, 10%.

Please include a brief biographical statement of the writer including mailing address, email address and phone number. Deadline for submission: March 18, 2022 - Drop off at the Montrose County Extension Office

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Win hive boxes to get you started in beekeeping!

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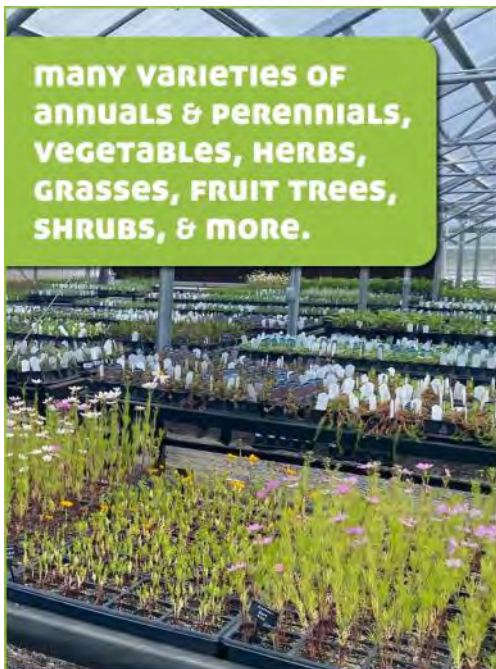
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Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado Counties cooperating. Colorado State University Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

To simplify technical terminology, trade names or products and equipment occasionally will be use. No endorsement of product names is intended nor is criticism implied or products not mentioned.

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

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHEN THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS, WE ALL LOSE

Editor:

"If you tell a lie often enough, it becomes the truth." "When one lies, it should be a big lie, and one should stick to it." (George Goebbels) "The end justifies the means." (Nicholo Machiavelli)

As Americans, we try hard to give each other the benefit of the doubt. However, Democrats' actions from the Obama administration through the first year of the Biden administration have made it abundantly clear who they are.

Democrats are no longer hiding their motives or their intentions. They are no different than leftists everywhere (Soviet Union, Venezuela, Cuba, China, etc.), and fully intend to destroy our representative republic and replace it with a socialist "utopia" ruled by one party – Democrats. They know their policies and ideas are totally unworkable and unacceptable to the American people, and they know they can no longer maintain power within the confines of our Constitution and our system of democracy. Leftists intend to govern by force and against the will of the people. Because they cannot debate and win their arguments in the arena of ideas and truth, they will now use every dirty trick available.

Durham's probe into the Russian collusion hoax is just a reminder of "the end justifies the means" criminality of Hillary Clinton and fellow Democrat co-conspirators. I say 'reminder' because everyone is well aware of the Clintons' laundry list of pathological contempt for the truth and following the law --- predating the criminal conspiracy to destroy Trump (Clinton foundation "pay-to-play" corruption while giving Russia control of 20% of the U.S.'s uranium reserves, Benghazi lies, email lies, Monica Lewinski, corruption going back to the Arkansas governor days, etc.).

Once you understand Democrats' true goals, it is easier to understand why everything Biden has done is destructive to this nation, including opening our southern border to invasion, openly encouraging racial strife and hatred, destroying our energy independence, destroying our economy with runaway inflation and debt, the Afghanistan withdrawal debacle, abandoning our inner cities to criminals, demonizing parents and police, etc. (and totally lying every step of the way).

Unfortunately, judging by recent letters, some local Democrats are joining in the corruption. In a feeble attempt to keep Republicans from electing their own can-

didates in the primary election, they are encouraging registered Democrats to re-register as "unaffiliated," and then vote for RHINO candidates in the Republican primary. Evidently our Democrat-controlled state legislature and Democrat governor made this legal?

And like true Marxists, they try to justify their subterfuge because "these are not normal times," and this is "principled" if it "is used to invalidate white nationalism." In other words, the end justifies the means.

Fortunately, those legitimately registered as unaffiliated were the first people to recognize Democrat corruption and the abject failure of the Biden administration, and are at the forefront of the mass of people who will never again support Democrats or Democrats calling themselves Republicans (RHINOs). They will choose to vote in the Republican primary, reject candidates like Coram and Zimmerman, and vote for the Republican (Lauren Boebert) they know will actively fight the leftist Washington corruption.

"The first sign of corruption in a society that is still alive is that the end justifies the means." (George Bernanos).

Chanda Ouimet, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WESTERN SLOPE MOUNTAIN LION DENSITY STUDY UNDERWAY IN GUNNISON AREA

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON – Colorado Parks and Wildlife is in its second year of the Western Slope Mountain Lion Density Study. This year's project is taking place in the Gunnison

area where it is being led by biologist Kevin Blecha.

The study began in 2021 in Middle Park in CPW's Northwest Region. Gunnison was selected for this year's study in the South-

west Region. The study will alternate locations between the two regions each year during the decade-long project.

The purpose of the study is to get a better understanding of mountain lion populations across the Western Slope of Colorado. Through better understanding of the population density, CPW can make even more informed management decisions based on the science. CPW biologists and field staff are working to put Global Positioning System (GPS) collars on adult mountain lions along with numbered ear tags on each captured animal. CPW is also placing numerous remote cameras across the region.

WATCH: *Check out this video on the Western Slope Mountain Lion Density Study.*

By analyzing images on the remote cameras, CPW researchers can then identify mountain lions that have been marked with ear tags versus those without any markers. That relationship between marked and unmarked mountain lions can help CPW get a better estimate of the mountain lion density in the area. It is CPW's goal to collar and tag 25 mountain lions at the selected study location each year. The projects are scheduled to take place in the months of January to March when mountain lions and their prey source are on their winter ranges.

CPW attempts to cage trap mountain lions when local reports of mountain lion activity come through in a timely fashion. Staff may also use local hound handlers that have dogs bred specifically for tracking mountain lions in the snow. The hounds will try to put a mountain lion up a tree or in a position where CPW staff can dart the animal. While sedated, CPW staff affix a GPS collar as well as numbered ear tags on the animal. Once the collar and tags are in place and a quick examination of each mountain lion is complete, a reversal drug is administered and the animal quickly recovers. The examination helps biologists estimate the age and condition of each mountain lion captured.

To report a mountain lion sighting in the Gunnison area, call the field office at 970-641-7060.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE EVENT CENTER SHOULD HAPPEN QUICKLY

Editor:

What are the various components of determining the economic impact of the proposed Colorado Outdoors Medical Center (COMC) to our community?

My comments are only an opinion . If I have this right, Non-Profit County hospitals make money on various types of surgery to help fund emergency rooms, remote clinics, things like mental health, physical health activities to senior citizens, the indigent and many other services that are not money makers but are here for us in the form of general services for all of us utilize.

Hospitals probably carry long term debt in the form of Bonds that require a specific credit rating and a sustainable cash flow to qualify for and maintain as amortized.

Duplication of services may drive up labor costs for the hospital as they may have to compete with a new surgery center, for nurses , techs of all kinds, office staff and so on. There are already labor shortages, so what does this do to the bottom line of existing services?

An 50-80K square foot building likely includes doctor offices... so one can only ask who is taking part in the venture and why?

I think one could assume it would take a

couple of years to build the facility and then add credentialing time for CMS, and the CDPHE, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment , who provides the state license for the Surgery Center , but not doctors' offices.

Here is a big one.... Does the Colorado Outdoors Medical center ,(COMC), plan on having diagnostic imaging that need to be taken, X-ray , CT , MRI and so on at this location? Would be a huge money loss to the hospital.

Future possibility as with any business of this type, it would be good to know if privately held equity was involved, which could mean this whole project might be being built to sell to another for profit equity group in what most likely is a few years, making the initial investors rich, and an unknown company to run with even further expansion plans? Not saying this is the case or anything illegal here , but the narrative of hurting our not-for-profit community hospital to basically sell out to the venture capitalists may be devastating to the MRHH should something like this ever occur. One would be careful to suggest this is the case without knowing, but if it is the case, it will naturally come to light in time. An explanation for future planning might be appropriate.

No doubt a project of that size will have a spotlight on it from media, community, planning and zoning and especially services provided? So, we will know in time how many ORs they plan and surgical services.

What is and could be the impact on our current MRHH hospital employee's? One would think an operation such as these will recruit from somewhere. Docs' . nurses, tech's etc. are not generally walk-ins. What is the expected patient count and surgeries, etc? So, more to unpack and explain as to the current and future impact on our non-profit MRHH and its future capabilities?

Our economic organizations, the city council , county Commissioners, MURA board the Montrose Regional Health Hospital and all other interested parties should have a public forum very soon to ask the pertinent questions, explain the facts and let the citizens of Montrose know where we stand in all of this in the way of current and future services. We all deserve to ask questions and get answers. This is a serious issue for our community to digest and one can ask only, why?

What is your opinion?

Jim Anderson, Montrose



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THE
MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHAT'S WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, ARE THEY DETERMINED TO SNATCH DEFEAT FROM THE JAWS OF VICTORY?

Editor:

The party of Lincoln who ended slavery and passed the 13th 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution seems determined to let Trumpism destroy it from within. Don't get me wrong I voted for Trump both times. I liked several things he did while in office. America first, energy independence, and border security. But I didn't like the way he ran his mouth. Insulting Democrats, some Republicans, and anyone else who disagreed with him is why he is no longer president. Eighty-one million citizens literally hated him enough to vote for a treasonous dementia ridden criminal by the name of Joe Biden. A man whose two previous presidential bids ended in disgrace because of plagiarism and lying about his academic achievements. Since the election in 2020 we have watched in horror as our capitol building was assaulted by people who thought the election was stolen. Even though multiple court cases never found any evidence of widespread voter fraud.

Here in Colorado Tina Peters the clerk and recorder of Mesa County is under investigation for allowing an unauthorized person access to voting equipment. She obviously fell victim to the stolen election narrative. And now we have county Republican parties trying to remove or purge people from the party who are deemed too not be conservative enough. A recent article in Colorado Politics about El-Paso County's attempt to purge Republicans deemed not conservative enough.

https://www.coloradopolitics.com/elections/2022/el-paso-county-gop-mulls-punishing-republicans-deemed-insufficiently-republican/article_8b6a2296-8466-11ec-83a5-6b34e893a8c2.html

And the Montrose County republican party has been on a mission to purge members from its central committee who support Don Coram. And I'm not sure how much this purge has to do with conservatism and or how much it has to do with homophobia. There seems to be three primary complaints from the local party about Coram. One, is that he works with Democrats to get legislation passed. The second, is that he was one

of fifteen or twenty sponsors on a controversial sex ed bill that passed in 2019. And the third is that now he is running for congress against Lauren Boebert. So, lets address these one at a time. 1. When did it become a bad thing to work with legislators from both parties to pass legislation that is beneficial to all citizens? 2. The sex ed bill was going to pass regardless of Don Coram being a sponsor or not. But he used his negotiation skills to add one little sentence to the bill "NOT A REQUIRED SUBJECT". So, what does that mean? The bill was originally intended to be a required subject. Had it passed as a required subject no student in Colorado could graduate high school without taking and passing that curriculum. And to the third issue running for congress. Not many people seemed to mind when Lauren ran against incumbent Scott Tipton. But for some reason seem to totally object to Don Coram challenging incumbent Lauren Boebert in the primary. What are they afraid of? Maybe they are afraid of her weak job performance and multiple controversies? The other problem she has, is her devotion to Donald Trump is getting in the way of her being a more effective congresswoman. One of the problems with aligning yourself with someone politically is you take on their enemies (81 million). Since the new executive committee of the Montrose County republican party took over in February 2021, they have changed the bylaws to oust Dianna Coram (President of the Republican women and Don Coram's wife), they also removed J D Key (president of the young Republicans). And they refused to allow J D Key to be a precinct committee person, "said he wasn't qualified". J D Key is more qualified to be a PCP than anyone on the central committee. So obviously the underlying reason for them rejecting him was because he is a Don Coram friend and supporter. And recently I was removed from my position as candidate support chairman, because the second vice chair Kay Heinschel of the executive committee said he wasn't comfortable with me continuing in that position with my friend Don Coram running for congress. He had no problem with me holding that position if Don

Coram was going to run for state senate again, so obviously this is an attempt to purge the party of anyone who would question as to whether Lauren Boebert is an effective congresswoman. They asked for me to resign but I refused, so they called an illegal meeting took an illegal vote to oust me. The stated reason was that I violated the preprimary neutrality clause of the bylaws. This was in reference to a quote in the Daily press on January 8th where I was quoted at Don Coram's official announcement in Grand Junction saying that Don manages to work across the aisle to pass legislation without violating his principles. That statement is not an endorsement. And besides violating the preprimary neutrality clause is not a listed reason for removing a person from a standing chair position.

This whole purge by the Montrose County central committee is a thinly veiled attempt by the executive committee to remove anyone who does not openly and without question support Lauren Boebert, which makes the executive committee guilty of violating the preprimary neutrality clause and violating my first amendment right to free speech. The vote that should have been taken on January 24th is a vote of no confidence in the executive committee which is being run by the vice chair Scott Riba after chairman Spencer Hamner resigned on December 9th, 2021. This is not the first time Scott Riba has tried to remove someone from the central committee who he disagrees with. Six years ago, when Scott was Chairman, he called an illegal meeting took an illegal vote to remove Richard Harding from his position as district captain. After Richard took the issue to the press the state party stepped in and reinstated Richard Harding.

Politics is a somewhat dirty business without having the major parties trying to bully people in to supporting only the candidate that the party officials deem deserving. It's the voters who decide, not the parties. And the voters should be allowed the opportunity to question all the candidates to see who would best represent them. That's the very essence of our Republic.

Ray Langston, Montrose

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JAMES A KNOX



JAMES A. KNOX, age 88, passed peacefully at home in Montrose in the company of his wife of forty-two years, Cheryl, on Monday, February 14, 2022, after a period of failing health. Born in Waynesburg, in rural western Pennsylvania, he was the eldest of the four sons of John & Sara Knox, James, Pat, John and Charles who were raised in Oceanside, NY.

As a youth he excelled at sports including football and track, adored jazz and Ella Fitzgerald in particular, and developed an abiding passion for the out-

doors, including fly fishing for trout wherever he traveled in life.

A graduate of both Dartmouth College (BS) and the University of Minnesota (MBA), Jim was an honors student in the field of geology.

Due to his knowledge of certain ores, including uranium, while still a student he was invited to work summers for the United States Geologic Survey in Colorado, where he met older, experienced geologists who mentored him and became lifelong friends.

As an exploration geologist, Jim was highly respected for his ability to map and analyze complex geologic formations by collecting and studying rock samples to assess their potential for valuable ore deposits.

His conclusions led to a significant number of silver, gold, copper and uranium ore body discoveries, including the DeLamar silver-gold in southwestern Idaho, and the Trinity silver-gold mine in western Nevada. His analytical skills were extremely valuable to the various companies for which he worked including Kennecott Exploration in Maine and Quebec, and then Kermac Nuclear Fuels Corporation in New Mexico.

Jim also possessed a keen ability on the

business and legal sides of geology as well. He and his good friend and fellow Dartmouth geologist graduate, Morris A. Kaufman, founded Knox-Kaufman, Inc., a successful exploration geologist consulting firm based in Spokane, WA. And then, years later, Jim became the president and CEO of the Denver-based minerals exploration company, USMX. Yet, in spite of all his professional accomplishments, Jim always thought of himself as "just a prospector." Given his inexhaustible curiosity for another "discovery", and his love of roaming the mountains of the western US, his self-description as a simple prospector seems quite humble, yet apt.

Jim was also a devoted family man who is survived by his children: James A. Knox II, Brunswick, Maine; Gemma Knox, East Norriton, Pennsylvania; Craig Knox, Casper, Wyoming; Cleigh Knox Sandon, Henderson, Nevada; Step-children Shirley Todd, Thomas Knox and Heidi Weston all of Spokane, Washington; 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents and brother, Pat.

We trust he is in good company. Rest in peace you old prospector.

Rest in peace.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

LYDIA TRUJILLO

January 9th 1928- February 19, 2022

LYDIA TRUJILLO of Ouray, Colorado, passed away on February 19 in her home surrounded by her children and many members of their families. She was 94 years old.

Lydia was born in Abiquiu, New Mexico, to Rafael and Gregorita Jaramillo on January 9th 1928. When Lydia was about seven years old, she moved to Montrose, Colorado, with her father and siblings to live with their grandparents Manuel and Sylveria Jaramillo after the passing of their mother. It was here some years later that she met the love of her life Ernest Trujillo. The couple was married in January of 1948.

Lydia and Ernest went on to have seven children that they loved and adored. In 1950 they moved to Ouray where Ernest went to work in the mining industry. Lydia raised her children and worked as a cook/baker in many of the local eateries. She also worked for 29 years as the head

cook and cafeteria supervisor at the Ouray School. Lydia was admired by many of the local school children in Ouray and to this day many of them still comment on the amazing food that was served in the school cafeteria. Lydia lost her husband Ernest in April of 2001 but continued to live in the family home in Ouray where she always welcomed family and friends with a warm heart and a hot meal.

Lydia is preceded in death by her Husband Ernest and her daughter Patricia; mother Gregorita and father Rafael; siblings Rafael, Soledad and Manuel. She is survived by her 6 other children Katherine Trujillo-Miron (Carlos), Karen Sanchez (Ron), Tess Martinez (Dave), Marisa Salvo (Robert), Adam Trujillo and E.J. Trujillo (Melissa). She is also survived by 14 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren.

Memorial donations are suggested to St.



Daniels Catholic Church, 614 5th Street, Ouray, CO 81427, or HopeWest Hospice, 725 South 4th Street, Montrose, CO 81401.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting with details.

LINDA SUE KELSO

May 29, 1951- Feb. 10, 2022

LINDA SUE KELSO, 70, went to her heavenly home to be reunited with the love of her life on Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at Montrose Memorial Hospital in Montrose, Colorado. On May 29, 1951, Linda was born in Montrose, Colorado, to Lyle (Chan) Robins and Alice (Seymour) Robins. She grew up in Olathe, where she met the love of her life, Harold Kelso. Harold and Linda were married for over 50 years.

Surviving Linda is her brother Jack Robins, Montrose, Colorado; her three children, Dan (Lisa) Kelso, Cortez, Colorado; Shanolyn (Ray) Martinez, Parker, Colorado, and Heather Killen, Montrose, Colorado, and 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Linda was preceded in death by her husband Harold, her parents Chan and Alice,

and one brother Robert Robins.

Linda retired as a rural postal carrier in 2021. She loved her job and the post office family. Linda's heart was as beautiful as she was. Linda was a loving daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. Linda touched many lives. She was a mom to many and always helped those in need without expecting anything in return her love was unconditional. She loved being surrounded by friends and family. She enjoyed, and sometimes to Harold's dismay, working on a project in their home. Linda had many talents and interests which included quilting, crocheting and making porcelain dolls. She also loved NASCAR and over the last couple of years, was able to attend a few races in person. She will be greatly missed.

There will be a celebration of Linda's life on May 29. We will update you with the location as we draw closer.

In lieu of flowers, it was Linda's wish that donations be made to Piper's DIPG nonprofit at www.donate2csn.org/colorado. There you will find a page to dedicate your gift in memory or in honor of Linda.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JAMES WILLIAM MCCORMACK 1929-2022



JAMES WILLIAM MCCORMACK passed away in his home in Montrose Colorado, on February 16, 2022. James was born in 1929 in southeastern New Mexico on the family homestead one month before the famous stock market crash that began the great depression.

James was raised in rural New Mexico without running water and windmill generated electricity. His graduating class of 12 produced a basketball team that famously went to Albuquerque for the

state basketball finals in 1947, with the tall center, James McCormack, leading the squad with his two-handed jump shot.

In 1948, James married his high school sweetheart, Artie Thomasanna Wilkes, the lovebirds were married for 20 years until her death in 1968. They had two children, Beverly and Mike.

After high school, James left the family ranch and began a career in education, starting as a teacher in House, New Mexico, his teaching career was interrupted by the Korean War, spending two Christmases along the 38th parallel and claiming that it was the coldest weather he had ever experienced.

Upon returning from Korea, James moved his family to Farmington NM and worked as the school district business manager, ultimately, becoming the Superintendent of the Farmington school district during the oil and gas boom of the 1960s. After 13 years in Farmington, he moved to the Navajo Reservation at Ganado AZ, again as Superintendent of Schools.

In 1969 he found his second love and married Mary Louise Manderson, the two were together until her death in 2015.

James was known for his engaging smile and sense of humor. He never met a person whose name he didn't remember. All that met him recognized his kind heart and caring persona. His talent for numbers continued into retirement, where he taught himself the latest technology, outperforming many his junior. We will especially miss his quiet wisdom and loving manner.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his wives. He is survived by his children, Mike (Maureen) McCormack, Beverly (Rick) Morin, Grandchildren, Matthew (Meghan) McCormack and Mackette McCormack (Patrick) Kark, Great Grand Children Matthew Charles, Margaret, Christopher, and Louise McCormack. Cousins Lewis (Kay) McCormack, Joann Blakey, Nina Fondy, Katie Love, Gail Reynolds.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting with details, 970-249-2121.

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

LARRY S. DAVIDSON

October 18, 1938 ~ February 12, 2022



LARRY DAVIDSON was born in North Delta at his grandparents' home on October 18, 1938 and passed away in that same home on February 12, 2022. He was 83 years old. Born Larry Sanford Greer, his father, Oliver Greer, passed away when Larry was very young leaving his mother, Adeline (Shilling) Greer a widow. Larry and his sister, Joan, spent most of their childhood living with Nelson and Dora Shilling, grandparents, as their mother took a war time job in Oregon. Larry lived an idyllic childhood on the Shilling Farm and those memories sustained him all his life. After the war, his mother returned to Delta, met and married Gerald Davidson who formally adopted Larry and Joan. Gerald became the only father Larry ever knew.

Larry attended school in Delta and graduated in 1957 from Delta High School. He attended Colorado State University and graduated with a Bachelors Degree in English and Spanish and Teaching Certification. He began a career teaching English and Spanish at Wellington Junior High in Wellington, Colorado. In 1959, while still an undergraduate, he married Barbara Spence and they had two children, Michael and Beryle. In 1964, Larry and Barbara traveled to Greenville, Mississippi during the Civil Rights period of unrest. While Barbara helped with civil rights efforts and opening a Head Start

program, Larry built the playground equipment for the school. While there, the urgent needs of an 18 month old boy created the incentive for his mother to ask Larry and Barbara to formally adopt the child. They did so and Tommy Davidson returned with them to Colorado as part of the family.

Some years later, Larry and Barbara divorced. Larry abandoned his teaching job, learned how to weld and took on a variety of jobs that utilized that skill and others. He opened the first coffee house in Ft. Collins, the Jade Urn. This was a place for young people to gather, talk, solve the world's problems and listen to folk music. Larry presented many folk performers there including Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Utah Phillips and Rosalie Sorrels. Unfortunately a fire next door caused the Jade Urn to close.

Larry married Gayle Johnson in Ft. Collins, June 14, 1980. Larry began using his welding skills to build custom barbecues and wood burning stoves developing more creativity. He and Gayle initiated Jade Urn Productions reviving the music at the coffee house by producing monthly concerts at Ft. Collins' Lincoln Center. They were company members of Open Stage Theatre focused on set design for stage productions. They travelled extensively in Mexico.

In 1987, Larry had an opportunity to work with his father, Gerald, who was a home and remodeling contractor in Delta. After remodeling and modernizing the Shilling home, Gerald and Adeline invited Larry and Gayle to move and live there. Larry worked with his father for several years until Gerald retired. Through the Delta Library, Larry began teaching English as a Second Language classes where his fluency in Spanish helped make the class popular and successful. He began teaching Adult Basic Education classes helping many acquire their GED certificates or to pass entrance exam requirements for further educa-

tion. He loved teaching especially to those motivated to achieve. He continued welding creating many fanciful pieces by recycling any sort of cast off metal. The City of Delta purchased four of his works, the dinosaurs in front of City Market, the Sunflower by the Farmers' Market parking area, a dragonfly that is perched on the gazebo at Heddles Rec Center and the Pow Wow Council Tree, a replication of the Dan Dueter design. Grand Junction purchased a very large pteranodon dinosaur that resided for a time at the Visitor's Center. His flying saucer and alien placed near Highway 50 has garnered statewide attention. Larry never hesitated to offer his help to individuals and organizations.

He served as a mentor for Partners in Delta. He devoted a great deal of time to the Delta Senior Citizens serving as president of the board for several years. He said his greatest achievement for the seniors was the purchase of padded chairs for the dining hall. He also initiated the Super Seniors Lunch held annually in March to celebrate seniors over 90 years old.

Larry is survived by his wife, Gayle Davidson residing at the family home in Delta, CO; his sister Joan and niece, Erin, of Fremont, CA; his daughter, Beryle and son-in-law Tov Alexis, grandson Yanni and granddaughters Kai and Keyana Alexis of Silver Spring, Maryland; his son, Tommy of Sherman Oaks, CA and grandsons Julianie and Isaiah and granddaughters Jersey, Jillian and Gianna. He was preceded in death by his son Michael and his parents.

A memorial service will be held at the Shilling/Davidson farm in May where friends and family will celebrate his life. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Taylor Funeral Service and Crematory.

View the internet obituary and sign the online guest registry at taylorfuneral-service.com

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

WILLIAM (BILL) LEWIS HENSLEY

April 24, 1948 - February 20, 2022



WILLIAM (BILL) LEWIS HENSLEY, 73, passed away on February 20, 2022, peacefully at his home in Montrose, Colorado. He was born on April 24, 1948 in Rushville, Nebraska to W. Ganz and Betty (Haslow) Hensley.

Bill grew up and graduated from Gordon High School in Gordon, Nebraska in 1966. After high school he joined the Army in 1970-1976, achieving E6 status. After the Army, he started working for Firestone

Tires. With his business partners, they owned two stores. One in Aurora, Co. and Cheyenne, Wy. Married and divorced from Linda Jacobson here in Montrose, Colorado. Then shortly after, Bill married Jeanne Martin. They had four kids Rebecca, Stephan, Benjamin, and Lisa. Divorced 1986. Bill also blessed many other hearts, by stepped up to the plate and adopting a Vietnam refugee family of six. (Hang Family).

Bill had a college degree in Counseling from Denver State. Bill moved his family to Montrose, Colorado. in 1981. Started working for MidWestern Colo. Mental Health Center from 83-86 as a counselor. Then working for J&M Lumber from 1986-1987 before starting work in June of 1987, Community Options Inc. He spent 28 years as the Day Program Manager, and eight years as host home providers as well.

After retirement Bill needed to stay busy so he worked for Paperclip as a deliver for a couple years

Bill married Mary Raff in 1988 in Hotchkiss, CO. They were happily married for 33 years. In 1993 they had a daughter Krystal Allene Binh Hensley. Bill enjoyed working on cars, Spending time with his

Family and friends, supporting his daughter at horse shows and Rodeos, enjoying people watching, and boating. Bill Enjoyed spending time on the local lakes on his boats, as he got older Bill enjoyed watching his daughter grow up and achieve new goals in life with her horses.

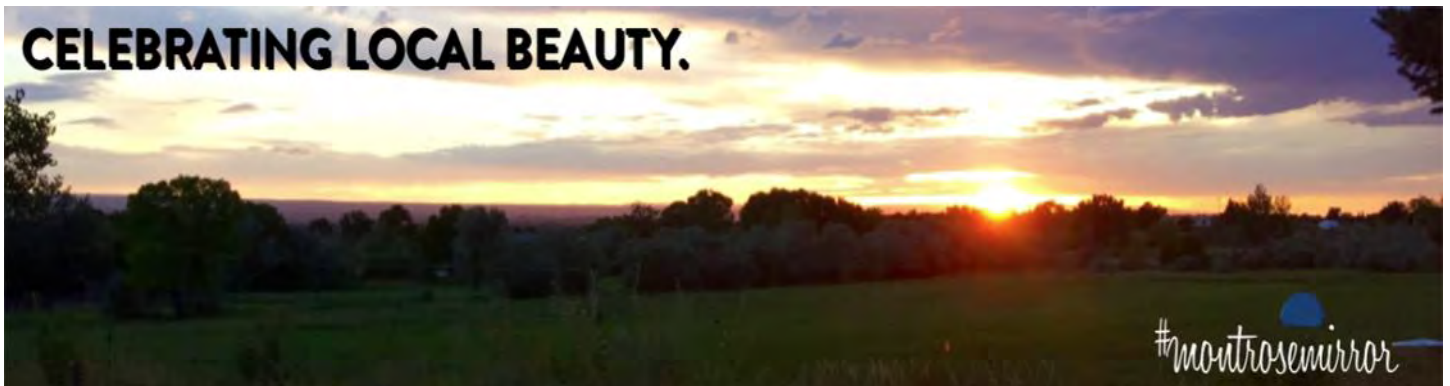
Bill is preceded in death by his parents Wilbur Ganz and BettyJean (Haslow) Hensley, Cousin David Leonhardt, and Daughter Rebecca Jeanne Hensley.

Bill is survived by his wife Mary (Raff) Hensley of Montrose, CO. And their Daughter Krystal Allene Binh Hensley Parker (Patrick Parker) of Walters, Oklahoma. As well as Children from Previous marriage, Benjamin William Ganz Hensley, Stephen William Ganz Hensley, and Lisa Jeanne Hensley; Also, his brothers, John Hensley and Family from Jesup, Georgia. David "Chick" Hensley and family from Gordon, Nebraska. and multiple nieces and nephews and other relatives. Bill will be missed by all.

A memorial service will be held at Community Options Inc, "Park Place" at 936 N Park St. Montrose, Co. 81401 at 2 pm on March 1st, 2022.

Online guest book at [crippinfuneralhome.com](https://www.crippinfuneralhome.com)

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



ISSUE 359 Feb. 28, 2022

ART & SOL

KREX 5 NEWS ANCHOR ETHAN NOAH TO EMCEE 2022 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS NIGHT



Ethan Noah, KREX 5 News Anchor, will be the Master of Ceremonies for the 2022 Women of Distinction Awards Gala on March 25 at the Montrose County Event Center. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-—Ethan Noah, KREX 5 News Anchor, will be the Master of Ceremonies

for the 2022 Women of Distinction Awards Gala on March 25 at the Montrose County Event Center.

The Annual Women of Distinction Awards event was created to spotlight and recognize the important role women play locally in the economy and in society. The honorees will represent the most distinctive women in business, government, education, and not-for profit fields. The finalists honored at the awards event will be selected by a panel of independent business and community leaders based on their accomplishments and community involvement.

The evening will also include special recognition for all former Women of Distinction & Women of Excellence honorees since the inaugural event in 2017.

Ethan Noah anchors Wake Up Western Slope and KREX 5 News at Noon. When asked about his involvement Noah said, "I am honored to be a part of an event that recognizes the significant role women play on the Western Slope and around the world."

Said local Women of Distinction Awards

founder, Tonya Maddox, "This year we are getting back to our original event theme and rolling out the red carpet both literally and figuratively. Having Ethan Noah emcee the event is a phenomenal addition."

This year's event will be held at the Montrose County Event Center on Friday, March 25 at 5:30 PM. There will be a dinner catered by The Stone House with the awards ceremony immediately following the dinner. The honorees will be announced by March 3 and all the honorees since 2017 will be eligible for the coveted Woman of the Year award which will be announced at the awards event.

Presenting Sponsors of the 2022 event are TEI Rock Drills, Montrose Regional Health and Our Town Matters. The Gold sponsors are Shelter Insurance, Maxfield Peterson P.C., The Mize Family, Camelot Gardens & The Bridges. Tickets can be purchased online at ourtownmatters.net or by calling 970-765-0913.

The awards nomination deadline is Tuesday, March 1st. Nominations can be submitted online at WomenOfDistinctionAwards.com.

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Colorado-ology

LIVE MUSIC ROUNDUP: WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28

By Paul Arbogast

Delta Center for Performing Arts (Delta):

- Friday, March 4, 7 PM – Jason Petty and Katie Deal

Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery:

- Friday, March 4, 7 PM – Chris Mullen & The One Takers

Horsefly Brewery:

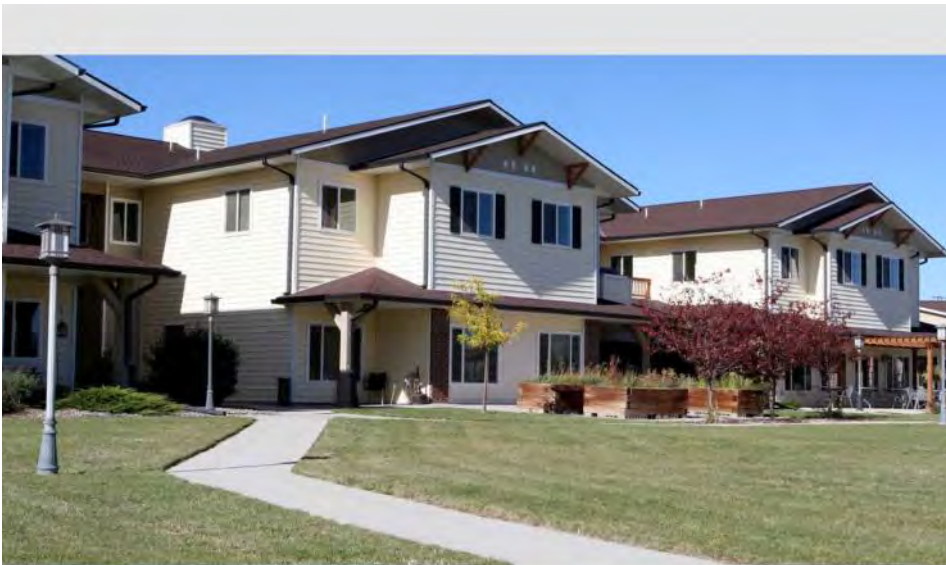
- Wednesday, March 2, 6:30 PM – Open Mic Night

Mesa Theater, Grand Junction:

- Thursday, March 3, 7 PM – ABBA Mania

- Friday, March 4, 7 PM – Ricky Bobby & The Hellcat Fury

WRIGHT OPERA HOUSE TO HOLD AUDITIONS MARCH 1 AT 5 PM



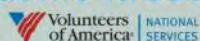
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Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Auditions for *Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Review* are March 1 at 5pm.

Time to sing, dance and have a whole lot of fun! There are five male speaking roles, two female speaking roles and four child speaking roles. This is in addition to singers and dancers that we will need to fill out a large chorus! We will have cold readings and a pianist on hand for the singing & dancing portions. Show dates: May 13 & 14 @ 7pm, May 15 @ 4pm

The *Will Rogers Follies* is a musical that focuses on the life and career of famed humorist and performer Will Rogers, using as a backdrop the Ziegfeld Follies, which he often headlined, and describes every episode in his life in the form of a big production number. Directed by Alyssa Preston

The Wright Opera House takes the COVID19 situation very seriously. We strongly encourage the use of masks, and are taking temperatures upon entry at all of our events. We have air purifiers in both our tavern and theatre spaces, disposable masks and hand sanitizer available throughout the building, and scheduled cleanings before and after events. As always, if you are feeling sick or have been exposed to someone with a positive COVID19 case, please refrain from attending.

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MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene
Address: 705 South 12th Street
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am- Noon and by Appointment
Contact Information: Office Phone 970 249-9213, mncfirst@gmail.com, www.montrosenazarenechurch.org

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

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

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

10:45 AM. We also have Bible Study for All Ages Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. We provide a professionally-staffed nursery throughout both.
Rosemont Baptist's desire is to passionately bring people face-to-face with the 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, www.spiritaware.org
Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.
Worship service times: Unity Service at 11 a.m., Adult Discussion at 9:30 a.m., Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m.

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

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-

Sario

Worship service times: Sunday Worship is at 9 am followed by a time of fellowship and snacks. Wednesday evening Prayer and Discipleship (a book study) Prayer 5:45-6:15pm, Discipleship 6:30-7:30pm, childcare provided up to 5th grade. 6th graders on up are welcome and encouraged to attend the book study "Fundamentals of the Faith"

Summit Church Montrose is a new church

plant that preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages! We have families with children (babies, school aged, recent high school and college graduates) There are retired couples and widows. During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to Kindergarten, in a kid friendly room called Base Camp.

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; website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

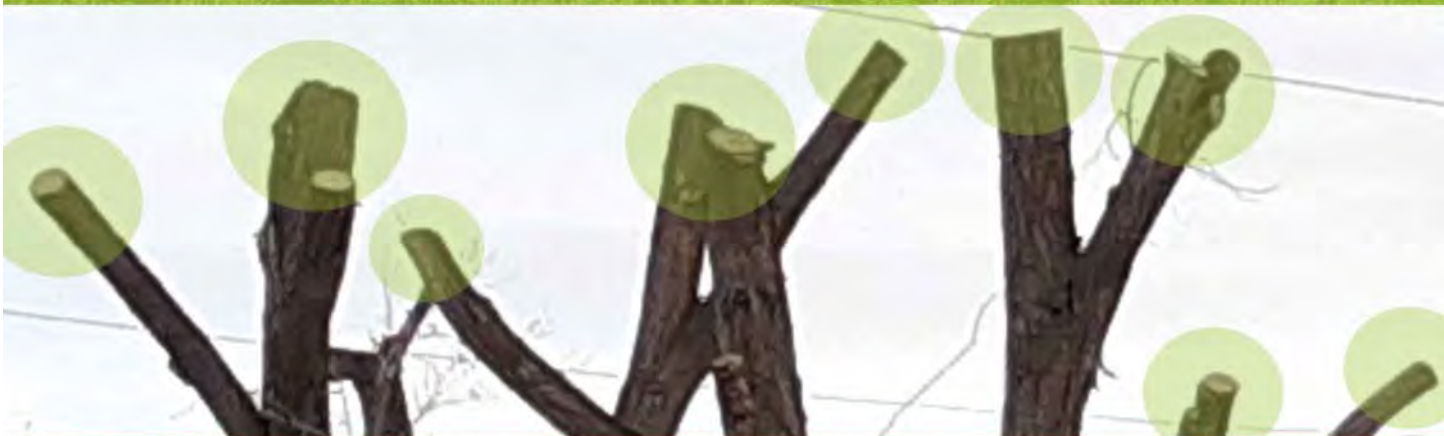
Worship service times

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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MIRROR IMAGES: OUT & ABOUT



Left, With a soft opening Friday, the Montrose Hobby Lobby parking lot began to fill shortly after opening its doors (pictured). By Saturday mid afternoon there were no open spots remaining in the lot. Above, B. Switzer shared this photo of icicles melting on a log cabin...spring is coming!

*Save a tree –
Read the Mirror!*

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOST PROGRAM ON RED CREEK CANYON

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Marshall Pendergrass explaining the history and significance of Red Creek Canyon and its importance in the Gunnison/Uncompahgre Rivers area at 7 pm. Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at Friendship Hall, Pioneer Room. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available. Social distancing and COVID procedures are encouraged.

COVID-19 Hospitalizations

On **February 24, 2022**, the total number of patients hospitalized with a COVID-19 illness was **4**.

 Unvaccinated
  Fully vaccinated
  Fully vaccinated & boosted

4 Hospitalized

- 2 unvaccinated
- 1 vaccinated
- 1 vaccinated & boosted



1 in the ICU

- 1 unvaccinated
- 0 vaccinated
- 0 vaccinated & boosted



0 on Ventilators

- 0 unvaccinated
- 0 vaccinated
- 0 vaccinated & boosted

Total hospitalized with COVID during the timeframe 10-1-21 through 1-31-22 was **298**.

28.52% Vaccinated • 1.01% Partially Vaccinated
 62.42% Not Vaccinated • 8.05% Unknown Vaccine Status

UPSTAIRS PRESENTS

**4
MAR**

CLUB



NIGHT

2022

FEATURING ARTIST

DJ SHOCKER T

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MUSEUM OF MOUNTAIN WEST RECEIVES DONATIONS

By Kate Burke

MONTROSE—Two recent donations to the Museum of the Mountain West (MMW) will help with the museum's capital campaign to add a gift shop and additional display and event space. According to founder and museum director, Richard Fike, "Plans also call for modifying the façade of the main building to match the appearance of the historical buildings on our six-acre property."

Fike and assistant director, Kate Burke, met with donors Jack and Barbara Rairden, who donated \$1,000. Barbara Rairden designated a portion of their gift to be used for the 1st Annual Victorian Tea fundraiser to be held in May; the balance goes into MMW's capital fund. Rairden is a former MMW board member and also served on the Ouray County Ranch History Museum Board with Burke. Burke also met last week with Delphine Jadot, of 20 Sleeps West Real Estate and her buyer, Joe Cohen. Jadot donates 10 percent of every sales commission to a local non-profit or charity chosen by her buyer. Cohen selected MMW to be the recipient of this donation.

Despite heavy snow, MMW's spring season was off to an early start. Extra tour guides were called in Saturday for an unusually large visitation, and Saturday night, the museum hosted a sold-out Paint Party fundraiser. Numerous other events are planned to help with the capital campaign. Donations are welcome!

Watch the website for more information. Museumofthemountainwest.org



Delphine Jadot's buyer, Joe Cohen, presents donation check to Kate Burke, MMW's Assistant Executive Director. Courtesy photo.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

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ART GALLERY

3.26.22
DOORS - 7:30
SHOW - 8



You are invited to the
**ANNUAL WOMEN OF
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Gala

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

5:30 in the evening

**CATERED DINNER BY THE STONE HOUSE
& AWARDS CEREMONY**

MONTROSE COUNTY EVENT CENTER

1036 N. 7th Street, Montrose, CO

RSVP BY MARCH 18TH 2022

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Cocktail/Black tie attire

Presenting Sponsors TEI Rock Drills & Montrose Regional Health.
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Mize Family, Camelot Gardens & The Bridges.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

PARTRIDGE BOSWELL HEADLINING MARCH 1ST BARDIC TRAILS



Poet Partridge Boswell. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE-Poet Partridge Boswell will be the featured reader for the Bardic Trails Zoom poetry webinar Tuesday, March 1 at 7 pm (Mountain Time). A production of the Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds Program and the Wilkinson Public Library, Bardic Trails is a free virtual poetry reading open to anyone who preregisters. Register online at the Wilkinson Public Library to get the Zoom Link. Go to totelluridelibrary.org/events.

"Such desperate beauty in these poems," remarks Marie Howe, "such rendered and willed surviving. Read this book if you want to remember what poetry can do to us, how it can find words for what can't be said and shake us by our shoulders until we feel achingly alive again."

After Partridge's reading, there will be a short Question and Answer session led by Bardic Trails host Joanna Spindler of the Wilkinson Public Library; and then all zoom participants will be invited to speak as part of our Talking Gourds tradition – a

poem, a story, a few words about the evening, or simply to pass.

For more information, visit the Telluride

Institute's website.

<https://www.tellurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds/>

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SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**

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UPSTAIRS PRESENTS

MARCH 11, 2022



SHOW STARTS AT 7PM - 10\$ ENTRY
LOUNGE & BAR OPEN AT 4PM

511 East Main Street
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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 1st Wednesday of each month (January – May). 10am-11:30am in the downstairs meeting hall of Cedar Creek Church, 222 S. Townsend and S. 3rd. enter through the side door on S. 3rd 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

Feb. 28--Monday--1 p.m. Don Paulson, curator of the Ouray County Historical Museum, will speak on "Pioneer San Juan Mountain Clergy and Churches" at the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans on 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way. All are welcome to this program sponsored by the Montrose Genealogy Center.

March 1-Friday, March 1. 6-8 pm Paint & Sip at the Museum of the Mountain West. With Anne Hockenberry. Sign up here.

March 2-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Marshall Pendergrass explaining the history and significance of Red Creek Canyon and its importance in the Gunnison/Uncompahgre Rivers area at 7 pm. Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at Friendship Hall, Pioneer Room. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available. Social distancing and COVID procedures are encouraged.

March 2-The League of Women Voters of the Uncompahgre Valley is pleased to facilitate the Montrose City Council Candidate Forum on Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m., to be held in the Montrose City Council Chambers, 107 S. Cascade Avenue, Montrose. Doors will open at 6 pm, the event starts promptly at 6:30pm. The live broadcast can be viewed on the City of Montrose website at: <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/759/Live-Meetings-Viewer> Remote viewers can submit questions by 5 p.m., Tuesday March 1 to info@lwv-uv.org For information go to EVENTS on the LWV website at <https://lwv-uv.org>

March 4-5-Embracing Our Beauty is a Christian women's conference where we discover the glorious design of women that God originally intended. Registration is required. Tickets are \$50 for the two-day event and will be held at Clifton Christian Church. Featuring Staci Eldredge, who co-wrote Captivating, Unveiling the Mystery of a Women's Soul, with her husband. It has sold nearly 3 million copies. The Western Slope rural communities are often overlooked for events and educational opportunities. Face to Face Ministries' goal is to bring people together from rural Colorado to benefit from events such as this. Register@facetofaceministries.net

March 4-Chris Mullen and the One Takers at Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery, 232 East Main Street. Advance \$10, Day of show \$15.

March 7-On Monday March 7 at 5:30pm, Citizens' Climate Lobby will hold its monthly meeting in person(masks) at Montrose library meeting room. CitizensClimateLobby.org is a nonpartisan, national, environmental group seeking avenues to mediate climate change. Short part of documentary how to reduce carbon footprint. All welcome- info 970-765-9095.

March 14-Monday, March 14. 1 pm. Native American Art & Artifacts. Kate Burke History Series, with C.J. Bradford, Ute Museum. 1-3 pm. Montrose Senior Center at the Pavilion.

March 16-Wednesday, March 16. 1 pm. Shady Ladies and Saloons. With Kate Burke, at Blue Sage Center for the Arts, Paonia.

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! 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. More information: uncompahgrewatershed.org/events, info@uncompahgrewatershed.org, or 970-325-3010.

April 18-Monday, April 18. 1 pm. Senior Center. History of the Mountain West. Kate Burke History series. With Jim Wendt, Museum of the Mountain West. At Montrose Senior Center at the Pavilion.

April 29-Friday, April 29. 6-8 pm. Wonders from Down Under. With Paul Taylor, Australian Storyteller & Didgeridoo Player. At Museum of the Mountain West.

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN

Deb Reimann took this photo of the Cimarrons highlighted with sunbeams and clouds. "Spring is drawing closer," she said. "Can you feel it?"



*Contact
Shane
for more
information!*

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