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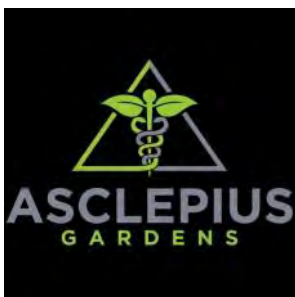
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the Montrose Mirror

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Issue No. 472 March 14, 2022

RE-1J BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES STATE WRESTLING CHAMP, ISSUES STATEMENT ON PUBLIC INPUT



At the meeting on March 8, RE-1J Board member Eric Kelley expressed frustration with a lack of state funding for mascot replacement, just as the State of Colorado has announced its refusal to accept the Montrose High School Red Hawks as an acceptable alternative to the Montrose High School Indian mascot (see letter in this issue). Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All directors were present for the regular meeting of the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education on Tuesday, March 8, including RE-1J Board President Sarah Fishing, Board Vice President Jeff Bachman, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, District D Director Tom West, District F Director Eric Kelley, and District G Director Stephen Bush.

Fishing led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance; the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Public Information Officer Matthew Jenkins introduced two student athletes, Montrose High School Junior and 2022 State Heavyweight Wrestling Champion Dmarian Lopez,

[Continued pg 25](#)

MEDC WELCOMES MORE THAN 200 TO ANNUAL MEETING AT PAVILION

By Gail Marvel

MONDAY- On March 10, the in-person Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) 2022 Annual Meeting Luncheon was held at the Montrose Pavilion. There was not one COVID-mask in sight as community leaders and those invested in economic development reconnected with one another.

MEDC Chair Mike Kusar (Montrose Forest Products) welcomed more than 200 attendees and recognized the large contingent of elected officials, Past Chair Buck Miller (Dalby, Wendland & Company), and event sponsors.

MEDC Executive Director Sandy Head gave a brief recap of new and expanding businesses. Organizations and businesses highlighted included Bluecorn Beeswax (1842 South Townsend), CO Fire Aviation & Gold Arrow (renewed efforts to relocate to Montrose following a COVID pause), Colorado Outdoors (Flex Building), Trattoria Di Sofia, Montrose Anglers, Maslow Academy, Montrose



(L to R) Elizabeth Garner, Colorado State Demographer; Sandy Head, Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Executive Director; John and Kelly Gibson, owners of Colorado Yurt Company/Secret Creek. The Gibson's received the MEDC 2022 Economic Development Award. Photo by Gail Marvel.

[Continued pg 19](#)

in this issue

[Carole Ann McKelvey's Rocky Mt. Cravings!](#)

[Real Estate Store helps Girls say yes to a dress!](#)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NOMINATION PERIOD FOR DMEA SEATS OPENS 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.](#)

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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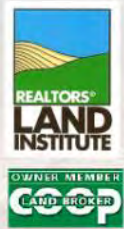
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR GAYLE CLARKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Gayle Clarke Memorial

Scholarship in collaboration with The
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thrilled to announce we are now accepting applications for the Gayle Clarke Memorial Scholarship. Graduating Montrose County High School Seniors can now apply.

Clarke was known for her exceptional character, integrity, hard work and an ardent belief in giving back to the community by volunteering. She was a lifelong Democrat and was instrumental to the Montrose County Democratic Party and the Jane Jefferson's. She had a passion for knowledge and education and had a strong belief in the standards of the democratic process. She was a leader, organizer, mediator, mentor, and friend to all.

The annual scholarship was established to reward and encourage graduating seniors in Montrose County each year who are demonstrating both democratic ideals and active involvement in their community and school. The scholarships will be awarded to the deserving students who put forth strong effort scholastically, give back to their community through community service and show leadership and dedication through involvement in extracurricular activities.

The first-place winner is awarded a \$2,000 scholarship and the second-place winner is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. These are non-renewable scholarships. These scholarships are applicable to any University, Community College, or Vocational School. Entry deadline is April 15th, 2022, by 5 pm. The Scholarships award decisions will be made by May 6.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS & JIM COX CARTOON

ENJOYING CIVIL EXCHANGE OF IDEAS WITH SUE SCHMIDT; ONE MORE RESPONSE

Editor:

I appreciate it when someone challenges my opinions and actually tries to back up that challenge with facts (Sue Schmidt 3/7 letter). I will respond to her comments this one last time and she can have the last word if she chooses. I enjoy the exchange, but I'm not sure Mirror readers are all that interested.

Schmidt's basic point is that Dems didn't create out-of-control crime in our cities, and discusses correlation and cause/effect to support her opinion. Correlation is when two variables are connected, like Democrats and crime. She is of the opinion that, while there is correlation, there is not causality. Here is where I think she errs. She used ¼ of her letter making the point that crime rose during Trump's tenure as well as Biden's, and another ¼ explaining about other factors unrelated to party affiliation causing crime. From that she concludes Democrats are not the cause of rampant crime. However, I never suggested that crime was more or less under Biden than Trump. I only discussed Democrats creating crime in our cities without mentioning the White House. I mostly agree with the academic quoted by Schmidt indicating that crime is "inherently a state/local crime problem." (However, I could make a pretty good case that Biden spending months spewing anti-police rhetoric during the 2020 campaign and slamming the supposed "systemic racism" of the country's law enforcement was more than a minor factor in the dramatic increase in crime.)

Here are the causes: Democrat politicians at all levels and for an extended period of time up to the present demonized / prosecuted / defunded / "reimagined" the police, actively supported BLM rioters because they were useful leading up to the 2020 elections, elected Soros funded soft-on-crime rogue Democrat prosecutors, instituted "bail reform" letting violent repeat offenders out on the street, released large numbers of criminals from prisons, refused to prosecute rioters and other serious crimes they deemed "nonviolent", and redefined criminals as victims of an unjust system.

Here are the effects: Violent crime, lawlessness, and looting in cities across the country. A massive increase in homicides. A war on cops, with 346 officers shot last year – up 55% from the prior year – at least 24 police officers shot in January of this year. Police no longer policing for fear of prosecution by

leftist DA's. Smash-and-grab gangs destroying businesses. Subways no longer safe. While I totally accept that many socio/economic factors influence crime, that doesn't negate the above direct causes (Democrat actions) and the resulting effects (rampant crime). Yes, party affiliation is not a cause, but actions by a large percentage of Democrats is. The Ferguson Effect keeps cops off the street and hesitant to do their jobs only in locales where local governments don't actively support their police. In areas where the police stay on the streets and are backed by District Attorneys willing to prosecute criminals, you don't see the growing number of body bags. You see rampant smash-and-grab gang crimes in Chicago where Cook County State's Attorney Kim Fox decriminalized shoplifting, but not in areas not doing so. You don't see crime in other areas like you see in NYC, where Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg actually moved to drop armed robbery to a misdemeanor. Under Rudy Giuliani's leadership, NYC became a safe city. When woke de Blasio re-

versed Giuliani's policies, the city predictably reverted to a crime zone. And for some reason, cities like Portland who demonized police and supported ANTIFA rioters are having trouble recruiting police to combat their now rampant crime?

It's not rocket science. What we are seeing is a direct result of the policies of far-left politicians (all Democrats) who repeatedly peddle the lie that police officers and our criminal justice system are systematically racist. The American people justifiably place the blame at the feet of the Democratic party.

No amount of backpedaling or new lip service by Biden regarding funding the police, full page articles by the NYT or FactCheck.org trying to spin Democrat failures, or articles by the FBI telling us what to think will change that. Those entities, along with many academics, lost their credibility long ago, and the American people are learning to believe only what they see with their own eyes.

Ed Henrie, Montrose



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CORAM HAS "REACHED ACROSS THE AISLE" ONE TOO MANY TIMES

Editor:

Having been redistricted out of office, Senator Don Coram [R ??]-Montrose], touting his ability to "reach across the aisle", has announced his intention to oppose Rep. Lauren Boebert in the 3RD District. Until now, Coram has participated in the grass roots caucus process, but suddenly he has chosen to attempt to BUY his way onto the primary ballot, disrespecting his hometown constituents. Why would he spend \$40,000 or much more for contract petition gathers to entice the unwary voter to sign his petition "just to get him on the ballot"? The simple answer is that he no longer has the support of his own local party in Montrose, people that know him best! That was clearly evident at the Montrose Republican Caucus March 1, attended by about 400. Coram never showed his face or called in, and his "campaign manager ?" was hard pressed to find even a handful of folks willing to sign his petition! On March 12, the Republican Assembly convened here in Montrose. Rep. Boebert showed up to speak, but once again, Coram was a no show to his constituents.

Coram presents himself as the "great negotiator," with a track record of being able to "reach across the aisle". He claims to be a "moderate" but there is no longer such an animal! In today's politics. With the Democratic Party completely dominated by ultra liberal progressives, determined

to undermine our country, you are either one of them, or you have the spine and good sense to oppose their agendas that are destroying our country.

Last fall the local Republican Party took Coram to task for being a prime sponsor on five suspicious liberal Democratic school bills, that he himself described publicly as "crap bills". On each of these, Coram was the only Senate Republican to vote "yea"! Hardly a ringing endorsement for his "negotiating skills". Apparently Coram has yet to understand that Democrats will certainly be willing to accept his "sponsorship" on any of their bills, but will give little or nothing in return.

Before being cajoled by a paid petition gatherer into signing his petition "just to get him on the ballot, voters should do their own background check on Coram. First, Google <https://corruptcoram.com> to see the timeline of how he used his Senate seat to change our hemp laws, then invested personally in the hemp business. That sure seems a case of using his elected position for personal gain. A gross conflict of interest by any measure, but voters should draw their own conclusions.

Still another concerning article involving Coram abusing his position for personal gain can be found at <https://cannabislaw.report/colorado-state-senator-don-coram-accused-of-using-political-influence-via-criminal-charges-for-personal-collection-benefit/> Well worth

the look at how Coram operates.

Lastly, you might also check <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/candidate/key-votes/125548/don-coram/?p=5> to view his voting record and ratings on multiple issues. Its interesting to note that Coram has repeatedly declined to respond to requests by Political Courage Test to inform voters of his positions on various issues. The site noted above, however, evaluates Coram on those issues based on his voting record, and those ratings speak loudly as to who Coram really is.

Of most importance, he is rated 63% liberal and only 38% conservative, certainly out of touch for Montrose. Planned Parenthood rates him at 80%. On principles of liberty he is rated at a low 31%.

The Women's Lobby rates him at 33%. On educational issues he barely breaks 40%. On seniors issues he is rated 50%. On sexual / gender issues like LGBTQ he scores a high 80%.

As far as being fiscally conservative with tax dollars he rates a low 38%. These ratings and others included on the site are available for all to review.

It seems Coram has "reached across the aisle" one too many times to retain the support of his own local party!

If he has lost that support, why should you even consider signing his petition?

*Dee Laird, Montrose
Ratings speak loudly*



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

CENSUS BUREAU RELEASES ESTIMATES OF UNDER-COUNT AND OVERCOUNT IN 2020 CENSUS

Special to the Mirror

UNITED STATES — The U.S. Census Bureau released results last week from two analyses about the quality of the 2020 Census counts. While both showed the strength of the count for the total U.S. population, each analysis revealed that the 2020 Census overcounted or undercounted various demographic groups.

"Today's results show statistical evidence that the quality of the 2020 Census total population count is consistent with that of recent censuses. This is notable, given the unprecedented challenges of 2020," said Director Robert L. Santos. "But the results also include some limitations — the 2020 Census undercounted many of the same population groups we have historically undercounted, and it overcounted others."

[Read More](#)

The two analyses are from the [Post-Enumeration Survey \(PES\)](#) and [Demographic Analysis Estimates \(DA\)](#) and estimate how well the 2020 Census counted everyone in the nation and in certain demographic groups. They estimate the size of the U.S. population and then compare those estimates to the census counts.

The PES estimates the population using a sample survey, while DA estimates the population using vital records and other data. Both the PES and DA estimate whether certain groups were undercounted, meaning the census likely missed some people, or whether they were overcounted, indicating some people may have been counted more than once while others may have been incorrectly included.

While the two approaches are different, the results show the PES and DA mostly align, providing a more inclusive picture of who was counted in the 2020 Census. [Continue reading...](#)

"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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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CDOT LAUNCHES INAUGURAL COLORADO TIRE CHECK WEEK

Special to the Mirror

STATEWIDE — Calling all bald tires: it's time for a check-up! The Colorado Department of Transportation is partnering with tire partners across the state for the inaugural Colorado Tire Check Week, March 12-19, to provide courtesy tire checks. The free tire checks aim to help motorists ensure their vehicles meet the Passenger Vehicle Traction Law standards during what is historically Colorado's snowiest month. The State of Colorado and Governor Jared Polis have officially proclaimed

the week of March 12-19 Colorado Tire Check Week to support the effort.

CDOT will host a tire check on Sunday, March 13, at the Woolly Mammoth Lot in Golden to support the weeklong effort. View the participating tire shops and tire check times at codot.gov/travel/winter-driving/tires.

"Driving with adequate tires and tread depth is crucial to navigating Colorado winter roads safely," said Andrew Hogle, CDOT Public Information Officer.

"Coloradans know that snow typically falls

throughout spring. Drivers must be aware of the Passenger Vehicle Traction Law and what it takes to ensure their tires and tread depth are safe. We are grateful to have tire partners across the state join us for this important effort."

During Colorado Tire Check Week, drivers can take their cars to any of the participating tire shops, where they will receive a free tire check to ensure their vehicles are compliant with Colorado's Passenger Vehicle Traction Law.

In a recent survey, only 64% of Coloradans were aware of the state's Passenger Vehicle Traction Law, with 83% of in-state residents compliant. Compared to 2020 survey results, Traction Law non-compliance grew by 10%, with roughly 75% of non-compliant vehicles driven by Colorado residents. Data shows that on average, more than 10,000 crashes occur every year during snowy and icy road conditions in Colorado.

Colorado's Passenger Vehicle Traction Law requires that all motorists have 3/16 of an inch tire tread depth and one of the following:

Winter tires (mountain-snowflake icon)
Tires with an all-weather rating by the manufacturer

Tires with a mud and snow designation (M+S icon)

4WD or AWD vehicle

Chains or an approved alternative traction device

Having properly inflated tires is another important way to stay safe and save money. According to the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, keeping tires inflated to the recommended pressure (about 35 psi) can improve motorists' gas mileage by up to 3%. This is equivalent to saving up to \$0.10 per gallon of gasoline. Appropriately inflated tires improve safety, ensure optimal vehicle performance, wear evenly, and prolong tire tread life.

For more information about the Passenger Vehicle Traction Law requirements, visit codot.gov/travel/winter-driving/tractionlaw.



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BOCC MEETS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH MONTROSE HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), at Left, met at 2pm on Thursday, March 10 for a special meeting with the Montrose Regional Health Board of Trustees, right. Meeting screenshots.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met at 2pm on Thursday, March 10 for a special meeting with the Montrose Regional Health Board of Trustees. All commissioners were present. Commissioner Roger Rash led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. BOCC Chair

Keith Caddy opened the meeting, "Welcome everybody."

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

County Manager Jon Waschbusch had no changes to the meeting agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no Consent Agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioners entered into an unrecorded joint executive session with staff including Waschbusch, County Attorney Marti Whitmore, and Deputy County Attorney Julie Andress, as well as the Montrose Hospital Board of Trustees pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a)(b) and (e), to discuss matters related to Montrose Regional Health. The BOCC returned to regular session at 3:32pm. With no further business, the BOCC voted to adjourn.

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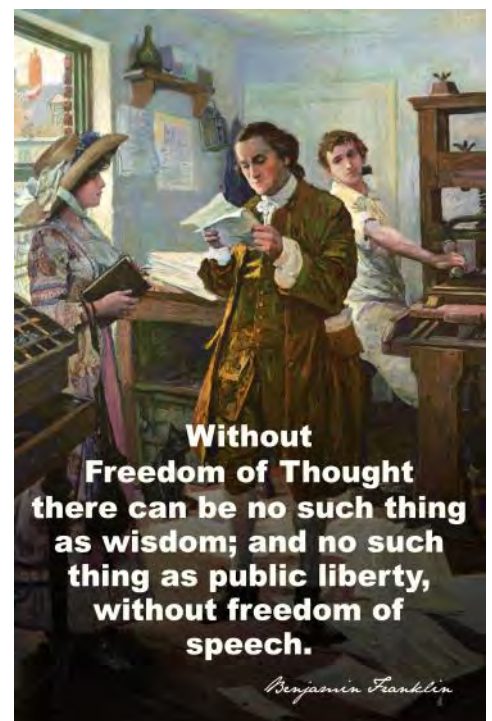
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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: JOINING TOGETHER TO HELP OUR COMMUNITIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Collaboration and connecting to our communities are two values we embrace at The Center for Mental Health. Our staff builds relationships with our partners working in our six-county region to help community organizations work together, to improve access to services for community members, and to improve the overall mental health and wellness of our communities. We're excited to highlight a couple of those partnerships:

Crisis Intervention Training: Learning to Deescalate a Crisis

The Center and four law enforcement agencies in Delta and Montrose counties collaborated to bring Crisis Intervention Training to the region in February. Twenty law enforcement professionals (from the Montrose and Delta County Sheriff's offices and the Montrose and Delta Police departments) and four staff members from The Center spent the week working together to learn how to deescalate crisis situations and how law enforcement and mental health professionals can collabo-

rate to help community members experiencing a mental health crisis.

Along with the Crisis Walk-In Center at 300 N. Cascade Avenue in Montrose, The Center has a mobile crisis response team in Delta, Montrose, and Ouray counties to

respond to mental health crises. In addition, in close collaboration with law enforcement in Montrose and Delta counties, The Center employs two clinicians who respond alongside law enforcement to crisis calls.





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Wednesday
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES INCREASE AS VIRTUAL MEETINGS, MINISTRY, CONVENTIONS KEEP CONGREGANTS ACTIVE AND SAFE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Ben Kipp would rarely go more than a few days without knocking on a door or visiting a Bible student as part of his volunteer ministry. That abruptly changed in the spring of 2020 when Jehovah's Witnesses suspended their in-person public ministry, meetings and large conventions.

Two years later, the Montrose, Colorado, resident says he is busier than ever. "We are in the ministry about 18-20 hours a week,"

said Kipp.

With this historic change, the number of Jehovah's Witnesses grew 3% in the United States in 2021 alone, matching the most significant increase for the organization over the past decade and the second-largest percentage increase since 1990.

"Staying active in our ministry while remaining safe has had a powerful preserving effect on our congregants and communities," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jeho-

vah's Witnesses. "The wise decision not to prematurely resume in-person activities has united us and protected lives while comforting many people in great need. The results speak for themselves."

For congregants like Ben Kipp, the virtual pivot has meant trading his book bag for a tablet and a smartphone and his walking shoes for slippers. His tools have changed, but his message is the same. He regularly shares scriptures with dozens of community members and offers free Bible courses via video conference.

Last year, the international organization reported all-time peaks in the number of people participating in their volunteer preaching work, increased attendance in virtual meetings and more than 171,000 new believers baptized. In the past two years, more than 400,000 have been baptized worldwide.

Some whose ministry or attendance at religious services had slowed because of age and poor health said they feel reenergized with the convenience of virtual meetings and a home-based ministry.

By sharing the Bible's hope remotely, the fewer than 3,000 Jehovah's Witnesses in Alaska can rapidly preach across the 586,000 square miles of their sparsely populated state. "We're talking to more people in a day than we did in a month," said Marlene Sadowski of Ketchikan.

The official website of Jehovah's Witnesses, translated into more than 1,000 languages, has also leveraged the organization's outreach.

After starting a free self-paced Bible course on jw.org in December 2019, Lisa Owen requested a free, interactive Bible study over video conferencing. She was one of nearly 20,000 baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses last year in the United States in private settings, including backyard swimming pools, tubs and even rivers.

"JW.ORG gave me somewhere to learn, somewhere to land, and to start living the way God wants me to. It taught me so much," said Owen of Moriarty, New Mexico.

To start an online Bible study course, receive a visit or attend a virtual meeting locally, visit jw.org.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PRAYER GATHERING AT THE PEACE POLE IN UTE INDIAN PARK

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Monday, March 21, Noon. Prayer Gathering at the Peace Pole in Ute Indian Park, across the street from the museum. Prayers for world peace and the healing of Mother Earth, with special prayers for the people of Ukraine and Russia. Hosted by the Spiritual Awareness Center. Bring your drums. Info – 970-252-0908. Everyone is welcome.



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MEDC WELCOMES MORE THAN 200 TO ANNUAL MEETING AT PAVILION *From pg 1*

Anglers, Maslow Academy, Montrose Recreation District, Shelter Distilling (design stage), Colorado Yurt (announced name change to Secret Creek) and the Manufacturers' Expo.

Keynote speaker Elizabeth Garner, the Colorado State Demographer, shared her analysis of populations and economic trends in Colorado.

Garner said, "The big picture is there is a slowdown in population growth —slower births and increasing deaths."

PowerPoint slide: Trends Focus on Labor Force and Housing

- Population growing at a slowing rate — births down, deaths up
- Migration and mobility slowing. Harder to attract and retaining the best and brightest. Labor tight, very competitive in US.
- Concentrated growth.
- Aging — impacts everything...including the economy, labor force, housing, and public finance. Largest share of future growth is the 65+
- Increase racial and ethnic diversity.

Garner said, "In Colorado the concentration of growth is in the I-25 corridor. The larger places are getting larger. Aging has a huge impact on Montrose. Some Western Slope places are not as diverse. In 2020 the population of Montrose increased by 1,600; the City of Montrose is growing faster than the county." Garner quipped, "A person is not like a piece of equipment. It takes 25-years to bring somebody good on-line...at least in their decision-making ability!"

Garner emphasized the importance of retaining people in the community, "The best person for Montrose is the person from Montrose. Young adults migrate because they are not attached. Keep the phone numbers and email addresses of your young people so you can bring them back!"

"Montrose is back from COVID," said Garner. "Recovery from COVID in Montrose is doing better than in the rest of the State."

The lament throughout the State is that too many people are moving to Colorado. Garner said, "The problem is not that people are moving here, the problem is we [State as a whole] have not been building houses. In the last decade there were 125,000 fewer houses built. We are be-



(Left at podium) Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Chair Mike Kusar recognized Past Chair Buck Miller (standing right) for serving seven-years as MEDC Chair. Photo by Gail Marvel.

coming a tough place to live. Seven-hundred units came on-line...in the previous decade it was 4,000. This is one reason we need to focus on housing in the short run." Garner noted the two peak populations in Montrose are the 63-ish age group and the 15-year-old age group. She laughed and said, "Your kids on Townsend are causing the [traffic] congestion!" The tightening in the labor force in Montrose is due to the age distribution.

PowerPoint slide: Age Matters

- Preferences — where people shop and what they buy.
- Housing — type, size, mobility
- Labor Force
- Income
- Service Demands

The next decade forecast for the population of Montrose is an increase of 6,000 and half of those will be in the 65-plus age group. People age into different groups and around the age 65 they leave the labor force. Garner said, "When you get people to age in place, half of your population will not be in the work force."

In the area of housing Garner said, "We are definitely going to see more demand in housing." One reason for the high cost

for housing throughout Colorado is Institutional Investors and dealers in Cannabis who can purchase homes for cash and then leave the homes vacant. Garner said, "It affects the supply."

Recipients of the MEDC 2022 Economic Development Award were John and Kelly Gibson, owners of Colorado Yurt, who took over the reins of the company in January 2020. Head announced that Colorado Yurt has recently changed their name to Secret Creek. After receiving their award John Gibson said, "When we first purchased the company, we were worried about finding enough employees. We considered moving to Montana. We have gone from 37 employees to 68." With a catch in his voice Gibson said, "We are blessed with the decision we made to stay in Montrose. Being in a small town makes a difference in a small town. We're not here to tell you [Montrose community] what to do, we're part of the [population] migration." The luncheon concluded with the results for the board election. There were six candidates for four seats. Those re-elected were Mike Kusar, Mandy Miller and Martin Lutz. Newly elected to the board was David Schieldt.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LET'S LOOK FORWARD INSTEAD OF LOOKING OVER OUR SHOULDER

Editor:

Well, well, well. Old Ray Langston is at it again. His article(?) in the Montrose Press on Wednesday, March 9th takes the Montrose County Republican Central Committee to task for such heinous deeds as removing members of the Central Committee for not being (his words) conservative enough and supporting Don Coram. I am reminded of the old bromide which tells us that you can certainly have your own opinions but you cannot have your own facts. Take, for instance, the issue of removing the chair of the Republican Women's organization and the removal of the president of the Young Republicans from voting membership on the Central Committee. The Central Committee sought the guidance of the state Party and found out that the state bylaws prohibited those positions from having a vote on any county Central Committee, so the County by-laws were changed to coincide with the rules and regulations of the State party and those two voting positions were removed.

It is never a bad thing for any legislative member to work "across the aisle" for the good of the Colorado citizenry. Apparently Don Coram has been doing this since being elected. The Sex Ed bill apparently raised the hackles of parents all over the state of Colorado. Senator Coram told the Central Committee he sponsored this bill only to make it better which is laudable. Unfortunately even after making this bill

better the citizenry still hated this bill but Don Coram was the only Republican to support this bill. One wonders why.

Ray recounted how he was removed from his position as chair of the Candidate Support committee because he violated the primary neutrality clause of the by-laws. He also mentioned the name of J. D. Key who has been maligned by the current party leadership. Interestingly enough, Mr. Key sent out a very biased and partisan attack on three Republican candidates running in the recent school board election imploring fellow Republicans to vote AGAINST the Republican slate. One of our Republican candidates lost by approximately a dozen votes. One has to wonder how much the outcome of that election was changed by this hit piece from a Republican against three Republican candidates? I leave that question up to you to answer.

Old Ray says in his article that politics is a somewhat dirty business. Perhaps it is but not for the reason Ray cites.

Mr. Langston has contributed mightily when he was responsible for several of the fiscal reports that must be kept and turned in to the Secretary of State. Righteous Ray has stonewalled this issue for months and months, saying of course he turned in all of the records and receipts. Funny thing, the treasurer who is responsible to filing the reports never received the records and receipts and the issues have not yet been settled with the Secre-

tary of State.

Looks like the records have disappeared along with Ray's credibility.

Finally, the red herring about Lauren Boebert, her supporters, her weak job performance and her attachment to Donald Trump is laughable. Ms. Boebert was vilified here in Montrose County during the 2020 election cycle and old Ray even hid her literature so it could not be passed out. Talk about giving politics a bad name? Lauren defeated Scott Tipton in the primary and cruised to victory in the general election and has been in the sights of the anti-Boebert faction ever since. This year it is Don Coram, our State Senator, who is running against Lauren. Good for him. Jump right in. The water is fine. Ray Langston charges in his article that the County party is on a mission to purge central committee members who support Don Coram. Obviously this is one of Ray's own facts. Fact is, following the by-laws is the actual fact.

This is the 2022 election cycle. Let's look forward instead of looking over our shoulder and dredging up the past. From the top of the ticket to the local level, let's unite and may the best candidate for each and every office stand with pride and support our system of government.

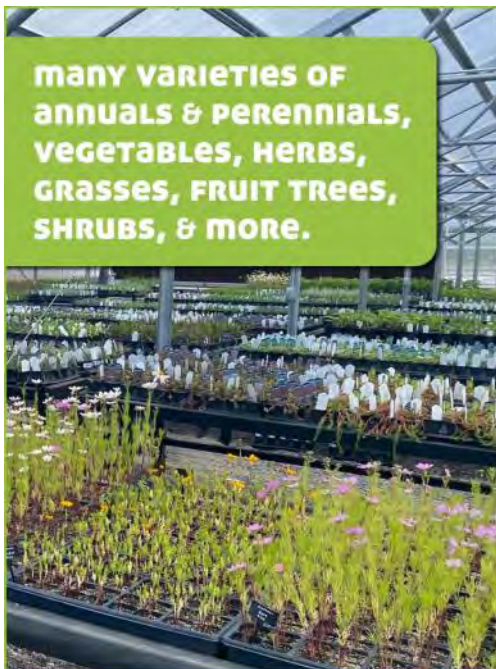
As the old Roy Rogers song suggested, "There never was heard a discouraging word and the skies were not cloudy all day."

Cliff Dodge, Montrose



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- 720 sq. ft. veggie cool room and display (under construction)
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- 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

MEN, LET'S TALK ABOUT CANCER

Dear Editor

I am Superman. I admit it. Until I wasn't. Men, let's talk about cancer. Prostate cancer to be specific, and the simple way to avoid it. (Ladies, if you have a man in your life, you can read along if you'd like.) Prostate cancer is the second-most common cancer in American men. The American Cancer Society's estimates for prostate cancer in the United States for 2022 forecasts 268,490 new cases of prostate cancer per year, and approximately 34,500 deaths.

About twelve percent of men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime. Prostate cancer is more likely to develop in older men, and about 6 cases in 10 are diagnosed in men who are 65 or older. Prostate cancer is rare in men under 40. The average age of men at diagnosis is about 66.

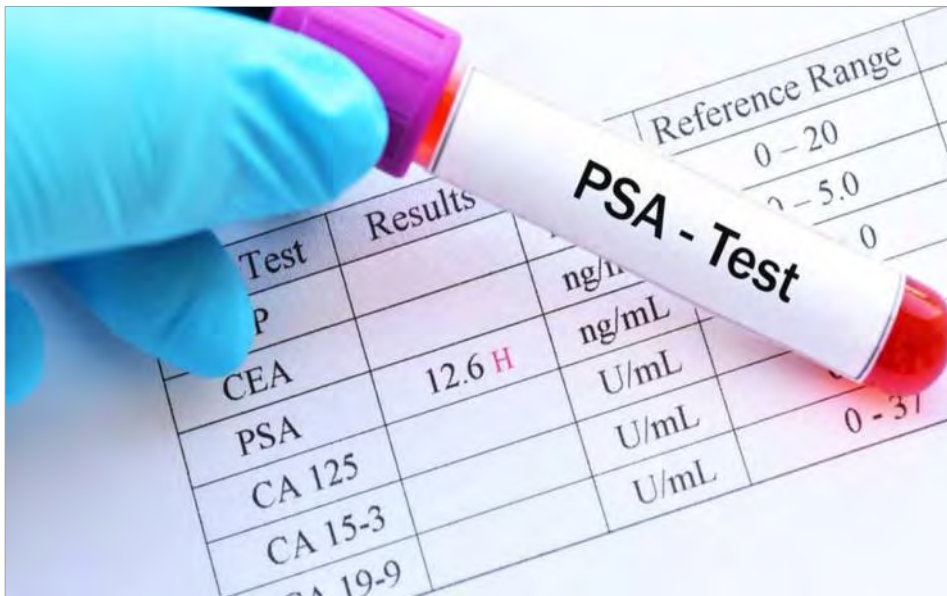
I was 68 when trouble started, about 6 months ago.

Last fall an infection led to a PSA test for me. I'd never heard of it, never had one before (I'm Superman, remember?). PSA is shorthand for Prostate-Specific Antigen, a very simple blood test that should be part of your life. Starting now. It's a simple no-brainer.

Prostate-Specific Antigen is produced by the prostate gland. Antigens are simply a substance that causes the body to produce antibodies against it. Turns out your PSA levels provide a simple warning for prostate cancer, and other noncancerous conditions such as prostatitis and enlarged prostate.

While there is not a "normal" for PSA, in general a score of 1 to 4 is common. Anything above 4 is a warning sign. Mine was off the charts at 60. Yikes.

Long story short - I went to my urologist to delve deeper. Yep, 60 is bad, very bad. A simple biopsy confirmed cancer. Yes, I



The PSA test is a simple blood test used primarily to screen for prostate cancer. The test measures the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in your blood, and can be included in any standard blood test. Courtesy image.

was upset and disheartened. My options included doing nothing, surgery, or radiation treatment. I did consult with an oncologist about the radiation treatments, but chose to undergo surgery with my urologist.

The severity of prostate cancer is classified by four stages, 1 through 4. These stages are a standard method to describe whether, and how far, the cancer has spread. Prostate cancer staging can be complex, but the results will determine your treatment. I was at Stage 1 this past Christmas.

Surgery to remove my prostate was performed in January. No biggy, small incision. That was followed with a two-day hospital stay, and recovery at home. Then a few simple checkups with the doctor to monitor progress. Was it easy? No. Was it as bad as I had imagined? Not even close.

Recall that PSA score that was over 60? Last week mine was measured at 0.0067 -

essentially cancer free. All in the span of two months.

But my point in writing this isn't about the cancer, it's about getting your PSA tested. I never had it done, and my primary care physician never ordered it. So, men - take responsibility for your well-being and schedule that PSA. Today. And have it done every year from here on out.

I was lucky, and caught the cancer early. It was serendipitous, really. Any later and the cancer would have started spreading (metastasizing) to other organs in my body, and the later stages are very deadly. So get that PSA checked. Today!

I'm not a doctor. This is just my personal experience. Always consult with your physician, he or she is the expert. Not me, and not the Internet.

But only a couple months later and I'm back to being Superman. ;-)

Cheers.

Peter J. Fagen, Utah

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RE-1J RESPONSE TO SCHOOLS REMAINING ON STATE'S OFFENSIVE MASCOT REGISTRY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County School District is extremely disappointed in the Commission's decision today (without explanation) to force an unfunded change of the Johnson Elementary School "Thunderbird," mascot and to refuse to accept the Montrose High School "Red Hawk," as an acceptable alternative to the Montrose High School "Indian." The Commissioners provided no rationale or reasoning for this arbitrary decision and we are deeply troubled that the Commission continues to include these schools on their list of offensive mascots.

As we presented to the Commission in January, the Thunderbird is a cross-cultural mythical creature not specific to or a depiction of Native Americans or Indigenous People. Any instance of the Johnson Thunderbird that could be confused with Indigenous iconography or imagery was changed to a more "animated" or "cartoon," version.

We have no idea how or why the Commissioners would find the Montrose High School "Red Hawk," an inappropriate or offensive alternative and we are confident changing the mascot from the "Indians," to the "Red Hawks," meets the intent and language of SB 21-116.

Our community has worked hard to meet the requirements this burden has placed on our schools by Governor Polis and the Commission. Thus far, the Commission has been silent toward our repeated requests for clarification and communication on this issue, despite our good faith effort to meet the requirements of this legislative change. Initial reports were that the state would not place the cost burden for these changes on local taxpayers, however that has not been the case. Our School Board has voted to change both the Centennial

Middle School "Braves," to "Bears" and the Montrose High School "Indians," to "Red Hawks," and allocated a budget of \$375K in general fund dollars supplied by our local taxpayers to meet the June 1 deadline.

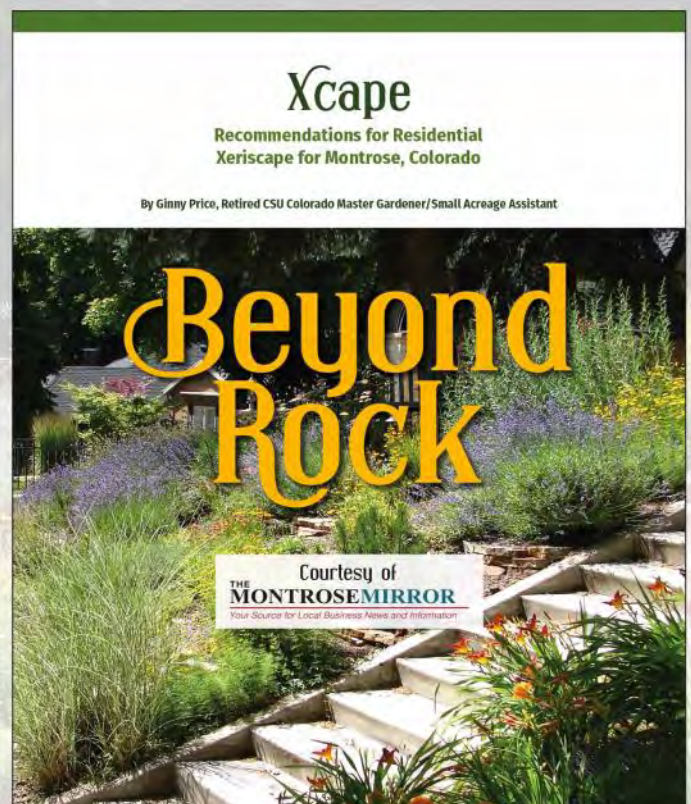
In the coming weeks, we intend to petition Governor Polis for an explanation and rationale behind this decision as well as officially communicate our mascot plan for the coming months.

Our community (and most specifically our students) chose the Red Hawk as our preferred Montrose High School mascot and we have no intention of changing this choice. In addition, we need a further explanation as to why changing the Johnson Elementary School Thunderbird is justified. To meet the deadline and requirements placed on us by the state, we need a timely explanation for our community members, schools, and taxpayers.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HOST COUNTY CLERKS TO SHARE INFORMATION

*League of Women Voters
of the Uncompahgre Valley*

REGIONAL-What is the election process in Delta, Montrose, and Ouray Counties? Explain what systems are in place to maintain election security and integrity. Who is eligible to vote, and what are voters' responsibilities? How have precinct changes affected our local communities? The answers to these and other questions were answered during a non-partisan panel discussion hosted by the League of Women Voters of the Uncompahgre Valley (LWVUV) and presented by County Clerk and Recorders Tressa Guynes of Montrose, Michelle Nauer of Ouray, and Teri Stephenson of Delta. A recording of the presentation can be viewed on the LWVUV website lwv-uv.org. Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes tackled the details of the election process and security. The State of Colorado has provided a mail ballot system since 2013 in which safeguards are statute driven with many

oversights in place, including: observers, BallotTrax (automatic notification to voter when ballot is sent, received, and accepted), 24/7 video surveillance, bi-partisan teams of judges, and signature verification. Although most voters use the mail-in system, Guynes described in-person election machine voting. Counting computers and in-person voting machines are *not* connected to the internet, and the elector's ID is verified by a signed signature card. Further safeguards include verifying voter eligibility, tracking down "ghost voters" (voters who have re-located or are deceased), rejecting duplicate ballots, and rejected signatures.

An explanation of who is eligible to vote and voter responsibilities were presented by Clerk and Recorder Michelle Nauer of Ouray who has held this position for 28 years. She explained that ANYONE who gets a Driver's License (ages 16+) is automatically registered to vote but they are

not eligible to vote until they are 18. Therefore, a potential voter's registration record is in the system but he/she won't get a ballot until eligible.

Nauer clarified that voters can register or update their records by accessing GOVOTECOLORADO.gov. Although Unaffiliated voters receive primary ballots from both parties, they may only return one ballot. Voters should make certain to update their registration and addresses at least two months before an election to avoid their ballot being returned as undeliverable. However, up to eight days prior to an Election Day, voters can still update their information and receive a ballot by mail.

Delta Clerk and Recorder Teri Stephenson discussed redistricting and recent precinct changes. Congressional and State legislature (house and senate) districts were redrawn by State constitutionally mandated commissions and were approved by the State of Colorado Supreme Court. County precincts are drawn to include equal numbers of residents and to keep communities of interest whole. Precinct changes are approved by County Commissioners. Regardless of precinct or district, all registered voters will receive a mail-in ballot which they can complete, stamp, and return by mail, or drop in an official ballot drop box.

Stephenson, Nauer, and Guynes agreed that Colorado elections are safe and secure, and the biggest challenge is educating voters about election security. Voters are invited to visit the Clerk and Recorders' offices to view many of the safeguards and to ask questions about the election process.

A sense of cooperation and teamwork was evident throughout the panel discussion. Stephenson and Guynes share Delta's Hotchkiss ballot box so that Montrose's Maher residents have access to drop-off ballots. Nauer added that any Colorado ballot dropped in any county drop box within the state will be delivered in-time to the appropriate county. Stephenson emphasized, "Everybody has the right to vote. If people need assistance, we will provide people to assist, and they can vote."

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RE-1J BOARD ISSUES STATEMENT ON PUBLIC INPUT *From pg 1*



Longtime Columbine Middle School Ben Stephenson, who has announced his retirement, will return to work as the District's Recruitment, Retention, Wellness Coordinator effective July 1. Courtesy photo.

and Olathe High School Senior Nikki Koch, who took second place at State this year after helping to establish the Olathe girls' wrestling program for the past three years.

Jenkins attempted to share a video interview created by the Montrose Daily Press but technical

difficulties prevented the showing.

Allison Nadel of Altrusa International presented Altrusa Apple Awards to educators Kyle Piatt (8th grade social studies) of Olathe Middle School; Joy Robinson (math) of Olathe High School, and Morgan Gurule (consumer and family studies) of Montrose High School.

Jenkins announced that the KREX TV Golden Apple Award for March will be awarded to Joy Robinson.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District F Director Eric Kelley said that the Consultant's in person update on the Facilities Master Plan, which was scheduled for a recent work session but cancelled due to weather conditions, will take place at the next board meeting. The meeting is too important to conduct by Zoom, Kelley said. Members of the community will be able to come and listen, Fishing said.

Board of Education Vice President Jeff Bachman said that he and District C Director Alice Murphy both attended the Olathe Elementary School Valentine's dance. Bachman shared a video of Murphy dancing. "She was out there with the kids, it was great to have us there together," he said.

Fishing said that she and Murphy are on the District's Finance Committee, "...we had a little top up on school finance with the finance crew...it doesn't matter how

many times you go through that stuff...there's always more you can learn."

STATEMENT ON COMMUNITY INPUT

Board President Fishing read a values statement regarding community input into the public record on behalf of herself and Vice President Bachman. "Our school district and the school board members believe in the children and families of Montrose County. Working together, our Montrose and Olathe communities continue to grow and thrive. We trust each to strive toward a better future for our children, and we prioritize treating each other with fairness, decency, and starting from a shared point of mutual good intent...board members will always hold themselves to the highest standard...MCSD board directors conduct business with candor and we respect each other and every statutory requirement regarding public meetings and public processes. We will always conduct business in good faith and in accordance with Colorado's sunshine laws."

Board of Education directors do homework prior to every board meetings and agenda items are always publicly posted for the community to review, she said.

"This preparation allows us to cast an informed vote at each regular business board meeting," Fishing said, adding that at times a director may take issue with or have questions regarding an item on the agenda, and it is not uncommon for an item to be pulled for discussion or deliberation. Every item is discussed and every board action is taken without pretermination, she said, within view of the public and with establishment of a board member quorum...Board members take our responsibility as fiscal stewards very seriously," she said. "Just as we understand and adhere to our statutory requirement for open meetings and transparency, we also follow an intentional public process related to the district's budget."

Fishing discussed statutory requirements and budget deadlines. "...In addition to public presentation and review, an invitation for the public to view the draft budget is published in the newspaper and the draft budget is available at the school district office.

"...Just as we remind students in our

classrooms, we always encourage every Montrose County stakeholder to remember the importance of information literacy," she said. "Educated, objective skepticism is healthy in a democratic society, and helps keep elected bodies accountable. Misinformation and conspiratorial accusations weaken our community and are at odds with what we teach our children."

Board members and district leadership are always eager to meet with community members to discuss any questions or concerns an individual may have, she said.

"...Our records and operations are public information...any individual may schedule a time to review documentation or to discuss any item with school board members or district officials..."

COMMUNITY INPUT

There was no community input.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

Finance Director Emily Imus presented the enrollment report. There are presently 6,035 students enrolled in RE-1J Schools, an increase of 11 students over last month and an increase of 288 students over the same time period in 2021. Imus also reported the Quarterly Financials for the 2nd Quarter of the 2021-2022 Fiscal year, including the Fund report and Investment report.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board pulled four Consent Agenda items for further discussion, including:

Item 2-Approve Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Funding Commitment in the amount of \$1,252,896.79 and approve related expenditures;

Item 9--Approve Mascot Rebranding Budget amounts not to exceed \$200,000 for Montrose High School and \$175,000 for Centennial Middle School and related expenditures;

Item 13-Approve amended 2022-2023 school year calendar to add three additional days in August for staff; and

Item 14-Approve the Recruitment, Retention and Wellness Coordinator job description and the personnel report as presented. The Personnel Report includes notable transitions, including the retirement of several longtime teachers, as well as Columbine Middle School Principal Ben Stephenson. Stephenson will return to work

RE-1J BOARD ISSUES STATEMENT ON PUBLIC INPUT

From previous pg

as the District's Recruitment, Retention, Wellness Coordinator effective July 1, 2022. Also retiring is Montrose High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Lyle Wright.

The Board voted approve the Consent Agenda without the four items.

District IT Manager Brian Quon provided background information on Item 2, an Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Funding Commitment in the amount of \$1,252,896.79. The board voted unanimously to approve the funding commitment and related expenditures.

Although Item 9, approval of the mascot re-branding budgets for Montrose High School and Centennial Middle school, was also approved, District F Director Eric Kelley expressed frustration with the lack of financial assistance provided by the state, which mandated the change. "They should be the ones to pay for this... I totally disagree that this should be coming out of our budget...they should be supporting this."

Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said that the district will apply for BEST grant funds to offset the costs, but the chance of being awarded funds is minimal. "We will certainly continue asking for it, but we have heard nothing from the state in terms of funding." (See RE-1J's letter of response to the State of Colorado's decision on mascots, also in this issue of the *Mirror*).

Consent Agenda Item 13 involves a calendar update adding three additional days in August for staff. The meeting packet

states, "Feedback from staff and principals has mentioned the need for additional time and support in responding to the needs of their students. As a result, this calendar change allows for additional time for staff to receive training and implementation time before the start of the 22-23 school year. This calendar change shows three additional days in August for staff (August 10, 11, 12). In order to accomplish this, the May 2, 2023 PD day has been changed to a vacation day for students and staff. That contracted day has been added to August as a PD day instead. Using ESSER Funds, we are also adding two days to teacher's contracts in August."

While discussing Item 13, District C Director Alice Murphy asked for greater clarification on use of ESSER funds as well as on the specific calendar days and the purpose.

Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said that two of the additional days would be contract days for district staff, and ESSER funds would be used to pay for those days. The third day would move a professional development day from May to August. The Board voted unanimously to approve the calendar change.

Consent Agenda Item 14 seeks approval of the Recruitment, Retention and Wellness Coordinator job description and the personnel report as presented. The Personnel Report notes the retirement of Benjamin Stephenson as Columbine Middle School Principal and the hiring of Benjamin Stephenson as Recruitment, Reten-

tion, Wellness Coordinator Effective July 1, 2022.

Murphy said, "You're adding another position at Central Office. Is this a replacement...or is it another person you're adding on?"

Stephenson said that the two-year position is paid for by ESSER funds and is intended to focus on building a program and framework for recruitment and retention efforts. "Really seeking to develop relationships that can help us to recruit new staff into the county and the school district," she said. "We are already starting to have some of those relationships and have job fairs that we have signed up for."

"It is exciting to see that there are people interested from out of state, from in state, in our school district," Stephenson said.

"We are interviewing for the Johnson Elementary position tomorrow; we have four wonderful candidates that will be interviewing with us day with us tomorrow out of 25 applicants for that position."

"...we are hoping to continue to cultivate those relationships and to have a real plan for recruitment and retention," Stephenson said.

District D Director Tom West said, "Mr. Stephenson's going to do this?"

"Yes, he is," Stephenson said.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Recruitment, Retention and Wellness Coordinator job description and the personnel report as presented.

With no further business, the Board of Education voted to adjourn.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

YOUNG ARTIST & HER LITTLE SISTER DREAM BIG: PLAN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FAMILIES IN UKRAINE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Idea-The Sunflowers for Ukraine Project is the brainchild of Amelia Fishing a first grader from Montrose Colorado. One Sunday evening Amelia was watching the evening news with her family, she saw the reports of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the effect that was having on children and families in Kyiv. The next day at school Amelia and her friends started to talk about what they'd been hearing and seeing on the news. They were very concerned about the effects of the conflict on children and their families who they had heard were having to leave their homes for other countries and in other cases were taking shelter in makeshift bomb shelters to try and stay safe. They had heard about the Ukrainians compelled to take up arms to protect their country from Russian aggression.

They wanted to help. But the question was how? They got thinking about all the things these people might need, their list was long and comprehensive.

That night Amelia went home and described the conversation she'd had with her friends and said that she wanted to help Ukrainians. Amelia and her family put their heads together and an idea started to emerge. Amelia and her sister both love art. Amelia is particularly keen on drawing and painting. What if there was a way to harness this passion to help the people of Ukraine? Amelia had seen the sunflower and its association with Ukraine and then the idea bloomed. Amelia and her sister would recruit their friends and other community members to create works of art inspired by the sunflower. These pieces would then be sold and auctioned to raise money that would be funneled to organizations with programs to provide support to Ukrainian children and families.

That same evening Amelia and her family designed a logo, published a website and set up social media accounts. The next

morning her mum started to reach out to potential partners, and the idea took flight!

We are very excited to have secured several local partners including the Montrose Center for the Arts, Mosaic and Mauve.

More businesses and organizations are joining the effort every day! We have several events planned and more to be announced soon, please see the list below. The MCA exhibit will open on March 29th and the Exhibit at Mosaic will open on April 1st. Precedence has also agreed to host some of the artwork as well. The art auction will take place online and in person enabling people from far and wide to participate.

Events (so far)

March 19th: Sunflowers in Downtown Montrose

- 10am-1pm Community Sunflower Sidewalk Chalk Mural @ Centennial Plaza/ Montrose Farmers Market

The idea for this event is to include as many members of the community in a creative effort that we hope will get the word out about our fundraising events.

A Project in Support of the Children & Families of Ukraine

- 1-4pm Gelee Sunflower Art Project @ Mosaic

Creators will have the chance to make several pieces, so they can take one home and have another one to donate to the Sunflowers for Ukraine Art Auction.

- 1-4pm Print a Sunflower Print T-shirt @ Mosaic

This activity is free, participants will bring their own garment to use.

- 1-4pm Art Donation & Drop Off @ Mosaic



**SUNFLOWERS
FOR
UKRAINE**

For those with a piece of art ready for the auction, we will have an opportunity for them to have them cataloged and stored.

- Time TBD Sunflower Craft @ Mauve Details available shortly.

April 1st 5pm-7pm: The Sunflower Stroll, In conjunction with Montrose Mainstreet First Friday

- Explore the Sunflower exhibits @ Montrose Center for the Arts, MOSAIC & Precedence Academy.

- Grab a beverage @ MCA or Mosaic.

- Print a Sunflower Print T-shirt @ Mosaic.

- Get crafty @ Mauve.

- More in the works check back often.

April 3rd 2-3:30pm: Painting Impasto with Suzy Conty @ MCA

Children age 5 - 11

Class Registration Donation, \$20 suggested, Supplies provided

Students will mix their own paint & create original art work with an interpretation of the Van Gogh classics using craft sticks for the impasto paint application. Suzy has donated her time & talent for this class

April 5th 1-4pm: Paint with Loretta Casler @ MCA

Pen, Ink, & Watercolor

Class Registration Donation, \$40 suggested

Loretta will guide you through steps in creating sunflower art. (Ukraine's national flower). She has donated her time & talent for this class.

RAISE FUNDS FOR FAMILIES IN UKRAINE From previous pg

The Recipient Organization

After careful consideration we have selected International Relief Teams (IRT), <https://www.irteams.org/>, as our recipient organization. We are really excited to be able to support their work in Ukraine. The factors that we considered in selecting IRT included the following:

- Nonprofit status
- Current operations in and around Ukraine
- 4-star rating
- Minimum Charity Navigator score of 95. IRT has a score of 100
- Utilizing relationships with local partners in the region
- Experience with international disaster

relief

- Excellent operating budget to program spending ratios (more bang for each donated dollar)

- Organization big enough to handle the task at hand, but small enough to build a relationship with
- Lean US based team

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REP. BOEBERT SPEAKS TO MONTROSE REPUBLICANS



At left, U.S. Representative Lauren Boebert spoke to the Montrose County Republican Assembly in the gym at Centennial Middle School on Saturday, March 12. Photo by Dee Laird.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE TO OFFER UP TO \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS TO HELP REDUCE HUMAN-BEAR CONFLICTS ACROSS THE STATE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - In an effort to help communities co-exist with bears, Colorado Parks and Wildlife is pleased to announce a unique

funding opportunity aimed at reducing human-bear conflicts.

CPW will be offering up to \$1 million that it will distribute through a grant process

this spring to be used on projects that reduce conflicts. Funding for the program was made available through House Bill 21-1326, which passed the General Assembly and was signed by the Governor last year. Local governments, NGOs, HOAs, community groups, businesses, tribes, universities and individuals are all eligible to receive funding. Applicants can apply for grants between \$50,000 and \$500,000.

Projects should have local support, be designed to prevent conflict with bears and have tangible outcomes with realistic timelines. Local support can be demonstrated through cost sharing, in-kind contributions, letters of support, participation in public meetings, membership in local organizations and partnerships.

From 2019-21, CPW received over 14,000 reports of sightings and conflicts with bears. Nearly one-third of those involved trash cans and dumpsters as an attractant, which will be a target area CPW looks to address when awarding grants.

Other constant sources of conflict include birdfeeders, livestock, bears accessing open garages and other human originated items that are left unsecured.

Increasing human-bear conflicts can lead to property damage and increased demands on time and effort to respond to the conflicts by CPW and local government personnel. Expanding existing conflict reduction efforts or developing new approaches will help reduce the impact on bear populations and improve public safety.

[Download the application here](#) and submit no later than May 6 at 5 p.m. Read the full [Community Grant Program Plan](#), including timeline, requirements, when funds need to be used by and more.

Need help applying or have questions? Contact Cannon by email at kris-tin.cannon@state.co.us, or by phone at 303-291-7313. Potential applicants can also attend a virtual informational meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 24 from 6-8 p.m. Parties interested in joining that ZOOM meeting can register for it by [clicking here](#).



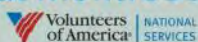
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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ROBERT "ROBBIE" DEAN BLACK

December 18, 1989- March 4, 2022

ROBERT "ROBBIE" DEAN BLACK- Robert "Robbie" Black, 32, died March 4, 2022 in Montrose CO. He was born December 18, 1989 at Fort Knox Kentucky, the son of Chad Black and Jodine Roberts Glover.

Robert was raised and went to school in Montrose. He married Rae Loy in 2017 and they had two children together, Chesa and Ayden Black. They divorced 2021 and remained close friends. Robert worked in retail and was loved by his Walgreen's family.

Robert loved to spend time with his friends and family. He loved to hike, fish, camp and do everything in the mountains and outdoors. He also loved to long board, play music, and have light saber fights with his daughter. He was an accomplished climber of trees, mountains, buildings etc. anything that was there. He loved to work on his Jeep with his father and daughter and do chores on the farm. He always wanted to learn to

do new things and do them well. He was the life of the party.

Robert had a big heart and an amazing smile. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to make people laugh. Robert always looked for the good in people. He was an amazing father to his children that he loved dearly. He gave the best hugs.

He was predeceased by his grandfather, Miland Roberts.

He is survived by, his father Chad and (mom) Georgette Black, mother Jodine Roberts Glover and (dad) JR Glover, Daughter Chesa Black, Son Ayden Black and their mother Rae Loy, Brother Chad Black and his wife Jewel, Sister Tasha Black, Brother Dustin Stroud, Brother Cordell Stroud and his wife Heather, Sister Mikayla Glover. Grandparents James "Nate" and Mary Black, Helen and Mike Dunlap, Mickey Cox, and Everett and May Glover. Great grandmother Alice Roberts. Uncle Thane Black, Aunt Dawn

Black and her husband Clark, Aunt Connie Hall and her husband Jake. Nieces Leanne Black, Aspen Black, Peyton Stroud, and Reignn Glover. Nephews Ezekiel Woods,

Kolter Paintin, Logan Stroud. Cousins Emma Black, Eugene Black, Gracie Hall, Brianna Hall, and Isabelle Hall. There is a large extended family.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Robbie's family.



SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



970-249-8500

ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

GENEVIEVE LOUISE MEDINA-QUINTANA

March 3, 1939- March 3, 2022



GENEVIEVE LOUISE MEDINA-QUINTANA was born in Durango, CO on March 03, 1939; in March of 1956 she married the love of her life, Tony B. Quintana in

Aztec, New Mexico, re-locating to Silverton CO. and later moving to Montrose, CO where she lived most of her life. On March 3, 2022 with her family all around

her, she made her journey to Heaven with an Angel by her side.

She was preceded in Heaven by her Father Presentacion Medina, her Mother Clotilda Medina, her Husband Tony B. Quintana, six brothers and sisters – Sally Martinez, Francis Martinez, Angie Mes-tas, Bernice Medina-Albo, Don Medina and Philbert Medina, as well as one Grand Daughter – Francheska Quintana. She is survived by her sister Vangie Medina and her husband Gary Mace, her Brother Johnny Medina; as well as eight children – Jimmy Quintana and wife Emma Quintana, Lucy Salaz and husband Cade Salaz, Janet Quintana, Roberta Avila and Husband Larry Avila, Anthony Quintana, Sylvia Quintana-Hawkins and husband Jeff Hawkins, Toby Quintana

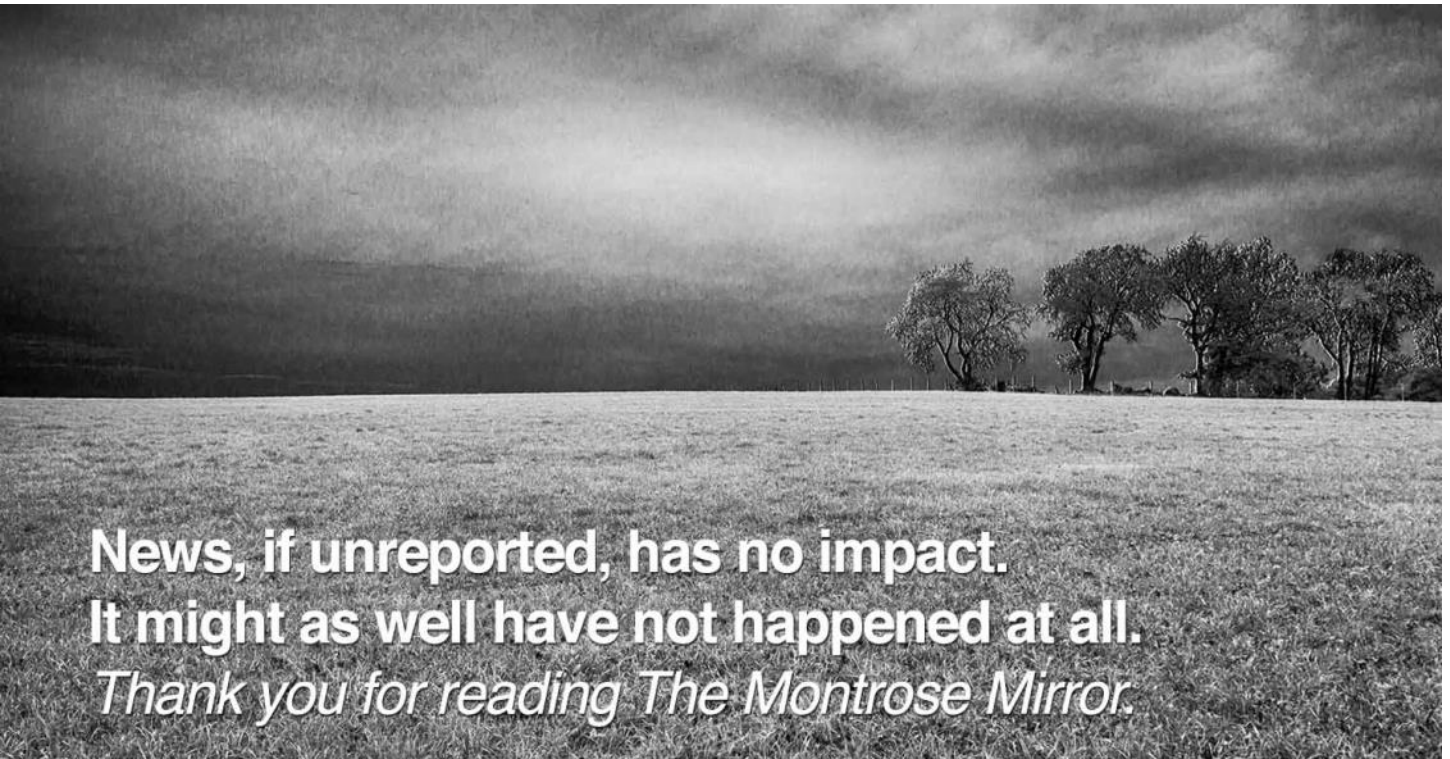
and wife Sonya Quintana, and Julie Uribe and husband Antonio Uribe.

Her legacy includes her eight children, 27 grandchildren, 29 great grandchildren and five great great grandchildren.

She loved cooking for everyone, and especially enjoyed having her family over for the Holidays.

Genevieve was an Incredible Wife, Mother, Grand Mother, Great Grand Mother, and Great Great Grandmother – She will be missed and forever loved by her family and by all who knew her!

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Mrs. Quintana's family. The Family would like to say a special Thank You to Hospice and Touch of Care in Montrose for all your hard work and support during this difficult time with our Mother!!



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

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

WANDA L. SCHNEIDER *May 13, 1927-March 3, 2022*



WANDA LAURA SCHNEIDER, 94, of Montrose, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2022, at Montage Creek in Montrose surrounded in love by family. Wanda was born May 13, 1927, in Canon City, CO to Rexford and Alta Reed. She spent her childhood in Canon City and graduated from Canon City High School in 1945. After graduation, Wanda attended one year at Colorado Women's College in Denver.

On July 2, 1946, Wanda married the love of her life, Aloys "Moon" Schneider at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Canon City, CO. Wanda and Moon made their home in Westcliffe where eight children were born to them.

On August 28, 1963, Wanda and Moon pulled up stakes and moved their family to Montrose after Moon was hired by the local USDA Agricultural Stabilization

and Conservation Service (ASCS) Committee. In July of 1978, Moon retired from ASCS and he and Wanda enjoyed 32 years of retired life before Moon's passing in 2010.

Wanda enjoyed socializing with her friends at the Montrose Pavilion and traveling with Moon and other senior citizens to Nevada on their periodic gambling trips. But Wanda's favorite past time was music. Many times she could be found providing music to those in attendance at the Pavilion before the daily luncheon meals and also providing music to local senior living center residents. As a child, she would strap her accordion to her bicycle and travel to the State Prison in Canon City and be a participant in the prison band, composed primarily of prison inmates. Over the years, she shared her love of music with many a child in both Westcliffe and Montrose by giving them piano and accordion lessons.

Wanda did not work outside of the home, but raising 8 children was a full time job. She sewed much of their clothing and taught the girls how to sew. She could feed a family of 10 on a pound of hamburger and fruits and vegetables that had been canned in the fall. Every birthday was celebrated with a birthday cake, matching the flavor that the birthday person had as a favorite. Saturday afternoons were spent preparing the family for church the following day. Shoes were polished and shirts/dresses were ironed. Mom never complained about all of the household work and loved her family dearly.

One of Wanda's lifetime accomplish-

ments that few people know about was her involvement with Special Education. On several occasions in the mid 1960's, Wanda traveled to Denver and assisted the Colorado Board of Education with the establishment of the initial guidelines for Special Education in the state of Colorado. Many of those guidelines were eventually adopted by the U.S. Gov't when the federal guidelines related to Special Education were passed into law. Moon was a member of the Montrose Elks Lodge and he and Wanda could be seen on the dance floor at Saturday dances. Wanda and Moon danced beautifully to any music, and will now dance together for eternity. Moon and Wanda volunteered with many organizations like RSVP and Meals on Wheels.

Wanda is survived by her four sons, Jerry (Jackie Dial) Schneider of Nanaimo, B.C., Canada, Dave Schneider of Lakewood, CO, Bernie (Jackie) Schneider of Montrose, CO and Donnie Schneider of Gunnison, CO. She is also survived by three daughters, Alta Ann Schneider of Montrose, CO, Joyce (Jim) Carver of Montrose, CO, and Karen Wheeler of Grand Junction, CO; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. Wanda was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Moon, her son, Ron, three grandsons and many aunts, uncles, cousins and in-laws. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Six Points Community Options, 1160 N Main St, Gunnison, CO 81230

Arrangements were under the direction of Crippin Funeral Home, 802 E. Main St., Montrose, CO 81401, (970) 249-2121.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



#montrosemirror

ISSUE 361 March 14, 2022

ART & SOL

SAY YES TO A DRESS: FORMAL DRESS DONATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH APRIL 7



Girls will be able to make appointments to come and shop before a formal event. Courtesy photos.

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-In a year when everything seems to cost so much more, the thought of buying a new gown to attend a formal dance can be intimidating for some young girls. Now, one local business has stepped forward to help.

The Real Estate Store in Montrose (500 East Main Street) is taking donations for their "Say Yes to a Dress" formal dress drive through April 7.

While the idea for a dress drive is a creative way to help girls in Montrose, Delta and Ouray, the Real Estate Store's idea of giving back to the community is not new.

Whether sponsoring events like the annual Halloween Costume Contest Downtown for young children, sponsoring the blood mobile, or opening their doors to share cookies and hot chocolate during the annual Downtown Parade of Lights, the Real



Estate Store has a long tradition of helping others in the community.

The idea behind "Say Yes to a Dress" is to help young girls who cannot afford to buy a new dress or accessories for formal events such as prom and homecoming. New and gently worn formal dresses may be dropped off at the Real Estate Store.

"Having a dress drive allows young girls in our three counties of Montrose, Delta, and Ouray to come in and pick out the perfect dress, and allows so many more of them to enjoy those special moments that

not everyone can afford," Real Estate Store Owner Michelle Klippert said. "We are accepting dress donations through April 7th and then we will be available for any girl to make an appointment to try on and walk out with a dress at no charge.

"We hope this will be successful and fulfilling not only for the community who donates, but for the young girls in our area as well," she said.

The Real Estate Store can be reached at 970-249-7653. Their web site is <https://the-res.com/>.

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Denomination: Church of the Nazarene
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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

form@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

office@montroseumc.org, montroseumc.org
Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Lisa Petty
Worship service times: 8:15-Online Service (details on web site). 9:30 a.m. Casual Contemporary Worship & 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship 10:30 - Social/Devotional Time *Montrose UMC is a lead-*

er 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 or without children, from diapers to dentures. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come discover hope, joy, peace, 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?

Western History with Kate Burke

Mountain Town Saloons & Shady Ladies

1 pm, Wed., March 16



Blue Sage Center for the Arts, PAONIA.

Montrose Elks Lodge #1053
801 S. Hillcrest, Montrose CO 81401

Elks Bingo

This Tuesday

March 15, 2022

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

Funds Raised Support Local Charities. Public is Welcome to Attend

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF MONTROSE PRESENTS

32nd Annual Spring Luncheon

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022
MONTROSE PAVILION

Color My World



TICKETS: \$40 PER PERSON | TICKET SALES: MOLLY SHAVER AT 970-765-7666
CREDIT CARDS AND CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED

SHOPPING BOUTIQUE: 9AM-3PM | LUNCHEON SEATING: 12:15PM
FASHION SHOW, LIVE AUCTION & DOOR PRIZES

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALPINE ARTISTS' HOLIDAY ART EXHIBITION AND SALE

Special to Art & Sol

COVID necessitated postponing the Alpine Artists' Holiday Art Exhibition and Sale for the past two years, but for the 59 consecutive years prior to COVID this show has been sponsored by OCAA, making it one of the longest running art shows in the state. Artists' Alpine Holiday Show each year brings more than 400 works of art, including sculpture and photography. The show is generally attended by close to 2,000 visitors from over 30 states as well as several foreign countries.

The show dates for 2022 are July 28 through Aug. 6.

Entries will be accepted from April 3, 2022 through midnight June 26, 2022. Entries will only be accepted through Onlinejuriedshows.com

The Categories include: Oil/Acrylic, Watercolor, Drawing & Printmaking, Pastel, Mixed Media, Sculpture and Photography

AWARDS - Cash awards of over \$5000. 1st place in each media \$400, 2nd place \$200, 3rd place \$100. Best of Show \$500

Judges have been secured.

Glenn Randall (photography judge)
<https://www.glennrandall.com/>
John Cogan (fine arts judge)<https://johndcoganfineart.com/>

GO to <https://www.ourayarts.com/> to see the prospectus.

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970-240-1605

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970-249-7427

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970-249-2460

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970-648-0609

Remington's at the Bridges
970-252-1119



Liquor:

Beer Barn II
970-249-5550

House of Spirits
970-240-4799

**LET'S CATER 2022: WEDDINGS, REUNIONS,
RECEPTIONS, YOUR EVENT**





CREATIONS ON MAIN:

There's a new place to love in Delta

By Carole Ann McKelvey

DELTA – If you mourned the loss of The Bistro on Main Street in Delta you must try the new place that has taken that spot at 3rd and Main. A&M Creations has a very diverse and tasty menu which a girlfriend and I tried Friday evening. Good selection of wine too or cocktails is that's your pleasure.

Creations is owned by Alena and Manny who both grew up in Delta County. Years of positions in customer service throughout the area allowed them to gain knowledge and skills and inspired them to start this restaurant. Alena told me that "if you're in the mood for something delicious and special," I'd come to the right place.

Tonight, I kept it simple but delicious, I ordered the Shrimp Scampi with asparagus on the side and dove into the deliciousness. Garlic sauce over thin noodles and large shrimp. Grilled asparagus. (\$16)

Yum. Washed it down with glass of Pinot Noir. Umm, 2 glasses of Pinot Noir.

My friend was more daring and went for the shrimp tacos with a side of crispy Brussels sprouts. (\$9) When I tasted one, I wished I'd had the sprouts (next time!) She also ordered the wine.

We both tried a delicious lemon cake for dessert. Squeezing fresh lemon over it was the perfect touch.

This menu is to die for:

Appetizers.

Chips and house dip, choice of beans and queso or house roasted salsa (\$6); Edamame, Asian style served hot and spicy (\$5); Green beans fries with bacon and jalapeno aioli (\$9); Fried calamari with fresh ceviche combo (\$13); Deep fried mushrooms with house ranch (\$10); house wings 6 with choice of style (7:50); Shrimp cocktail (\$13).

Greenery:

Salads from \$3.5 to \$12.

In a Basket:

Served with one side: Purple kraut – Popcorn shrimp from \$9-12.

Burgers and Handers:

Substitute buns for a grilled cauliflower steak or corn tortillas to make the item gluten-free. Also, a "hander" is flour tortilla creation wrapped and grilled. Choice of one side, burgers cooked to requested temp.

BYO Burger – Trough burger with aioli, fried avocado, bacon, egg, mozzarella, cheddar, jalapeno, fries (\$10-14). Handers \$7-9.

Finer Fare:

Sirloin, 8 oz., Ribeye, 12 oz., Prime Rib (weekends only) (\$17-29); other entrees from D's chops to pasta (\$11-6). These include Chilean chicken, Shrimp scampi and Jager Schnitzel.

Creations is open Tuesday – Saturday from 11 am to 8 pm. Closed Monday & Sunday.

Call 970-874-6854.

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SHADY LADIES AND SALOONS: A STORY OF BOOZE AND BROTHELS

Boomtown Bars & Brothels



Above, Gypsum, Colo. Just a few handy steps from brothel to bar, both in tents. Notice the false front on the bar. Right, as mining towns boomed, elegant, \$250/night services were available to affluent customers.



By Kathryn R. Burke

REGIONAL—Join me Wednesday in Paonia at the Blue Sage Center for the Arts, where I will be giving this story at 1 pm—with a few twists and updates to fit the venue and location. And lots of pictures.

I had a lot of fun putting this presentation together. Some of it I discovered while visiting or working in many of the places we will talk about. I often met with historical societies and museums, sometimes authors, and as a publisher of books and magazines about a colorful time. Some of it you've probably heard before. And of course, I work for the [Museum of the Mountain West](#) in Montrose, a perfect source for the colorful history of the old west around the turn of the last century. The rest? I did some research, looking into (sometimes dubious) sources, all purporting to be true, of course. What it boils down to, though, is...storytelling. Think about the word HISTORY. *His*—story. Or in this case, *Her*—story. History is really an edited collection of facts and fiction. "Truth" changes to suit the teller (or sometimes the political and religious views of the time). But the story told is still organized and relayed from the perspective of the teller—in this case, me. What I am about to tell you is the result of personal observations, the stories I've been told by "old timers" who remember stories they heard from generations before them, combined with books about local history by respected local authors who've researched and written about the area and era.

So with this presentation in Paonia, let's learn a little about the often-infamous, never-boring stories, of an enterprising, very colorful era. Bars and brothels went hand-in-hand with the boom and bust cycles that characterized America's "wild west" from the 1870s

though the turn of the 20th Century. According to the U.S. Census, in 1870, males outnumbered females more than 95 percent! By 1880 and through the turn of the century, it averaged out to around 2 to 1, which was

about the same throughout all the mountainous mining areas, including Arizona. Looking at those numbers, it's easy to see why women of easy virtue could make a good living. For the girls—known variously as soiled doves, shady ladies, fancy women, saloon girls, horizontal employees, ceiling experts, ladies of the line, sporting women, and Painted Ladies (for cosmetic embellishments, especially eye makeup)—employment as a prostitute was often short-lived. Some married, more died young, and a fortunate few became madams, often becoming quite wealthy in the process. A few became famous for nefarious activities such as cattle rustling, or my personal favorite, trying to cut the living heart out of a rival. Many were known for their good deeds, helping during difficult times, such as the Spanish Influenza, or helping the less fortunate, earning the prototypical term "whore with a heart of gold."

As with all stories, it's up to the teller...and listener, to determine truth or tall tale.

As fortunes were made and lost by miners searching for gold and silver, they also peaked and plummeted in the businesses that slacked their thirst and supplied (paid) female companionship. In frontier towns populated almost entirely by men, saloons were the social center of life.

Most mining camps, at least in the early days, were more portable than permanent. Enterprising saloon keepers hauled whiskey in wagons and set up tent that also served as a temporary social center in frontier towns populated almost entirely by men. Drinking and gambling (usually faro) were the chief forms of recreation, and the place was a clearing house of local news. And probably the only place they would see a woman.

Brothels and bars were in tents or make-

shift cabins. Often both occupied the same location, making it easier for a patron to enjoy a boots-on quickie, go next door for a drink and a smoke, and maybe a game of faro, then hop back on his mule and head up to his claim before somebody jumped it.

By 1875, many of the mining camps (where the claims had not played out) had grown to towns. Sometimes a humble miner's cabin was the first structure in what would become a great city. And almost without fail, the first permanent structure in town was... a bar.

Saloons, gaming halls, cribs, and brothels quickly replaced the portable tents and wagons with more permanent structures. Unfortunately, most built of wood. And since wood stoves were the common heating source, fire was a constant threat.

But other camps told a different story. Stone and brick structures, some 3-stories tall replaced the old shacks. Even in the less sophisticated areas, beautifully-crafted Brushwick bars and backbars with sparkling mirrors reflecting an array of libations replaced the stacks of booze boxes piled on, under, or behind makeshift, rickety wooden bars. But even with spittoons along the brass rail, most men were sloppy spitters, and saloon floors were often a sticky mess.

Eventually, as men married, "ladies of the night" were replaced by "respectable" ladies of the day (i.e. wives and daughters). Bars and brothels were labeled an evil influence, and although they continued to flourish less publicly, most were soon replaced by theaters and opera houses as towns became gentrified and "family" entertainment popular. This continued until "The Great Drought" which shut everything down, and until restored, many bar (with our without brothels) went dark and decayed from disuse.

But this is a story of boom and bust. Many of those busted bars are booming again thanks to non-profit organizations that support them. Brothels, too, haven't quite disappeared—just read current news stories for confirmation.

When I share my "herstory" with you, I will show a wonderful group of old photos of the past, and tell some of those stories, like the one about the lady who tried to cut the living heart from her rival.

See you in Paonia on the 16th. We're gonna have fun!

SUGAR MOON BINGO

March 18, 2022

Friday 6:30 PM

**Progressive
Game #9
\$500 Must Go**

Will be Awarded to 1st
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**6 Games
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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

NELSON RANGELL AT AZURA CELLARS

Special to Art & Sol

PAONIA-Paonia's Blue Sage 2022 Concert Series presents Nelson Rangell at Azura Cellars (16764 Farmers Mine Road) on June 25 at 7pm.



WAKE UP...

and smell the ~~coffee~~ NEWS!

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Paonia's Blue Sage 2022 Concert Series
Presents Jazz Musician:

Nelson Rangell
At Azura Cellars

June 25th
7PM
16764 Farmers Mine Rd.
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Blue Sage



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MACBETH COMES TO THE MAGIC CIRCLE

By Tiffany McNeil

Enter a world of magic, murder, and madness with Magic Circle Players' production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. This production marks the first time Shakespeare's "Scottish Play" has graced the stage at Magic Circle, as well as being the first presentation of one of Shakespeare's tragedies in over half a century (*Romeo and Juliet* in 1969).

Macbeth tells the story of an ambitious Scottish general whose vaulting ambitions—coupled with a heaping cup of witchcraft, a generous portion of schem-

ing wife, and a dash of moral flexibility—lead him down a dark path of murder and mayhem. Often considered the darkest of Shakespeare's plays, this is not a show for the faint of heart. There's bloodshed aplenty, along with a trio of witches, some creepy apparitions, stirring monologues, and yes, even a few laughs.

But is it simply a tale of an evil man and his evil wife doing evil things? On the surface, perhaps. Scratch a little deeper and you'll see that there are more layers to the story than you might have imagined. At its core, it's about how a few well-

timed prophecies and manipulations can bring a basically decent, but morally weak man to his own ruination. After all, the full name of the play is *The Tragedy of Macbeth*.

With MCP veterans Dalyn Pearson and Spencer Crosby bringing to life the doomed Macbeth and his wife, you'll appreciate the nuances of their characters while simultaneously gasping at their brutality. And with a stellar cast to round out the other characters, including relative newcomer Aidan McBride as the heroic but impetuous Macduff, this is a production you do not want to miss.

And in case you think you don't know this play, here are a few well-known quotes that have entered the common lexicon. You'll undoubtedly recognize at least one of them.

-It is too full o' the milk of human kindness.

-Fair is foul and foul is fair.

-Double, double, toil and trouble; Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

-What's done is done.

-Out, out, damn spot!

-By the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes.

(You may have heard about a "curse" associated with this play and encountered people who insist it must only be called "The Scottish Play." While speculating about curses can be a fun diversion, the specifics of this tradition only pertain to saying the name "Macbeth" in a theater while rehearsing, performing, or attending a play other than *Macbeth*. So feel free to say the name when you come to see it. The cast and crew do because there's no way around it!)

Tickets are now on sale [online](#) or by calling the box office at (970)249-7838. Buy early to ensure you don't miss this incredible show!



E-WASTE RECYCLE EVENT!

Saturday, April 2nd
10 am - 1 pm
Delta Safeway Parking Lot

Cost: €45/pound. Debit/credit cards accepted
Bring a canned food item or gently used children's book for local outreach projects!

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA-MONTROSE COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION WELCOMES UPTOWN GIRLS



Uptown Girls. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-If you especially enjoy movin' and groovin' to the hits of the 70s and 80s, wait until you hear the dynamic female vocal trio Uptown Girls. You'll be tapping your feet and smiling through the evening as you relive many favorites as well as top-of-the-chart hits of present day. These powerhouse vocalists have an infectious energy that will be felt and shared on Monday, March 21, 2022, at Delta Performing Arts Center, 822 Grand Avenue, at 7 p.m..

Based in New York City, the Uptown Girls will perform music of iconic artists from Donna Summer to Adele. Some highlights

of the evening may include *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* by the Supremes, *You are the Sunshine of My Life* by Stevie Wonder, *Killing Me Softly* by Roberta Flack, *Imagine* by John Lennon, *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel, and *Love Will Keep Us Together* by Captain & Tennille.

This performance is sponsored by the Delta-Montrose Community Concert Association. Masks will be optional. The doors will open at 6 p.m. Single performance admission is \$20/Adult and \$5/Student. For more information, contact Connie, 970-249-4308 or visit our website at www.deltamontroseconcerts.com

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Featured Listing



5328 Hwy 348

Successful Wedding and Event Venue located in Western Colorado. Original home and barn were constructed in 1910. The barn was recently and lovingly saved and structurally improved, yet the vintage feel was kept in tact. The barn has updated electrical, with a new concrete floor and plenty of room for tables, and photo ops. There is plenty of room for a bartender station, with the original work bench top. Outside is a large WeatherPort™ canopy to expand outdoor seating. All of this is situated on 12.5 acres with a pressurized irrigation sprinkler system, and views of beautiful sunsets that create that special feeling any couple will remember and treasure forever. Special touches are thoughtfully in place to enhance the venue experience. Imagine a chandelier that lowers and raises to create a perfect ambiance for the special moment, of announcements, photos, first dance or that special kiss. There is also a manufactured home currently used as the Bride's room which can also be used as an Air BnB. This is a 1,448 sq ft home built in 2001. Also included on the property is a building site, and RV hook-up to expand the flexibility of the property. The original 3 bedroom plus

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 quiet 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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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

TALKING GOURDS ANNOUNCES SEPARATE POETRY CONTESTS *New Cantor Prize named for Elaine Cantor Fischer*



Poet Anna Scotti.
Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol POETS - As the Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds Poetry Program undergoes a significant restructuring, the website is finally ready to accept submissions for two contests that were previously one. The 25th annual Fischer Prize will be

open to all poets in the U.S. and any citizens overseas – any style and previously published okay (but must be copyright owned) – and the new Cantor Prize open to Colorado poets writing about anything OR poets anywhere writing about Colorado.

Anna Scotti of California, a former Fischer Prize winner, will be this year's Fischer judge and Goodtimes of Colorado the Cantor judge. There will be \$2250 in prizes for the Fischer and \$700 for the Cantor. \$10 per poem for the Fischer and \$6 per poem for the Cantor. Feedback available in both

contests for \$5 per poem. Submission deadline is the same for both: 31st of August 2022.

For info, guidelines, and registration visit <https://www.tellurideinstitute.org/fischer-cantor/>

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EXPLORING NATURE AND DISCOVERING MATH

by Lisa Hollembeak,
Friends of Youth and Nature

REGIONAL-Nature can be a great outdoor classroom for our children. It is a win anytime you take a child on a field trip in a forest or local park, but it is even more of a bonus when you can tie an outdoor adventure with something they are learning in school—like math!

Math can be very hard and abstract for some children to understand, but finding actual physical items can help make sense of the concepts. You might be surprised to learn that many objects in nature relate to math. Here are some ideas to get you started in helping your child observe and discover math in nature on your next outdoor adventure.

What child does not like water? Find a pond, puddle or river, and drop a pebble in. What do you see? The ripple effect is a concentric circle. The circles seem to grow and get bigger and bigger. Concentric circles are different sizes but originate from the same center point. You can also find this on a tree stump. The rings on the tree stump are not just the age of the tree, but are circles that originate from the same center point. Finding a spider web for some is quite frightening, but take a closer long look at the web. It also has concentric circles. Can you think of a food that is used in lots of your favorite family recipes? Onions. They are not great to eat by themselves, but fun to explore the circles.

The Fibonacci Sequence was discovered by and named for a 12th century Italian mathematician. The sequence is a series of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers. For example, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 ... This sequence of numbers pops up in nature. Have any ideas where? Take a closer look at some of those beautiful wild flowers that will be popping out in a few months. Count the petals on a sunflower, a black-eyed Susan or a daisy. Do the numbers look familiar? Sunflowers most often have 55, 89 or 144 petals. Black-eyed Susan's often have 13 and daisies have 34 to 89.

Related to the Fibonacci Sequence is another math concept called the Golden Ratio. Finding examples of the Golden Ratio is not hard. It can be as simple as a houseplant or as complex as an expansive spiral in the galaxy. The Golden Ratio is tied to the numerical pattern discussed above. Take two consecutive Fibonacci numbers, then divide the second by the first and this quotient will approximate the Golden Ratio as the Fibonacci numbers get bigger and bigger ($144/89 = 1.61798$ while the Golden Ratio is approximately 1.61803). The ratio of the length to the width of a Golden Rectangle is approximately 1.61803. Golden Rectangles occur everywhere in nature. If you measure your arm length and divide it by your shoulder width then you will probably get a result that is very close to 1.618 or the Golden Ratio! How many other examples of this phenomenon can you find? When the Golden Ratio is applied as a growth factor you get a type of logarithmic spiral known as the Golden Spiral. Some cool examples are the chameleon tail, sea shells, ammonite fossils, ocean waves, flower buds, snail shells, whirlpools, pine cones, sunflower seed heads and hurricanes to name a few.

Fractals are another intriguing mathematical shape that we can find in nature. A fractal is a self-similar, repeating shape. This means the same basic shape is seen again and again in the shape itself. Mathematically, they can be created by seeding iterative functions with random complex numbers. Now, ask yourself where can I find these? They occur just about anywhere in nature such as ferns, trees, roots, snowflakes, frosted car windshields, leaves, patterns of streams, rivers, coastlines, mountains, waves and waterfalls.

These all seem a bit complex, but it's fun to explore the numbers behind them. Let's talk about something a bit more practical for some. When walking on trails do you ever wonder how tall the trees are? One method of indirect measurement involves measuring the shadows cast by objects. Here is how it works. If a 6-foot man casts

a 4-foot shadow then a 60-foot tree would cast a 40-foot shadow assuming that the man and the tree's shadows are measured at the same time and same place. This is an application of similar triangles. The angle of elevation of the sun is the same for both the man and the tree while the altitude is perpendicular to the horizontal and, because these two angles are congruent, the triangles are similar and, therefore, their sides must be in proportion. So, if a 5-foot girl casts a 4-foot shadow and a beautiful Colorado Blue Spruce casts an 80-foot shadow, then the tree must be 100 feet tall! How do you measure the height of tall trees on a cloudy day? Well, that is an application of trigonometry and a topic that can be easily researched on a rainy day. If you are interested in exploring nature and how it relates back to math, do a quick search on the internet. You can find all levels of fascinating information. Then take your new found knowledge outside and start exploring and observing.

Lisa Hollembeak is a board member of the Friends of Youth and Nature - a nonprofit that promotes opportunities for youth and families to get outside, experience outdoor activities, and explore nature. Follow our outdoor news blog and receive monthly tips on connecting your children to nature. Learn more, visit: www.friendsofyouthandnature.org



A young student counts concentric circles or rings in this tree cross section to determine the tree's age when harvested. Tree rings are an example of concentric circles meaning the circles are all different sizes, one inside the other. Another example is in the ripples of a pond when something hits the surface of the water (photo credit: Friends of Youth and Nature).



Montrose Community Band

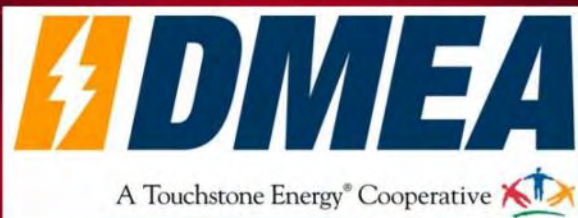
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Fri., April 29. 6-8 pm
Wonders From Down Under
Stories, music with Didgeridoo
Family Fun

Sat., May 14. 1:30-4 pm
Victorian Tea & Entertainment

Fri., Jun 17. 6-8 pm
Comedy Night with Nancy Norton
Concessions & Cash Bar

Fri.-Sat., Jul 15 & 16
Farm & Ranch Celebration
Live Music, Pony rides, cowboy poetry,
Line dancing, vendors, food & beer
Antique & Artifacts Market

Fri.-Sat, Aug. 26 & 27
Tribute to Western Movies
Live music, gunfights, re-enactments
Kids art show. Vendors, food, beer

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Fri., Sept. 23. 6-9 pm
Concert & VIP Cocktail Reception

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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 SCHEDULE

Winter Market-Centennial Plaza 10 am – 1 pm-March 19, April 2, April 16, April 30

Summer Market Dates:-Every Saturday May-October 29 9 am – 1 pm

Holiday Market Dates: First three Saturdays of November and December-10am-1pm

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

MONTROSE ALTRUSA-1st Tuesday of the month Program meeting; 2nd Tuesday of the month committee meeting; 3rd Tuesday of the month Business meeting. Meetings are held at the Hampton Inn conference room at Noon.

MONTHLY

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 15-Groundbreaking ceremony, River Valley Health Center in Delta, 1-2pm. , 1250 Valley View Drive.

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.

March 21-On Monday, March 21, Noon. Prayer Gathering at the Peace Pole in Ute Indian Park, across the street from the museum. Prayers for world peace and the healing of Mother Earth, with special prayers for the people of Ukraine and Russia. Hosted by the Spiritual Awareness Center. Bring your drums. Info – 970-252-0908. Everyone is welcome.

March 21-Hear dynamic female vocal trio Uptown Girls on Monday, March 21 at Delta Performing Arts Center, 822 Grand Avenue, at 7 p.m.. This performance is sponsored by the Delta-Montrose Community Concert Association. Masks will be optional. The doors will open at 6 p.m. Single performance admission is \$20/Adult and \$5/Student. For more information, contact Connie, 970-249-4308 or visit our website at www.deltamontroseconcerts.com

March 25-Women of Distinction Gala, Montrose County event Center, Call to RSVP 970-765-0913.

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 & Didjeridoo Player. At Museum of the Mountain West.

May 9-Monday, May 9. 1 pm. Peace Parks of Africa. Kate Burke History Series. With guest from Peace Parks. At Montrose Senior Center at the Pavilion.

May 14-Saturday, May 14. 1-4 pm. 1st Annual Victorian High Tea. By invitation. At Museum of the Mountain West.

May 22-Montrose High School Graduation Ceremony, 3:30pm Montrose Community Stadium (Football Field).



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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Photographer Deb Reimann snapped this photo of the Animas River valley near Silverton. "Perfect moose habitat," she said, "but none showed themselves this day."

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**Art Through the Ages
with Anne Hockenberry**

KIDS AGES 6-10

Kids will experience history by creating hands-on projects! We will explore the stained glass windows in the chapel and create two faux-stained glass projects. All material provided.

\$20. Sign up here
museumofthemountainwest.org



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