

# the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Busy People!

Issue No. 480 May 9, 2022

## MONTROSE COUNTY APPROVES DOG ORDINANCE



*Montrose County Commissioners approved a Dog Ordinance and issued proclamations for Public Works Week and Foster Care Month during a regular BOCC meeting that lasted for nearly three hours on May 4.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All commissioners were present for the regularly scheduled meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on Wednesday, May 4, a session that ran for almost three hours.

Pastor Buddy Cook delivered the invocation, thanking God for the beautiful Colorado day and for the commissioners. "...For in this day in which it seems like there winds of push from all directions, I pray you give them wisdom, direction, and courage—for the courage to do what is right and the wisdom to know what is right...May your presence be with us..."

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments

[Continued pg 29](#)

## HOSPITAL OWNERSHIP A HOT TOPIC AT BOCC WORK SESSION

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE- The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), the Montrose Board of Hospital Trustees (BOT), and the Montrose Regional Health (MRH) Board of Directors held a work session at the Montrose Event Center on May 3, 2022.

The public meeting was a continuation of the April 4, 2022 work session discussion regarding the potential transfer of real property owned by Montrose County to MRH. The property, which includes buildings and land, is located at 800 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The audience of approximately 50 citizens included a large contingency of hospital employees.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, BOCC Chair Keith Caddy turned the PowerPoint presentation over to Commissioner Sue Hanson.

[Continued pg 21](#)



*The May 3 work session for the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) was held at the Montrose Event Center. The topic of discussion was the potential transfer of real property (buildings and land at 800 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street) currently owned by the county and leased to Montrose Regional Health (MRH). Photo by Gail Marvel.*

in this  
issue

[Ulibarri asks City Manager for total dollar amount spent on City Streets, sidewalks!](#)

[Public Safety Complex wrapping up finishes, City builds obstacle course for Mud Run!](#)

[Winning 4H Bee Essay!](#)



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## ROADWAY CLOSURES CONTINUE ON US 50

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-There is no change to the regularly scheduled daytime road closures associated with construction on the US 50 Little Blue Creek Canyon 4-mile critical safety improvement project between Montrose and Gunnison (Mile Points 123 - 127).

But drivers can expect new lane shifts, gravel roadway surfaces, and an extension of the 10-foot width restriction when the project area is open to two-way traffic on the weekends.

Full daytime roadway closures will be Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Nighttime closures also continue Monday-Thursday beginning at 7:30 p.m. – 6:30 a.m.

US 50 will be OPEN to two-way traffic with no delays from Friday at 5:30 p.m. – to Monday at 8:30 a.m.

All closures are weather dependent.



## THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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## REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

### SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES RETIRING TEACHERS AND STAFF

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Community members, current and former school district staff, family and friends are all invited to attend the annual Montrose County School District RE-1J (MCSD) celebration of retiring educators, held this month at Remington's at the Bridges from 4-6 PM on Thursday, 12 May 2022. The theme for this year's retiree celebration will be "Going in Style." Light refreshments will be available, along with cards to sign for the honorees.

Some of this year's retirees have over 35 years of service in our schools and all have devoted their professional lives to serving the children and families in our Montrose and Olathe communities. MCSD hopes you can join the celebration to send-off some phenomenal exiting educational staff.

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*Chairman of the largest non-profit, member owned, small plane co-op*

*Held GM, CTO, and COO positions at large software companies and startups  
(semi-retired)*

*Private Pilot – I work occasionally, part-time, for NASA*

*I live in Paonia with my wife Jane, and family with deep, long roots in the North Fork Valley.*

**Contact Mike at:**

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### ELEVATE ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF MULTI- GIG INTERNET

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Elevate Internet is announcing the launch of multi-gig internet service to its entire network. Beginning in August, 2 Gbps and 6 Gbps packages will be available for homes and small businesses across Montrose and Delta counties. While pricing is not yet available, it is guaranteed to be competitive like all Elevate services.

"Demand for faster internet speeds has continued to increase over the last few years, a trend we believe will be constant. Elevate is committed to proactively meeting those needs," said Kent Blackwell, Elevate Chief Technology Officer.

Like Elevate's current 150 Mbps and 1 Gig service packages, multi-gig internet will be delivered using Elevate's fiber-optic network. The only new requirement is a minor change in the equipment installed in consumer homes, provided at no additional cost.



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# UVWUA SOUTH CANAL BACK ONLINE



## Mirror staff report

**MONTROSE**—Following a leak in the South Canal, the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA) has corrected the problem and brought the canal back online. The South Canal was repaired on Sunday, May 1, after previously being shut down. UVWUA Manager Steve Pope said that releases of around 800 cfs were made for several days from Ridgway Reservoir to serve users in the interim. With local growers just getting crops in the ground, the timing of the leak was not ideal. “Things went as smoothly as they could have,” Pope said, “considering we had to shut down the main source of planting flows at the start of the season.”

At left, photo by B. Switzer

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### 2022 DMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

*Mail-in ballots arrive this month*

#### Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Each year, DMEA members are responsible for electing three representatives to serve on the co-op's board of directors. This year, the board seats up for election are District 3, District 4, and the South Region. The nomination period for DMEA's 2022 Board of Directors elections has closed with two contenders in each district. The candidates are:

District 3: Jacob Gray (incumbent) and Allen "Mike" Atwood

District 4: Ken Watson (incumbent) and Tom Y Sawyer

South Region: Jock Fleming (incumbent) and Ross Carder

Information on each candidate can be found online at [www.dmea.com/2022candidates](http://www.dmea.com/2022candidates).

Voting: DMEA members will receive their ballot by mail later this month. Mailed ballots must be received by June 14, 2022. Members can also place their completed ballots in the ballot drop boxes in either DMEA lobby before 5:00 p.m. on June 15, 2022, or vote at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at the Montrose Community Recreation Center.

Event Details: DMEA's 2022 Annual Meeting will be a fun-filled evening for the whole family. From swimming and rock climbing to pizza and ice cream, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Registration and early dinner begin at 4 p.m. The business meeting will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. After that, the fun begins! Splash in the pool, shoot some hoops, and enjoy plenty of tasty treats. More information about DMEA's annual meeting and election can be found online at [www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com) or by emailing [becky.mashburn@dmea.com](mailto:becky.mashburn@dmea.com).

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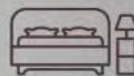
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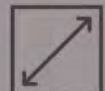
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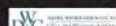


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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE COUNTY FAIR & RODEO MOVES TO ALTERNATIVE FORMAT FOR POULTRY SHOW

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— In an effort to curb the spread of bird flu, the Montrose County Fair and Rodeo board, Junior Livestock Committee, and the Fair's Poultry Superintendent met and decided to cancel the in-person poultry show this year. Members have the option to showcase their project in an alternate format.

"This was not an easy decision to have to make, we know the participants have worked hard on their projects for months," said Montrose County Fair Board President Chris Cohick. "We did not want to put the participants in a situation where they had to worry about the health of their birds."

Junior livestock poultry show members who want to stay enrolled in their poultry project will have the opportunity to complete a poster board about their project. These boards will be judged, and then the member will have an opportunity to interview with a judge, and their record book will be judged as well. If the member completes all the requirements, then the member will have the opportunity to receive funds from the Montrose County Fair Board/Stockmen's Buyers Club in lieu of participation in the junior livestock sale.

Participants needing more information can reach out to the 4-H office at [\(970\)249-3935](tel:9702493935). For more information on the Montrose County Fair and Rodeo, please visit [montrosecountyfairandrodeo.com](http://montrosecountyfairandrodeo.com).

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### POLICE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES TWO NEW OFFICERS

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE — The Montrose Police Department welcomed two new police officers to its ranks Tuesday May 3, filling a pair of vacant positions in the department. Officers Bridgette Clarkson and David Copeland were officially sworn in during a ceremony held in the City Council Chambers before the City Council's regular meeting.

Police Chief Blaine Hall, along with Commanders Tim Cox and Matt Smith, welcomed the officers before an audience of friends, family, City Councilors and staff, and fellow Police Department officers.

Officer Clarkson is the first to complete the Montrose Police Department's new

cadet program. The program allows cadets who are not post-certified to work inside the department while they complete their officer training and education. Clarkson is a graduate of the Western Colorado Law Enforcement Academy at Colorado Mesa University.

Officer Copeland recently retired from the Colorado State Patrol as a master state trooper with 28 years of service. Hall said Officer Copeland is an expert in the areas of drug recognition and impaired driving investigations. His experience will be a boost to the department.

Before officially swearing them in, Hall told the officers to hold themselves to the highest personal standards, both on and

off duty. Their job as police officers, Hall said, was to earn and uphold the trust of the citizens of Montrose while protecting their lives and property and the community itself. Hall also said the role of a police officer has become more challenging in recent years, and Montrose has always been a community that supports local law enforcement. "We've been challenged with a lot of issues in the realm of policing," Hall said, adding that these challenges will "test your integrity" as police officers. "Your integrity is everything as a police officer," Hall said. "And once you lose it, it's gone forever. It's now more important than ever. We are here to help people."

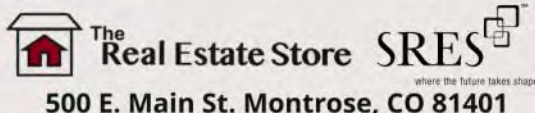
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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### WITHOUT FOSSIL FUELS, WHAT ABOUT ASPHALT?

Dear Editor:

If we halt all exploration for and extraction of fossil fuels, from where will come the asphalt to repair our roads?

Rick Bleier, Montrose

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# COUNCILOR ULIBARRI ASKS CITY STAFF TO SHOW ALL FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR STREETS, SIDEWALKS



*During the discussion of upcoming streets projects, City Manager Bill Bell said that the city will “partner” with Colorado Mesa University (CMU), above, to extend CMU’s campus to the North at South Third, improving conditions for those who attend the City Forum events at Cascade Hall. “...We budgeted several hundred thousand to do parking and safety improvements to sidewalks,” Bell said.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present as the Montrose City Council met for a regularly scheduled work session on Monday, May 2, including Mayor Dave Frank and Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum; as well as Councilors J. David Reed, Ed Ulibarri, and Doug Glaspell.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Civil Engineer II Ryan Cushenan presented information on a contract award to Mountain Valley Contracting in the amount of \$1,430,00 for a Moving Montrose Forward 2022 Contracted Street Maintenance Project.

**Background-**a memo from the city engineers to council states “The total budget for contracted street maintenance in 2022 is \$3.26M; the amount available for this street maintenance contract is summarized as follows:

Total MoveMo Contracted Street Maintenance Budget: \$3,260,000

Less MoveMo Surface Treatment Contract (Awarded 4/19/22): - \$1,428,079

Less South 3rd Cascade to Townsend Deferral: - \$400,000

Total available for this contract (rounded) \$1,430,000

Councilor Ulibarri asked about the City’s total budget for street maintenance; Cushenan said a total of \$3.26M was budgeted for contracted street maintenance this year.

City Manager Bill Bell said that in-house street maintenance is not included in that total.

Ulibarri asked for a total of the dollar amount allocated to streets and sidewalks.

“...From me driving around town, I am seeing a lot of sidewalks, a lot of curb and gutter, a lot of streets that are in dire need of maintenance.”

He asked that Council allocate or find money to get city streets taken care of. “To be honest that’s been the biggest complaint I’ve

been receiving from people.”

Bell said he would email the requested information to Ulibarri. “The number one thing all of us hear is about street maintenance.”

Said Bynum, “That’s all we hear about...we did actually increase the amount being spent this year over previous years for those exact concerns...”

Mayor Frank said that city crews have been busy updating utilities on Townsend Avenue ahead of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) overlay project that is taking place this summer.

Ulibarri also raised concerns over pedestrian safety on city sidewalks.

“We don’t want whoever becomes the new city attorney to be involved in any legal action because somebody tripped over a broken sidewalk.”

“Luckily, that was just settled at the State Supreme Court in Boulder,” Bynum said. “So, we’re in good shape.”

During the streets discussion, City Manager Bill Bell said that the city will “partner” with Colorado Mesa University (CMU) to extend CMU’s campus to the North, improving conditions for those who attend the City Forum events at Cascade Hall.

“...We budgeted several hundred thousand to do parking and safety improvements to sidewalks.” Planned improvements include a different type of entrance off of third Avenue from Townsend, tying the north and south sides of the campus. Improvements are tentatively for 2023. Mayor Frank said that CMU is excited to work with the City.

Assistant City Attorney Chris Dowsey discussed the need to carve out a local sales tax exemption from the State of Colorado’s newly-imposed carryout bag fee (HB 21-1162).

**Background-**Dowsey compiled and presented information on the carryout bag fee in a detailed memo to Council. The memo states, “...Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, there will be a minimum of a ten-cent fee (each municipality may raise the fee associated per bag with a minimum of ten cents) per single-use bag given to a consumer at the affected stores. This includes plastic and recycled paper bags. The fee will be split between the business (40 percent) charging and collecting the fee and the municipality (60 percent)...”

Though home and “under the weather” while City Manager Bill Bell was physically present at the work session, Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler presented via video and shared information from the meeting packet on the proposed new Planning Commission Public Notice Sign. Morgenthaler showed a photo of the sign currently used by the planning commission, as well as a graphic of the proposed new, double-sided signage.

Improvements to the City web site will be made as well.

“...The goal is for someone to be able to see the sign and know there is a public hearing coming on this property,” Morgenthaler said. “...We think we can do a much better job.”

## GENERAL COUNCIL STAFF DISCUSSION

Ulibarri thanked City staff for clarifying the plastic bag situation.

With no further discussion, Mayor Frank adjourned the work session.





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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SHIFT PATROL PARKING

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE — As the Montrose Police Department's new Public Safety Complex nears completion, the department will move its police car parking from behind the construction zone to the parking area on South First Street east of the Cascade Avenue intersection.

The change will make way for the building's contractor, SHAW construction, to prepare for paving of the future Montrose PD parking area starting June 6, 2022.

This area will be designated as police parking 24 hours a day, seven days a week until the Public Safety Complex is completed this coming August.

Following the completion of the department's new parking area, the temporary PD parking area on South First Street will reopen for public use. The 400 block of South First Street, which also includes City Hall, will reopen to traffic upon completion of the Public Safety Complex.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BLM LIFTS SEASONAL WILDLIFE CLOSURES OF SOME PUBLIC LANDS

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Southwest District lifted annual seasonal closures of certain public lands in the Tres Rios and Uncompahgre Field Offices on April 30, 2022. The closures are necessary to protect critical wildlife habitat, minimize stress to wintering mule deer, elk and nesting raptors while also preventing road damage.

"I would like to thank the public for their cooperation in protecting the critical habitat areas for the wildlife that makes southwest Colorado such a special place," said Elizabeth Dawson, acting District Manager. "We appreciate the public's understanding and continued support in complying with future seasonal closures on BLM managed public lands."

Within the Tres Rios Field Office, annual closures will lift on Animas City Mountain, Grandview Ridge Recreation Management Zone in the Durango Special Recreation Management Area, the Aqueduct, Chutes and Ladders, the Summit areas within the Montezuma Triangle Recreation Management Zone portion of the Cortez Special Recreation Management Area.

Within the Uncompahgre Field Office, lifted closures include the Dry Creek Recreation Area, the Ridgeway Trails Recreation Area, the Gunnison Gorge National Recreation Area, the Jumbo Mountain Special Recreation Area, the Burn Canyon Area, and the Dominguez Escalante National Conservation Area.

The BLM coordinates with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and local agencies to identify key wildlife areas for protection while providing areas open for public recreation. Colorado Parks and Wildlife data on deer and elk movements throughout the years indicates that closing areas to human activity helps protect critical foraging habitat and enables the animals to conserve energy for winter survival.

Maps and a complete list of areas affected by these closures and areas open for use are available online at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/recreation-activities/colorado/closures> and the Southwest District office: 2465 S Townsend Ave. Montrose CO 81401. For additional information, call the Southwest District office at (970) 240-5300.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY TO MEET MAY 16

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-On Monday, May 16 at 5:30pm Citizens' Climate lobby holds its monthly meeting. Montrose Library mtg rm. Non-partisan, national, Review Biden's climate agenda and action group on promoting sustainable community with Montrose City Council, info at 970-765-9095. All Welcome.



The image features the Delta Health logo in the top left corner, consisting of a stylized mountain graphic and the text "DELTA HEALTH". Below the logo is a photograph of four medical professionals standing outdoors in front of trees. The individuals are identified by text labels: Matthew Lebsack, MD (West Elk Hotchkiss), Amanda Lovette, MD (Pediatrics), Amber Angles, MD (Family Medicine), and Jonathan Richman, MD (Family Medicine).

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### THINK TWICE BECAUSE YOU ONLY GET ONE VOTE

Dear Editor:

We're fed up. Fed up with the rampant disrespect that has become a nasty disease of pandemic proportions in election campaigns over the last few years. Fed up with the negative rhetoric. Fed up with the allegations of corruption. Fed up with the holier than thou moral stance.

Publishers of the vile allegations are all too often the guilty party, attempting to cover personal flaws. Supporters and han-

dlers are often blinded by a feverish desire to win over the necessity to display the statesmanlike integrity our nation is severely lacking.

We are expected to vote for a candidate who professes to possess the higher ground while denigrating the very soul of an opponent. As a human race, no one is perfect, but it seems unfathomable that we can be gaslighted to elect someone who intentionally spreads negativity ra-

ther than touting their own merits to succeed.

Good families teach respect; that if you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all. Kindness and courtesy are paramount for any society to thrive. We are concerned for our nation. Love of our fellow man and our country seems to be lost down a hollow hole of hatred.

It's becoming apparent that any legislator or would-be legislator at any level that postulates a hate ridden, negative campaign should be given a wide berth.

That pretty snake in the grass, may possess the venom that poisons us.

Think twice because you only get ONE VOTE. And we, together, have only have ONE NATION and we must preserve it or face the reality of failure on our watch.

Pam & Ron Brown, Montrose



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## HOSPITAL OWNERSHIP A HOT TOPIC AT BOCC WORK SESSION *From pg 1*

Hanson said, "No decision has been made. At this point there are only options. There are always lots of options." Hanson explained that her participation on various boards brought her to the conclusion, "The present arrangement wasn't working. It did seem that a government oversight of the hospital has another layer of regulation. Every time the hospital wants to buy something there is an expanded process. One of the hospital trustees said to me, 'It seems like we [county appointed trustees] are just getting in their way.' Around 2009 there was a lot of regulation. The hospital was juggling financial strain and seeking help from the county. Ellis, Henderson, and White were talking about selling the hospital."

Through the PowerPoint slide "How Did We Get Here?" Hanson gave a brief history of the relationship between the then Montrose County Hospital and the then Montrose County Commissioners (Ellis, Henderson, and White). Hanson's view of history was presented through the eyes of the current MRH and the current county commissioners.

- County board of trustees creates and leases hospital to non-profit Montrose Memorial Hospital Inc.
- Board of County Commissioners (Ellis, Henderson, and White) sue the hospital.
- MMHI and lease upheld in court; county owns real property.
- Hospital sues county and board of trustees for overreach and board of trustee's role.
- Commissioners Caddy, Davis and Rash and BOT repair relationship and settle lawsuit with hospital.

Hanson said, "It was not easy. Legal costs for the county were \$1.7 M. There was a very different relationship between the hospital and the county. Now there's new commissioners. We now have a good relationship with the hospital."

**Three options were given for consideration:**

### **Option # 1 - Do Nothing**

- County incurs public debt for necessary hospital improvements.
- Depending on structure of debt, TABOR election may be required.
- Hospital is inhibited from necessary renovation and expansion.



*Public comments were taken during the BOCC work session held on May 3, 2022 at the Montrose County event center. The agenda item was the proposal to transfer county owned property to Montrose Regional Hospital (MRH). Debbie Harmon previously served nine-years on the hospital board and as a trustee. She said, "We did not have the threat of outsiders coming in. Right now, healthcare is ever changing. We have to fend off competitors that are coming in. The county commissioners have handcuffs holding the hospital back."*

*Photo by Gail Marvel.*

- Affects MRH ability to be competitive.

Hanson said, "We need to think what is best for the community hospital. We [county] have to sign off on the debt if they [hospital] want to borrow money. There is debt for necessary hospital improvements. We don't achieve any good (or) free the hospital to make decisions."

### **Option # 2 – Transfer & Reverter**

- Real property transfer with 38-year optional reverter clause on main MRH campus.
- Requires continued community non-profit status & adds county representation to MRH Board.
- Potentially limits MRH ability to finance necessitating future county involvement.

Hanson said, "The hospital would own, but it could revert back to the county. It eliminates the need for the county to co-sign. The county would have oversight and appoint two members to the board." It was noted that toward the end of the 38-year period the county itself would not have to take the hospital back but would have the option to take it back.

### **Option #3 – Full Transfer**

- Resolves all issues related to public ownership/private operation.
- No further public financial liability or control.

Hanson said, "The county would no longer have an involvement. No members on the board. This is to have a community hospital without having government oversight."

Four questions were revisited from the April 4 meeting. Hanson responded to three questions, "Since 1946 the money the taxpayer put into the hospital is under \$5M. From 2012 to today the hospital has invested \$38M in capital projects. The county can't make the best decisions for the hospital."

However, the fourth question from the previous meeting, "What is the value of the real property included in the transfer," went unanswered.

The microphone was turned over to Dr. Kjersten Davis, MRH Board of Directors Chair. She said, "There is the good, the bad and the ugly. The bad — The last two

*Continued next pg*



# **HOSPITAL OWNERSHIP A HOT TOPIC AT BOCC WORK SESSION**

## *From previous pg*

years were really hard on everyone. There are a number of rural hospitals that have closed. There are significant challenges in financial reimbursement (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid, insurance). The supply chain, people leaving healthcare [field] and the threat of others [larger healthcare providers]. The ugly — It's going to get worse. We have to be pro-active. MRH has only a certain amount of money. We would have to go to three boards [hospital, county, county trustees] to get approval. It could easily take a couple of months. We lack the ability to react quickly. The good — the people here. We can all work together to get what we want. It allows the county and the hospital to be more efficient. It is sacrosanct that we remain a locally-controlled non-profit community hospital."

MRH Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jeff Mengenhauen was next to speak. He said, "The operational number is \$400M gross revenue; \$150M net revenue. We are the second largest [Montrose] employer by numbers. We have 80-85 open positions. It's harder and harder to get and retain caregivers. Since 2012 we've paid off \$15M in debt." Mengenhauen touched briefly on future plans for MRH.

Commissioner Roger Rash said, "We care about what happens to our healthcare." With a catch in his voice he said, "My wife has battled cancer for five years. MMH is one of the best hospitals we've been to. I'm afraid we are going to lose that. If we go back to that [previous model] it will destroy the hospital. These [hospital board] are community members who really care about us. We are impeding growth of the hospital [if we don't do something]. We're in a catch-22. If we sign-off on that debt...it comes back to the county. The BOCC spends hours watching legislation. It's costing citizens money. It's a risk. The hospital needs to be nimble. How can the hospital compete if they have to wait for another election cycle to get things done? I'm worrying about some big company coming in. Do we trust the members of the [MRH] board, members of our community?"

Debbie Harmon said, "I served for nine years, on the hospital board and as a trustee. I've seen the roles. In 2008 the non-profit status was removed. We also had three options. To do nothing, sell the hospital, or we could form a non-profit. Politics and healthcare are two separate things. We tried to educate the commissioners. Look at all that has been accomplished in the last 12 years; it's a statement in itself. We did not have the threat of outsiders coming in. Right now, healthcare is ever changing. We have to fend off competitors that are coming in. The county commissioners have handcuffs holding the hospital back."

Dr. Rhonda Parker, who was recruited to MRH in 2006, said, "I don't have a speech today. I'm speaking to you from the heart. I chose a non-profit hospital because I wanted to make a difference. A non-profit community, no matter your social status, where you are or where you are going. I am so happy with the [current] commissioners. I was here during all the [past] confrontation. Let's take pride in one another, let's do this together."

Caddy said, "I'm a big proponent of business and we need to get out of the way of the hospital. It takes 90 days for us [government] to get a contract signed for them."

### **Public comments were limited to three-minutes each.**

Jim Haugsness said, "The current situation is untenable. It's an additional layer of government. The citizen is further and further away from the decisions. I like Option #2." Haugsness questioned the two appointments to the MRH board and he was assured that the county appointees would be full hospital board members.

Former RE-1J department head Linda Gann asked a number of questions and had several comments. She said, "I'm concerned about the disconnect [with citizens]. Where are the checks and balances? Healthcare costs will be on the backs of those who use the hospital. How can the community be in-touch with decisions? We're good now with the county

owning the hospital, we're winning awards and we're doing pretty well." Gann recounted the success in the hard-fought battle and two election cycles needed to get voters to approve a bond issue for the school district.

Davis said, "The school district has no competition."

Caddy said, "Competition can put us out of business today. I get that we have to protect the hospital. Competition can cherry-pick the services that make money."

Hanson said, "The county is really just the landlord."

Caddy said, "We only have a building. We do not get to say in the costs that fall on us [citizens]."

Jim Anderson said, "It's only as good as the agreement that is written. It needs to remain a 501(c)(3). How do you do that, protect the hospital and the citizens of the community? It needs tough, strong language." Anderson referred to the proposed medical center at Colorado Outdoors, which is purported to be backed by several local doctors whose names have yet to be released. He said "We can't let someone come in and take the cream of the crop and walk away. We have people in this community who wish to harm us financially. Protect us where it [hospital] can't be sold. Those doctors involved [with Colorado Outdoors] should step forward."

Bill Bennett said, "I served on the [hospital] board with Debbie." Bennett recounted a time when the urology department wanted to purchase a DaVinci robot for prostate surgery. He said, "We couldn't do it because the commissioners would not approve it. We had to go around the commissioners."

Bev Roth, former nurse and now MRH Patient Advocate, recounted the stories of three patients who were unable to pay for healthcare and the efforts made by the hospital to meet their needs. She said, "This is something that a local independent hospital can do."

Dr. Mary Vader, who was raised in Gunnison, gave testimony to the importance of the Montrose hospital meeting regional



## HOSPITAL OWNERSHIP A HOT TOPIC AT BOCC WORK SESSION

### From previous pg

needs. Former hospital board chair Ron Courtney said, "This was started as a county hospital, but it's our hospital. Let's not get rid of it or change it. I can tell you if you don't find a way to keep the hospital viable, then it will be for only those who can afford it. Our community has to have a hospital as strong as it can be, but not tied up with government. We have a chance to make it what it should be to survive into the future. The Delta hospital is suffering. [Because of government regulations] we've spent a lot of money to fix things that can't be fixed."

Referring to former commissioners White, Henderson, and Ellis, Commissioner Rash said, "I don't want to drag anyone over the coals. Commissioners make difficult decisions. There are not easy choices to make. I want to thank them for the effort they put in and what they did at that time. It was a different time. We have to evaluate what is the cost of doing nothing. It won't be taken lightly. We have to have some faith that God has a plan and [we need to] take the ego out of it."

Former commissioner Ron Henderson said, "There are a lot of moving parts to this. So far, we [public] have had two meetings. You've [speaking of the three boards] had a lot of meetings sequestered. This is the first time it's been exposed to the public. A little more time needs to be allowed." Henderson suggested future meetings should have a whiteboard to show the flow of discussion. He said, "I urge you to continue to review the problem and let the public see in writing what you are doing. I urge you not to make up your mind tonight."

Former commissioner David White said, "There are two sides to every story. At the last meeting it was noted that the hospital was created [1946] by a vote of the people. I'll call this [meeting] a pre-decisional decision [implying the commissioners had

already made up their mind]. Let the citizens have a say, [let them have] a vote. In a dissolution of a county hospital the citizens should have a say. Competition will solve the problem, whether we like it or not. At the end of the day, times change."

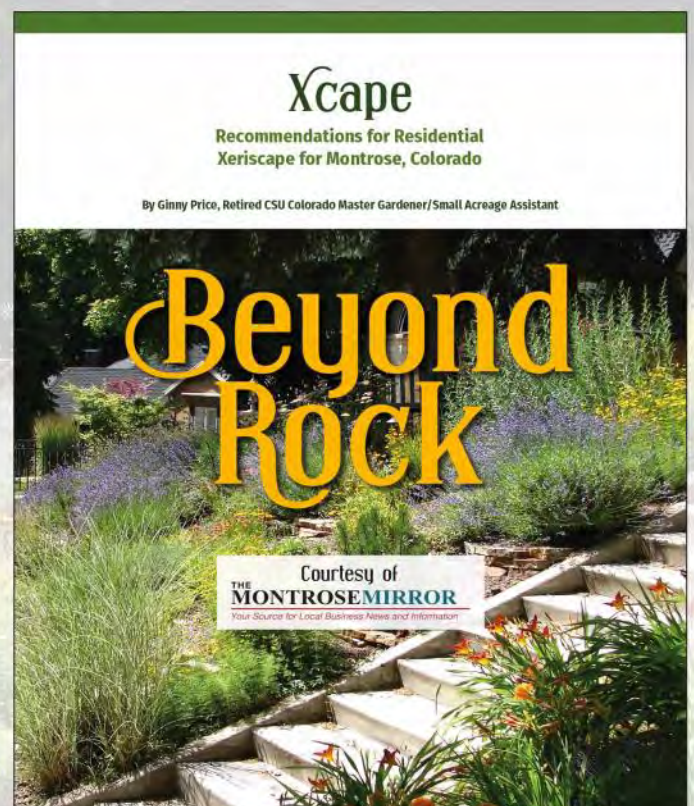
After almost a two-hour meeting, Caddy thanked the public for attending and adjourned the work session. Community members were encouraged to provide feedback via email or phone to the commissioners (<https://www.montrosecounty.net/172/County-Commissioners>).

**Reporter's note-background:** In a telephone conversation following the work session, former Montrose County Commissioner David White noted that the hospital board at that time had already ordered the DaVinci robot and it was in the process of being shipped prior to the hospital board approaching the county commissioners for approval.

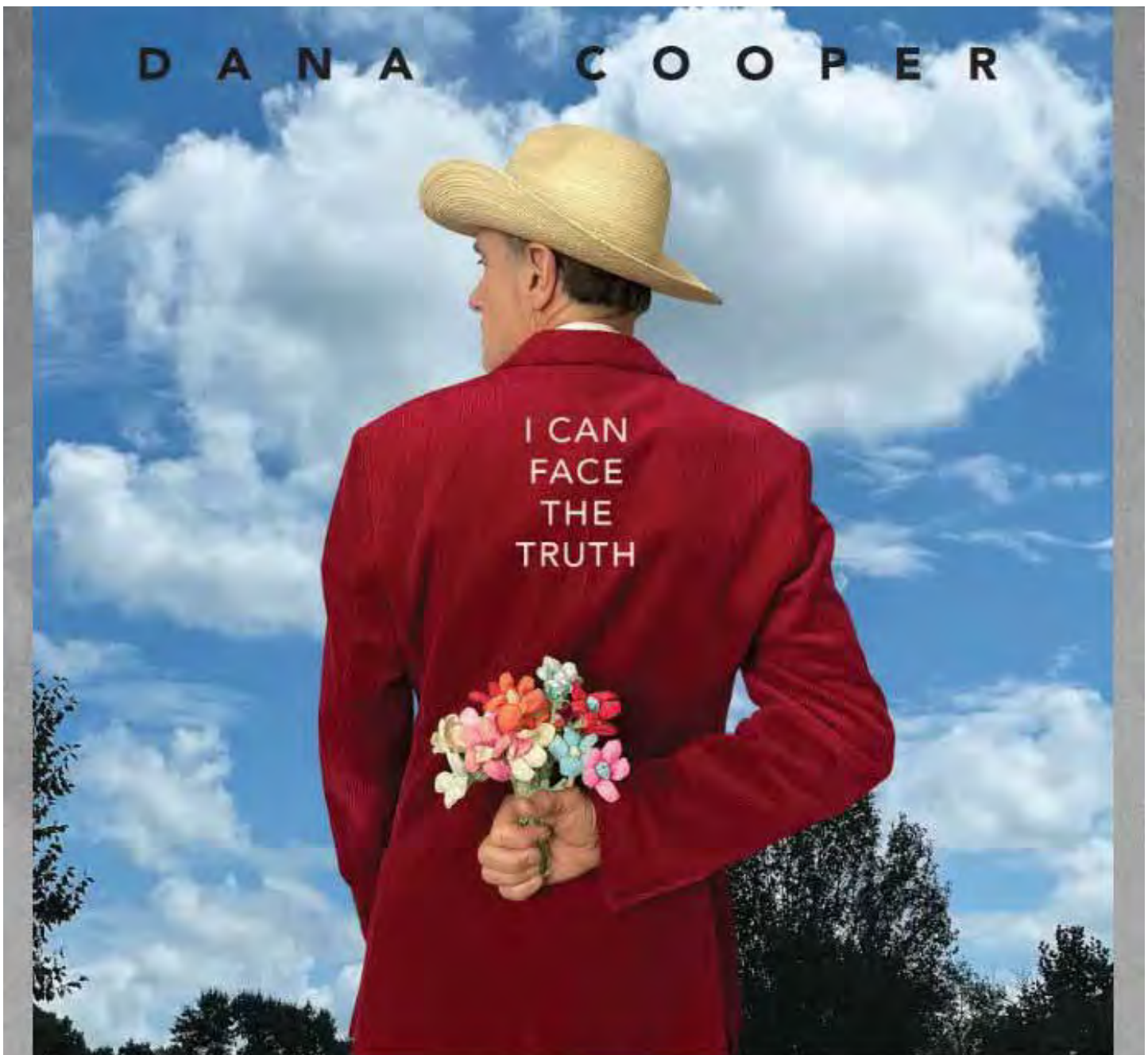
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## EASY TO SEE THAT WHITE HOUSE ALLEGIANCES DO NOT LIE WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

*Editor:*

Honesty and integrity. One time long ago, those attributes could have been attributed to the Democrat Party. Today, that once-great party cannot possibly win the midterms or any other election with anything other than fraud. They are now having to rely on reality-bending propaganda: Biden's presidency has been a roaring success, but ordinary Americans just aren't enlightened enough to grasp all he's accomplished. We are not in an inflation death spiral; violent crime rates are not really through the roof; the foreign invasion at our southern border is not real; we're not really putting parents on FBI watch lists; we are not really allowing men to dominate women's sports; we did not polarize the country with the Trump/Russia collusion farce; we did not intentionally set race relations back 50 years; we did not eviscerate domestic oil production; the Afghanistan withdrawal was orderly and we did not give a thumbs up to dictators worldwide leading to the Ukraine invasion and possibly a Chinese invasion of Taiwan; we did not lie about Hunter Biden and "the big guy's" corruption; we don't really advocate teaching 5- to 9-year-olds about sex and aren't lying about Florida's new law to protect children from groomers; we don't oppose parents' rights to know and be involved in what is being taught in the classroom; we did not go on monumental unfunded trillion dollar spending sprees to expand big government; our new DHS "Disinformation Task Force" is not really about limiting the free speech of those we

disagree with; our illegal plans to eliminate \$1.6 trillion of student loan debt is not really about buying votes from wealthy students with useless degrees, and transferring that debt to working class taxpayers: and we didn't really perpetrate the fraud of placing a person with obvious diminished capacity in the White House. Because they have no realistic or workable plans or policies, Democrats can now only rely on propaganda, fraud, and deceit. A few of our local Democrats are realizing that they too have to set their honesty and integrity aside if they are to get their way. Several letters to the editor have openly encouraged Democrats to register as unaffiliated so they can vote for Democrat-in-Republican-clothing Don Coram in the Republican primary. They are willing to set their integrity aside because they consider anyone not going along with the insanity to be "unenlightened". The end justifies the means.

Equally corrupt was the Democrat controlled Colorado legislature dictating that the unaffiliated be allowed to vote in the Republican or Democrat primaries. Allowing a party to choose its own candidates seemed unreasonable to them. That's kind of like allowing a student in Olathe to vote for the Montrose High School prom king and queen, or letting the general public vote for the teachers' union president? Reason doesn't enter into it. Democrats thought independents voting in Republican primaries would give them an advantage. Unfortunately for Democrats, most unaffiliated voters have seen the

light and now have a highly negative opinion of the extremists in control of the Democratic Party. Being independent thinkers, they are the last to be fooled by the left's propaganda and lies. Most will support strong Republican candidates like Lauren Boebert in the primary and will be the last to vote for a Democrat in the final election.

I don't really fault the unaffiliated for legally voting in the primary. However, those Democrats who choose to re-register as an independent to be able to vote for "don't ask me where I stand on issues" Don Coram are only recognizing their party's desperation and, more importantly, admitting to themselves that they are personally corrupt. They will fit in quite well with the extremists now in control of their party.

Those local Democrats willing to stoop to the level of their party should ask themselves who benefits from Biden's destroy America policies? Certainly not working-class Americans.

The narco-terrorists at the southern border benefit.

Iran is a big winner with Biden groveling at the ayatollah's feet. Russia wins as the U.S. and EU nations sabotage their own economies with Green New Deal fiascos. China wins from the devastation of the global economy.

Big Pharma is a big winner. It's kind of hard to see just where the White House's allegiances lie, but it's pretty easy to see that they do not lie with the American people.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*





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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## VOTERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DO THEIR OWN RESEARCH ON CORAM

*Editor:*

In light of losing his seat in the Colorado Legislature, Don Coram, with inflated visions of higher office, chose to bypass the grassroots caucus process he previously utilized, opting instead to petition on to the Republican Primary ballot. An inquisitive voter might ask why?

The simple answer is that over his ten years in politics, he has completely lost the support and respect of the Montrose Republican party, and he knew he could not garner even the small percentage of votes necessary to obtain a primary ballot position in his own home county.

In the general election of 2018, Coram received a total 13,271 votes [Sec State website], but in his petition drive he was able to buy only 545 petition signatures in the whole county. According to [www.ratings.conservative.org](http://www.ratings.conservative.org) Coram was rated 95% conservative his first year in office in 2012. By 2020 his conservative rating had plummeted 30 points! If you search [www.votesmart.org](http://www.votesmart.org), you can review his voting record and ratings, that show a similar decline. It seems his self proclaimed propensity for “reaching across the aisle” to work hand in hand with liberal progressive Democrats has led to the loss of his once strong local support.

No doubt his apparent conflict of interest in the hemp scandal [corrupt [co-ram.com](http://co-ram.com)], an ethics complaint, a petition

for resignation, a cannabis related issue and sponsorship or votes on many questionable sex ed bills, among others, have led to the decline in local support. For more detailed information on Coram, go to FACEBOOK and search “Shining The Light And Truth On Issues And Candidates”. When anyone focuses on the facts

of his record, Coram’s standard response has been, “lies, lies, and more lies!”, as if that retort can mask the loss of trust among his local constituency. Voters are encouraged to do their own research on Coram, available from public sources, before making any decision.

*Dee Laird, Montrose*



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# MONTROSE COUNTY APPROVES DOG ORDINANCE *From pg 1*

heard from the public on non-agenda items.

## COUNTY MANAGER

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

## CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved as presented, with Resolution No. 31-2022 assigned to Consent Agenda Item No. Two, which amends County Resolution 59-2021 Article III, Paragraph F Section 2, lowering the requirements of Ambulance Services to carry professional liability coverage of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per person and two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per occurrence.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Assistant County Attorney Joe Gaffney presented the draft of a revised Montrose County Dog Ordinance, Resolution 32-2022.

Gaffney, who did extensive research while working on the ordinance, explained that it became necessary after passage of Colorado's misdemeanor reform bill SB 21-271. The most substantial addition is the inclusion of a barking penalty, Gaffney said. The new ordinance requires that a complaint be filed.

In addition to researching ordinances used elsewhere, Gaffney worked with Montrose County Animal Control Officer Jason Robillard.

Robillard said, "I love this ordinance." The ordinance will preserve the county's agricultural nature while providing an excellent tool to solve problems with barking dogs, he said.

Commissioner Roger Rash said he was glad to see definitions improved and the county address dogs running at large. "I think that's an important part that we need to address as well. This being an ag community, I don't know if folks moving into this area understand, that if their dog gets off of their property and goes into livestock, it will be shot," Rash said. "...how many dogs get run over on the roads...or they get dumped out in the county...we saw one here a couple months ago...they booted the dog out of

the car and drove off...this gives us tools to go out there and pick up that animal, get it into the pound, and make sure that it's going to be taken care of eventually...it's more than just a barking dog issue, it's a whole lot of other issues."

He thanked Gaffney for his work on the ordinance, and thanked Sgt. Robillard and Sheriff Gene Lillard as well.

Hansen said that the ordinance has been a long time in coming. She thanked Gaffney for his efforts and thanked former Assistant County Attorney Lane Thomasson for her early work on the ordinance. Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 32-2022.

Sheriff Gene Lillard and Undersheriff George Jackson discussed ratification of the Unified Fleet Services, LLC Lease Agreements. The Resolution is on behalf of the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and is a result of a signatory that did not have authority to sign the leases. The BOCC voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 33-2022.

Also approved was the Addendum to the Unified Fleet Services, LLC Master Lease that exempts vehicles with normal wear and tear from Section e(ii) of the Unified Master Lease.

Emergency Manager Scott Hawkins presented three items, which were approved: -Consideration and possible action on the Montrose Fire Protection District application for License & Permits for four Ambulances to operate in Montrose County; as reviewed by Counsel, effective May 31st, 2022 through May 30, 2023. All insurance, certifications, Medical Director's affidavit and inspections have been submitted;

-Consideration and possible action on the Nucla/Naturita Ambulance Service application for License & Permits for four Ambulances to operate in Montrose County; as reviewed by Counsel, effective May 31st, 2022 through May 30, 2023. All insurance, certifications, Medical Director's affidavit and inspections have been submitted;

-Consideration and possible action on the Olathe Fire Protection District application

for License & Permits for four Ambulances to operate in Montrose County; as reviewed by Counsel, effective May 31st, 2022 through May 30, 2023. All insurance, certifications, Medical Director's affidavit and inspections have been submitted.

The BOCC also voted unanimously to approve the Chair's signature on the Federal Aviation Administration Agreement to Transfer of Entitlements; effective May 4, 2022, as reviewed by Counsel; this agreement will transfer \$150,000 of fiscal year (FY) 2022 Federal entitlement funds from Hopkins Field Airport, Nucla, CO to Montrose Regional Airport, Montrose, CO. "It's a worthy project and we would certainly recommend this to the board," Director of Aviation Lloyd Arnold said.

Commissioner Rash noted funds from other airports have in the past been transferred to Hopkins Field, which has been improved significantly in recent years. "...What they've done over there with updates to the terminal, it's a really nice airport over there and it is used a bunch by the local folks...It's a huge benefit to the community...yeah, we're taking some money away, but money goes back the other direction when needed."

"That's a nice process the way they do that between the airports," BOCC Chair Keith Caddy said, "...I think it's a great way to do business."

Arnold said, "It's worked out well for many years in the State of Colorado for us and other airports."

Digital Communications Manager Erika Story, filling in for Media Relations Manager Katie Yergensen, introduced a proclamation declaring May 15-21, 2022 as Public Works Week in Montrose County. Public works crews keep 14,00+ miles safe for the traveling public throughout the year, Story said.

She noted that last year, Public Works employee Shane Stratton won the national championship for motor grader operator. This year, employee Rusty Catlin won the Colorado State Championship for backhoe and will be heading to the nationals as well. A high school group will be visiting



## MONTROSE COUNTY APPROVES DOG ORDINANCE *From previous pg*

will be visiting Public Works to learn about operations and see the equipment up close, she said. Story read the Proclamation into the record.

BOCC Vice Chair Sue Hansen said, "I think it's great that we're doing this...I really do appreciate all the work, and I think it's wonderful that we have a couple of gentlemen competing...in Roadeo."

"This is near and dear to my heart," said Commissioner Rash, a career CDOT worker before joining the BOCC. Rash expressed appreciation for County Public Works crews and their fast response to their work. "They do a fantastic job; they maintain our roads...it's a vital part of our county."

Taking part in national competitions is fun, but also enables public works team members to share ideas and information with other professionals, Rash said. "Good ideas are exchanged and brought back to Montrose County...outstanding job to all our men and women in maintenance, and outstanding job to Keith Laube and his efforts to keep all the wheels spinning on that, because it is a heavy lift as well."

Caddy also thanked Laube and his staff. "...This is what counties are about--road and bridge, public safety, public health--that's what we do for a living and you're a big part of that."

"...We have a lot of infrastructure out there, we have a really big county, and our people really are determined to do a good job and be responsive," Laube said, adding that citizens are often the eyes and ears for county staff.

Commissioners approved the proclamation declaring May 15-22 as public works week in Montrose County.

Commissioners also approved a proclamation declaring May as Foster Care Month in Montrose County. Reading the proclamation into the record was Katie Norton of Whimspire.

Commissioners voted to approve a bid award and contract in the amount of \$563,554.03 to Stryker & Company, Inc., for permitting and construction of the Montrose County Justice Center Annex Building - Office Construction & Remodel Project, as reviewed by Counsel. Stryker & Company, Inc. was the only responsive, responsible bid. The project is anticipated to start on or after May 4, 2022 and be completed by September 15, 2022. This item represents a non-budgeted expense of \$563,554.03.

**MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY**

Commissioners left regular session to reconvene as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority, moving the item forward from meeting's end due to the lengthy agenda. Based on Findings, the Liquor Licensing Authority voted to approve the Special Event Permit for Montrose Baseball, Inc. to be held at Antler Ridge on May 14, 2022. All appropriate documents, reviews, and fees have been submitted pursuant to CRS 44-5-101. No concerns were reported by the Sheriff's Office or Planning and Development.

Commissioners returned to regular session and continued business as the BOCC.

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Caddy opened a public hearing, as Planner Tallmadge Richmond presented the JBARJ Rezone proposal to rezone from General Agricultural (A) to Manufactured Home Park Residential District (R-MHP) at 11511 Lakeview Drive. The area proposed for a rezone is a little over nine acres, and access is from Lakeview Drive.

The Planning Commission has reviewed the proposal on three separate occasions; it was continued twice, Richmond said. The main concern was septic in the lower area; the applicant has since changed the proposal to rezone only the Northern portion of the property. There would be a community septic system.

Hansen said, "...The soil out there is so bad—is that going to work? I know this area and there's always a smell, so I'm concerned about that."

Any system would have to be engineered, Richmond said. "That engineering would make this site plausible for a shared system."

Rash asked about leaching at higher ground level. Commissioners discussed the local soil, which is alkali saturated. "How did this get missed in the zoning?" Rash said.

Planning & Development Director Steve White said that part of the process is bringing an old system up to existing standards. A shared system would reduce impacts.

"I'm concerned about the sewage...I guess I'd like to take some time to look at it a little closer," Hansen said.

The applicant was present to answer questions; Applicant Jack Petrocelli said he bought the property, known as the Heath Mobile Home Park, a little over a year ago but the park has been there for 40 years. The compliance process has been onerous, he said. The project has been downsized from a planned 38 units to 11 units. "We can

handle the septic, we can handle the future septic needs."

Petrocelli said he has cleaned up the property; "I have personally taken 20 loads to the dump...we've cleaned up what we own and are able to clean up."

After further questions, Hansen asked for more time to review the proposal.

Commissioners voted to continue the item to the meeting of June 3 at 9:30am. "This whole postponement is a real inconvenience for me," Petrocelli said, noting that he will be out of town later in May.

Taking the time needed to review is more than appropriate, Commissioner Rash said.

In other planning and development business, the BOCC voted to approve several properties that include language about possible future solar development, though that would require approval of a special use permit. Following public hearings, rezones were approved for:

- the BOA Commercial Park Rezone proposal to Rezone from General Business (B) to General Residential at Vernal Road;
- the Grand Headwaters, LLC Rezone proposal to Rezone from Residential (R) to General Agricultural (A) at Parcel 372129200041, 62676 Ida Rd;
- the Valdez Farms, LLC Rezone proposal to Rezone from Residential (R) to General Agricultural (A). at Parcel 372119200044;
- the Stoney Point, LLC Rezone proposal to Rezone from Residential (R) to General Agricultural (A). at Parcel 372119400004;
- Also approved was the Sheep Dog Large Tract Exemption proposal to divide three lots from a 120 acre parcel at Parcel 399301300021; and
- the River Stone Subdivision, Extension Request proposal to extend approval of a Preliminary Plan at the Southwest corner of Oak Grove and Chipeta Roads.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOCC entered executive session with the Deputy County Attorney pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(a) and (b) for legal advice and direction regarding transfer of real and personal property to MMHI. No decisions were made.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

### SPECIAL MEETING

On Thursday, May 5, the BOCC convened for a special meeting, entering executive session with Deputy County Attorney Julie Andress, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) and (e) for legal advice and direction regarding litigation in 21CV905.



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# PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX WRAPPING UP FINISHES, PUBLIC WORKS BUILDS OBSTACLE COURSE FOR 5K MUD RUN



*The new public safety complex is wrapping up finishes, Police Chief Blaine Hall said May 3.*

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present, including City Youth Councilor Grace Hotsenpiller, as Mayor Dave Frank opened the regularly-scheduled Montrose City Council meeting of Tuesday, May 3. All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum noted one change to the meeting agenda; as Council moved forward with a proclamation declaring May 2022 to be First Responders Month in Montrose. Bynum and Mayor Frank took turns reading the proclamation and welcomed those first responders who were present at the meeting to join them for a photo.

Following the proclamation, Frank offered a personal thank you to all first responders for their service.

## CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments heard from the public.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve minutes of the April 18, 2022 special City Council meeting and the April 19, 2022 regular City Council meeting.

## PLANNING COMMISSION

Council voted unanimously to appoint Planning Commission Alternate Steven Ball as a regular member of the City of Montrose Planning Commission.

## NEW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

As discussed previously, Council voted to approve a new hotel and restaurant liquor license for at 1343 Mayfly Drive for Trattoria Di Sofia, LLC, doing business as Trattoria Di Sofia, for consumption on the licensed premises. The restaurant expects to open in its new location towards the end of May or in early June.

## RESOLUTION 2022-09

Also approved was Resolution 2022-09, authorizing assignment to the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority of a private activity bond allocation of the City of Montrose pursuant to the Colorado Private Activity Bond Ceiling Allocation Act. The item was discussed previously in work session.

## RESOLUTION 2022-10

Councilor Ed Ulibarri recused himself from consideration and approval of Resolution 2022-10, as he is related to the property owners through marriage. Resolution 2022-10 sets June 7, 2022 as the hearing date for the 6700 DeJulio Addition annexation.

Still working from home due to illness, Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaller struggled to present the item via video, despite the physical presence at the meeting of her Department Head, City Manager Bill Bell.

Mayor Frank noted some issues with the screen share, and said to Morgenthaller, "...If you wouldn't mind speaking up a little bit. It's a little hard to hear you."

Her voice weak, Morgenthaller noted that all information on the proposed annexation is available in the packet.

Mayor Frank interrupted her again, "...We're still having a lot of trouble hearing you."

All councilors except Ulibarri voted to approve Resolution 2022-10.

## ORDINANCE 2589 - FIRST READING

Morgenthaller was also charged with presenting Ordinance 2589 on First Reading. Ordinance 2589 amends Title 4 Chapter 4 Section 24, regarding Planned Development (PD) regulations to clarify the process, consent, and public notice requirements for applications to amend an existing planned development plan. The information was discussed previously in work session. A redlined version is included in the meeting packet.

Mayor Frank opened and closed a public hearing; there were no comments heard from the public. Ordinance 2589 was approved unanimously.

## BEAR CREEK SUBDIVISION FILING NO. 7 FINAL PLAT

Planner William Reis presented for consideration the Bear Creek Subdivision Filing No. 7 Final Plat to create 32 new residential lots and dedicate rights of way and/or easements.

Councilor Ulibarri noted an error (a discrepancy in the number of lots) in the memo prepared by Reis for Council; Reis apologized for the error but noted that the memo is not being approved, rather Council would approve the plat itself.

Assistant City Attorney Chris Dowsey said there would be no legal issues arising from an error in the staff memo.

"So long as the plat is an accurate description of what is going on, that is going to be the legally binding document."

Frank opened and closed a hearing; there were no comments heard.

Council voted unanimously to approve the Bear Creek Subdivision Filing No. 7 Final Plat to create 32 new residential lots and dedicate rights of way and/or easements.



## ***PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX WRAPPING UP FINISHES, PUBLIC WORKS BUILDS OBSTACLE COURSE FOR MUD RUN From previous pg***

Frank apologized to the public “on behalf of Council and staff” for technical issues that arose during the meeting.

Documents from the meeting packet can be viewed on the Public Meetings Portal on [the city web site](#).

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Police Chief Blaine Hall gave an update on the Latinx Citizens Police Academy held in April.

A wide range of topics were covered, “We had 21 students in that class,” Hall said. He said that Community Engagement Specialist Ross Valdez was instrumental in bringing in participants.

“This has been a very successful program and we plan on continuing it,” Hall said.

The new public safety complex is wrapping up finishes, he said. “It’s coming along.”

The old All Points Transit Building will be knocked down.

Mayor Frank thanked Valdez. “You’ve been a valuable asset to the city and we appreciate you.”

Frank expressed excitement over the pro-

gress of the new public safety complex. “It looks fantastic; I am very excited to see that progress.”

Hall said that community tours will be conducted at a later date.

### **YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE**

Youth City Councilor Grace Hotsenpiller gave an update on Youth Council activities, from a trash pickup to a planned movie night.

### **COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum said that the city has “a really cool” event coming up that has not been mentioned in a Council meeting, the Montrose Mudder. Bynum asked City Manager Bill Bell to discuss the event. “Maybe you know more about it than anyone actually.”

Bell spoke about the Montrose Mudder. Bell said the High School Rotary Club, local Rotary clubs, and the City’s Office of Business and Tourism have partnered on the event. There is an obstacle course on the side of Chipeta Road. Crazy Like a Fox will play at the Amphitheater. “We’re really excited...we’ve created our first annual

mud run event for Montrose. It’s been talked about for probably eight or nine years, and it’s finally coming to fruition,” Bell said. “We have a lot of people who are enthusiastic outdoor runners and who like to get dirty.”

Public Works crews have built the 5K Course. The obstacle course will have eight or nine features. There will be cash prizes, and individual as well as team events. Kids under 13 will go through first, Bell said. “It’s going to be really fun. We’re going to need volunteers of course...we have lots of stations available for people to get involved.”

Partners Mentoring will hold a beer pour at the amphitheater on May 7, Bell said. Mayor Frank said the city won two Governor’s awards for downtown excellence from Downtown Colorado Inc., for improvements to Chow Down Pet Supplies and to Block 64 Improvements. A party was set for May 5, with at least one taco truck.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL:LETTERS

### MANY WHO CALL THEMSELVES 'PRO-LIFE' ARE IN REALITY JUST 'PRO-BIRTH'

*Editor:*

Now that it is evident that the Supreme Court intends to strike down *Roe v. Wade*, it is time to look at some of the real ramifications of such a decision. Many pro-lifers think this is a good decision. Perhaps not.

Several states are enacting anti-abortion laws that make no exceptions for rape, incest, or for saving the life of the mother. Why does the state need to compel a rape victim to carry the child of the rapist? Why does the state need to compel a victim of incest to carry the child to term? What about the poor woman who may now die in childbirth because the state says "no exception"?

Unwanted children are often abused. I recently heard of a one month old who was covered in cigarette burns, and had a broken femur. The child will never be normal, and now is a ward of the state. Furthermore, unwanted children are often

left unsupervised and left to their own devices. Quite often they turn to crime and drugs when they get older, and many join gangs just for a sense of belonging. All of this leads to increased crime, and places an unnecessary burden on our society.

Another consequence is the denial of opportunity. For instance, a young woman who is planning on attending college finds out she is pregnant. Now she must carry the child to term, and then support it. Her dreams of college and a career are over. Chances are good she will be forced to go on welfare to support herself and her child. Who pays for that? We do as a society, in many ways.

What about the family who finds out their child will be severely deformed and will always require medical attention? Now the child must be carried to term and cared for by the parents, perhaps for the rest of their lives. Is it fair to impose such a

burden on a family? If the medical bills are too high, bankruptcy is a real possibility. Again, we as a society must pick up the tab. The real point is that many who call themselves "pro-life" are in reality just "pro-birth".

Once a child is born, do they really care about what happens to it? These same people are against welfare and claim to be against crime while in reality their position leads to increased welfare and crime. How many of them have adopted an unwanted child, mentored one, or contribute to organizations that support unwanted children? I agree with what Bill Clinton said many years ago, that "Abortion should be accessible, safe, and exceedingly rare." No one has the right to judge another's actions unless they have walked in that person's shoes, and considered all of the consequences.

*Ron Sobieck, Montrose*

### THE SALE OF MMH WILL SIMPLIFY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS WHILE SAFEGUARDING OUR PRIZE ASSET

*Editor:*

I went to the second BOCC meeting on the subject of transferring the county owned hospital essentially to the Board of Directors of the Montrose Memorial Hospital dba as Montrose Regional Health. For a number of reasons this is a good idea but because of an attempt of a previous BOCC to sell the hospital some folks are worried that without taking some legal precautions the sale of our treasured MMH to a private company might really happen.

I know most of the people involved with this idea and it makes good sense. The 'setup' the court foisted upon the BOCC and the Directors by inflicting a third body, Trustees, to oversee major decisions created an almost unworkable organization.

When the community based not-for-profit was created by the original Board of Trustees some of the best minds in the busi-

ness from all over the United States were consulted and safeguards put into place to keep a sale from happening. And it worked. Just as it worked then, it works now. No burdensome bureaucracy required. But now that the subject has again raised its ugly head some seem to think that more obstacles to a sale is needed. Some of the speakers at the meeting were anxious to ensure that if the hospital were sold the value would go to the right entities.

In short, the contract as written, ensures that the hospital will exist without being sold-out for another 35 years or so. Only one person at the meeting indicated he would even be around at that date, 2057. Looking around the room I have to agree, and anyone following the demographic of Americans that would be alive in 2057 would likely have moved away.

When drafting a Last Will and Testament (a will) most attorneys will caution us not to TRY TO RULE FROM THE GRAVE. This is good counsel because laws, society and situations change. Thirty five years is just short of two generations.

If BROOKS & BROOKS have any influence over this reassignment of ownership, we the citizens of Montrose will be well served. And from what I know of our present BOCC and the county attorney BROOKS & BROOKS will be well checked on.

In the end, the meeting was good, fruitful and worthwhile. Most of the attendees were the same as at the first meeting. With the ideas presented from all concerned, it is time that we continue to be watchful as the attorneys do their work.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### THE CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH RECOGNIZES MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Since 1949, communities and mental health professionals have observed May as Mental Health Awareness month. During Mental Health Awareness Month, The Center for Mental Health (The Center) will focus our attention back to the basics and provide our community with the knowledge about mental health and mental illness, and what people can do if they, or a loved one, are concerned about their mental health.

Individuals have responded to the stresses of the pandemic by focusing on their mental wellness and, in some cases, seeking help sooner. According to Shelly Spalding, CEO of The Center, “We have seen an increase of individuals seeking services in our outpatient offices, in calls to our crisis and support line, and in visits to our Crisis Walk-In Center. It’s a good thing that people are connecting with our staff when they need help. It is so important to take the time in May, but also in the other 11 months of the year, to recognize the

importance of good mental health and to recognize and honor the work of so many providers in our communities who serve the needs of their clients.”

The Center offers outpatient services across six counties on the Western Slope, serving over 4,000 clients each year. In addition, The Center staffs a Crisis Walk-In Center, 24/7/365, in Montrose which provides urgent behavioral health care in our region. Care is offered at this location without regard to ability to pay or status of health insurance.

According to Rebecca Lister, a clinician, and the Assistant Director for Delta County at The Center’s Delta Outpatient Office, “It’s always good to be reminded during May of how important our mental health is. Just like physical health, some days we may feel under the weather, and some days we may need more supports to help us with our mental health. We can all focus on getting plenty of sleep, eating well, connecting with others, getting outside, journaling, and other strategies to take

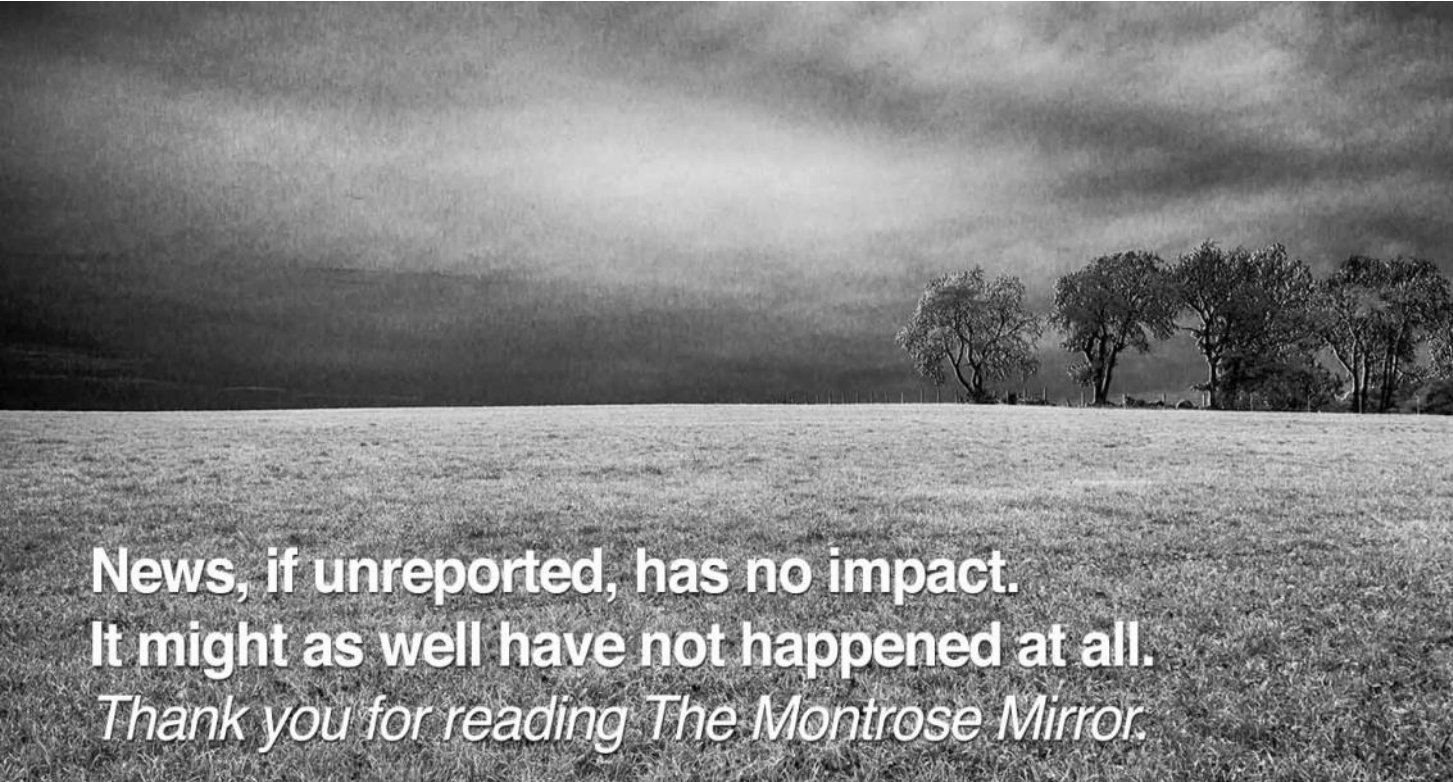
care of ourselves. And when that isn’t enough, reaching out to professionals.”

Our website has additional information about steps you can take all year long to maintain your mental health and well-being, from exercise and journaling, to taking a free and anonymous screening or getting help from a mental health professional.

Visit [centermh.org/May](https://centermh.org/May) to read our latest article, “May is Mental Health Month—Back to Basics,” to learn more.

The Center encourages everyone to be aware of and take care of your own mental health and well-being during Mental Health Awareness Month.

The Center Support Line, 970.252.6220, and the Crisis Walk-In Center at 300 N. Cascade Avenue, Montrose, are available 24/7/365 if you or someone you know is either experiencing a mental health crisis or needs to connect with a mental health professional. You can also contact Colorado Crisis Services at 1.844.493.TALK (8255) or text TALK to 38255.



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*Thank you for reading The Montrose Mirror.***

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC.: PAST HISTORY OFTEN PREDICTS FUTURE ACTIONS

### *Mirror Medical Reporter*

MONTROSE-There is a lot of information below so here is a capsulation of the key points:

1. Montrose Regional Health a/k/a Montrose Memorial Hospital a/k/a Montrose Memorial Hospital Inc. (MMHI) is NOT a county hospital – the taxpayers of Montrose County own the physical hospital and, as noted in the last editorial, a LOT more.
2. MMHI is a public nonprofit organization that took over the assets owned by County taxpayers described below (not buildings) previously behind closed doors (legal yes, ethical???) through a 50-year lease.
3. MMHI is orchestrating the construction of a new ambulatory care center, in planning since 2015, that will move health care services already provided at the Hospital and its Hospital Outpatient Department facility (Black Canyon Surgical Center) to a different property duplicating services already provided at Montrose Memorial Hospital.
4. Colorado Hospital Utilization Data –

2016 to 2020 – notes that in 2019 there were 3084 inpatient discharges and there were 135,446 total outpatient visits and in 2020 the numbers were 2,830 and 101,118. Outpatient visits include Emergency Department visits, ambulatory surgery visits, observation visits, home health visits, medical imaging, and other visit types. Outpatient services represent a significant revenue stream for the Hospital. Stripping some of these services from the hospital and replicating them at the new ambulatory care center will have a significant impact on Hospital revenues and provide little incentive to invest in capital improvements in a facility that serves far less patients and fills only about 30% of the Hospital's inpatient beds per utilization reports.

5. The land that the new ambulatory care sits on will be owned by MMHI. MMHI will lease the land to NexCore who manages the construction and creates strategic partnerships with physicians and hospitals who ultimately own the building, increas-

ing partners returns on investment.

6. Nonprofit hospitals in the past were created to fulfill a charitable need to provide medical care to its citizens; however, today's nonprofit hospitals receive substantial financial breaks (don't pay taxes) while its charitable contributions are far less than the benefits received.

7. High profits have not meant higher charitable contributions but rather often profits are used to expand market share resulting in even higher medical costs.

8. Programs designed to help rural hospitals serve Medicare patients by providing additional funding have done little to reduce patient charges.

10. Montrose County is now proposing giving millions of dollars of physical assets away to the same organization, MMHI, which will further enhance its investment portfolio and create a potential closed medical system owned by few with no guarantees Montrose County taxpayers will benefit with lower priced services and higher quality care.

### **MMHI Origin:**

It began with the Montrose County Board of Trustee Steve Glasmann forming a nonprofit organization called Montrose Memorial Hospital Inc in October 2010. Shortly thereafter, Glasmann and four other Trustees, all statutorily responsible to manage the county-owned hospital- Tricia Dickinson, Debbie Harmon, Lou Winkler, and Bill Bennett-appointed themselves as MMHI Board of Directors. Attorneys for the Board of Trustees, Brooks & Brooks, created a 50-year lease agreement for **\$3,000 a month** to lease:

1. Accounts receivable and payable;
2. Use of a 200,000 plus square foot hospital plus other properties acquired by the County for use by the Hospital, such as parking lots, buildings for providing medical care, etc.
3. All Hospital assets and operations (not including the building itself or other county properties used in the operation of the hospital) including its 33-1/3% County

ownership in San Juan Cancer Center and a 51% County ownership in Black Canyon Surgery Center, and operations of the Olathe Clinic and Basin Clinic (Naturita).

4. MMHI also gained control of an estimated \$10M cash or more (105 days cash on hand).

An interesting comparison is a request brought forward by John Brooks, on behalf of the Hospital's CEO, David Hample, in April 2010 to lease a 1664 square foot medical office built in 1988 for \$3,000 per month. April 19, 2010 – Board of County Commissioners Minutes <https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/1087/April-19-2010>

The MMHI Board of Trustees signed the lease and then presented it to themselves and two others at a Board of Trustees meeting and SURPRISE it was approved.

Although the Board of County Commissioners tried to nullify the agreement, the Court upheld the validity of the lease pursuant to statutory rules on Board of Trus-

tee approved actions.

### **Fast Forward to 2014 Lawsuit-- MMHI vs County Commissioners and Board of Trustees – Costing Taxpayers Over \$1M in Attorney Fees**

MMHI, although required to provide certain financial information to the Board of Trustees and obtain approval for such things as property acquisition, continuously failed in providing that information and even secured properties noting the owners as Montrose County without the approval of the Board of County Commissioners which was required under the lease agreement.

In reaction, the Board of County Commissioners approved a resolution to remove certain members of the Montrose Board of Trustees in 2014 and later passed Resolution 37-2014 requiring the Board of Trustees to require MMHI to comply with certain terms of the lease agreement. For more information on the content of that



## MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC.: PAST HISTORY OFTEN PREDICTS FUTURE From previous pg

resolution, see <https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/11978/37-2014-COUNTY-HOSPITAL-FINANCIAL-MATTERS>.

MMHI filed a lawsuit shortly thereafter against the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees which cost Montrose County taxpayers over \$1M to defend. The lawsuit was dropped after reaching a Settlement Agreement and withdrawing Resolution 37-2014.

An important part of that Settlement Agreement was that a Bond issued to the County in 2003 securing it with county-owned property was released and a new \$23M bond was secured by MMHI with the equity the leasehold assets MMHI was leasing pursuant to the lease agreement. If MMHI defaulted, the bank holding the bond would intervene with a right to OCCUPY clause and obligation to operate. In addition, MMHI could not purchase real estate without the consent of the Board of County Commissioners. For more detail, see [https://montrosecounty.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=montrosecounty\\_e4208e75-22cb-45e6-a4ed-a091fbbd1a03.pdf&view=1](https://montrosecounty.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=montrosecounty_e4208e75-22cb-45e6-a4ed-a091fbbd1a03.pdf&view=1) and [https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/11749/Resolution-55-2017\\_1](https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/11749/Resolution-55-2017_1)

### Nonprofit Hospitals Then and Now:

In 1946 when Montrose Memorial Hospital was created pursuant to CRS 25-3-301, the mission and vision of the Hospital was to provide Montrose County citizens with a county hospital for **charitable purposes**. Things have changed in the world of nonprofit hospitals. The State health care policy agency has reported that Colorado hospitals (most of which are nonprofit) are the most profitable in the nation.

Colorado Reports Hub - <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/hospital-reports-hub> now provides a number of reports we can access to better understand how hospitals across the State, including Montrose Memorial Hospital run by MMHI, are performing from a financial perspective after Colorado passed Hospital Transparency Bills, including House Bill 19-1001.

In reviewing the "Hospital Cost Price and Profit Review, August 2021, [https://hcpf.colorado.gov/sites/hcpf/files/Hospital%20Cost%20Price%20and%20Profit%20Review%20Full%20Report\\_withAppendices-0810ac.pdf](https://hcpf.colorado.gov/sites/hcpf/files/Hospital%20Cost%20Price%20and%20Profit%20Review%20Full%20Report_withAppendices-0810ac.pdf), available through those links, some key points were:

1. Although 90% of Colorado's hospitals are classified as nonprofit and so are tax exempt; however, **Colorado hospitals provide LESS CHARITY CARE** than other states. The State's **for-profit hospitals incur a SIMILAR COST** related to uncompensated care as nonprofit hospitals.
2. Overhead costs in 2018 made up 28% of Colorado hospital costs while the national overhead rate was 25.4% of hospital costs (would have cost us \$474 less if in line with the nation).
3. In 2018, Colorado hospitals ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the nation in total profits and 4<sup>th</sup> in patient service profits due in large part to **higher per patient prices**. Colorado hospitals have a **significant source of non-patient related income (investments)**.
4. Hospitals that reinvest profits into property rather than patients results in larger market share driving prices up for patients while increasing profits for the hospital in an endless loop that does little to benefit patient health or affordability.
5. Popular initiatives undertaken in Colorado to capture greater market share in-

clude construction of new care delivery locations, expansion of existing facilities, expansion of services, purchase of primary and specialty physician practices, and more. Most of these strategies are contrary to health care affordability goals.

6. Vertical integration, also used to grow market share, is where physicians control where patients are referred for treatment. Primary care physicians control the referral to specialists, and specialists control referred to procedural sites. Physician acquisition can also simply be intended to acquire a high revenue or profit practice such as in the areas of oncology, orthopedics, or cardiology.

### Non-Profit Hospitals and Hospital Outpatient Departments (HOPDs) In the Hospital AND At Ambulatory Surgical Centers Provide Lower-Priced Care -- RIGHT?

**HOPD Outpatient Surgery** (Black Canyon Surgery Center with 51% MMHI Ownership is considered an HOPD) vs Non-Profit or Profit Ambulatory Surgical Center – Medicare payments for HOPD facility fees currently are higher than those same fees at nonprofit or profit ambulatory surgical centers NOT affiliated with a hospital. Do these costs get passed on to Medicare patients?

**Medicare Procedure Price Lookup – Outpatient Procedures:** <https://www.medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup/> -- Got a CPT code? You can use this lookup tool to see what the charge should be per Medicare, what Medicare would pay for that procedure, and compare it to what your FACILITY FEE was. This does not include charges by the doctor, anesthesiologist, etc.; however, this site also provides an estimate of what the physician would charge.

Procedure	CPT Code	Black Canyon Surgical Center (HOPD) Cash Payment	Medicare Charge By HOPD Facility	Medicare Charge by Ambulatory Surgery Center
Colonoscopy with Biopsy	45380	\$1,052.50	\$1,036	\$524
Knee Arthroscopy w/ Meniscectomy, Medial or Lateral	29881	\$2,667.92	\$2,830	\$1,328

## **MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC.: PAST HISTORY OFTEN PREDICTS FUTURE** *From previous pg*

### **MMHI Ambulatory Care Center – Another Acquisition Without Board of Trustee Knowledge?**

In 2015, MMHI's Management Action Plan indicated it was considering a 2<sup>nd</sup> ancillary campus that would include these potential services: Lab, Rehab (PT/OT), community education, women's imaging, primary care, physician specialty MOB (Medical Office Building) for urology, cardiology, pulmonary clinic/testing, cardiac rehabilitation, and other specialties. MMHI 2015 Management Action Plan, page 78, [http://montrosecounty.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=montrosecounty\\_14d7004b3884e1aa31a00bbdb8b1d7.pdf](http://montrosecounty.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=montrosecounty_14d7004b3884e1aa31a00bbdb8b1d7.pdf)

Between August 2021 and February 2022, the Board of Trustees have requested Executive Sessions for legal advice regarding MMHI and noted on one occasion it was regarding property acquisition. <https://www.montrosecounty.net/DocumentCenter/View/16105/August-2-2021>

And another record notes the MMHI Building & Planning meeting on January 19, 2022 (Board of Trustees not invited) reviewed World Architects presentation and the MMHI Board of Directors approved a development contract with Nex-

Core on January 24, 2022.

What does that mean to Montrose County taxpayers? MMHI is replicating some services currently offered at the hospital and is moving services currently provided at the hospital to another location – services that provide significant value to the hospital itself. Who are the tenants?

Cedar Point Health, LLC: All of the second floor – 20,000 to 21,000 square feet of space (consolidating 3 medical practices into one location for 17,000 patients it currently serves). Cedar Point Health LLC is owned by nine physicians.

MMHI will offer outpatient services such as labs, physical therapy, ambulator surgery, medical imaging, specialty care, and mammography. MMHI will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and the surgery center will occupy the fourth floor. The first floor is largely full but CEO Mengenhausen did not elaborate as to who would occupy that space and noted other potential partners are being sought.

MMHI will own the property which the care center sits on and is leasing the land to NexCore, a health care real estate and development company, that organizes the building operations.

Ambulatory Care Center Tenants per Montrose Press, Cedar Point Health if first

-announced tenant for hospital's ambulatory care center, Katharhynn Heidelberg, March 26, 2022, [https://www.montrosepress.com/news/cedar-point-health-is-first-announced-tenant-for-hospitals-ambulatory-care-center/article\\_1d2d34e4-acac-11ec-af53-4b263831f2e5.html](https://www.montrosepress.com/news/cedar-point-health-is-first-announced-tenant-for-hospitals-ambulatory-care-center/article_1d2d34e4-acac-11ec-af53-4b263831f2e5.html)

### **A Picture of What's to Come: MMHI and Those Affiliated With It Have Created a Tightly-Bonded Medical Service**

Will that reduce the cost of medical care to those of us living in and around Montrose?

Will it ensure quality of service?

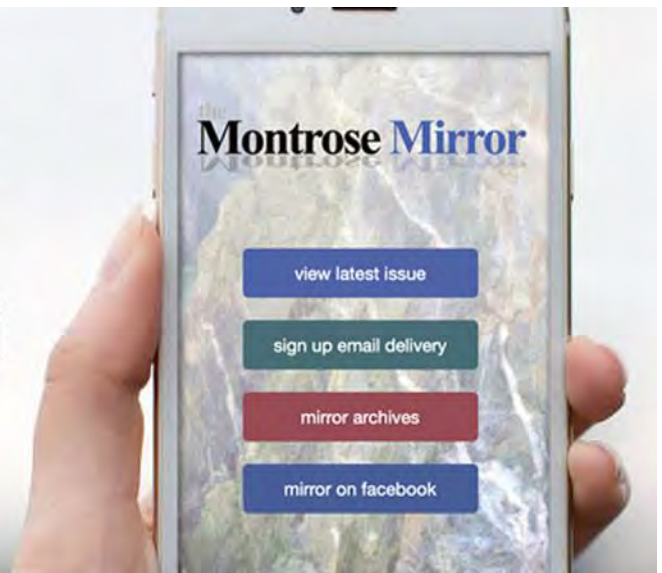
Will it increase charitable contributions needed within our community?

Well first, MMHI's track record has not been stellar.

Second, do you trust MMHI who again apparently began planning to build an "ancillary campus" in 2015, never discussed it with the Board of Trustees or asked them to come to Building & Planning meetings, and now are moving forward with the NEW MMHI Ambulatory Care Center for the benefit of who?

Give away all that is left of the little control we have over MMHI – our County-owned physical assets – and let's see what happens.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### U.S. POSTAL SERVICE LETTER CARRIERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES CONDUCTING THE NATION'S LARGEST SINGLE-DAY FOOD DRIVE, MAY 14

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO – With the help of sponsors, volunteer organizations and U.S. Postal Service employees in 10,000 communities nationwide, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will conduct its 30<sup>th</sup> annual *Stamp Out Hunger* Food Drive on Saturday, May 14.

*Stamp Out Hunger* is the nation's largest single-day food drive.

Making a donation is easy. Customers should leave their non-perishable food donations in a bag near their mailbox on Saturday, May 14, before their letter carrier arrives. In the days leading up to the food drive, letter carriers will be delivering special bags along with your mail that may be used to make donations. Food collected during Saturday's drive will be delivered to local community churches, food banks and food pantries for distribution. While all non-perishable donations are welcome, foods that are high in protein such as canned tuna, salmon, beans and peanut butter are most needed. Canned fruits and vegetables, whole grain, low sugar cereals, macaroni and cheese din-

ners and 100% fruit juice also top the list of most needed items.

For additional information about this year's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, watch this 2022 Stamp Out Hunger Video: <https://youtu.be/dhfHdGkdUsQ>

#### Food Drive TIPS

WHAT TO GIVE: Most-wanted foods include:

Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon).

Canned and boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, macaroni and cheese).

Canned or dried beans and peas (black, pinto, lentils).

Pasta, rice cereal.

Canned fruits.

100 percent fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed).

Canned vegetables.

Cooking oil.

Boxed cooking mixes (pancake, breads).

#### WHAT NOT TO GIVE:

Rusty or unlabeled cans.

Glass containers.

Perishable items.

Homemade items.

No expired items



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX. WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.

National Partners:



Noncommercial canned or packaged items.

Alcoholic beverages or mixes or soda.

Open or used items.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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

## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### FACING THE PROBLEMS WITH SB22-153

*Letter to the Editor,*

The Colorado House of Representatives recently held a hearing on SB22-153, Internal Election Security Measures. From the title of the bill, one might assume that this bill would increase the security of Colorado's elections. However, as most bills sponsored by Democrats go, this bill gives more power to the state and undermines the authority of our local county clerks and voters of Colorado. I encourage everyone to go to the Colorado General Assembly website and listen to all of the discussion from the meeting on the House Floor dated May 4, 2022. Discussion on SB22-153 begins around 6 pm.

Section 10 of SB22-153 requires that elections in Colorado be tabulated on electro-mechanical voting systems. Representative Ron Hanks, who is running for US Senate and deserves your vote, gave an excellent presentation on the unsecured nature of these electronic voting systems. Ron served in our US Military and was a security expert. He pointed out that the Dominion systems are made in China and have wireless capability that connects them to the internet.

Section 11 of SB22-153 prohibits a county from creating an image of the hard drive of any voting system component. Tina Peters of Mesa County, who is running for Secretary of State and deserves your vote, had an image of the hard drive of the Mesa County Dominion machine created be-

fore a trusted build directed by the state. The image did not expose voter information but it did prove that votes were tampered with during elections in Mesa County and that data was overridden during the trusted build.

Representative Mark Baisley gave a compelling statement regarding hard drive imaging. He said vote tabulating machines should perform only three functions – scanning, tabulating, and adjudication. If these were the only functions that electronic voting machines were performing there would be no security risk with creating an image of the hard drive. It would however bring accountability to the voting machines.

Representative Ron Hanks, proposed several amendments to SB22-153 that would increase the security of elections in Colorado. Amendment L027 would have put anti-counterfeit measures on every ballot that are similar to the ones on our currency. Proponents of the amendment argued that our ballots are worth more than currency and they should have similar security measures. The Arizona audit revealed copies of ballots were made and counted. Anti-counterfeit measures would prevent that.

Representative Mark Baisley, who has an extensive background in cyber security, proposed amendment L035 which would have allowed county clerks to make images of the hard drives of the electronic

voting machines. This would increase transparency and provide accountability for the machines. It would allow clerks and other experts to review the inner workings of the machines to ensure that the machines are ONLY performing the tabulating functions necessary and nothing else.

Proposed amendment L026 would have required county clerks to remove deceased voters from the voter rolls at least five days prior to ballots being mailed out. Democrats claimed this wasn't necessary because voter rolls are cleaned up regularly. Republicans gave several examples where deceased voters were not removed before an election and at least one confirmed case of a surviving spouse voting on behalf of a deceased spouse.

After hours of testimony and having many common-sense amendments proposed by Republicans, all proposed amendments were rejected by Democrats, who hold the majority. SB22-153 was passed by the House with no real election security included. In light of this, the citizens of Colorado will need to increase the integrity of our upcoming elections with a few simple steps. Please, do not vote early, do not mail your votes, and do not use drop boxes. Instead, vote in-person on election day, or if that is not possible drop off your completed ballot at your county clerk's office on election day.

*Jennifer Gregg, Montrose*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### DELTA HEALTH RECOGNIZES EXTRAORDINARY NURSES



*The overall DAISY Award winner for this quarter was Elizabeth Knob, RN. Courtesy photo.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-Six nurses at Delta Health were honored with The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses® to recognize the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care they provide patients and families every single day. This quarter's DAISY nominees were: Elizabeth Knob, RN, Katie Casey, RN, Wendy Maring, RN, Andy Flenker, RN, Kristi Gieck, RN, Michelle Minich, RN, Kelsey Stark, RN, Jody Moore, RN, Robert Imhoff, RN and Anna Wiltse, RN.

The overall DAISY Award winner for this quarter was Elizabeth Knob, RN. Knob was recognized for her excellent care and for her communication style to patients. She kept the patient connected to family and was kind and patient.

"Elizabeth is an ICU lead and House Supervisor at Delta Health, and she strives for excellence in care as well as being a patient advocate," said Arnett. "Her strong skills throughout her career are noted at the bedside with our critical patients. Delta Health and the DAISY committee are proud to have her on our team and to celebrate her achievement and recognition of the DAISY Awards for April 2022." The DAISY Awards have been successful at Delta Health, and since October 2018 there have been 148 nurses nominated and 14 nurses awarded a DAISY.



*This quarter's DAISY nominees were: Elizabeth Knob, RN, Katie Casey, RN, Wendy Maring, RN, Andy Flenker, RN, Kristi Gieck, RN, Michelle Minich, RN, Kelsey Stark, RN, Jody Moore, RN, Robert Imhoff, RN and Anna Wiltse, RN. Courtesy photo.*

The award is part of the DAISY Foundation's mission to recognize nurses who go above and beyond in the care of their patients. Nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues, and the quarterly DAISY award recipient is chosen through a select Daisy Committee and DCMH's T.E.A.M. M.A.S.H through a scoring rubric recognizing the nurses P.E.T.A.L.S., (Passion, Empathy, Trust, Admirable attributes, Love and Selflessness). Applications are blinded to these committees and scored. Awards are then presented four times throughout the year to celebrate the nominees.

"We are so proud of all of this quarter's nominees," said Dawn Arnett, RN, BSN, Director of In-Patient Services at Delta Health. "They are all models in what it means to provide compassionate, quality

healthcare that our community trusts. They go above and beyond and we are honored to have the DAISY program where we can honor all of our amazing staff." The certificate that each honoree receives commends her or him as an "Extraordinary Nurse." The certificate reads: "In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people." Honorees also receive a DAISY Award pin and a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called A Healer's Touch, hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.

To nominate a nurse for a DAISY Award, go online to [deltahealthco.org/bee-daisy-awards/](https://deltahealthco.org/bee-daisy-awards/) and submit a digital nomination form. Nomination forms can also be found throughout the hospital.



# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## WHY DO WE DEFEND BORDERS OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY, BUT NOT OUR OWN?

*Editor;*

Who said, "I wanna tell you Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, you have released the whirl wind and you will pay the price...you won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions"? Was it a Conservative leader? No, it was none other than one of the Democrats' favorite anti-American loud mouths, Chuck Schumer while shouting about abortion in front of the SCOTUS. Then in regards to the SCOTUS leak, who said, "Seriously, shout to whoever the hero was within the SCOTUS who said, "xxxx it! Let's burn this place down"? Was that a Conservative, law abiding American? No again, that was of course a Left wing journalist, Ian Millhiser. The Left wing Democrats are now in a full bent-out-of-shape mode over abortion again. When they don't have anything positive to say or constructive to suggest for or about America, they know they can always get attention by crying about abortion. And now the Leftists are publicly publishing a map of the Washington metropolitan area with the home addresses of the Supreme Court Justices so their protestors can harass them. Of course Jen Psaki played the cya trick by saying they should keep it peaceful. Uh, huh. Did she mean "peaceful" like the Antifa and BLM riots? And if so are Democrats going to call a "select committee" to investigate the rioters like they did to Trump supporters? President Trump also instructed his supporters to go "peacefully", but Democrats have their own definition of convenient words like, peaceful, they can twist to arrive at their own suitable narrative.

And now as insanity is encroaching gradually into the Democrat party they have come up with another Anti-American idea..... The Disinformation Governance Board. It was secretly established by the

so-called Department of Homeland in-Security. This is another deranged idea, but this one has its roots in the Stalinist-like "Ministry of Truth!" This stuff is terrifying! Adolf Hitler had his own Ministry of Truth. Mao Zedong had his Ministry of Truth. All were dictators. What gives Democrats the right to decide what the truth is when it is they who refuse to tell the truth about the election fraud and the border just for starters? For instance, Mayorkas swears up and down the border is closed. And their Disinformation board isn't going to change that. Thanks to Obama's puppet twins, Biden and Mayorkas, they are now attempting to establish Communist rules and laws in America. Of course traitor Mayorkas will gladly lead this Ministry of Truth! Is Mayorkas's mighty truth campaign going to tell the truth about loving parents not being terrorists? And that he has let in 2,000,000 illegal migrants? And that the Democrat drug cartel has killed 105,000 Americans from drug overdoses? Will we get the truth about why we defend borders of a foreign Country, but not our own? And that the skull full of mush in the White House gave the Taliban terrorists \$93 billion in state-of-the-art American military equipment while cutting our own military budget when factoring inflation? And that Mayorkas laughably said one purpose of it is to "monitor speech" to protect election integrity!! WHAT?? Here is the Democrat party whose leader(?) brags about their perfect system of committing voter fraud who says they are now suddenly worried about election integrity!! If they didn't possess the traits of hypocrisy and lying they wouldn't have any traits at all! The question is, will this so-called "Ministry of Truth" be applied to the big lie that there was no voter fraud in the 2020 election? After all, they can't

brag about their expertise in voter fraud and then deny there was any voter fraud!! (refer to hypocrisy above). Of course their big lie will be ignored in spite of hordes of people shown on security cameras stuffing thousands of ballots into drop boxes. Now, who is the real terrorists in America? Obama promised he would "fundamentally transform America" and after out of office he stated it would be ideal if he could just sit back and still pull strings in the White House.

But America cannot survive this invasion. We will decline into third world misery. The Biden skulls of mush are creating unsolvable poverty, illiteracy, crime and drug deaths on a scale never before seen in the USA. And once we lose our system of a Republic form of government we will never see it again because there has never been a recovery from communism.

Better think about that American voters because communism doesn't show favoritism. Former President Trump has been holding his "Save America" rallies in different states and gets massive cheerful crowds. Democrats can't wait to steal another election from him if he runs again. But the thing to remember is that they are not after Donald Trump.

They are after you and your freedoms you enjoy under our Constitution and Bill of Rights, and our Republic form of government. Trump was the only one standing in their way of destroying that and they are terrified they might not be able to do it again. But don't forget, the people who vote for Democrats will suffer the same as anyone else under their totalitarian rule. Thank God we are lucky to have Congresswoman Lauren Boebert who has authored legislation to shut this communist Truth legislation down.

*Jerry Bartholome, Montrose*

## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS



*"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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## HELP PROTECT YOUR PUBLIC LANDS

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests are experiencing the transition from winter to spring. Snow is slowly melting and the temperatures are comfortable for exploring some Forest Service roads. We ask visitors to please assist us in protecting natural resources. During this time of year, please stay off wet roads and respect road closures, which will decrease long-term and costly damages to the roadway.

As the snow melts, its runoff naturally chooses the path of least resistance, which is typically the ditch line on either side of Forest Service roads. When there is still snow in the ditches, the water tends to flow down the road instead. Forest Service roads are designed to handle the additional moisture during this time, although the water saturating into the roadway causes soft roadbeds. When vehicles drive on soft roadbeds, they cause rutting. The ruts allow water to flow freely down the roadway causing both seen and unseen damage to the road. Protecting the road until it is dry enough to prevent damage is a primary reason for gate closures during April and May. During these closures we monitor the roadway regularly to ensure the gates are closed for the minimum amount of time needed.

Ongoing damage to roads can lead to a variety of negative outcomes including erosion, wildlife habitat damage and a loss of access due to travel becoming too hazardous or rehabilitation closures.

For information and updates on current conditions, road closures, current fire restrictions and recreation opportunities on the GMUG visit the forest website, GMUG Fire Info page or www.westslopefireinformation.com. Connect with us on social media (Twitter and Facebook).



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**- Krista, Co-Owner of Chow Down Pet Supply (5 locations)**

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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# DON CORAM WILL NOT GET MY VOTE

Editor:

AJ Smith wrote an opinion in the May 2, 2022 edition thanking Don Coram for what he is doing in the CO Senate. Are these slathering praises worthy of AJ's accolades? The truth is that as a Colorado Senator, Don Coram has not supported liberty nor the Constitution.

On this website, you can see every vote Coram has made on every bill in CO. Take time to notice that he has not lived up to being a true conservative representative in the Colorado Senate. <https://libertyscorecardco.us/#/legislator/7010>  
**Colorado Liberty Scorecard – The Liberty Scorecard of Colorado**

Don gets a 35 score out of 100 in regard to supporting the Constitution. Coram doesn't want to debate Boebert. He just wants to talk *about* her. AJ's excuse that "The final 2 weeks of session are hectic" doesn't cut it. Those bills should have been handled long before the said deadline mentioned. Any real-intentioned candidate should welcome solid debate with another candidate.. If a candidate won't use their voice to debate so we, the people, can hear -- how will we ever trust they will vote for the people they are supposed to represent? Are we going to trust

newspapers and other media platforms that are obviously compromised?

With all that has gone on in the past 2 years, most citizens are frustrated with do-nothing politicians who enjoy their easy paycheck but do nothing to support the party they should serve. The whole concept of "representation" seems to be lost in Congress today. It's time to represent your people!

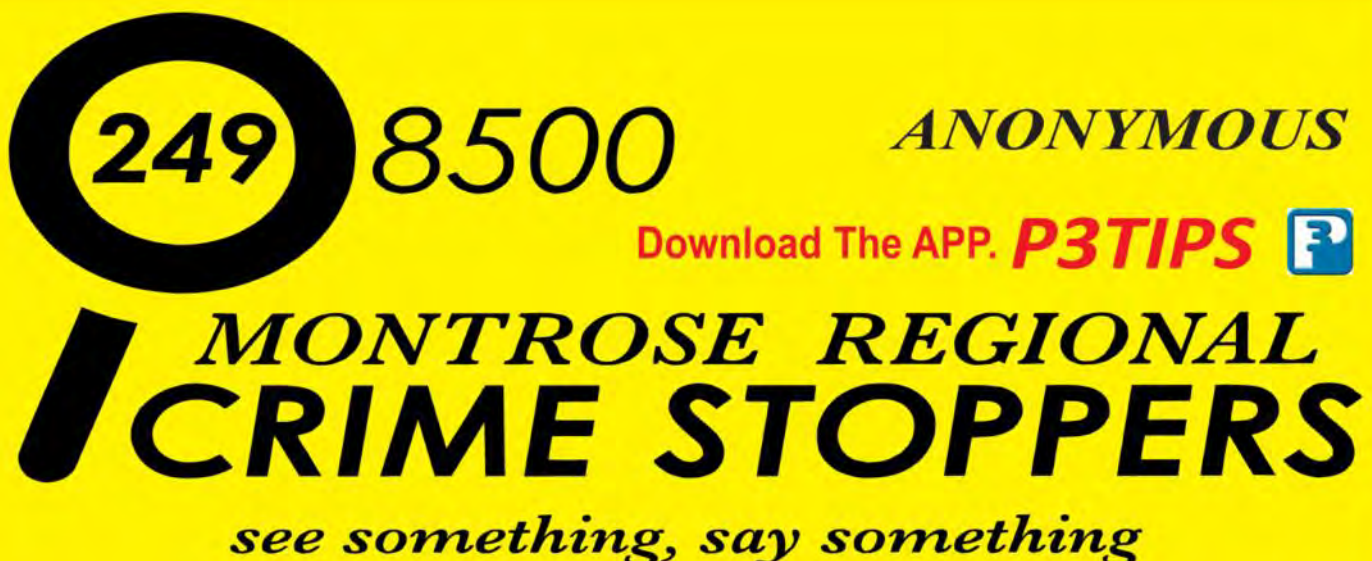
In a recent Newsweek article (4/12/2022), Coram says "he'll highlight controversies that have surrounded Boebert and what he calls the first-term representative's lack of results." Sen. Coram, why aren't you supporting Boebert as an already elected candidate who has spoken out fully FOR conservatives? The controversy I see is that Progressives and Rhinos like Coram don't like the fact that Boebert wants to get real things done. Her attempts upset the status-quo in Congress. It's difficult to work in a Pelosi-run House where all they do is to shut conservatives down. It would be refreshing if honest debate were allowed to return to the House and the Senate, but that is impossible when we continue to elect men and women like Coram who refuse to take a stand. A 35% rating says it all.

Whether you like Boebert or not, I appreciate she is actually tackling head-on the issues that the McConnell's and McCarthy's of the Republican Party refuse to address. She is using her voice so conservatives can be heard through the noise of the Left, while rhinos like Coram stay quiet and behind the scenes. It's not easy to do what she is trying to do.


It's time for more doers in Congress -- and less do-nothings. Republicans don't need another Coram, McConnell, McCarthy, Graham, Cheney, or Romney. Republicans need a real representative for District 3. Boebert has already proven she is willing to speak out for her people.

You don't have to like Boebert to vote for her, just like you don't have to like Trump to vote for him. We aren't voting for personalities, esp. ones that the media chooses to manipulate. When voters choose to play the morality card, they often forget to point the finger right back at themselves. We are voting to GET THE JOB DONE. We are voting to PROTECT FREEDOM. Coram will not be getting my vote because of his terrible voting record. It's that simple.

*Dei Gratia,  
Kathy Bergman*



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*see something, say something*



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### HOW ARE THE CITY OF MONTROSE, AND MONTROSE COUNTY PROMOTING WATER CONSERVATION?

*Editor:*

With our lengthy drought which is becoming more severe by the day, I'm wondering if the city of Montrose in addition to the county is promoting water conserva-

tion? Are there any incentives or requirements in place for developers and others constructing new homes to install desert landscaping rather than putting in grass? Montrose is a town that receives about

the same amount of precipitation annually as Phoenix, Arizona. It's important that we implement measures consistent with that of living in a high desert environment.

*David Ryan, Montrose*



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

# THE TRAGEDY OF POLITICAL POLARIZATION

*Editor:*

Division and misinformation lead to violence and conflict. Those who exacerbate division, and spread lies, are the true enemies of freedom. Sensible people know that a society that fights bitterly amongst itself cannot solve the problems that face us in this new century that will deliver change faster than most are prepared to deal with.

What are the forces pushing polarization, and why? Corporations and news media seeking political influence, wealth seeking "pundits" who recognize the motivating power of anger, and foreign enemies who seek to weaken us. The Fox Network, started by tabloid mogul Rupert Murdoch, and run by Nixon operative Roger Ailes, started the movement to make a fortune by spreading anger and division. They hired news anchors chosen for their sex appeal, rather than their journalistic skills, because anger and sex attract a following. By spreading biased reporting meant to upset people, they quickly gained a wide audience. Who wants boring news reports about government, when you can have salacious, often fake, National Enquirer style stories about politicians personal lives? For those who view Fox, I suggest that you look up the history of how Murdoch brought this plague to America; it's bound to make you seek other news sources. Their method involves spreading misinformation and rumors, sprinkled with actual news, targeted against our own government officials, and specifically Democrats. They seldom turn such criticism on Republicans, and offer only occasional mild criticism of Trump; settling mostly for simply not reporting bad news about him at all. That's the only way that such a con man has been able to remain popular. Here are some of the conspiracy theories Fox has spread: Seth Rich's death (for which they were settled out of court for lying about how he died). Pizzagate, Birtherism, Ukrainian bioweapons labs, Hunter Biden's laptop, the mis-

ing server in Ukraine, misinformation about Smartmatic voting machines (for which they are presently being sued), grossly exaggerating Black Lives Matter's involvement in Democratic Party, blaming Democrats for the Insurrection, spreading skepticism and misinformation about the dangers from climate change, etc. These stories originated at Fox, and spread like wildfire through a audience that knew no better than to believe them. Up to the Ukraine invasion, they offered more praise for Putin than Biden. Fox's Tucker Carlson was one of Putin's greatest apologists leading up to the invasion of Ukraine. Putin has ordered Russian media to air videos of Carlson and other Fox personalities prominently as they praised Russia, and denigrated Ukraine and Democrats. There was a time in our great country when this would have been called out as treasonous behavior.

One could argue that some news media had a bias towards the goals of the Democratic Party, including reporting positively on health care for all, protecting the environment, civil rights, feeding the poor, Social Security and Medicaid/Medicare, and getting money out of politics; these media have long relied on professionalism to deliver a quality product, something that Fox News has never offered. The Fox "Fair and Balanced" motto has always been a joke.

Political discourse, though often messy, is preferable to hateful rhetoric. Democrats constantly engage in heated debate, and it is sometimes contentious; but vigorous debate and compromise lead to the best solutions to complex problems. By contrast, Trump supporters are supplicants to one man; and few have the courage to cross him in public. Those who do are called out in front of the mob and subject to derision. Reasonable debate is nonexistent in the current Republican Party. This environment breeds lies and conspiracies which are accepted at face value by Trump apologists. This, in turn, leads to

proponents of these lies being elevated to leadership positions. Republicans have few policy proposals that would lead us into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, so, instead, they are always in attack mode .... all one needs to do is look at the "wedge issues" that they bring up weekly: the most recent being a famous socialist "groomer" mouse in Florida.

Congress no longer works, because there are too many bomb throwers, demagogues, and too few statesmen on the Republican side; and they get more extreme with each election cycle. Examples: Oklahoma Republican candidate John Bennett, who this week called for the execution of Dr. Anthony Fauci by firing squad, and MTG, who suggested to Trump aide Mark Meadows that he declare martial law to keep Trump in power after he lost the election of 2020.

Those who question this downward spiral of current Republican leadership, which genuflects to Trump, are driven from office by the MAGA mob. In every statement he makes, as well as every speech he makes in public, Trump spreads fear, misinformation, hatred, and insults. He praises himself, but rarely suggests solutions to our nation's problems that make any sense. Fortunately, many prominent Republicans, including the 2012 presidential candidate, Mitt Romney, Adam Kinzinger, and Liz Cheney, and a few others, who have shown the courage to stand up for democracy in the face of this onslaught of fawning and cowardly behavior by the current Republican leadership of McConnell and McCarthy. The mob has taken over the party, and they are driving the final nails into the coffin of democracy. If you are a conservative, and listen to Fox News, or one of the other right wing mouthpieces, I highly recommend that you try out the Lincoln Project, and the online newspaper, the Bulwark, which are leading the conservative opposition to the threat to our freedom and democracy that is Trumpism.



# *THE TRAGEDY OF POLITICAL POLARIZATION*

## *From previous pg*

America was great when we *worked together towards common goals*. The alternative is conflict, strife, and the failure of our 240 year old experiment in democracy. During WWII, our country united to defeat a brutal dictator. In 2022, we are divided, and a portion of our country actually supports, either directly or overtly, another brutal dictator; and tears down our own president, who is organizing effective opposition to him.

How to end this downward spiral? We must start by looking at what goals we all have in common; and support politicians who don't feed us divisive messages. Here are some things we all should agree upon: An honest and lean federal government, held accountable by sincere, honest, and competent congressional oversight. Government/private partnerships; such as we see with SpaceX, and in many other successful cases. Protecting health

and safety, equal opportunity for those who seek to get ahead in life, building secure 21<sup>st</sup> Century careers for our children's generation. Economic opportunity for young people in rural areas. A good education for our children; whether it's academic, professional, or trades oriented. Protections for those who need help, especially the elderly and those with mental and/or physical disabilities. Protecting our environment for recreation, health, and for future generations to enjoy. The current Republican Party is eating away at all of the above goals, and has gone off the rails of decency in a way that would have been unfathomable to Republicans of a generation ago. Conservatism has a role in politics, but it has been subverted by an angry mob. There are decent conservatives, but they are being drowned out by the mob.

Humanity, including our own country,

faces enormous challenges in the rapidly evolving 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The changes that are coming are too fast for many people to absorb; but there is no way to slow these changes down ... we need to adapt to them. We need effective government to smooth the path into the future; and honest, professional journalism to shine a light on leaders who mislead.

The only way we can attain our goals is to start working together again, and silencing those who deliberately stoke division. If you get your news from sources the complain about "the other side", but don't report both sides of an issue thoughtfully, then you are being misled by "news" organizations that are after your money, not your well being. It is our patriotic duty to shun media, and individuals, that spread division and misinformation.

*David Congour, Montrose*



# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## LEFT'S GOAL IS TO FEDERALIZE ELECTIONS AND CHANGE THE RULES

*Editor:*

The left-wing agenda has resulted in unsustainable inflation, unaffordable energy, spiraling crime, racial hostility, war, and humiliation abroad --- and those who deliberately enacted those policies have responded with arrogant defiance. They continue with their "Destroy America" disasters under the cover of false narratives and misinformation spread by the Democratic Party and their media echo chambers. Those lies repeated continuously tend to be embedded in people's minds, particularly those who still want to believe that Biden is a breath of fresh air. Ignoring the truth, gas prices and inflation are now due to those evil oil companies or Putin or anything other than Biden's disastrous actions in the last year. Out-of-control crime is due to anything other than the left's demonizing and defunding the police and Soros-funded DA's who refuse to prosecute. Racial turmoil has nothing to do with the left purposely creating that discord and is now due to systemic racism, or something. And Biden's disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan and world turmoil during Biden's first year couldn't possibly have anything to do with his incompetence.

That same misinformation campaign has many believing there was no election fraud in 2020 and that Republican efforts to improve election integrity are racist voter suppression. The fact that leftist elites repeat a thousand times that there was no election fraud and it is not open to debate means absolutely nothing. Efforts

to prove widespread voter fraud in court were mostly dismissed without hearing evidence. Outside of court, the FBI refused to investigate or follow up despite evidence from thousands of eyewitnesses. This is the same justice department and court system that refused to prosecute obvious Hunter Biden corruption or Hillary Clinton financing the Russian Collusion Hoax, that actively participated in the treasonous effort to destroy Trump's presidency, and targeted the "insurrectionists" parents resisting the Loudon County Schoolboard.

Leftists cannot hide the fact that Mark Zuckerberg spent \$400 million to subvert the election laws in several key swing states. For example, Zuckerberg spent \$10 million in Wisconsin where municipal clerks and staff stepped aside to let an outside entity do the job of administering the election. Zuckerberg is now financing the legal defense of Wisconsin election officials who colluded to turn over election operations in five key Biden cities. Leftists can no longer deny that they suppressed the corruption revealed in Hunter Biden's laptop pre-election. The misinformation campaign wants to hide the results of various local investigations revealing such things as more votes being counted than the number of supporting mail-in envelopes, and the videos of the counting being mysteriously erased. In Delaware County, Pennsylvania, investigators verified that election laws were not complied with, that ballots lacked a proper chain-of-custody, and that it was impossible to rec-

oncile precinct voter sheets. At a minimum, it cannot be denied that many very questionable practices and actions were implemented in key battleground states with very slight margins of victory for Biden.

Knowing that current Democrat policies are totally unworkable and unacceptable to most Americans, Democrats have determined to simply import new voters through an invasion at our southern border and to create an ever-increasing, permanent underclass dependent on government welfare. The left's goal is to federalize elections and change the rules to make it easier for them to cheat.

The polls verify that there is overwhelming support – across party and racial lines – for the common-sense measures contained in Republican electoral integrity initiatives. In spite of that, Democrats are redoubling their efforts to undermine electoral integrity through the elimination of voter ID requirements and expanding mail-in ballots at the same time they eliminate protections against abuse of those methods.

Democrat false narratives aside, a majority of Americans have serious doubts about whether the 2020 presidential election was "fairly and constitutionally decided." The left should seriously consider what will happen when a significant portion of the electorate believes that a free and fair election is no longer possible because the system is permanently rigged to keep an unpopular party in power.

*Chanda Ouimet, Montrose*

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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### MARILYN MAE SHUMATE *March 10th, 1929- April 28, 2022*

MARILYN MAE SHUMATE, 93, passed peacefully from natural causes with family by her side at Montrose Regional Health and went to be with our heavenly Father on April 28, 2022.

Marilyn was born on March 10th, 1929 to Dr. And Mrs. Paul Andrew Dewhirst in Fullerton, California. She graduated from the University of Southern California School of Dental Hygiene and was a dental hygienist for over 35 years.

She was married to Don H. Klippert for seventeen years raising five children in the Napa Valley of Northern California. After divorcing, little did she know that her hygienist career would lead her to her future husband. Her life was blessed when she met and married Edward A. Shumate of Sacramento, California. They would soon combine two families bringing the count to a grand total of seven children.

They resided in Napa, Glendale, and Solvang, California making many long lasting wonderful friendships along the way. In 2002, they moved to the beautiful town of Montrose, Colorado where they felt right at home and made many more special friends. They shared fifty wonderful years together.

Marilyn loved and enjoyed her family; her children, 15 grandchildren, and

26 great grandchildren. She was a magnet for their love. She enjoyed working in her flower gardens and was a very talented watercolor artist. Her paintings grace the walls in the homes of many. She was such a blessing to us all. Her family is an extension and expression of her beautiful loving spirit. We are the beneficiaries of her love. She will be sorely missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Dr. Paul Andrew and Elba Lenora Dewhirst, and her sons, Daniel Thomas Klippert and Don Edward Klippert.

She is survived by her loving husband Edward Arthur Shumate, her awesome brother Dr. Paul Andrew Dewhirst, Jr. (Marie), her five children, Paul F. Klippert (Tanya), Susan Mae Jobe McGee (Tom), Dr. Jon A. Klippert (Michelle), Patti Gonsalves (Dick), and Jim Shumate (Chris), her nieces and nephews Cathye Dewhirst Curreri, Paul A. Dewhirst III (Margie), Mark Dewhirst (Robertalee), Mark Shumate (Margaret), and Vickie Laghi (Gino), her fifteen grandchildren, Joni Klippert Sarrafian (Jason), Sara Clarke (Jack), Ryan Klippert (Rachel), Dustin Jobe, Adam Jobe, Heather Davin (Paul), Heidi Cook (Clayton), Eric Klippert, Jamie Hassan (Mark), Jeremy Bunting (Jenny), Candice Smith (Shane),



Robert Cook, Kelli Phillips, Willie Klippert, Jonny Klippert, and her 26 great grandchildren. What a beautiful legacy.

A Celebration of Marilyn Mae Shumate's life will be held on June 4th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., Crippin Funeral Home Chapel in Montrose, Colorado.

*Now more than ever...*

*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**

ISSUE 369 May 9, 2022

# ART & SOL

THE MODERN WEST: *EXPLORING THE EVOLVING IDENTITY OF THE AMERICAN WEST*



*Melodie Edwards is the host and senior producer of The Modern West. Courtesy photo.*

## Special to Art & Sol

WYOMING—A Stetson hat, cowboy boots, cattle drives, sprawling acres of land—these are a few things that come to mind when most people envision the American West. While these Western motifs are very familiar, the lore of the cowboy—and its roots in the Mexican vaquero—are surprisingly misunderstood.

Enter the fifth season of *The Modern West*, the Peabody Award-nominated and Edward R. Murrow Award-winning podcast produced by Wyoming Public Media and PRX. Giving listeners a close look at the American West, the show explores the region's complex history and modern-day struggles and resilience, as well as how its

future is being shaped.

Guided by acclaimed host and author Melodie Edwards' personal connection to the American West, the fifth season of *The Modern West: The Great Individualist* focuses on how the ranching lifestyle is changing and what that means for the region's inhabitants and environment.

With episodes ranging from the history of the vaquero and the pioneer to regenerative ranching and the race for environmentally sound solutions, *The Modern West* surveys the ever-changing identity of the American West.

Follow, listen, and enjoy every other Wednesday starting May 11, 2022.

ABOUT THE HOST

Melodie Edwards is the host and senior producer of *The Modern West*. Since 2013, she has been a radio reporter at Wyoming Public Media, covering topics from wildlife to Native American issues to agriculture. Her civil discourse project called, "I Respectfully Disagree," brought together people in the state, modeling how people find compromise to make change. One of these conversations, "[Time Heals All Wounds](#)," won a national PMJA award.

Melodie is also the recipient of a national PRNDI award for her investigation of [the reservation housing crisis](#); several regional Edward R. Murrow Awards, two for "best use of sound;" and two Hopwood Awards for fiction and nonfiction, among other accolades.

Melodie graduated with an MFA from the University of Michigan. She and her husband own Night Heron Books and Coffee-house in Laramie, Wyo.



## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### PHOTOGRAPHS & DIGITAL PAINTING DEMONSTRATION

#### Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE—Curious about Digital Art? Love to Photograph? Photographs & digital painting demonstration presented by Susan Humphrey at Montrose Center for the Art Thursday, May 12, 10 am – 1 pm. Learn about digital software and how to transform your prized photos into impressive paintings. Susan will demonstrate the beginning steps to digital painting and the software she uses for this process. She will also suggest other software apps available. *Free Drawing for a Digital Print!* Call your art center, MCA, 970-787-9428, to reserve your space. (\$10 donation suggested.)

## MONTROSE COUNTY RECOGNIZES FOSTER SUPERHEROES IN THE MONTH OF MAY

#### Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE—The Montrose Board of County Commissioners have passed a proclamation declaring May as Foster Care Month. Foster care assistance in Montrose County has been on the rise, and officials are encouraging families and individuals to consider becoming foster superheroes to help children in our community.

So far in 2022, 93 Montrose County children have been placed in foster family services; whereas in 2021, that number was 138 children and in 2020, 109 children.

This large increase in 2022 falls in line with rising child abuse numbers. On the heels of April's Child Abuse Awareness month, May's recognition is timely as foster parents and child welfare programs go hand-in-hand in helping keep the children of our community safe.

"Montrose County Child Welfare Services first goal is always for children to remain in their home; however in some cases, children may need to be temporarily re-

moved to get the family the services they need to provide a safe environment for the children. In those cases, the priority is reunification of the family," said Montrose County Child Welfare Program Manager Stephanie Holsinger. "That's where our foster families come in—they provide a temporary home for love, stability, and safety for the whole family to heal and get to a safe place."

Per the proclamation, "foster parents play an amazing role for birth families. They fill in to support Montrose County birth families who need time to overcome challenges and time to be whole again. During this global pandemic, foster families have once again shown us their strength and courage. They have accepted the pandemic challenges and have unfailingly shown up for Montrose County's children."

"My mom took in a foster child when I was in high school—we didn't have the room, we didn't have the money, but we took him in anyway and to this day we are still in contact. What a difference it made

in his life—he was able to continue school in Montrose and continue his life here," said Commissioner Roger Rash.

"It made a difference in not only his life but our lives as well, and I would strongly encourage anyone who is interested in fostering to look into the process and help make a positive difference in a child's life today."

"Foster families are vital to the entire community," said Whimspire Northwest Regional Director Katie Norton. "Having a large number of foster families in an area makes it easier for the children to stay closer to their biological parents for visits, maintain the child's school schedule, and continues to provide stability during a traumatic, and uncertain time in their lives. Foster parents make a difference—whether it's a few nights or an entire childhood—foster parents help provide safety and stability."

For more information on becoming a foster parent, please visit [fostersuperheroes.com](https://fostersuperheroes.com).



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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: EDUCATION

### OURAY ELKS LODGE #492 ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

OURAY-Ouray Elks Lodge No.492 has announced its scholarship winners for this 2021-2022 academic year. James Juth, a senior from Ridgway High School, has earned a \$1,000 award made possible by the Elks National Foundation through the Colorado Elks Association. Charlie Tyler, a senior from Ouray High School, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship funded by

the local Ouray Elks Lodge #492.

The Ouray Elks Lodge is also very proud to announce that Ouray senior, Charlie Tyler, has also been awarded an Elks National Foundation Legacy Award scholarship in the amount of \$4,000. The Legacy Award is offered to children and grandchildren of Elks members. Charlie's award is one of only nine awards in the State of Colorado this year. "We are really fortunate to have

such fine and deserving students in our communities," said Elks Scholarship Chairman, Mike Boland.

Ouray Elks Lodge No.492 awards up to four scholarships each year to area senior students. To apply on-line for next year's awards, students should contact their school counselors next September, or contact the Ouray Elks Lodge scholarship Chairman.

### TERRELL RECOGNIZED DURING CENTRAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

PELLA, IA-- Charles Terrell of Olathe received the Journey Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year from Central College for a high commitment to academic achievement. Terrell is a member of the class of 2022 at Central in Pella, Iowa. The Scholarship Celebration also recognized the generous alumni, parents, friends faculty and staff who support scholarships for Central students.

### KETTELL ELIGIBLE TO GRADUATE FROM UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

#### *Special to Art & Sol*

LOGAN, UT-- Taylor Kettell (from 81402) is a candidate to graduate from Utah State University with a Bachelor of Science in Statistics. Kettell is eligible to earn a degree from Utah State University and is among the 6,588 students eligible to receive degrees and certificates from USU's statewide campuses or USU Online. The 2022 graduating class includes graduates from summer and fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters.

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ANONYMOUS CALL

## MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS



# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene

**Address:** 705 South 12th Street

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

**Contact Information:** Office Phone 970 249-9213, [mncfirst@gmail.com](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com), [www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://www.montrosenazarenechurch.org)

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

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

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

**Affiliation:** Presbyterian

**Address:** 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO. 81401

**Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM - 12PM

**Contact Information:** 970-249-4732, [info@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:info@fpcmontrose.com), [www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)

[form@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:form@fpcmontrose.com), [www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)

**In Transition-Currently:**

Howard Davidson

Merle Bierma

**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM

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

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist

**Address:** 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

**Office Hours:** M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Contact Information:** 970-249-3716, [office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [montroseumc.org](http://montroseumc.org)

[office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [montroseumc.org](http://montroseumc.org)

**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Lisa Petty

**Worship service times:** 8:15 am - Blended Service - Sanctuary & Virtual. 9:30 am - Contemporary Service - Sanctuary, 11:15 am - Traditional Service - Sanctuary  
*Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully*

*inclusive, loving and just servants of Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with or without children, from diapers to dentures. Whenever 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](http://www.RosemontBaptist.org)

email: [office@rosemontbaptist.org](mailto:office@rosemontbaptist.org)

**Senior Pastor:** Rolland Kenneson

**Worship Service Times:** Our engaging and relevant Sunday Worship Service is at

10:45 AM. We also have Bible Study for All Ages Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. We provide a professionally-staffed nursery throughout both.

*Rosemont Baptist's desire is to passionately bring people face-to-face with the life-changing power of Jesus Christ.*

*We are a multigenerational church from different walks of life who love Jesus, love each other, and love our community. Everyone comes dressed in whatever is comfortable. We love meeting new people no*

*matter what stage of life they are in.*

**Children's services:** *We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be worshipers of Jesus.*

*We provide a nursery for children under four years old with paid staff providing excellent care during Sunday Morning Bible Study and Worship Service.*

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

**Denomination affiliation:** Independent Interfaith

**Address:** Meeting at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Montrose

Office hours: Tues-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm,

**Home Office** – 970-252-0908

**Contact information:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908, [arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org), [www.spiritaware.org](http://www.spiritaware.org)

[arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org), [www.spiritaware.org](http://www.spiritaware.org)

**Name of current pastor:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.

**Worship service times:** Unity Service at 11 a.m., Adult Discussion at 9:30 a.m., Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m.

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

## MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

### SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

**Denomination affiliation:**

Southern Baptist

**Address:** 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

**Office hours:** Varies

**Contact information:**

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: [summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)

website: [www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://www.summitchurchmontrose.org)

**Name of current Senior Pastor:** John De-

Sario

**Worship service times:** 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](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

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

*Victory Baptist Church exists to exalt God, edify saints, and evangelize the lost. Demographics: Victory Baptist serves everyone with age-appropriate classes, groups, and activities. Families with children make up the majority of VBC with young adults, singles, middle-aged couples, and seniors comprising the rest.*

#### Church Directory

#### Mirror Editorial Staff

MONTROSE-As a way of serving the faith community in Montrose, the Montrose Mirror is in the process of establishing a Church Directory. If your congregation or fellowship would like to be included in the directory, please supply the following in-

formation to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?



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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

# 4H ESSAY CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED



4-H kids signed up in Montrose County for bees this year. Isabella Kirk, Morgan Alexander, and Greyson Vidmar. Courtesy photos.

### *Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE-Tri-River Area 4h has announced that the Essay Contest Winner is Isabella Kirk, 13, of the Oak Grove Jolly Rancher 4-H Club. (Essay next page) Kirk will receive a package of bees donated by the Justin and Dana Gleason team at Norris-Snell Real Estate and a hive set up donated by Dan Westesen and San Juan Bee Supply in Delta.



Isabella Kirk (left) and Morgan Alexander (right)

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## 4H Essay Contest Winner: THREATS AGAINST BEE COLONIES AND METHODS TO DEFEND

By Isabella Kirk

*"Where there are bees there are flowers, and where there are flowers there is new life and hope." - Christy Lefter.*

When caring for bees, like any other animal or insect there are always going to be threats against the colonies and the environment. There are a variety of threats to bee colonies such as parasites, viruses, predators, etc. I will be talking about the threats against the bee colonies and how to treat and defend these bee colonies.

Parasites in bees are dangerous and can affect the way of the colony. Like any ecosystem, parasites can be good and bad, but the ecosystem or colony needs to be in balance. One of the first parasites is the Varroa mite. The Varroa mite is an external parasite, which spreads from the original host to the other bees. The Varroa mite weakens the honey bees by sucking the hemolymph ("blood") from its host and by transmitting bee pathogens. The female mite reproduces by invading the cell of the bee larva, just before capping. Once inside, the female lays eggs to produce offspring that feed together on the developing bee. The mother mite and her adult daughters emerge from the cell with the young adult bee host. At high infestation rates, the mites overwhelm and kill the host colony.

How to prevent Varroa mite from effecting the bee's colony is by applying chemical treatments when mite populations become too large. Due to increased concerns over the effects of miticides on bees and mite resistance to commercial miticides, researchers are developing alternative approaches to "softer" chemical treatments, the genetics of mite resistance in honey bees, mite pheromones and hormones, and physical treatments to control this mite.

The next parasite I will be talking about is the Nosema ceranae.

The parasite Nosema ceranae is a microscopic fungus that can weaken or even kill colonies when the majority of workers become infected. The fungus survives on the wax combs and the stored food in the colony. When workers eat these infected

spores, the fungus invades the lining of the intestine. How to prevent Nosema ceranae is by antibiotics and disinfection of hives to control this disease. When you clean the hives, the less chance of inside there is, but there is always a chance of infection. Like in any living organism, there are viruses and bacteria. Here are just a few. Thus far, more than 20 honey bee viruses have been identified. These viruses can impact bees in multiple ways, including killing developing larvae and pupae, decreasing the lifespan of adult bees, causing spasms and tremors, reducing cognitive skills, and impairing wing development so that bees cannot fly. Most honey bee colonies have multiple viruses, and the levels of these viruses can fluctuate throughout the year. Exposure to other stressors, particularly Varroa parasitization, can immunosuppress bees so that the effects of the viruses are more dramatic. The only treatment for viruses thus far is to feed the colony a solution of virus-specific RNA that enhances the bees' immune responses to these particular viruses, but these treatments only suppress the viral infections, and do not eradicate them. Other approaches that are being investigated include breeding bees with genetic resistance to the viruses. American foulbrood is an infection that kills young bees (brood) inside the wax cells in which they develop. This dead brood becomes a source of infection spread by workers nursing young broods. Some bees can detect and remove the diseased brood and this stops the disease from spreading. Beekeepers also use antibiotics to prevent the disease.

With insects and animals, pesticides are a huge problem. Here are just a few examples of how bad pesticides can be. Pesticides are usually man-made chemicals designed to kill pest organisms that may injure plants or animals including humans. Pests cause economic damage by reducing crop yields directly or by producing crop, or ornamental plant diseases, or by competing with crops, or by reducing animal and human health, or by damaging buildings and structures. Pesticides are

categorized according to their intended use as well as by their chemical composition. Pesticides are widely used and are divided into insecticides/acaricides, used to control insects and mites or ticks, fungicides used to control plant diseases; rodenticides, used to control rodents; and herbicides used to prevent weeds from competing with crops, grasses or ornamental plants. Pesticides usually contain an active ingredient, with a known mechanism for killing the target pests. Pesticides vary widely in their safety to humans and the environment and are sold as a formulation with added ingredients that augment the action of the active material when mixed in water for application. More than 1200 chemicals are registered for use in the United States and are used in some 18,000 separate products sold under a variety of trade names.

People who apply the more toxic pesticides must have training and a state issued license to use these materials. Some insecticides have warnings or bee hazards on their label because they are toxic to honey bees, causing honey bee deaths. If the insecticide has a sub-lethal effect on honey bees it may result in reduced larval survival, altered foraging behavior or shortened lifespan of adult bees. The extent of the sub-lethal effects is still unknown.

These are just a few of the many threats to bee colonies and the ways to defend their colonies. What the beekeepers should do to prevent these threats from happening is by checking for parasites and viruses and diseases. Those are just a few of the most common threats to bee colonies and how to defend the colonies.

### Bibliography

Anderson, Charlotte. "Bee Quotes and Popular Sayings." Carolina Honeybees, 16 Mar. 2022, <https://carolinahoneybees.com/bee-quotes/>  
#Bee\_Quotes\_on\_the\_World\_of\_Bees.  
Meixner, Marina Doris. "Bee Issues." Pollinator.org, 2 May 2013, <https://www.pollinator.org/learning-center/bee-issues>.



# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

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

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

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

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

**NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP** will be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the PIC Place 5:30-7pm. Please call Kathy at 520-282-9060 for more information.

## MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET SCHEDULE

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

**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 12**--Curious about Digital Art? Love to Photograph? Photographs & digital painting demonstration presented by Susan Humphrey at Montrose Center for the ArtThursday, May 12, 10 am – 1 pm. Learn about digital software and how to transform your prized photos into impressive paintings. Susan will demonstrate the beginning steps to digital painting and the software she uses for this process. She will also suggest other software apps available. *Free Drawing for a Digital Print!* Call your art center, MCA, 970-787-9428, to reserve your space. (\$10 donation suggested.)

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

**May 16**-On Monday, May 16 at 5:30pm Citizens' Climate lobby holds its monthly meeting. Montrose Library mtg rm. Non-partisan, national, Review Biden's climate agenda and action group on promoting sustainable community with Montrose City Council, info at 970-765-9095. All Welcome.

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

**June 3**-Montrose Boot Stomp-Stomp out cancer! Tickets \$75. [www.montrosebootstomp.com](http://www.montrosebootstomp.com).



Contact the Montrose Mirror:  
970-275-0646

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

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

*Below, On Saturday, May 7, New Mexico band Alto performed at the Cerise Park Amphitheatre at a benefit for the Partners non-profit.*



## MIRROR IMAGES: OUT & ABOUT



*On Friday, May 6 the Montrose County School District, Montrose High School, Montrose Fire District, Montrose Police Department, Montrose County Sheriff's Office, Montrose County Coroner's Office, and the Colorado State Patrol demonstrated a mock DUI car crash. Photos by B. Switzer*

## *DineOutMontrose.com*



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970-787-9021

**Tacos & Beer**  
970-964-4448

**Alpen Confections**  
970-648-0609

**Busy Corner White Kitchen**  
970-323-6215

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

**Tacos El Gordo**  
970-964-4022

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

**Horsefly Brewing**  
970-249-6889

**Rio Bravo**  
970-964-4477

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

**Fiesta Guadalajara**  
970-249-2460

**El Jimador**  
970-249-8990

**Buckaroos Slices & Scoops**  
970-787-9437

**San Juan Brews**  
970-901-8594



**Amelias Hacienda Restaurante**  
970-249-1881

**Trattoria de Sofia**  
970-249-0433

**Rib City**  
970-249-7427

**Double Barrel Taco Co.**  
970-417-4340

**Stone House**  
970-240-8899

**Cold Stone Creamery**  
970-252-8014

**Mimo's**  
970-249-0616

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

**Sidelines Sports Bar**  
970-765-0129