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"FIRE SEASON SEEMS TO BE ALL YEAR ANYMORE" County authorizes Sheriff to implement fire restrictions through year's end



ONLINE NEWS

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Emergency Manager Scott Hawkins presented Resolution 42-2022, authorizing the Sheriff to implement fire restrictions as reviewed by Counsel. Meeting screenshot.

Bv Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All commissioners were present as the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met for a regular meeting on Friday, June 3. BOCC Chair Keith Caddy opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

Pastor Chris Peterson of Crossroads Victory Church delivered the invocation. "...God, we living in these times need your help; so we ask for your wisdom to fill this boardroom, we ask for your wisdom and holy spirit to guide decisions that are made for this county... that you will bless this county with your favor, that you will bless this county with your protection, that you will bless this county with everything you have in store for it..."

Continued pg 22

BLACK CANYON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CONTINUES EXPANSION PLANS, REGISTRATION RETURNS TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVEL

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Since its formation in 1999, the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club (BCBGC) has played an important role in serving the young people of Montrose County. Though the club--which usually has a waiting list--has seen its ups and downs, the future looks bright.

Building on years of fundraising and grant applications, the non-profit organization has been working to expand its operations with a new club facility. The new space would allow the club to serve more youth, an expansion greatly needed after the BCBGC's Olathe location closed in 2020 due to difficulties exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The club now meets at the Montrose location, at 2900 Sunnyside Road.

Today, registration is back up to its pre-pandemic level of 120 kids, BCBGC Executive Director Bud Taylor said.



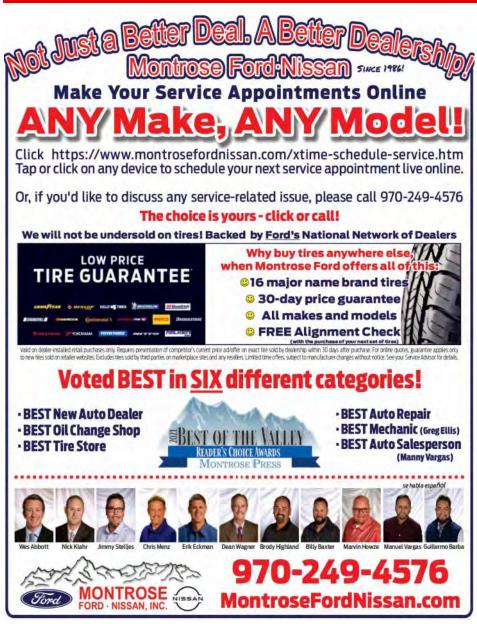
In a photo from the BCBGC Facebook page, club members ride bikes and scooters. The club, which has a waiting list, begins its summer program June 6. Courtesy image.

Taylor urged patience as the club moves forward with plans to expand. Funds raised toward the \$4.9M project include a \$2.5M United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan, and the project architect has already sent the design documents to the USDA in

Continued pg 5

City Manager deflects Ulibarri's Montrose regional Library Food Writer Carole Ann McKelvey visits Chang Thai! concerns at MURA meeting hosts Puppy Palooza!

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS



CPW INVITES ANGLERS TO PUBLIC MEETING JUNE 7 AT VALLECITO LAKE EVENT CENTER

Special to the Mirror

DURANGO– Colorado Parks and Wildlife will host a public meeting at 6 p.m. June 7 at the Vallecito Lake Event Center.

CPW aquatic biologist Jim White will give an update on area fisheries including Vallecito Lake, Lemon Reservoir and Los Piños (Pine) River.

White and CPW senior aquatic biologist John Alves will then discuss a proposed regulation change that would lift a seasonal fishing closure Sept. 1 through Nov. 14 on Vallecito Creek during kokanee salmon spawning season.

"We look forward to speaking with the Vallecito community about their fisheries and this proposed regulation change," White said. "We haven't had an opportunity to host a meeting in Vallecito for a few years, so this is a good opportunity to get together and talk about what's happening with fish management at their area waters."

Also attending on behalf of CPW will be Adrian Archuleta, Area Wildlife Manager out of the Durango office, as well as District Wildlife Manager Ty Smith.

The meeting is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. The public will have an opportunity to engage in open discussion and ask questions from 7 to 7:50 p.m.

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS & PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

IGNITE MONTROSE RETURNS TO CANYON CREEK B&B JUNE 9

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-It's time for Ignite-Montrose - an evening of fast paced presentations, five minutes and 20 slides each. This is an opportunity for our community members to share their passions, hobbies, and travels. Approximately ten ignite presentations will be featured. You are sure to get many ideas in a short time and may be inspired to take a trip or try a new hobby. Stop in at the back patio of Canyon Creek Bed & Breakfast (820 E Main St., Montrose,) Thursday, June 9 at 7:30 pm. The energy of the presenters and the audience is sure to motivate you!



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CONTINUES EXPANSION PLANS, REGISTRATION RETURNS TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVEL <u>From pg 1</u>

Washington, DC. Once construction documents are approved, a bid packet will be prepared. Still, other options are not off the table, Taylor said. Changes to the USDA itself in recent years have slowed the process to a snail's pace, and the cost of the project has climbed from \$4.4 to \$4.9M.

If the project cost continues to rise, it makes sense to look at all options, Taylor said.

"We want to take a step back and look at it," he said. "...we want to be sure all of our bases are covered."

Those who have questions or concerns are welcome to call him, Taylor said. "I will be happy to give an update and show you the pictures." And if any new decisions are made, "We will let our donors know and everybody else too," he said. Visit the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club online at <u>https://www.bcbgc.org/</u>.

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Tuesday, June 7 at 11 am Montrose Library East Lawn

L[]]



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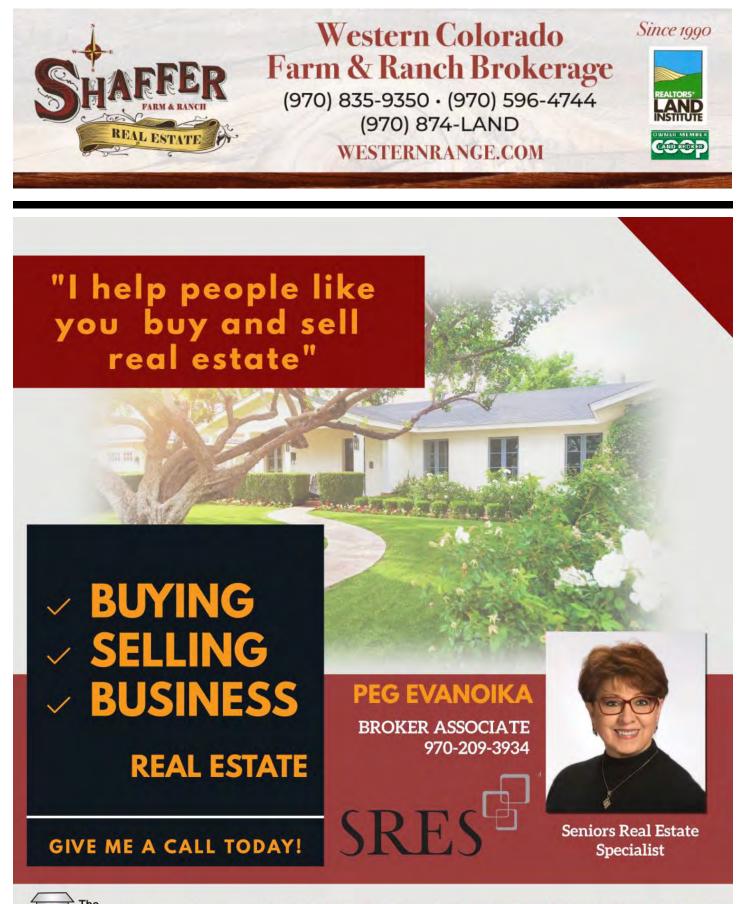




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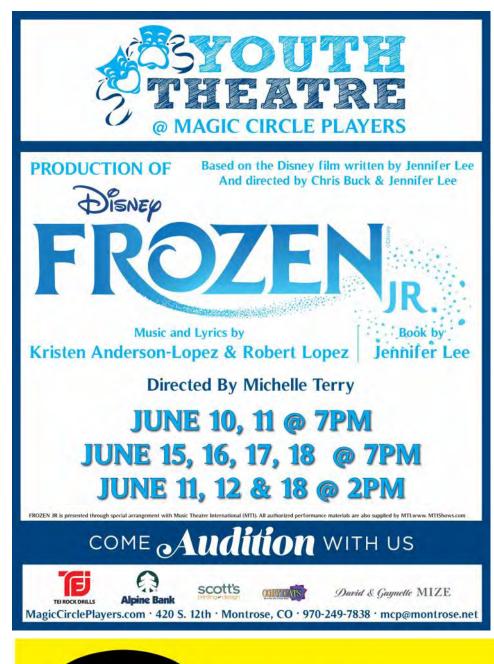
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REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

DELTA COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES RECOGNIZED BY COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) recognized Delta County for 2021 C-Stat Distinguished Performance. The county's outstanding performance efforts were tied to programs that help Coloradans, including helping more local families move toward a stronger economic future by connecting Coloradans with meaningful work opportunities and workforce development programs, delivering crucial food and energy assistance in a timely manner and keeping vulnerable adults and children safe.

"2021 was a year of recovery, growth, and record dedication to Coloradans from our county partners," said CDHS executive director Michelle Barnes. "Delta county is leading the way as a top performer by delivering fast and consistent services and I am excited to see what they accomplish now that we are through the height of the pandemic. I am proud of Delta County in supporting people slipping into poverty and those already in it, keeping kids and seniors safe, and supporting families." "I am beyond thrilled for our team to receive this recognition," said Anne Gallegos, Delta County Human Services Director. "The work we do is hard in a regular year; it was exponentially harder during the pandemic. I am incredibly proud of each and every member of the team, and grateful for the constant support of Delta County Commissioners and Administration."

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HISTORIC WALKING TOUR "LEGENDS AND TRUE TALES"

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Museum will be offering a Historic Walking tour of "Legends and True Tales", on June 10 starting at 7 pm. This short walk will take you to the alleys of our historic downtown, where you will learn the location of our first jail and courthouse, famous visitors that had "come" to town to work, and visit, along with the stories behind the walls.

Please meet at the Museum (21 N. Rio Grande Ave) space is limited, so RSVP by email or phone. There is a cost of \$10/person. If you have any questions or would like to join us please call 970-249-2085. At right, courtesy photo.

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CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY TO MEET AT LIBRARY JUNE 13

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-On Monday June 13, 5:30pm Citizensclimatelobby.org meets at the Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan, national solutions for a local sustainable community, recent encouragement by Al Gore. All interested in the environment welcome. Info 970-765-9095.

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- 10:00 AM Gardening in the 1880's Sally Johnson, Coordinator, Montrose County Historical Museum
- 11:00 AM Native Plants and Other Plant Choices Kathy See, Plant Ecologist
- 12:00 PM Break Feel free to bring a sack lunch
- 12:30 PM Lavender One Plant, Many Uses Tracy Harrison, Owner, A Lavender Emporium
- 1:15 PM Art in the Garden Montrose Center for the Arts
- 2:00 PM Sources of Plant Information for the Homeowner Montrose Botanical Society Member
- 2:30 PM Feel free to stroll through the gardens!

www.MontroseGardens.org



LIBRARY DISTRICT



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FRUITA FARMER'S MARKET OPENING DAY! JOIN US SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Special to the Mirror

FRUITA-The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the Fruita Farmer's Market for the 2022 season! Opening day will be held on Saturday, June 11th from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm at Reed Park (250 S Elm St.) in Fruita, CO. The Fruita Farmer's Market is brought to you by Family Health West, City of Fruita, US Bank, and Atlasta Solar Center. The market will feature a variety of local agriculture, food, and handcraft vendors. Opening day will also be the first Family Fun Day at the Fruita Farmer's Market. Each month, the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce will host a Family Fun Day,

which will offer a variety of fun games, classes, bump and jumps, and fun for the entire family. June 11th will feature an art activity for kids led by Banjo Cat Art Classes, live music from local musician, Alexandria Cox, and FREE horse carriage rides from JR's Carriage Services. Come with the family to shop, play cornhole, and grab some food from one of our local food trucks or stop in to eat at one of our amazing Fruita restaurants.

The Fruita Farmer's Market accepts Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) and Double Up Food Bucks customer payments at the market. Please visit the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce information tent to redeem you SNAP or to inquire about more information.

Dogs are welcome at the event, however they must be leashed, well behaved, and cleaned up after.

The Fruita Farmer's Market season operates every Saturday morning in Reed Park from June 11th through October 29th. Vendor applications are still available and can be found online at fruitafarmers-

market.org. To inquire about becoming a vendor, or for any questions, please contact the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce by calling 970-858-3894 or email <u>events@fruitachamber.org</u>

MRH AMBULATORY CARE CENTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN RECEIVES CITY APPROVAL



Preliminary land work begins at the site of the new Ambulatory Care Center, Montrose Regional Health's new outpatient care center. The City of Montrose recently approved the site development plan. MRH Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Ambulatory Care Center (ACC) project headed by Montrose Regional Health took another step forward recently as the City of Montrose approved site development plans for the project.

"This is a significant step forward for us," said Jeff Mengenhausen, CEO of Montrose Regional Health. "The ACC is important for the health needs of our growing communities. We are the only medical facility with approved site development plans to build in Montrose, so we are excited to move forward."

Site development plans are part of the approval process for new construction in a city, depicting the general layout of what will be built – including building elevation, expected landscaping and lighting, building footprints and

more. Preliminary work has begun at the location, with trucks and heavy machinery moving materials to make way for the future healthcare facility. The site, located near the intersection of Townsend and Rio

Grande Avenue, is in a desirable area near shopping and new development such as the popular new Hobby Lobby and Crumbl Cookie stores.Montrose Regional Health announced the ACC in February, with improving patient experience and decreasing the cost of care being important goals of the 80,000 square foot, four-story building. The ACC will increase access to care, housing various services including outpatient laboratory, physical therapy, ambulatory surgery, specialty care, medical imaging and more. Women's health care will be a point of emphasis for the project, with a special area designated for mammography and women's imaging. Official groundbreaking is expected to begin in August 2022, with a projected opening date of 4th quarter 2023. The hospital is developing the ACC in cooperation with the NexCore Group, a national healthcare real estate investment and development company headquartered in Colorado.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE-BASED SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL TEAM TO COMPETE IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS' TOP EVENT



Coach Glen Frese (left) and Coach Bobby Walker (right) pose with Montrose Hot Shots team. Courtesy photo.



Montrose Hot Shots A Team, with Coach Bobby Walker. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose is home to one thing no one else in the state can claim: Colorado's only Special Olympics basketball team competing in The USA Games. The event is the Special Olympics' biggest event, with torch-lighting and teams traveling from all over the world to compete, just like the real Olympic games.

"I think it means a ton to them, they are super excited," says Coach Bobby Walker, who has been coaching the local Special Olympics basketball team for seven years. "I can't wait for them to have this experience."

The Montrose Hot Shots are leaving this week for ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Disney World. The event promises to be one that the athletes – who are all intellectually challenged in some way or another but challenge themselves to compete – will never forget. But it wasn't always so bright: COVID-19 did a number on intellectually challenged athletic community.

"COVID-19 just wrecked us," said Coach Bobby. "We have some immunecompromised athletes, changing guidelines...it was difficult."

Luckily, the Montrose Hot Shots has strong support. The team is guided by Head Coach Glen Frese and his wife Cindy, who have tirelessly championed the program for the past 15 years and have made the program so successful. In addition to the Freses, Coach Bobby has helped the team with the sport side of the basketball team - having coached the sport since he was 15 years old. Coaching is an important guiding role for the Hot Shots team, as these coaches do more than teach x's and o's - they sometimes will take athletes to their medical appointments, they have medicine protocols for the athletes, and take various other

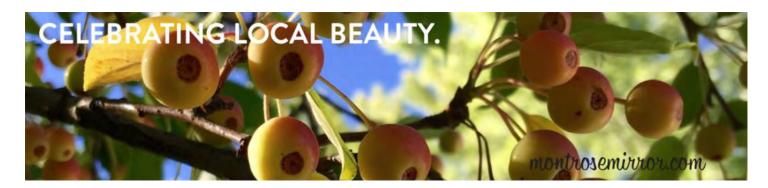
measures to ensure athletes are in a safe environment to compete.

Additional support includes Victory Crossroads church, which allows the team to use their very good facilities for a minimal fee. It's been appreciated by the team, with Coach Bobby recognizing how important it has been to get the team back in shape after the impact COVID has had on the team.

Many of the athletes, who are all over the age of 18, went to Montrose High School – another reason why Montrose should be especially proud of the team, says Coach Bobby.

"This is an excellent group of folks and a great program. I'm proud of every one of them. To be able to do this is just incredible."

The community can help cheer on their Montrose Hot Shots team by looking for the Western Slope Special Olympics group on Facebook.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

AS A RANCHER, DON CORAM WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR OUR WATER

Editor:

The "Law of the River" established in 1922, apportioned CO River water between Upper and Lower Basin states and is considered an extremely important document in CO River Management. In 1997, a symposium was held with the basic concern of allocation of very scarce water resources among competing interests. The compact "apportioned from the Colorado River in perpetuity to the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin" 7.5 maf each per year. Not able to work out each state's allocation, the matter was settled in court. Built into the compact of 1922 was water scarcity. It is the root of most disputes and problems and indeed a driving force for CO for decades.

Yet, here it is 2022 and Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Ridgway Reservoir, Blue Mesa and so on, show the effects of the severe drought hitting Western states, especially in CO. So no, the Western Slope does not have time to "investigate" as Boebert stated. As a rancher, Don Coram knows the history, problems, and entire dilemma being faced. He has and continues to fight to keep what limited water rights there are.

After all the Memorial Day celebrations, a reminder from my newest t-shirt: "Without the Farmer (Rancher), You'd be hungry, naked and sober." VOTE DON CORAM.

AJ Smith, Montrose

READY TO MAKE SOME NEW MEMORIES?

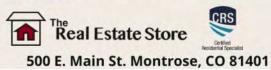
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We Now Have a 2nd Location! 1425 Hawk Parkway

Page 16

Montrose, CO 81401



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CORAM A CONSEQUENCE WE DO NOT NEED TO SUFFER

Editor:

For almost two decades prior to 2020, the 3RD CD was "represented" by two lackluster Congressmen [Salazar D-Alamosa and Tipton-R Cortez]. In 2020 Lauren Boebert challenged and upset Tipton in the primary, then handily defeated the liberal Democrat in the General Election.

It has been reported that Don Coram refused to support his party's candidate in that election, and many asked "why "? The simple answer is that he apparently felt he was entitled to Tipton's seat upon Tipton's retirement, and saw his dreams of higher office fade away with Tipton's primary loss.

In his current primary challenge to Boe-

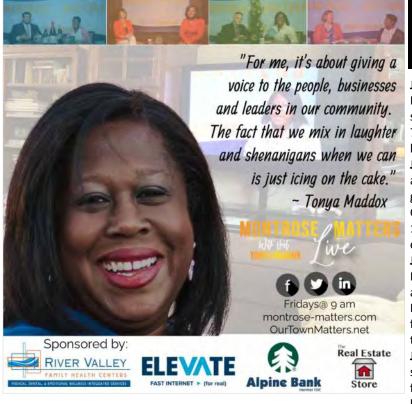
bert, Coram has tried to label her as "extreme", with little accomplished, but that is far from the truth! Boebert has proven to be a steadfast supporter of American values, our Constitution, and Bill of Rights. She has shown the backbone to stand up against the radical liberal progressive policies that have led to a massive border invasion, loss of energy independence, efforts to defund police, rising crime, and uncontrolled inflation / higher prices for all we buy, among many others that have put our country in its greatest decline. Hardly extreme considering the damage being done to our country by Democrat ideology!

Far too many politicians equate "success"

with the number of bills they have passed, but with both Houses of Congress controlled by radical Democrats it's virtually impossible to advance any reasonable Republican proposals. In spite of that, Boebert has been extremely successful in representing our District, and if you are REALLY interested in learning the full extent of those accomplishments go tohttps://boebert.house.gov/issues/getting -things-done In a short year and a half, Boebert has become our Districts best hope for stopping the Democrat's radical anti-American agenda. Elections do indeed have consequences, and Coram is a consequence we do not need to suffer! Dee Laird, Montrose

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

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



RIDGWAY STATE PARK UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 10-SUMMER PROGRAM SERIES: "Wild and Edible Plants of Colorado" Join Dr. Bruce Bauerle, experienced speaker, naturalist and award winning educator. 7:30pm Ridgway State Park, Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 11-NATURE DETECTIVES: "Spring Migration" Kids, 6 and older, join us to learn about the amazing feat of migration! Look at some specimens, then play a "Migration Challenge" game along the Forest Discovery Trail. 9:30-11a.m Ridgway State Park. Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 11-SUMMER PROGRAM SERIES: Creatures of the Night-Night Hike!. Join the park educator for a night talk and walk about creatures' survival skills used at night. Different specimens also available to look at. Family friendly! Bring a flashlight! 8p.m. Ridgway State Park. Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 12-TOUCH TABLES: Birds and Bird Nests. Various specimens of birds, egg replicas, and real nests. Cool information and other things to share! 1:30 - 4:30pm, swim beach/shower area. Dutch Charlie entrance.

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GA tickets available at BrownPaperTickets.com, as well as Timberline Bank, The Bridges Pro Shop, Fisher's Liquor Barn (GJ), The Liquor Store, Montrose Community Foundation, Dolphin House

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

14TH ANNUAL UNKNOWN MOTORCYCLE SHOW TO BE HELD AT CERISE PARK

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The 14th annual Unknown Motorcycle Show will be held at Cerise Park in Montrose on June 11. Enjoy a large variety of vintage, custom & classic motorcycles with live music, food, awards, door prizes, and family friendly displays. 10% of Registration fees will be donated to our local veterans at the American Legion #73.Learn more: <u>www.westerncovintage.com</u>







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"FIRE SEASON SEEMS TO BE ALL YEAR ANYMORE" From pg 1

Media Relations Director Katie Yergensen led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Jon Waschbusch asked that Item C-24, "Consideration and possible authorization for the Chair's signature on a Professional Services Agreement for Stolfus and Associates of Greenwood Village to perform an access control plan for U.S. Highway 50 between N River Road and N Grand Ave and for U.S. Highway 550 from N Grand Avenue to N 9th Street" be moved to Item D-2, and that Item C-28, a resolution "for a road closure of 6075 Road to through traffic on the hill slope located south of Horizon Road and north of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks," be moved To Item D-3.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were accepted as amended.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Emergency Manager Scott Hawkins presented Resolution 42-2022, authorizing the Sheriff to implement fire restrictions as reviewed by Counsel. This year's resolution is similar to last year's but extends the authorization throughout 2022. "Fire season seems to be all year anymore," Hawkins said.

The BOCC voted unanimously to adopt <u>Resolution 42-2022</u>.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a Professional Services Agreement for Stolfus and Associates of Greenwood Village to perform an access control plan for U.S. Highway 50 between N River Road and N Grand Ave and for U.S. Highway 550 from N Grand Avenue to N 9th Street. The agenda notes that the total cost of the study will be \$150,000 with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), City of Montrose, Town of Olathe and Montrose County each paying a portion of the cost. Montrose County's share of the cost will be \$40,000. The purpose of the study is to provide a planning tool for safe and smart access for future development. The study will include public input meetings.

Also approved was <u>Resolution 43-2022</u>, for a temporary road closure of 6075 Road to through traffic on the hill slope located south of Horizon Road and north of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, due to safety concerns. "Several weeks ago we noticed some cracking, and now there's been some displaced soil and some sloughing on the downhill side...we want some time to investigate what remediation would be required," County Engineer Keith Laube said, noting that draining groundwater away from the slope may be the answer. It is in the best interests if the county to keep the road open, Laube said.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Commissioners re-opened a public hearing on a proposed zoning change that had been continued from the May 4 BOCC meeting, presented by Planner Tallmadge Richmond. Concerns were previously raised due to wetland areas, so the area to be rezoned was decreased from 20 to nine acres and commissioners and staff have visited the site. The planning commission and staff recommended approval of the JBARJ Rezone [RZ21-012 proposal to rezone from General Agricultural (A) to Manufactured Home Park Residential District (R-MHP) at 11511 Lakeview Drive. Property Owner Jack Petrocelli was present and spoke briefly. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the proposed rezone.

With no further business, commissioners voted to adjourn the meeting.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

BALLOTTRAX AVAILABLE FOR EVERY COLORADO VOTER

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – Colorado voters in all 64 counties will have the opportunity to track their ballot for the 2022 Primary Election using BallotTrax, a program that was implemented statewide by Secretary of State Jena Griswold in 2020.

"Initiatives like BallotTrax increase transparency and confidence in our elections by allowing Colorado voters to track their ballot from when they are sent, received, and counted," **said Secretary Griswold.** "I encourage all Colorado voters to take advantage of this easy-to-use service during the Primary Election this June." BallotTrax enables voters to receive notifications by phone, email, or text about the status of their mail ballot, from the time it is mailed to the voter, to when it is received, and counted. In 2020, over 1.6 million voters used BallotTrax to follow their ballots. This year, nearly 2 million active voters are enrolled in the program. This year, messages about the status of voter ballots will begin after ballots are mailed out by counties. Ballots were mailed to military and overseas voters on Friday, May 14th and the earliest date ballots can be mailed to other voters is June 6^{th} .

While previously the City and County of Denver used BallotTrace, a separate but similar system, this year all voters including Denver voters will use BallotTrax.

Colorado voters can enroll themselves in BallotTrax by going to

<u>www.GoVoteColorado.gov</u> and clicking on "Sign up for BallotTrax."

For more information on Colorado's 2022 Primary Election, to register to vote, or update your voter registration, please visit <u>www.GoVoteColorado.gov</u>. We carry the largest selection of Chaco Sandals in the area.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL FIRE INVESTIGATORS DETERMINE SOURCE OF SIMMS FIRE

Special to the Mirror

DELTA--USDA Forest Service Law Enforcement & Investigations (LE&I), with the assistance of the Ouray County Sheriff's Office, are actively investigating the cause of the Simms Fire. At this point in the investigation, investigators have determined that the source of the ignition of the Simms Fire was the Simms Mesa Prescribed Fire Project conducted on May 16, 2022. Fire investigators are still identifying and contacting potential witnesses to ensure all relevant information is obtained. On May 19, the forest was actively monitoring the 188-acre project area when smoke was reported. Interagency first responders immediately engaged in initial attack that afternoon and worked through the night to slow the fire's spread using dozer and handlines, air resources, and structure protection measures. Ultimately, 313 acres burned, with three structures lost. Assertive initial attack efforts combined with favorable precipitation and cooler temperatures the following days, allowed fire managers to fully contain the Simms Fire on May 23.

The Simms Mesa Prescribed Fire was implemented according to burn plans and state air quality permits. Favorable weather conditions and forecasts received by the National Weather Service, fuel moisture content, adequate personnel and contingency resources were within the parameters of the plan.

Fire behavior was favorable on the day of the burn and met the objectives outlined in the plan. Firefighters patrolling the area reported that control lines were holding, interior areas weren't showing significant smoke or heat, and no hot spot fires were detected outside of the control lines. A wind event four days later caused the Simms Mesa Prescribed Fire to escape containment lines and it was then declared a wildfire.

"Every management action on the Grand Mesa, Uncompany and Gunnison National Forests is intended to promote forest health and a landscape that is more resilient to drought, insects, and disease," said Chad Stewart, Forest Supervisor for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests. "Our efforts unfortunately resulted in an undesirable outcome, despite the careful, detailed planning by experienced resource professionals. My heart goes out to those who have been deeply impacted by the Simms Fire." The Rocky Mountain Regional Office, working with the GMUG Forest Supervisor has initiated a Facilitated Learning Analysis and Review (FLA) to foster organizational learning from this unexpected outcome. The team will have members from within the USFS, the Colorado Fire Prevention and Control and the Bureau of Land Management as well as a local elected representative from that area.

"The Facilitated Learning Analysis will help the Forest Service fully understand what happened on the Simms Mesa Prescribed Fire," said Frank Beum, Regional Forester for the Rocky Mountain Region. "We will use this review to best inform future planning for wildfire mitigation efforts, always with safety as the primary objective." Forest Service Chief Randy Moore announced a pause in the use of prescribed fire on National Forest System lands on May 20.

This temporary pause will help the Forest Service focus a review on the prescribed burn program nationwide to ensure it is anchored in the most contemporary science, policies, practices and decisionmaking processes, and that employees, partners and communities have the support and the resources they need to continue using this critical tool to confront the wildfire crisis.

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



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COMMUNITY INVITED TO MEET RIDGWAY CHAMBER MEMBERS AND BOARD MEMBERS JUNE 16

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-A Business After Hours gathering at the Ridgway Lodge & Star Saloon will be the first opportunity for the community to meet two new board members of the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC). Frank Gouder and Jon Elliott began serving on the RACC board this spring, and are looking forward to networking with community members at the chamber's event on Thursday, June 16 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Gouder and his wife, Sandra Gouder, own and operate the Double G Ranch & Guest Lodge on Log Hill Mesa. They moved from Germany in 2018, to start their a boutique hotel-style bed and breakfast with a horse ranch, where they rescue and train wild mustangs

"Coming from Germany and starting a new life here we had so much support from the great community of Ridgway and now want to give something back to the community," said Gouder who was a CEO and company co-owner in Germany. "I hope that I will be able to convince more businesses from Ridgway to join the chamber, so we can help create great events for the residents and tourists visiting this beautiful town. In my opinion, Ridgway is a hidden gem and could be one of the biggest attractions in southwestern Colorado."

He hopes the chamber can host a roundtable after-hours event every month

or every other month, so members and non-members can meet for conversation and creating innovative ideas "to help Ridgway become the best town around." The chamber board is comprised of a mix of business people from different industry sectors. Each member also has interests and expertise in one of the five Ridgway tourism themes: Outdoor Adventure, Culinary Experiences, Arts & Entertainment, Health & Wellness, and History & Heritage, or service areas: Accommodations, Dining, Travel Services, Shopping, and Professional Services.

Elliott, a Colorado native who moved to Ridgway three years ago, is the southwestern Colorado regional manager for Aspen Tree Service, a full-service tree care company specializing in pruning, removal, plant health care, and plantings. He has been an arborist for more than 35 years, and is an avid mountain biker who loves the outdoors.

"I joined the chamber because I feel Ridgway is a great town and I wanted to be more involved," he explained. "Being on the chamber board I am hoping to increase awareness and recruit new members. The chamber has a lot to offer as it helps to promote businesses is Ridgway." The RACC is organized to achieve the objectives of promoting business and community growth and development in the Town of Ridgway and the surrounding area. The chamber manages <u>ridgwaycolo-</u>



Frank Gouder with dog. Courtesy photo.

<u>rado.com</u> – the top result for Google searches about the town and its amenities.

The chamber also markets local businesses and nonprofits through diverse channels, and operates the Ridgway Visitors Center, open from May 27 to October 1. For more information, visit <u>ridgwaycolorado.com</u> or come out to the Ridgway Lodge & Star Saloon, 373 Palomino Trail, Ridgway, from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 16 for the free RACC Business After Hours event.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DON CORAM FIGHTS FOR ALL

Dear Editor:

This Memorial Day, my son, grandchildren and I stood at the gravesite of my ancestors. Six generations of Western Slope heritage began from homesteading efforts in Hotchkiss, Austin and Delta. I shared my grandparents' story of how Peach Valley really did have peaches instead of being a desert. Whenever asked how did that happen, the answer is simple. In Colorado, "**just because one owns land next to a stream does not by itself mean they have a right to use water from that stream**." Obviously, Colorado cannot survive without water, but the rivers and streams necessary for people, agriculture, recreation, commerce and the environment are under attack as never before; but due to the 1922 Law of the River, there are limited things we can do.

In 2013, Governor Hickenlooper signed an executive order assigning the CO Water Conservation Board to come up with a plan to provide the necessary water to sustain this state. Western slope has been heavily involved as greatly affected.

I would think that my congressional representative Boebert would know all this and had joined the fight instead of stating in the first debate, "I'll need to investigate." This is a very important bi-partisan issue. Water demands don't care what party one is. Don Coram fights for all.

This has made me thirty. Thanks Don Coram for helping me get a drink of water. *Norman K. Smith, Montrose*

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BOCC Meetings and Work sessions will remain in the existing location at 317 South 2nd Street through June.

Beginning in July, BOCC Meetings and Work sessions will move to Planning & Development at 63160 LaSalle Road.

QUESTIONS?

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COLORADO STATE PATROL: TROOPER TIPS

HOLES IN OUR LIFE

By Master Trooper Gary Cutler

COLORADO-One of my favorite movies is Groundhog Day. In the movie, Bill Murry has a line in one of his reports that is also a favorite of mine. "Well, it's Groundhog Day...again." That resonates with me more than you know. Well it's pothole season...again.

After a Colorado winter we see an influx of potholes around the state. This is not the fault of road crews, its just our weather tearing into the roads as it does every year. So why bring up these axel killers? They can also be dangerous for drivers. Often, I see people driving along the roadway and suddenly slam their brakes on to try and limit the pothole experience. Where I understand the urge to avoid the pothole, there are other ways to accomplish it.

A pothole can be seen prior to coming upon it if you are doing that scan beyond the hood I talk about. If you slam your brakes just prior to getting to it you may



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end up knowing the driver behind you more than you wanted. Even though they should be giving you enough distance in case you have to use your



brakes, often they aren't and we end up with a crash. Scan your lane so you can see the potholes in time and slow gently.

The other situation I see with potholes is the swerve. When swerving, most times the vehicle hits the pothole anyways, so it didn't do any good. When a driver swerves, especially when it causes the vehicle to go into the oncoming lane it can be deadly. Even if you don't go into the other lane, the swerve may cause you to lose control and crash especially if you still hit the pothole.

If you do happen to come up to a pothole and didn't see it in time, it is best to hit it straight on. I understand you may have damage in the way of a flat tire, bent rim, or possibly some axle damage depending on the speed it was hit, but you will be around to get it fixed.

No matter what I discuss here, it always comes down to keeping control of your vehicle and letting other drivers know what you're going to do prior to doing it. As always, safe travels!



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS FEAR CAMPAIGN HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN

Editor:

With an important election coming up, we have to remind ourselves of what to expect from Democrats. They currently control Congress, the presidency, and most of the judiciary; they have most of the media protecting them; they dominate academia; they have Hollywood schilling for them; and they have Big Tech censoring for them. So, you probably won't hear much about their true motives prior to this election. Remember we didn't hear anything about "transitioning" from Biden during his campaign, but he has now (accidentally) admitted what we already knew: He is intentionally destroying our domestic fuel production capabilities to make fuel prices totally unaffordable so that, in his muddled thinking, we will be forced into electric cars. He could care less about the devastating impact this is having on working-class Americans or the impracticalities of actually achieving his green energy pipe dream.

Remember also that Biden didn't campaign on intentionally sowing racial hatred and division.

He didn't campaign on a grossly expanded federal government and authority with a lessening of U.S. sovereignty in favor of global governance. He didn't campaign on a destroyed economy due to grossly expanded and unfunded federal spending and economic, political, and social chaos and mayhem. He didn't campaign on a crime wave and the destabilization of society due to Soros-funded DA's that won't prosecute and the demonization/ defunding of police.

He didn't campaign on demonizing the 74 million people who didn't vote for him as "the most extreme political organization that's existed in American history," or pushing Critical Race Theory and slandering concerned parents at school board meetings as "domestic terrorists." He didn't campaign on an Afghanistan withdrawal disaster with 13 dead Marines that he called an "extraordinary success." He didn't campaign on nullifying federal immigration law and eliminating our southern border.

He didn't campaign on implementing a federal "truth commission" to punish anyone he disagrees with. He didn't campaign on incompetent foreign policies resulting in a proxy war with Russia., or on politicizing the FBI and DOJ to the extent they continue to ignore Hillary and Hunter's treason. He didn't campaign on unconstitutionally taking control of elections from the states and slandering state efforts to implement election security as "Jim Crow 2.0," eliminating the filibuster, or packing the Supreme Court. He didn't campaign on ignoring a baby formula shortage for months and then blaming everyone else for the problem. And of course, he didn't campaign on destroying women's sports and women's rights in favor of men identifying as women.

In short, Biden campaigned as a moderate who would unite the country with his vast experience, compassion, and competence. What we got was the extreme opposite. This administration does not appear to understand that it was put there to solve problems, not to make problems and then excuses. Those who voted for them expected them to govern, not whine.

This coming election will determine whether this country allows this administration to continue to double down on its failed far-left policies while shifting blame for a long, growing list of failures. Realize that we have only seen the start of the lies coming from this administration and their allies in news media (a.k.a., the Democrat party propaganda machine). They believe the American people can be manipulated like sheep to be controlled by fear, not rational thinkers persuaded by logic and compelling arguments. Their fear campaign has only just begun. *Chanda Ouimet, Montrose*



City Manager deflects concerns of new MURA Board Member Ed Ulibarri: "I'M CONCERNED WHEN I SEE THE CITY PASS OUT MONEY"



During the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) meeting, newly elected Councilman Ed Ulibarri said, "I'm still a little behind on the MURA. I think it's best if I don't say "yea" to everything, or "no" to everything." (L to R) Ed Ulibarri and City Manager/MURA Executive Director Bill Bell. Photo by Gail Marvel.



unanimously to approve \$700,000 in horizontal site development for the Shelter Distilling project. The distillery is projected to open in winter of 2023. Photo by Gail Marvel.

spread sheet. The \$375,000 is unencumbered. Those

By Gail Marvel

The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA)

The June 2, 2022 MURA board meeting was held in the Cascade Meeting Room. With the exception of Councilwoman Barbara Bynum and Mark Plantz, all board members were present.

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call. There were no citizen comments during the call for Public Comment.

TIF EXPENDITURE UPDATE - City Engineer Scott Murphy

Murphy said, "No spread sheet this time. Nothing changed since the last meeting. A couple of small project updates. I met with the Base Camp Apartment contractor. They are still targeting September for the first building. That's good news. They will start leasing in two-to-three-month gaps. They've broken ground on the Fairfield [hotel]." Murphy explained the curb, gutter, and asphalt would come after the building is up and the modules in place. Brad Hughes said, "You don't have a

funds can be used for other projects. Correct?"

Murphy said, "Fully unencumbered and available."

COLORADO COMMUNITY REVITALIZA-**TION GRANT AGREEMENT** - Executive Director William Bell.

City grant writer Kendall Cramer worked Rowan opened the meeting with the closely with Colorado Outdoors Developer David Dragoo to finalize the updated agreements.

> Explaining the grant agreement, David Dragoo said, "This is a project of a mixeduse for creative industries business. The agreement is for a specific number of units used for 20 years."

Bell said, "David did a great job lobbying [the State] by including restaurants." Of the 20 units in the Flex Building, six units must be used for Creative Industries as defined in the agreement.

Hughes said, "Before we vote. Just so I'm understanding, \$2M comes from the State to the MURA and we are going to pass through to the building owner for the six units. Let's say you sell the Flex building in

10-years and they want to renovate or do something different. Whatever the case may be, is this board responsible for that?"

Dragoo said, "The MURA is the grant recipient; we [Colorado Outdoors] have the land restriction that has teeth in it that says that we must lease it for this purpose." Approved unanimously. SHELTER DISTILLING INC. PROJECT DIS-**CUSSION**

This development agreement is for \$700,000 in horizontal site development for the Shelter Distilling project, which is projected to open in winter of 2023. Consideration of a Development Agreement - Executive Director William Bell.

Bell said. "There are two amendments to the agreement. The consensus from the last meeting was that we not do a promissory note [with the city] if we don't have to. There is about \$475,000 on hand that is in the MURA account. More should be coming in the year. We also have the \$375,766 that Brad [Hughes] was talking about. We have more than the \$700,000 that is being asked for. We'll have more money coming in next year. MURA funds are available to pay for the project." Bell continued, "We are also getting a

"I'M CONCERNED WHEN I SEE THE CITY PASS OUT MONEY" From previous pg

a new city attorney, Ben Morris will start on July 5th. Ben had quite a long time at the city and then became a judge [7th Judicial District]. Now he is coming back." Morris will review city contracts and documents. Bell said, "The legal [department] will now draft contracts and we'll [city department heads] review, rather than the reverse. I'm looking forward to that."

The development agreement was approved unanimously.

Schedule Future Meetings

In scheduling the next meeting Bell conferred with Dragoo on whether a June 22 meeting was needed.

On the immediate horizon for Dragoo is the Medical Program. According to a news release dated June 2, 2022, the Colorado Outdoors Medical Center (COMC) broke ground on its new facility today. The COMC will be a 50,000 sf outpatient medical center designed to provide affordable, convenient, high-quality healthcare services in Montrose.

Referring to COMC, Bell said, "They told us in the past that they are not looking for MURA incentives [requesting horizontal improvement incentives]."

Attending his first MURA meeting, newly elected Councilman Ed Ulibarri questioned the vote that just took place. He said, "Maybe I just got lost in here. Is this one vote or two, on the finance and the contract?"

Bell said, "We don't have to borrow money, so one vote." Bell gave a quick summary on the financing component and explained the different funding sources. He said, "There is no borrowing from city funds." However, the MURA would have to borrow money for any future projects over \$150,000.

Ulibarri said, "I feel I should abstain. I've not been privy to some of the conversations. I'm still a little behind on the MURA. I think it's best if I don't say "yea" to everything, or "no" to everything. I'll abstain." Looking to David Reed, Ulibarri said, "Is that a problem?"

Reed said, "I don't know if you are voting as a councilperson or as a MURA board member. I'm not sure. I don't know what the MURA Bylaws say about abstaining."

Ulibarri said, "I haven't received a copy of the Bylaws."

Bell said, "We need to formalize the Bylaws when Ben [new city attorney] comes on board."

Referring back to Section 6 of the contract, Hughes said, "In the future [specify] how it is being funded. Where the source money is coming from should be in the agreement and then everyone is clear. Less confusion for the public."

it more clear."

Ulibarri said, "I'm just trying to figure out where the money is coming from. I'm concerned when I see the city pass out money. I want to make sure this benefits the whole city."

Bell explained that there are different pots of money and that Ulibarri's concerns are for a city discussion, rather than a MU-RA board discussion.

The next MURA meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2022.

Background: The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) was formed in late 2016 by a resolution of the Montrose City Council. Generally speaking, the MURA Board oversees the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area and administers the Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding mechanism to finance public infrastructure in the MURA. The property, which covers 158 acres along the river corridor between the Justice Center on the north and West Main on the South, is being developed by the Dragoo's Mayfly Outdoors. The Dragoo Developers are son David Dragoo and father Doug Dragoo.

The 10-member MURA board is made up of Montrose City Council (five members), City Manager Bill Bell (Executive Director), Brad Hughes (Montrose County), Chair Tad Rowan (Montrose Fire Protection District), Steve Bush (Montrose School District) and Bell said, "We can add that. We can make Mark Plantz (Special Districts Representative). The six-member city constituency hold the controlling interest and actions of the MURA Board.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

AND HOW ARE THE CHILDREN OF MONTROSE?

By Audrey Serazio, Children First

MONTROSE-Did you know that Montrose County School District hired a Threat Assessment Coordinator in 2021 to assist with Threat Assessments and Suicide Prevention?

MCSD is currently using the Salem-Kaizer Model that was developed by John Van Deal. His book entitled, "Assessing Student Threats", is available on line if you want to take a deeper look into the evidenced based model called, Salem- Kaizer. This school-based preventative model is aimed at targeting violence.

Megan Farley, Threat Assessment Coordinator at MCSD reported that she has had training in the above model in Oregon. She also reports that in April, 2022, 72 threat assessments were completed and 111 suicide protocols were completed as well.

Meagan also repots that the reporting system is a two tiered program and anyone can report a concern in any particular school that will then be shared with: 1. The school based threat assessment team and then: 2. The community based team. Meagan also connects with parents, teachers, community etc., during this threat assessment process. The school is currently working with several outside

49

agencies in making referrals as well. The school based and community teams consist of members from human services, principals, teachers, school resource officers, Director of safety and security, community volunteers etc.,

At a recent conference, directed by Peer Kindness, called Parenting with Wit and Wisdom, the guest speaker and book author Barbara Coloroso spoke about her vision which is to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all children. She believes that we all need to work in partnership with schools, businesses, community leaders, families and our youth to reduce bullying. The values should be positive, be encouraging, be empathetic, be respectful and be kind.

Many people ask, What is considered bullying before I go to a school and file a report?

According to Barbara Coloroso, she reports that Bullying is an unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated over time. The children who are bullied, those who bully others and those who witness the behaviors may have serious and or lasting problems. (Stopbullying.gov) Her

8.500

website: www.kidsareworthit.com can also connect you to the many books she has authored.

If you have questions and or need additional help, the following resources are available to you:

Jim Pavlich, Director of Safety and Security MCSD, J.Pavlich@mcsd.org, Megan Farley MCSD Threat Assessment Coordinator at 970-270-2951, Peer Kindness at 970-901-7744, Barbara Coloroso at 303-486-8253.

In the future, we hope to continue our discussion with MCSD Safety/Security Department to learn more about how the school will start reporting Threat Assessment Outcomes to the community, review the actual Threat Assessment forms used at all levels of the program, review specific categories of the Threat Assessment: violence levels, theft, other crimes etc., and the number of threats and or percentages that are being reported to the police department.

Go to:

Download The APP. **P3TIPS**

www.studentthreatassessment.org, choose resources and then PDF forms for more specific information related to the Salem-Kaizer System.

Every child deserves to be in a safe learning environment.

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IA NOUE

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BEWARE OF WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Dear Editor,

The story of Little Red Riding Hood teaches us a valuable lesson to beware of wolves in sheep's clothing. Republicans should remember this advice during the primary election.

Wolf #1 is Don Coram. Senator Coram was the only Republican to sponsor the Comprehensive Sex Ed Bill, HB19-1032. This bill forces all schools that provide sex education to include teaching about homosexual practices. Coram continues to lie about this bill saying he had to sponsor it to make it better. This is simply NOT true and Coram's support of the bill was critical to its passing. Lauren Boebert does not compromise like that and is a true conservative candidate. She believes in pro-life, gun rights, and preserving freedom in America. Lauren Boe-

bert deserves your vote. Wolf #2 is Pam Anderson. Anderson is a board member for the Center for Tech and Civic Life, which is funded by Facebook and Google. Hundreds of millions of Zuckerbucks were distributed by CTCL (and Pam Anderson) to turn out Democrat votes and sway 2020 away from Trump. Anderson believes that Colorado's voting systems are safe and secure and that there wasn't any fraud in 2020 that would have changed the results. On the other hand, Tina Peters, former county clerk for Mesa County, has listened to the concerns of her community. She did a back-up image of her voting records before Dominion did a trusted build in Mesa County. The back-up image revealed that vote records were deleted by Dominion and that votes were flipped in Mesa County in 2020. Tina Peters deserves your vote.

Wolf #3 is Joe O'Dea. O'Dea believes in pro-choice and does not support the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Mr. O'Dea has financially supported Democrat candidates such as Bennett and Perlmutter in the past. He is new to politics and was not properly vetted by the GOP prior to buying his way onto the primary ballot. O'Dea does not believe that the 2020 election was stolen. Meanwhile, Ron Hanks, a mili-

tary veteran and security expert believes that Trump won the 2020 election and that Dominion voting machines are unsecure and hackable.

Ron Hanks introduced legislation in the Colorado General Assembly to overhaul election security with anticounterfeit measures on ballots, limiting absentee voting, and requiring voters to show ID. Of course, Democrats voted against these election measures but Ron Hanks deserves your vote.

To improve election security, refrain from voting early and instead drop off ballots at the county clerk's office on June 28th. *Jennifer Gregg, Montrose*



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FEATURING: 6 OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S TOP SONG WRITERS FROM NASHVILLE WILL PERFORM SOME OF THEIR #1 HITS AS WELL SONGS CREATED FROM OUR VETERANS EXPERIENCES

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY-OURAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZED AS JUNE 2022 RACC MEMBER OF THE MONTH



ROCC members clean a two-mile stretch of hwy 550 just north of Ridgway. This crew filled 17 huge trash bags during the semi-annual ROCC Adopt-A-highway cleanup.

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Ridgway-Ouray Community Council (ROCC) is being recognized as Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce Member of the Month in June. The Member of the Month program is an ongoing effort by the chamber to provide the community and visitors with information about businesses and organizations in the area and promote patronage of local re-

sources and small, independent companies and nonprofits.

ROCC is a nonprofit community organization with a mission to build, nourish and protect the healthy spirit of the community in Ridgway, Ouray and the surrounding area. ROCC is dedicated to quality-of-life issues that will shape the future of Ouray County. ROCC works to enhance Ouray County's quality of life through education, protection of the environment and promotion of social justice.

Long-term activities include working towards a clean energy economy, fighting to protect Ouray County's high alpine zone, advocating for affordable housing, and collaborating on regional and statewide issues such as oil and gas, air quality and public lands. The organization has also been instrumental in protecting Ouray County's dark sky asset.

Recent initiatives have included coordinating with the Forest Service and San Juan Mountain Association to promote the "Save the Blues" campaign that aims to protect the Blue Lakes area from abuse and overuse.

As the forest service continues with developing policies, ROCC will once again be supporting their efforts and helping to staff trailhead education stations with volunteers who share Leave No Trace principles. The objective is to make visitors aware of recreational practices that limit negative impacts to public lands, as well as making people safer and increase good etiquette.

To learn more about the Ridgway-Ouray Community Council , go to <u>https://</u> <u>www.roccnet.org/</u> or email ROCCnet.org@gmail.com.

To read the full interview about Ridgway-Ouray Community Council, go to <u>https://</u> <u>ridgwaycolorado.com/news-events/rocc-</u> june-2022-racc-member-of-the-month.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS DOES DON CORAM REPRESENT REPUBLICANS?

To the Editor:

The primary in June will determine who will represent the Third Congressional District (CD3) on the Republican ticket. Don Coram is running for the House seat. My concern is whether or not Mr. Coram is truly a Republican. When he spoke to the Montrose County Republican Central Committee last year, he told them that they were NOT his constituents and that "R" next to his name stood for "rural." Unfortunately, Mr. Coram did not define what "rural" meant, so we continue to remain in the dark about who he really represents.

So, if the Republican Central Committee isn't part of his constituents, then who is? Does this mean that none of the Republicans of CD3 are his constituents? Let me give you an example. A friend of mine emailed Mr. Coram about the sex education bill (SB19-1032). She asked him why any Republican would

sponsor a bill that sexualizes our children and gives the schools the job of the parents. His laconic response was to contact a lobbyist at Colorado Christian University (CCU) to check out whether or not CCU supported the bill. My friend spoke at length with the head of the Centennial Institute at CCU and he said that lobbyist clearly knew that the school did NOT support the bill, but made every effort to amend it (unsuccessfully). A review of the lobbyist database on SB19-1032 showed this lobbyist neither opposed nor supported the bill. Instead, it showed that she and her client (CCU) were waiting on amendments. By the way, the Centennial Institute Scorecard for 2019 gave Mr. Coram a

red check mark indicating disapproval of his actions regarding this bill and others for that year.

At a Montrose County Republican Central Committee meeting, Mr. Coram claimed he talked with former U.S. Congressman Bob Schaffer about SB19-1032, and claimed Schaffer supported it. However, when someone checked with Schaffer, it was revealed that he did not support the bill nor did he ever speak with Don about it.

Is this the kind of person who should represent our district? Mr. Coram has lied and attacked those who disagree with him. The only constituent he seems to care about is himself. Look at his voting record and judge for yourself (tinyurl.com/ yc3pc3h5).

Debbie Daniels, Montrose

A "HARMLESS" TREND THAT HAS SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR KIDS

Editor:

I've learned so much these last couple of years. One huge thing is just how much humans want individuality in their core, yet seem to follow the trends and what everyone else is doing. One of those "trends" currently goes something like this: "Do you have the guts to pretend to be the opposite sex of your biological birth?" If you aren't brave enough or feel the need to do that, then it's: "Are you brave enough to support the actions of those who choose to try it out?" Current, harmful trends don't always seem to come with a warning label but only consequences. For example, teens that were eating Tidepods resulted in several deaths- a HUGE consequence to those who dared to try. I must say they did not end up on the popular end but as a sad memory.

In Romans 1 of the Bible, Paul talks about his LOVE obligation to preach to everyone: elites, outcasts, wise and educated, as well as the foolish and unlearned. I see no prejudice or homophobia there, but only compulsion by love of God's liberating power. He then goes onto say in verse 18 about God's holy anger against SIN that lives in hearts and evil actions. God knows the extreme damages of sin, so He goes after it with a vengeance. He HATES what it does to us and wants us to let Him rescue us from it. He doesn't float around with every wave of human trendiness, but desires for each of us to walk FULLY into WHO He made us to be.

Thankfully, the TRANS trend DOES COME WITH A WARNING LABEL: "For the wickedness of humanity DELIBERATELY SMOTHERS and keeps people from acknowledging THE TRUTH about God." Wow! Trendy or not! That sounds like a good enough reason and consequence to not give into "disgraceful and vile passions"! I don't know about you, but I don't want to keep people away from knowing the truth about being made in the image of God over a passing trend. Choosing to deny your own sex messes with your mind (vs. 28 God gives you over to a depraved mind) and "only a fool would trade our God-given, unfading splendor" and go after our own way of doing things. Do we want to remove God from our nation and trade Him for sexual perversion of our most treasured position: our sacred identities? "Then their sinful

lives become full of every kind of evil, wicked schemes, greed, and cruelty.... Although they are fully aware of God's laws and proper order...., they still go into darkness, encouraging others to do the same and APPLAUDING THEM WHEN THEY DO." Wow!

In summary, it's God's KINDNESS in not wanting us to be affected from the damaging effects of sin. God is not a kill-joy or homophobe, but knows just how damaging it is by playing with sin and distorting our God-given identities. I'm choosing to not hand my nation and children over to a depraved mind through a harmful, willful "trend" that is floating around in the name of "love." If you truly love someone, you will not encourage them into messing with their true identity. We could really use a sound mind living in these sort of days! I urge you to protect our children from perverted, sexual influences in our schools and vote for Lauren Boebert. She does not compromise on behalf of our children, like Don Coram has sadly done. This is a very important decision to choose and not give ourselves over to a depraved mind, like Romans 1 clearly states! Jodi Woodden; Montrose

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ANDREA LAWLAR



ANDREA LAWLAR on May 25th left us peacefully at her residence in Montrose, Colorado; she was 78 years old.

Andrea was born in Denver, Colorado to the late Richard and Iona Lawlar. She was raised in Watford City, North Dakota. The second of four children, raised on the family homestead a farm girl at heart. Andrea married her first love Donald Royle, they had three children John Floyd, Cynthia and Kathy. She worked several retail jobs making friends everywhere she went. Dedicated to raising her children and searching for a new adventure. She was a loving and supportive mother.

Andrea is preceded in death by her parents; Richard and Iona Lawlar, son John Floyd Royle, sister Eloise Harmon and grandson TJ McCluer.

She is survived by her daughters; Cynthia McCluer (Richard Garcia), Kathy Royle. Grandsons; Cole McCluer (Nikki) Nolan Royle (Kimberly) great grandchildren; Rana and Riley McCluer, Kendra and Holten McCluer and Brody and Bentley Royle many nieces and nephews. Sister, Sandra Shell and brother, Ricky and (Shirlene)Lawlar.

Celebration of life to be handled by Crippin Funeral Home June 7 at 10am.

BETTY CAROL MASON TYE *November 16, 1921- June 2, 2022*

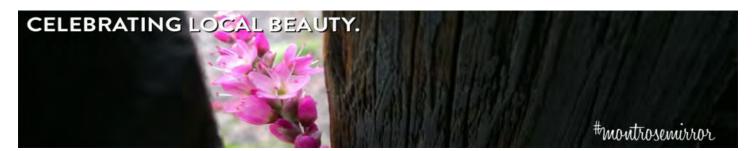
BETTY CAROL MASON TYE was born on November 16, 1921 and passed from this life on June 2, 2022, both in Montrose, Colorado. She was the daughter of Clyde Henry Mason and Norma Pauline Wood Mason. She was the second daughter of three sisters. Her parents and sisters Clyda Jean Mason and Norma Joan Mason, all preceded her in death.

Betty grew up mostly in the Montrose area and she had deep roots here. Her family first moved to Montrose County in the late 1800's. She attended school in Montrose and graduated from Montrose High School. Shortly after high school, she met her future husband, Gordon E. Tye, a soldier in the Army Air Corps. They would marry on September 15, 1940. During their 72 years of marriage, Betty was a homemaker and raised four children as she followed her husband on his assignments around the world. She was proud to be a homemaker and mother; considering it her life's work. Betty is survived by her children; Betty Jean Duckett, and her husband Frank of Montrose Colorado, Julia Ann Rickman, and her husband Ronald of Bellevue, Nebraska, Gordon Edward Tye Jr. and his wife Patricia, of Montrose, Colorado, and Gregory



Alan Tye of Omaha, Nebraska. In addition, she is survived by 13 Grandchildren, 20 Great Grandchildren, and one Great Great Grandchild.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Funeral services will be held Wednesday June 8, 2022 at 10AM at First Presbyterian Church of Montrose. Burial will follow in Cedar Creek Cemetery.



ART&SOL

CHANG THAI MEANS FRESH, FLAVORFUL

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE – I recently had the pleasure of joining my son, lan, and granddaughter, Lola, for a glorious repast at Montrose's Chang Thai restaurant.

This has been one of my favorite places since discovering it when I first moved to Montrose more than five years ago. It was my friend Michael's very favorite. Started my meal with a cup of Tom Kha soup and we shared an order of fresh veggie rolls with homemade peanut sauce!

I ordered a small carafe of the house sake, warm please. Oops, forgot I usually shared the sake with Michael so couldn't finish it all. Ian and Lola had Cokes. Fresh Spring Rolls were delish! (veg, \$5.25; meat, \$6.25; shrimp, \$7.25) So many choices here! Tonight I decided to try the Green Curry, a slightly sweet coconut milk curry with green beans, bamboo shoots, red and green bell pepper and basil.

Please with brown rice. You can choose your heat and I ordered it mild 'cause I'm a wuss even though I'm from New Mexico. So good!

Ian had Pad Thai Noodles and Lola ordered Thai Ramen. What do you expect a young lady of 11 to order? Ian's medium heat which he declared not very hot and Lola followed her grand-mommy's lead with mild. (Isn't it adorable that she has always called me that?) The Pad Thai Noodles are prepared stir fried with thin rice noodles then egg, green onions, bean sprouts, peppers and peanuts join the party. This dish is the most popular Thai dish or-

dered. Lola's was stir fried ramen noodles with eggs, carrots, broccoli, onions, baby corn and zucchini, bamboo shoots, green and red bell peppers, green beans and fresh basil. It looked great! Next time I'm going for the ramen dish.

By this time in the evening I decided I'd better leave a bit of the sake behind; I was not driving!

We didn't go for dessert as we all had more than enough dinner to have it another night.

So many more choices here at Chang Thai:

Appetizers:

Fresh Spring Rolls; Thai (fried) Spring Rolls, \$6.25; Chicken Dumplings, \$8.25; Chicken Sa-Tay, \$8.25; Fried tofu, \$4.25, and Crab rangoon, \$7.25.

Soups & Salads:

Tom Yum, bowl, \$5.25 or you can order a steaming pot to share at \$11.25. There are choices of chicken or tofu, shrimp or seafood with prices from \$5.25-15.25.



Tom Kha has same choices for the same prices. Bowls of wonton soup also run \$11.25 with chicken wrapped in wontons and served in a broth with vegetables. Thai Salad is spicy and available with many choices served on lettuce from \$8.25-14.25.

Entrees:

ISSUI 372 June 6. 2

All entrees are served with steamed white or brown rice.

Sweet and sour; Pra Ram Long Song; Fresh Ginger; CashewNut; Spicy Basil; Mixed Vegetables; Curries; Noodle dishes; Red Curry Duck; Thai Sesame. Depending on your choices entrees run \$14.95-20.95. Don't forget the sweet stuff: Thai sticky rice with mango is my favorite; also deep fried cheesecake and deep friend apple cheesecake, your choice for \$6.95. Besides the sake and beer choices you can also order soft drinks or have a lovely iced Thai tea for \$3.95.

Chang Thai is located at 1015 S. Townsend, phone (970) 240-4567.

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66 When we were first approached to join 970VIP we were reluctant and thought, 'how could this possibly help our sales?' Shane has proven us wrong! We continue to see an increase in sales on the specific days that our text broadcasts go out. We recently had our Sunday sales double because of a broadcast that we sent! 970VIP has become a very important marketing strategy for our business! Thanks! ??

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

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Watch this video for more information!

https://rvgen.co/C7D1F



ZOOM OFF TO AUSTRALIA FOR VBS 2022!

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-We are excited for you to join us July 11-15, 2022 from 6pm to 8pm for ages 4 years old to 6th grade. Register online at https://vbcmontrose.org/ vbs2022.

Zoomerang is a sanctity of life VBS in the land down under! Be prepared to experience the jaw-dropping beauty of the Great Barrier Reef, the arid temperature of outback afternoons, the architectural marvels of Australia's modern cities, and the fascinating eucalyptus forest, home of the koalas.

At Zoomerang, you'll marvel at the unforgettable wildlife, culture, and beauty of Australia while exploring the wonder and value of life, from the lives of pre-



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born babies to eternal life in the kingdom of God. During this pro-life VBS, kids will discover that life is valuable. From the tiniest to the oldest, each person is made

in the image of God-wonderfully designed to know Him and live for Him! Victory Baptist Church, 2890 North Townsend Ave. https://vbcmontrose.org/vbs2022.



Liquor:

Beer Barn II 970-249-5550

House of Spirits 970-240-4799

Let's Cater 2022:

Pahgre's 970-249-6442

My Favorite Muffin 970-765-0076

Heidi's Brooklyn Deli 970-240-1605

> **Rib City** 970-249-7427

Stone House 970-240-8899

Mimo's 970-249-0616

Camp Robber 970-240-1590 Jimmer's Steak & BBQ 970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara 970-249-2460

Alpen Confections 970-648-0609

Remington's at the Bridges 970-252-1119



MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

Affiliation: Presbyterian Address: 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO. 81401 Office Hours: M-Thu 9AM - 12PM Contact Information: 970-249-4732, in-

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401 Office Hours: M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Contact Information: 970-249-3716,

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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,

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*

form@fpcmontrose.com, www.fpcmontrose.com In Transition-Currently: Howard Davidson Merle Bierma Worship Service times: 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM

office@montroseumc.org, 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

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 passionate-*

ly bring people face-to-face with the lifechanging power of Jesus Christ. We are a multigenerational church from different walks of life who love Jesus, love each other, and love our community. Everyone comes dressed in whatever is com-

fortable. We love meeting new people no

arlyn@spiritaware.org,

www.spiritaware.org Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in. **Children's services:** We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be worshippers of Jesus.

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

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:<u>summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com</u> website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-

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;

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-

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

email at <u>info@vbcmontrose.org</u>; website: vbcmontrose.org

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

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

Save a tree

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TROSEMIRROR

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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 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.

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? Doors Open at 4:30 PM, Early <u>Bird</u> starts

at 6:30 PA

3 PROGRESSIVE BINGO GAMES

Shr

2

14

at 6:30 PM

Costume Contest

THE SKY TONIGHT

uth Hillcrest, Montrose,

RAWBERRY

Hippie Nig

Open to the Public

Main Bingo

Session starts at 7:00 PM

STAND UP

SUPERMOON

NELSON RANGELL TO PERFORM AT AZURA CELLARS IN PAONIA



Special to the Mirror PAONIA-Colorado's own Nelson Rangell, smooth jazz musician comes to scenic Azura Cellars in Paonia for an outdoor concert June 25.

With great views, great wine and great music this night will prove to be one of the area's best performances of the summer. Come to the idyllic North Fork Valley with verdant farms and mountain views make a perfect background for the evening. Nelson Rangell is an American smooth jazz musician and composer. Although he is known for his work with the tenor, alto and soprano saxophone, his primary instrument is the piccolo.

Rangell first played the flute at the age of 15. Within six months he was studying both jazz and classical music at the <u>Interlochen Arts Academy</u>, a camp for gifted music students. He attended the <u>New England Conservatory of Music</u> in Boston. As a student he won Best Jazz and Best Pop/Rock Instrumental Soloist in the <u>Down Beat</u> magazine National Student Recording Awards.

In the 1980s he was a member of <u>Members Only</u>, a jazz ensemble which



Above left to right, Nelson Rangell; Paonia's Azura Cellars. Courtesy photos.

recorded for Muse. After college he moved to New York City in 1984. The next four years were spent sitting in, playing alongside, and gigging with some of the world's greatest contemporary jazz musicians including Hiram Bullock, Jorge Dalto, Eric Gale, Richard Tee, David Sanborn, Michael Brecker and many others. He also played with the legendary Gil Evans Monday Night Orchestra. Rangell's debut album was released on Gaia/Gramavision Records, but soon thereafter he was signed by Larry Rosen and Dave Grusin at GRP Records. A succession of albums followed at GRP where he recorded eight CDs. His stated ambition throughout these endeavors has been "to try to consistently grow and evolve as a player and broaden my horizons as an artist while endeavoring to make music that people will feel and relate to." With his musical armory encompassing flute, piccolo, alto, tenor and soprano saxophone as well as whistling, he was well equipped to fulfill this desire. Jazziz magazine writes that Nelson

Rangell is "an artist of depth, a master of song, and an improviser non pareil." The Times of London notes "his extraordinary facility on a range of instruments" and Rangell's "considerable crowd pleasing power". Saxophone Journal writes "He commands the alto saxophone with such authority there can be no denying that Rangell is a true artist," and Flute Talk Magazine states "Nelson Rangell creates the impression that anything is possible when he improvises." Such praise is a confirmation of what contemporary jazz fans have known since the Denver based saxophonist emerged in the late 80s: that Rangell is one of the most exciting and diverse performers in the genre, equally adept at soprano, alto, and tenor saxophone, as well as being a genuine virtuoso on flute and piccolo.

To purchase tickets for the Rangell concert go to bluesage.org or call 970-527-7243.

Concert goers are asked to bring their own blankets or seats. Azura wine will be available for purchase.

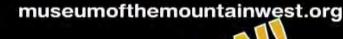
Adult Comedy at Museum of the Mountain West

Friday, June 17th, 6-8:30 pm Doors 5:30 pm I CASH BAR, snacks

Award-winning comedians. Register online

FREE if over age 60

ICKET



Nancy Norton

John Novsad



Museum of the Mountain West 68169 Miami Rd., Montrose, Colorado 2 1/2 mi. east of town at Hwy 50 E



REFLECTING ON THE IMPACT OF A 2002 HISTORIC SUPREME COURT RULING AS 20TH ANNIVERSARY NEARS



Jehovah's Witnesses Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-While Jehovah's Witnesses have chosen to temporarily suspend their door-to-door ministry due to the pandemic, their activity was almost permanently banned by one U.S. village in the late 1990s — that is until the United States Supreme Court stepped in with a historic 8 -1 decision on June 17, 2002, declaring the local ordinance unconstitutional. As the 20th anniversary of that precedent -setting decision nears, some Montrose residents wonder what their lives would be like if one of their neighbors had not knocked on their door and shared a lifechanging message with them. Constitutional scholars marvel at the outsized impact the decision has had on the protection of free speech for all, agreeing with Justice Antonin Scalia's opinion in the case, "The free-speech claim exempts everybody, thanks to Jehovah's Witnesses." "When [Jehovah's Witnesses] visited our house, I was a depressed and angry teenager from a broken home," recalled Anita Albanese-Davignon. "Learning of the sure hope that the Bible offers for the future ... helped me to change my negative outlook on life to a much happier and hopeful one!" The 2002 Supreme Court decision in Watchtower v. Village of Stratton

affirmed that a local village ordinance in Stratton, Ohio, requiring a permit to knock on doors violated the rights of any person who wanted to engage in free speech with their neighbor, including Jehovah's Witnesses who practice door-to-door evangelizing. The Court overturned two lower court rulings that upheld the ordinance and thus paved the way for all citizens to maintain open dialogue with their neighbors on any number of issues including environmental, civic, political or educational.

"Looking back on the two decades since the decision, it's clear to see the wideranging impact that Watchtower v. Stratton has had on free speech for all," said Josh McDaniel, director of the Religious Freedom Clinic at the Harvard Law School. "This is just the latest of some 50 Supreme Court victories by Jehovah's Witnesses that have helped establish and broaden First Amendment jurisprudence throughout the last century."

The Village of Stratton became a center of controversy in 1998 after the mayor personally confronted four Jehovah's Witnesses as they were driving out of the village after visiting a resident. Subsequently, the village enacted the ordinance "Regulating Uninvited Peddling and Solicitation Upon Private Property," which required anyone wishing to engage in doorto-door activity to obtain a permit from the mayor or face imprisonment. Jehovah's Witnesses viewed this ordinance as an infringement of freedom of speech, free exercise of religion and freedom of press. Therefore, they brought a lawsuit in federal court after the village refused to modify their enforcement of this ordinance.

"Our motive for initiating the case was clear: We wanted to remove any obstacle that would prevent us from carrying out our scriptural obligation to preach the good news of the Kingdom," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses.

"Making it a criminal offense to talk with a neighbor without seeking government approval is offensive to many people, but particularly to God who commanded Christians to preach the gospel." While Albanese-Davignon continues to engage in a productive ministry through letter writing, phone calling and virtual visits, she is looking forward to knocking on doors again.

"We are thankful that we have the legal right to practice our ministry from door to door," said Hendriks.

"When the time is right and conditions are safe, we hope to visit our neighbors in person once again."

This victory is one of more than 250 rulings in cases brought by Jehovah's Witnesses in high courts around the world that have expanded the rights of people of all religious faiths. "It's hard to point to any organization, let alone a religious organization, that has had such a profound impact on the shaping of constitutional law over many decades in the Supreme Court," said Harvard's professor McDaniel. For more information on the Stratton case, go to <u>www.jw.org</u> and type Stratton in the search field.

MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY PUPPY PALOOZA





Photos by ELK Media LLC.

MONTROSE-Via sponsorship from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Montrose Regional Library hosted a Puppy Palooza on the library lawn Saturday, June 4. Families were encouraged to get out with their pet companions and kick off the library's summer reading program. Dog treats, wading pools, agility trials along with therapy dogs, face painting other activities highlighted the event. Pictured are therapy dog Zia; rescue dog Mocha; Brewer who just celebrated his first birthday; families enjoy various canine centric activities; Morningstar Therapy Dogs bring a peaceful presence and opportunity for children to read to these skilled canine companions.

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: B. SWITZER



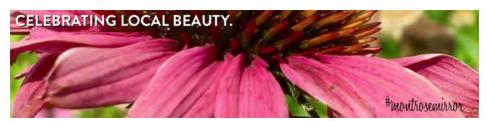








B. Switzer snapped these photos during the Montrose Summer Music Series at the Amphitheater in Cerise Park on Friday, June 3, (above and top right) and at the Montrose Farmers Market on Saturday, June 4 (Below right and middle.)



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SQUARE DEAL RETURNS: ART EXHIBIT & FUNDRAISER FOR MCA

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MONTROSE-Square Deal is back again! MCA's popular local art exhibit and fundraiser is back for a third year. Montrose Center for the Arts distributed 56 free 8x8 canvases to anyone over 16, and asked



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them to create a piece of art. The results are extraordinary! All types of media are represented, including paintings, collages, photos and even a beautiful, felted piece. All artwork will be part of a silent auction available to bid on during the month of June. Bidding will end on July 1st at our First Friday reception, from 4-7pm. All proceeds will benefit MCA, as this is one of our major fundraisers. Please help support your Art Center.

MCA also has a brand-new exhibit in the Aspen Room. It's a members' show titled "Shadows and the Blues", and will hang for the month of June. In July a different member exhibit will be showing, so check out our members' new artwork each month. Montrose Center for the Arts-11S. Park Ave., Montrose





MCA courtesy images.

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – SILENCE AND NOISE



Lauren Hall Ruddell, PhD. Courtesy photo.

Greetings Mirrorites!

Ah, the comforting sound of police helicopters hovering over my neighborhood in the middle of the night with their searchlights on scanning people's back yards. Or the equally dulcet tones of the ground dwelling police siren. These are the sounds of an anthropogenic nature that I must surely miss from my days in San Diego, right? NOT!!

The sound of civilization is definitely not the sound of music. It has a moderate to severe mental health impact on almost everyone, yours here definitely included. For avid readers of my column in the Mirror, you will have noted that most articles discuss the impact of visual interaction with pleasing nature. That is why I am going to start the next in a series of articles about nature and the five senses not with sight (although that will certainly be addressed at some point), but with sound. The word noise is derived from Latin word nausea implying "unwanted sound" or sound that is loud, unpleasant, or unexpected. It can be experienced as wrong sound, in the wrong place and at the wrong time. Sirens, car alarms, honking horns, and the like have always set my teeth on edge. I personally consider noise pollution more damaging to my long-term wellness than air pollution. Although that may not be technically or medically the case, I perceive noise to be the greater of those two evils.

Acoustic researchers agree that noise pollution "...is more severe and widespread than ever before, and it will contin-



Courtesy photo.

ue to increase in magnitude and severity because of population growth, urbanization, and the associated growth in the use of increasingly powerful, varied, and highly mobile sources of noise."

Considered by the EPA to actually be a form of air pollution, the health and societal effects can include sleep deprivation, poor concentration, and unsatisfying recreation and leisure experiences. Chronic noise has been found to negatively impact reading proficiency in young school children and other learning disabilities, and to increase feelings of aggression in older people (to which I can personally attest, AAARGHHHH). It is for these and many other reasons that a former Surgeon General for the United States, William Stewart, claimed that "Calling noise a nuisance is like calling smog an inconvenience. Noise must be considered a hazard to the health of people everywhere." Soundscapes are defined as the collection of sounds perceived in an environment, including those from biological sources (e.g., bird vocalizations), geophysical sounds (e.g., wind and rain), and anthropogenic sounds [including noise from road and air traffic). Constant exposure to anthropogenic (human caused) soundscapes contributes to numerous physical health problems, including hearing loss, increased occurrence of hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. High levels of irritability, aggression, and loss of self-control are mental health hits that can result from chronic noise exposure. Take the case of

auto workers. Assembly plants are noisy by necessity, and the noisier the portion of the plant that people work in, the worse they behave toward their fellow assembly line workers. They are exposed to around 86 dB all day long. Noise levels above 55 dB are considered to be detrimental to both mental health and longevity. Even neighbor noise, such as loud music or barking dogs, can have an impact. To compare, the noise level in the remote parts of the San Juans is 10 dB, and in a normal room occupied by fairly quiet family members, the levels are around 25 dB.

If we cannot control the amount of noise we are exposed to on a daily basis, and often we can't, then it is critical that we make an effort to get to a quiet natural space. More than the usual two hours a week may be needed, depending on a person's trait sensitivity to noise. That sensitivity varies from person to person. I am way off the high end of the sensitivity scale, where sometimes even very soft 'new age' music playing in the background while I work is too much, and I turn it off in favor of silence. Most folks are not that sensitive, but most do have a threshold of some sort.

The whoosh of wind through a stretch of forest, birds calling, the gurgle of a brook over a rocky bed — these are the kinds of sounds that are not only calming, but could have profound health and well-being benefits, according to a <u>research</u> review in the April 2021 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – SILENCE AND NOISE From previous pg

People who are often immersed in natural soundscapes have reported decreased pain and better overall mental wellness. Water sounds tend to be the most effective at improving positive affect (the psychological term for a more positive outlook or disposition and the experience of joy and interest), while bird sounds were best for lowering stress.

Noise researcher Rachel Buxton, PhD, at Carleton University in Ottawa, says... "From an evolutionary perspective, humans are hardwired to attend to signals of danger and security. And an environment that is filled with natural sounds feels safe and allows us to let our guard down." Stress Reduction Theory, described in an earlier Mirror article, has a great deal to offer in the way of explanation. Loud, alarming sounds are stressful, and invoke a potential fight or flight response. Cortisol and adrenaline are produced in response to a survival action. When bombarded with alarming sounds constantly, we stay in a constant state of elevated arousal. This is unnatural and we did not evolve to be OK with this. The sounds of water assure us that a necessary element

of life is nearby, and birdsong assures us that no predators are lurking. It is therefore natural that we respond to these acoustic cues in the manner that we do. A British study suggests exposure to trees, the sky, and birdsong in cities is super beneficial for the mental wellbeing of a certain population. A research team at King's College London used smartphone -based tech to assess the relationship between nature in cities and momentary mental wellbeing in city people with very high levels of "trait impulsivity." These folks display a tendency to behave with little forethought or consideration of consequences, and are at higher risk of developing addictive disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, antisocial personality disorder, and bipolar disorder. They benefited more from listening to birdsong than did naturally calmer and more deliberate folks. Those in the most need benefit the most from natural sounds, which is awesome.

We are so insanely fortunate in this part of the country to have natural soundscapes within an hour's drive at the most, I cannot stress this enough. Even our national parks are often not as quiet as our local mountains.

The National Parks Overflight Act of 1987 requires the park service to report on the nature and scope of aircraft overflight problems. They have found that noise levels in park transportation corridors today are sometimes 1,000 times the natural level. The United States National Park Service Soundscape Management unit conducts yearly research to determine problem areas and identify mitigation measures. They have their work cut out for them, because nowhere in the continental US is a human listener farther than 22 miles from a road. They recently concluded a 10-year study that estimates that noise pollution in parks is doubling every two decades.

Summer is here, so get out there into the mountains to hear stuff. Not planes, trains, and automobiles, but whispering streams and chortling chickadees. Your brain, your heart, and your friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors will thank you for it.

You can tweet (I mean email) a response to this at agescapesnow@gmail.com.

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This Xeriscape Guide is made just for Montrose, put together by Ginny Price, Retired CSU Colorado Master Gardener/Small Acreage Assistant.

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SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

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

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

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

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

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

MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET SCHEDULE

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 of for more information. Or come to our first meeting Wed., Sep. 8, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1840 E. Niagara St., Montrose, at 9AM.

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

MONTHLY

June 10-SUMMER PROGRAM SERIES: "Wild and Edible Plants of Colorado" Join Dr. Bruce Bauerle, experienced speaker, naturalist and award winning educator. 7:30pm Ridgway State Park, Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 11-Don't miss "Gardening on the Western Slope," from 9am to 3pm at the Montrose Botanic Gardens. Informative presentations and speakers, and plant giveaway every hour! \$5 donation at the gate or FREE admission with \$5 off new Montrose Botanical Society membership. Children under 12 admitted free. <u>www.montrosegardens.org</u>.

June 11-The 14th annual Unknown Motorcycle Show will be held at Cerise Park in Montrose on June 11. Enjoy a large variety of vintage, custom & classic motorcycles with live music, food, awards, door prizes, and family friendly displays. 10% of Registration fees will be donated to our local veterans at the American Legion #73.Learn more: <u>www.westerncovintage.com</u>

June 11-Donny Morales to perform in the garden at Fort Uncompangre in Delta. Free admission, 5-8pm. Come celebrate the new outdoor stage! 440 North Palmer Street in Delta.

June 11-NATURE DETECTIVES: "Spring Migration" Kids, 6 and older, join us to learn about the amazing feat of migration! Look at some specimens, then play a "Migration Challenge" game along the Forest Discovery Trail. 9:30-11a.m Ridgway State Park. Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 11-SUMMER PROGRAM SERIES: Creatures of the Night-Night Hike!. Join the park educator for a night talk and walk about creatures' survival skills used at night. Different specimens also available to look at. Family friendly! Bring a flashlight! 8p.m. Ridg-way State Park. Visitors Center, Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 12-TOUCH TABLES: Birds and Bird Nests. Various specimens of birds, egg replicas, and real nests. Cool information and other things to share! 1:30 - 4:30pm, swim beach/shower area. Dutch Charlie entrance.

June 13-At 5:30pm Citizensclimatelobby.org meets at the Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan, national solutions for a local sustainable community, recent encouragement by Al Gore. All interested in the environment welcome. Info 970-765-9095. June 17-Big Head Todd at the Bridges. VIP Tickets-Sandy@montrosebridges.com.

June 18-Rollans Park Cleanup, Saturday, June 18, 9 a.m. to Noon, Rollans Park, 257 Sherman St., Ridgway, Colo. 81432. Come volunteer with the Uncompany Watershed Partnership to clean litter and branches from the park, and maintain the trail. Information/registration: <u>https://www.uncompanyewatershed.org/events/</u>

June 25-Ridgway RiverFest, Saturday, June 25, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Celebrate the Uncompahgre River, learn about the watershed, watch or enter river races, win prizes in the Rubber Ducky Race and silent auction, and enjoy live music, food, drinks and a park full of friends! VOLUNTEERS needed. Sponsorships and festival proceeds fund watershed protection and restoration activities by by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership. Information/volunteer registration: <u>https://ridgwayriverfest.org/</u>

June 25-Smooth Jazz with Nelson Rangell at Azura Cellars, 16764 Farmers Mine Road, Paonia. For tickets go to bluesage.org or call 970-527-7243.

July 4-July 4, Welcome Home Alliance For Veterans presents the United States Air Force Academy Band <u>The Falconaires</u> to the Montrose Rotary Amphitheater in Cerise Park from 5 to 6:30pm.

July 8-Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans and Freedom Sings USA welcome the community to a free concert at the Montrose Rotary Amphitheater. Six of country music's top song writers from Nashville will perform some of their #1 hits as well as songs created from our veterans' experiences. Donations welcome.

MONTROSEMIRROR

Contact the Montrose Mirror: 970-275-0646 Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com

Photographer Deb Reimann captured the view at right looking south into the beautiful Ouray valley.

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