

the Montrose Mirror

Fresh News for Busy People!

@ Issue No. 524 March 13, 2023

PARENTS ASK FOR SURVEY REGARDING RE-1J SUPERINTENDENT



During the RE-1J Board of Education meeting on March 7, longtime Montrose teacher Ellen Angeles asked for a return of the annual State of the District accountability reports, and noted an explosion in the number of administrators at Central Office, above, as teachers struggle. Parents from Olathe asked for a survey on the performance of current Superintendent Carrie Stephenson. Photo by Harry Switzer.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- All directors and numerous constituents were present as the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education gathered for a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 7. Board President Sarah Fishing called the meeting to order. Along with Fishing, directors include Vice President Eric Kelley, District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, District D Director Tom West, and District G Director Stephen Bush. All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. The board voted to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

RE-1J Public Information Officer Matt Jenkins presented celebrations and donations. Because the meeting of Feb. 14 had been rescheduled due to the weather, the Centennial Middle School Choir was no longer available to sing to the

Continued pg 35

TO BE CONTINUED...GRAVEL PIT SU22-013 *Special Use Hearing continued to March 27*



Photos by Jack Switzer

MONTROSE-Every chair was taken and people were seated on the floor on Monday, March 6 as the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) considered the Farm Road Source Pit Special Use [SU22-013] proposal to expand on an existing mining gravel pit at Parcel 376515300025. Parents and grandparents brought along children, some of whom held little signs made of popsicle sticks and construction paper.

The third Special Meeting of the BOCC for consideration of the Farm Road Source Pit Special Use proposed expansion will be Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6pm at the Montrose County Event Center located at 1036 N 7th Street in Montrose.



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 ANCIENT OCCUPANTS OF EAGLE ROCK SITE**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-This Wednesday, Dr. Dudley Gardner, archaeologist with Western Wyoming Community College, will speak about the ancient occupants of the site on the Gunnison River near Delta. Gardner has studied the Eagle Rock site since 2007. He will compare the subsistence strategies of the Native Americans at the shelter to those of mobile herdsman in the Targavatai Valley in Mongolia. The presentation to the Chipeta Chapter of the archaeological society will be on March 15 at 7 pm. The public is always invited, no charge. United Methodist Church, 19 S. Park Street, Montrose.

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GRAVEL PIT : SU22-013**

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Special to the Mirror

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

USPS STATEMENT ON POSTMASTER GENERAL LOUIS DEJOY'S MEETING WITH COLORADO SENATORS ON LOCALIZED SERVICE ISSUES

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-During a meeting with Colorado Senators John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet on Tuesday, March 7, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy detailed the challenges and root causes his analysis identified in specific Colorado postal routes and facilities. The Postmaster General explained these challenges are directly connected to the nature of rural and contract routes, and the hiring challenges connected to the local cost of living and housing. Furthermore, these pressures are concurrent with an increase in the number of local delivery points and package deliveries. In response to these challenges, during the Capitol Hill office meeting, the Postmaster General indicated that response teams have been deployed to guide local efforts, that people resources from local communities and a neighboring state have been sent, and he offered a periodic check-in to report on progress.

"The solutions in mail delivery service inevitably involve human resources, and our workforce, no matter how hard working, are spread thin in these mountain communities where it is expensive to live and difficult to hire; a challenge that will also need creative solutions from local leaders," Postmaster General DeJoy commented. "The Postal Service can and will solve problems within our own power, but local economic conditions are not among them. The Senators appeared to understand the issues — both of local circumstances and postal in nature — and hopefully also appreciated the multifaceted steps we are taking to deploy resources to improve service."



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

PLEASE READ DAVID WHITE'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR IN LAST WEEK'S MIRROR

Editor:

Readers who have any concerns about how our elected officials choose to expend our hard earned tax dollars should pay attention to David White's Letter to the Editor in last weeks Mirror. As usual White's letter is well researched, highlighting 15 plus million already expended

on questionable projects with several more million planned for the pipeline, while our streets continue to fall into disrepair.

An inquisitive voter/taxpayer might wonder how our elected City Council members could even dream up the convoluted schemes funneling tax dollars to private

businesses? The simple answer is that they haven't. All the multi-million giveaways originate with City Manager Bill Bell and multiple councils have been but rubber stamps with public monies.

If you missed White's letter it's certainly worth a belated read.

Dee Laird, Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DR. RHONDA PARKER ELECTED TO SERVE ON COLORADO MEDICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Dr. Rhonda Parker, Chief Medical Officer at Montrose Regional Health, has been elected to the Colorado Medical Society (CMS) board. She will be representing Districts 3 & 4, which stretch the southern border of the state and includes communities such as Montrose, Durango, Trinidad and more.

"I am deeply grateful to represent Districts 3 & 4 here in Western Colorado," said Dr. Parker. "I look forward to representing rural Colorado and helping to tell our story."

Dr. Parker, a board certified and fellowship trained Orthopedic surgeon, practiced in Montrose for over a decade. She now serves as the Chief Medical Officer at Montrose Regional Health, working with medical staff, leadership and caregivers to problem-solve and ensure patients receive excellent care.

"I am passionate about improving access to high quality, safe care. Rural health faces greater challenges than our urban counterparts – higher rates of drug and

alcohol dependency, higher rates of teen pregnancy, higher rates of preventable illnesses and deaths. Many of our patients tend to be older, sicker, and without everyday resources to get better."

Her broad experience as both a private practice physician and as part of the hospital administration team has given her an insider's view on ethics, reimbursement, emergency medicine, government regulators and patient experience. "I hope to provide the CMS board with a unique experience from the view of rural physicians and also that of a rural, growing healthcare system."

Relevant qualifications include her experience as Private Practice Owner/Partner and Orthopedic Surgeon and her various additional roles she has served at Montrose Regional Health, including: Physician Advisor and Consultant, Utilization Management Review Officer, Chief of Surgery for two years, and serving on additional hospital committees including Surgery Committee, Medical/Pharmaceuticals & Therapeutics Committee, Ethics Commit-



Dr. Rhonda Parker, Chief Medical Officer at Montrose Regional Health, has been elected to the Colorado Medical Society (CMS) board. Courtesy photo.

tee and more. Her educational experience includes:

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

CSP LOOKING FOR ANY INFORMATION RELATED TO A FATAL CRASH

Special to the Mirror

ALAMOSA – The Colorado State Patrol is investigating a hit and run crash leaving one person dead.

The crash occurred on Wednesday just before 7pm on Colorado 17 in the town of Mosca. The crash involved an unknown vehicle and a pedestrian. The vehicle did not remain on scene and has yet to be located. Preliminary investigations suggest the vehicle may be a black semi-truck with a tanker trailer and possible damage to the front left portion of the truck.

If anyone has any information related to a vehicle matching this description or any information related to this crash, please contact the Colorado State Patrol Alamosa Communications Center at (719) 589-5807 and reference Case# 5B230178.



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Using Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG)
and other investigative tools, the remains
have been identified as those of Gardner
Paul Smith (DOB: 09/22/1930) of Modesto,
Calif. (pictured).

Smith's body was found on Independence
Pass in June 1970. Remains were submitted
for analysis, but no identification was made
from DNA or fingerprint analysis. Facial re-
construction was also performed but did not
lead to identification.

In 2022, previously extracted DNA was sub-
mitted for Forensic Genetic Genealogy test-
ing, in which a lead was developed and led
to the identification of Smith.

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MEDC CELEBRATES SUCCESS @ 2023 ANNUAL MEETING



Inventor, founder, and CEO of Geyser Systems, Jonathan Ballesteros was the keynote speaker at the 2023 Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Annual Luncheon. (L to R) Jonathan Ballesteros with his wife, Lisa Holland. Photo by Gail Marvel.

During their annual luncheon meeting on March 9, 2023, the Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) honored David and Doug Dragoo, founders of Colorado Outdoors Project, with the MEDC 2023 Economic Development Award. (L to R) Doug Dragoo, MEDC Executive Director Sandy Head, and David Dragoo. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On March 9, the Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Annual Meeting Luncheon, catered by the Stone House, was held at the Montrose Pavilion.

Celebrating 66 years, MEDC's investments in companies who relocate, expand, or start-up in the Montrose community are valued. One of the most important functions of any economic development entity is to retain companies for their community.

MEDC chair Mike Kusar welcomed the estimated 220 attendees and recognized guests. A published report of the activities for 2022 was given to all attendees, as well as a brief recap delivered by Executive Director Sandy Head.

Organizations highlighted by Head included 3M Company, Montrose Forest Products (MFP) Electrical CO-Gen Expansion, Bluecorn Beeswax, and SmithFly Designs. Head also updated attendees about two ongoing prospective projects; the Western Slope Food Innovation Center (Russell Stover Building) and CO Fire Aviation.

Head noted the collaboration needed between prospective businesses and gov-

ernment entities. She said, "We are a liaison. When companies locate to Montrose, they need connectivity. There are four important things. (1) The airport is a huge driver. (2) Police Department, support of police, and low crime rate. (3) Education; we need great schools. (4) Health Care, Montrose Regional Health is expanding."

In 1980 the Black Canyon Industrial Park was created. Head said, "It was funded by government. Companies need shovel-ready sites. The government funded the infrastructure. It was the State [the Colorado Office of Economic Development and Trade (OEDIT)], local partners, and investors coming together. The infrastructure in every industrial park in Montrose was constructed and paid for with government money."

Keynote Speaker

Inventor, founder, and CEO of Geyser Systems, Jonathan Ballesteros said, "I want you to know making the move to Montrose is the best decision I've made. This is the best place, power-players, banks that come together to grow our community. Montrose has good people — that's why I moved here. Making a difference for each other. Thank you for making me a better person each day."

With a business foundation built of integrity, trust, and game-changing results, Team Geyser recreates their five values at the end of every year.

- Believe (in yourself, in others, the mission, words have power...)
- The way we direct our space (safe and solid connection, what's not accepted...)
- Who you are as an individual (show up...)
- Team level (empower everyone around us...)
- Leadership (important to build up great leadership)

With the aid of video, Ballesteros explain his flagship product named the Geyser System, a portable shower that uses less than one gallon of water and is ready to use in less than five minutes. He said, "Every drop of water is sacred. We have saved four million gallons of water in the last three-years."

Announcing the launch of a new product for home showers Ballesteros said, "We are happy to announce today that we can recover the low water level along the Colorado River. It's very simple, very affordable technology. Super simple to install. It saves 15 gallons of water per shower. We're just here to change the world, and have a whole lot of fun!"

Ballesteros introduced his "The Geyser Playbook," a motivation guide that he developed to use in the company. A short recreation of an incident involving miscommunication

Continued next pg

MEDC CELEBRATES SUCCESS @ 2023 ANNUAL MEETING *From previous pg*

between Ballesteros and a team member demonstrated the importance of relationships, taking ownership of your story (how you perceive a situation), and taking responsibility for your story.

Ballesteros concluded his presentation, "The water crisis is in our lifetime. We're not kicking it down the road to our kids. This is in our lifetime. We are the generation that is going to refill Lake Mead...right here in Montrose, Colorado!"

Awards

Honored with the MEDC 2023 Economic Development Award were David and Doug Dragoo, founders of Colorado Outdoors

Project. Partnerships which have made the Colorado Outdoors Project a success include the board of MEDC, the City of Montrose (City manager Bill Bell and City Engineer Scott Murphy), and OEDIT (State of Colorado). With an investment in land and buildings (seven companies), the private dollars from the Dragoo project are in excess of \$48 M, with approximately 150 net new jobs within the businesses located in the project. These are direct impact numbers; excluding indirect dollars and indirect jobs.

Colorado Outdoors Project continues to expand. Their efforts will provide opportu-

nities for young people to stay in the community with high-paying jobs. David Dragoo said, "We want to thank the Montrose community."

Board Election

After years of service, Zoe Larkin (Cedar Point Health), stepped down from the 20-member MEDC Board of Directors.

Incumbents Corri Schmidt (3M Super Abrasives) and Jeff Mengenhausen (Montrose Regional Health) retained the seats. Newly elected board members are Tonya Maddox (Our Town Matters) and Jack Johnston (CEO, Delta Montrose Electric Association).

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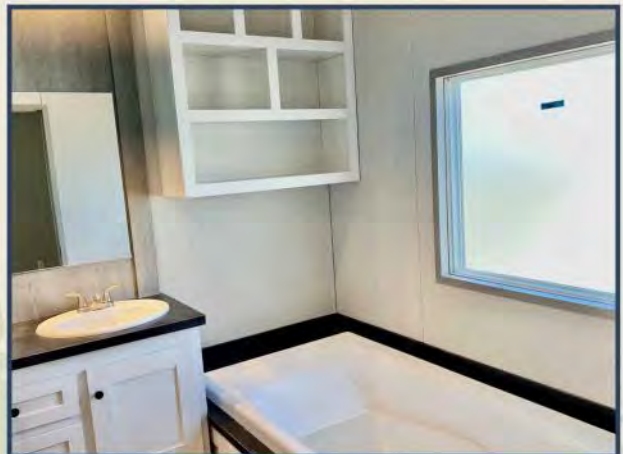
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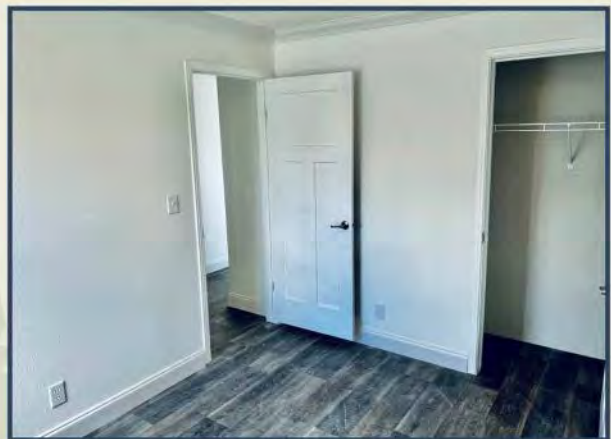
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The SOLES4SOULS Project is collecting new, single, and gently worn shoes at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Sundays only from 9 am to Noon; 525 N. 5th Street, Weekdays; and Geek Coffee, 2305 S. Townsend Avenue, next to DMV, Weekdays, 7 am to 3 pm. Sponsored by the Spiritual Awareness Center, 970-252-0908.



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ULIBARRI VOTES NO AS COUNCIL APPROVES SALE OF HISTORIC CITY HALL TO CMU

City Manager says historic County Courthouse may become part of CMU campus soon

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present for the regularly scheduled city [council meeting](#) on Tuesday, March 7. Mayor Dave Frank called the session to order and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Supporting materials for agenda items are included in the [meeting packet](#).

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy City Clerk Briceida Ortega administered the Oath of Office to new Municipal Court Judge Erin Maxwell.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

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

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA INCLUDING ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum had no changes or deletions to the meeting agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve minutes of the Feb. 21, 2023 regular City Council meeting. Mayor Frank and Councilor Ed Ulibarri abstained from the vote as they were absent that night.

NEW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Council voted to approve a new hotel and restaurant liquor license application at 1222 E. Main Street for Tacos 2 Day LLC doing business as Tacos 2 Day for consumption on the licensed premises.

ORDINANCE 2616 - FIRST READING

Ordinance 2616 is part of ongoing efforts by City Attorney Ben Morris to clean up errors in the Municipal Code. Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2616.

ORDINANCE 2617-FIRST READING

Prior to consideration of Ordinance 2617 on first reading, "authorizing the sale of real property addressed at 433 S. First Street, Montrose, Colorado, and being particularly described herein, pursuant to § 1-9-2 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose," Councilor J. David Reed spoke.

"I thought it was important for the public to perhaps have a refresher on what we are being asked to consider tonight and how we got here," Reed said. "I have some prepared remarks that I would like to put into the record and also for benefit

of the audience...."

He said, "These agenda items are about opportunity, economic development, workforce development, and quite frankly the future of our community."

Reed gave a brief history of the City's relationship with CMU and the development and expansion of the downtown campus to include the former Patrik Davis Architecture Building, Community Options Building, and creation of the pedestrian quad.

"...Working collaboratively we completely renovated the Buell Higher Education Center so the quality of instruction at CMU Montrose equals that of Grand Junction...recognizing the need to provide transitional housing options for new City of Montrose employees and CMU Montrose students, both organizations partnered to purchase the...house at the corner of Cascade and South 2nd a little over a year ago...the building is being used to meet temporary housing needs of both groups."

Faced with staff shortages, the Montrose Police Department has partnered with CMU to offer a summer law enforcement training academy on campus, Reed said. "This past year we graduated seven POST certified officers from the academy." Reed said that the history of the relationship between the City and CMU is important to understanding the sale of the historic City Hall building on South First Street to CMU.

"This has not been a fly by night decision-much, much to the contrary. Rather this is a milestone along the way of a strong, multi-faceted partnership," he said, "...so our council decided to relocate City Hall, which left us with a decision what to do with the old City Hall....so we went to



At left, Montrose County's historic courthouse; at right, the City of Montrose's historic City Hall. Mirror file photos.

work as a council looking for options."

Conversation naturally developed around the Rathbone Hotel next door, Reed said. "We determined that a lot of potential synergy existed to pair City Hall with the Rathbone Hotel development in order to provide a top-notch applied learning opportunity for CMU Montrose students, an ever-expanding evolution of the CMU Montrose Campus."

The Montrose Permanent Fund will ensure that the proceeds from the transfer of the public asset will serve a public purpose in perpetuity, Reed said. CMU has agreed to contribute 500K to the fund over the next five years. "We're bringing people together to accomplish great things."

Reed said that there are those who oppose the sale. He asked them to step back and look at the big picture. "This is only the next step in growing this campus...mark my words this stands to be a transformation project for our city and its citizens. I am excited to support it because it's the right thing to do."

Councilor Ed Ulibarri also spoke. "...For us to take a building like that and turn around and sell it and give the money away doesn't seem practical," he said. "In the sense that we're taking the debt that we still owe on that and transferring it to another city building...who knows what the economy's going to be like. We have need for a new shop, we have need for new equipment, we have need for street repairs...I just feel from a practical standpoint of view, if we're going to take and sell city property, we need to reduce our

ULIBARRI VOTES NO AS COUNCIL APPROVES SALE OF HISTORIC CITY HALL TO CMU From previous pg

debt, pay off our bills."

The money could be used for a better purpose to build something for the city, like a new shop, Ulibarri said.

City Manager Bill Bell spoke, suggesting a potential lack of opportunities if the CMU sale is not approved. "...You have a building that's not really suited for many things because it's been a city hall for so long.

"This particular use seemed to us to be a great thing," Bell said. The historic Centennial Room would become a restaurant and bar to serve the hotel, he said. The back section with internet equipment would remain under city control.

Five dorm units for onsite housing would be included. "It's an all-encompassing project," Bell said. "It is a work in progress."

Mayor Pro Tem Bynum asked if the historic designation would remain with the building. Bell said that it would.

Reed said that the city will be the bank for the project, "No one believes that this won't be a successful project," Reed said. If the project fails the City can take the property back.

"We think we are protecting the city while we are promoting this development for the good of the city."

Mayor Frank said the project will offer Montrose citizens the opportunity to qualify for better, higher paying jobs.

With the floor open to public comment, Myrna Shirey of ForeKin Trails Genealogy Society spoke, noting that the organization has asked for space in the old city hall building to house the historic records and documents kept by the society on behalf of the community, which had not been granted.

"...If the sale of the property is absolutely necessary, then the proceeds of the sale should be used to offset the expenses of renovating the new location," she said.

"Please do not give away the local citizens' tax monies to a state supported educational institution."

CMU Board member Kathy Heavers spoke. The value of a college is here is obvious, she said. The proposed deal shows that the city has skin in the game. "Being a partner with CMU has been very valuable...it is right in the heart of the city." Using taxpayer dollars is appropriate because of the increased educational opportunities, she said.

Heavers also read a brief letter from RE-1J Schools Superintendent Carrie Stephenson in support of the City-CMU partnership with local schools: "...Our continued collaboration enables our local job market, economy,

and learning community to thrive..."

Career pathways and course offerings are available through the partnership with CMU, Stephenson wrote. "...This means our students are better trained for future careers, and improves the outlook of our city's economic future as well..."

CMU Director President Steve Metheny spoke, recalling that he has been an adjunct professor since July of 1991. "I've been through all this change...I've raised my family here...we've come so far. Thank you, thank you, thank you to the City of Montrose for seeing every one of these steps take place...the visionary leadership that you have expressed has allowed us to do things that we never have done before."

CMU Montrose is one of the few schools in Colorado with both academic and trade school offerings, Metheny said.

Ken Huff, retired teacher, president of the Montrose County Historical Society, and a graduate of Olathe High School, spoke as well. "I am concerned about the idea of 'use it or lose it,'" Huff said.

Once the financial obligation is paid off, there will be nothing to stop the new owner from changing the building's use, he said. The sale of the city hall building will lead to further expansion of the university into the downtown space. Huff said he supports the Genealogy Society's request that the city instead allot space in the building for non-profits. "I'd like to put in the record my objection to the city turning it into part of the CMU campus."

Judy Ann Files spoke as well. As a former mayor and city councilor and current CMU Board member, she spoke in support of the sale. "We've been trying to get this culinary program for two years...this is an opportunity. Please take advantage of it."

Tony Luard of Ross Reels, also a CMU board member, spoke in support as well.

"...I think Montrose has an appeal to that non-traditional path student that may not want a two year or four college degree...I love the partnership we've developed through the years and everything that we've been able to see accomplished."

Montrose Library Director and CMU landlord Paul Paladino said, "I think CMU has been a good partner...I think this sounds like another fantastic project."

Mayor Frank closed the public comment. Councilor Bynum commented. "At the end of the day we have an opportunity here to make a big transformative opportunity...I think we ought to take advantage of it."

City Manager Bill Bell said, "...This hotel is going to be completed, it's going to be an economic driver for the downtown, we already know that the future of the county courthouse--they don't know what they're going to do with that--and so I would expect in the near future the city and county and CMU are going to be talking about that particular historic building... Closing could be scheduled by the end of May, Bell said.

"...We've worked out those things and we have a developer who's going to meet with me on Friday to talk about more details...scheduling closing for May...by the end of May, early June, that will be closed. They can move forward with the two projects and then build all of those things together at the same time using Stryker Construction, a local contractor, to really make those buildings something we can be proud of...they do things the right way here in Montrose and really represent the community's interests and we're really excited about that at well."

Attorney Ben Morris discussed inclusion of a protective clause in the deed regarding the use of the historic building.

Council voted to pass Ordinance 2617 on first reading, with Councilor Ulibarri voting "no."

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Also with Ulibarri voting "no," Council voted to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Colorado Mesa University Foundation, Colorado Mesa University, and the City of Montrose to establish the Montrose Permanent Fund to be held and administered by the Foundation.

RESOLUTION 2023-03

Council took a brief recess before voting approve Resolution 2023-03 setting April 18, 2023 as the hearing date for the Sunset Village Addition Annexation.

CASA FINAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

Council voted to approve the CASA Final Planned Development.

CRACK SEAL MATERIAL PURCHASE AND SOLE SOURCE WAIVER

Also approved was the purchase of crack seal material from Dissco (Denver Industrial) for the total purchase price of \$93,741.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Works Director Jim Scheid said he would speak at an upcoming CMU Forum about planned projects for the upcoming year.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

With no comments from Council, Mayor Frank adjourned the meeting.



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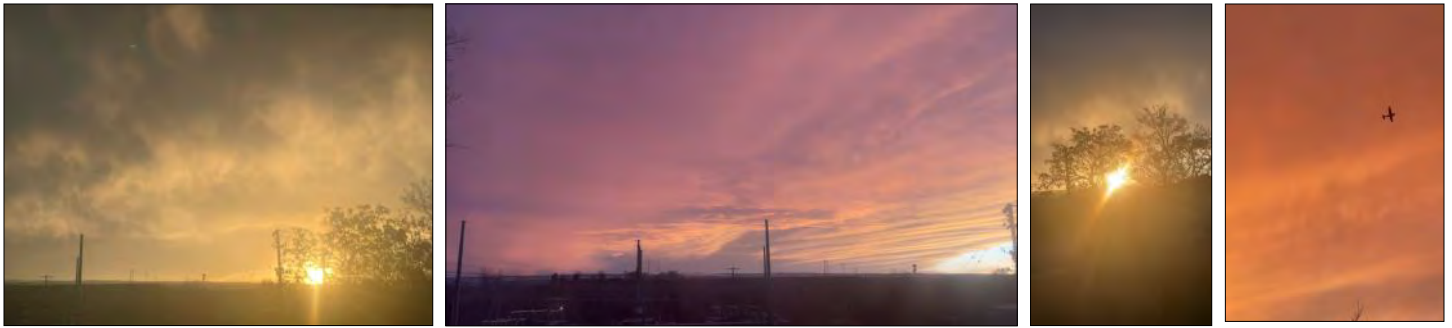
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA HEALTH ONCOLOGY/HEMATOLOGY AND INFUSION DEDICATE LAB TO EMPLOYEE, DARIN BISHOP

DELTA— On February 22 the Delta Health Oncology/Hematology and Infusion staff held a ceremony to dedicate the Delta Health Oncology and Infusion Laboratory to Darin Bishop, a Lab Technician who worked at the hospital for almost 30 years. Darin passed away suddenly in the summer of 2022, but his memory and the impact he made on his co-workers and patients live on.

"We wanted to honor Darin who is a huge piece of our hearts and always will be," said Nysha Wilson, RN, BSN, OCN, Director of Oncology, Hematology and Infusion during the dedication ceremony. "For everyone that has ever worked with him, he has been our brother and a significant person to all of us and to so many people along his healthcare journey."

Delta Health Employees came together to create a dedication plaque in Bishop's memory. This plaque was made and donated by Paul & Tracy Dill at Designs by TP Services in Cedaredge, CO. It will be hung by Darin's Lab in the Infusion Center it reads: "The Oncology/Hematology & Infusion staff is dedicating this room to Darin Bishop. He selflessly committed himself to the staff and patients at Delta Health for 29 years, 8 months and 5 days. Darin was a scientist, lab technician, friend and brother. Always in our hearts.

November 23, 1967 - July 27, 2022."

Nathan Weltmer, Phlebotomist in the Delta Health Lab, put together a shadow box to honor Bishop. Inside the shadow box is Bishop's iconic Hawaiian shirt that



Above, Adrin Bishop. At left, Bishop's wife Bonnie and Nysha Wilson, RN, BSN, OCN, Director of Oncology, Hematology and Infusion at dedication ceremony. Courtesy photos.



he often wore as well as his Delta Health employee nametag with his years of service.

"About five years ago Darin had to have a heart procedure and we all wanted to do something special for him," said Nysha.

"We thought of flowers or other items but we decided on this Hawaiian shirt as this was his choice of daily apparel. The family graciously donated this shirt for his shadow box along with his Delta Health badge and years of service pins. It means the world to us and is just a beautiful way to honor his memory."

Along with staff, friends and family, Darin's wife Bonnie also attended the dedication ceremony. "He considered you all

family, and it was his patients and his co-workers that made him get up every morning," said Bonnie. "He loved his family but you were all part of that family. And I know that he would be so honored. This would just mean so much to him."

"We've had a lot of good years with Darin, his presence and expertise is one that we will always treasure. He will always be in our hearts," said Nysha.

The plaque will be hung in Infusion next to his Oncology lab and the shadow box will be hung in the Oncology/Hematology Clinic next to where he assisted with bone marrow biopsies so that all can think of Darin and the great impact that he had on the community.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING...

Editor;

A recent suggestion said Democrats and Republicans should unite against the "oligarchs" because their goal is to make us enemies to "divide and conquer." He says our goal should be "strength and unity" to save our Democracy and reunite the USA. First off, our system of government is not a "Democracy," it is a "Constitutional Republic" Okay, so what is oligarchy? Isn't it government in the hands of a few? And what is the political alignment of the "few" who are in control? They are Democrats! So Democrats are the "oligarchs"!! Sure, our goal should be strength through unity, but who is it that is constantly undermining that strength and unity by constantly railing about how horrible MAGA people are? Drum roll.....surprise! it's Joe Biden, his Democrats and supporters!! Imagine that, the one who promised in his inaugural speech he was going to be the "uniter" and to "put away the harsh rhetoric". And yet, his actual remarks are anything but unifying. He said "systemic racism" is underwritten by millions of "WHITE" Americans who continue to prevent "racial justice". What?? Racial justice was settled in 1964 with the bi-partisan Civil Rights Bill, but Democrats refuse to admit that in fear they might lose their favorite racist lie to whip Conservatives with. Biden said the MAGA movement is "our darkest impulses" and that they are "semi-fascists". He even gave an anti-MAGA speech in a spooky and weird red-backlight atmosphere complete with disgracefully forcing marine guards to stand guard in the back shadows. There he spent most of the speech cutting down the MAGA people. This "divide and conquer" movement is a necessary tool of the Marxist movement.

Right now under Biden and his Leftist comrades we are watching our country being taken over by the most incompetent, dangerous and reckless morons in history. America is the laughing stock of the world. And speak of "divide and conquer", we've all seen the most hideous Democrat attack in history on thousands of honest and decent Americans who went to DC at election time to express their agony over a stolen election and their love and dedication to their flag, Constitution and country. Many were allowed and escorted into the capitol by the capitol police. Some of the police were even seen opening barricades to let protestors in and then arrested them for trespassing! Sure, some got rowdy like any protest, but then the capitol police started shooting tear gas at peaceful protestors outside and an unarmed military veteran and Trump supporter was murdered inside by a Capitol police officer for no reason. No police officer was killed that day like the Leftists are telling you. Officer Brian Sikknick died the next day from a stroke. Of course things got out of hand and good and decent Americans were thrown in jail with no bond, no representation, and robbed of their rights in every way possible. Contrast that to the BLM rioters of 2020 when people were injured and thousands of businesses and government offices were destroyed including police stations costing \$2 billion in damages. In Minneapolis alone over 1,500 businesses or buildings were destroyed and hundreds of police officers were injured. In New York City 320 protestors were injured by police and sued the city and were awarded \$21,500 each!! Ya just can't make up this insanity! They received a nice reward for massive rioting, but Trump supporters go

to jail for far less and kept there with no bond and no trial.

It's beyond any common sense to conclude how President Trump, the one man who tried to get this country going back in the right direction again after eight years of the Marxist Obama/Biden regime, can be persecuted by a bunch of corrupt thugs. Democrats, how are your 401K's doing now? Remember how good they did under Trump? Remember the peace we had under Trump? Leftist goons are regularly beating up white people and pushing them onto rail tracks. They're shooting cops like it's a game. Trump almost had the border wall finished and then the Bidenista regime stopped it on day one. Now we have millions and millions of invaders in America and you, the taxpayer, are paying \$billions for all their needs including transportation to go wherever they want, free medical care, expensive hotel rooms complete with room service and free meals delivered to their rooms. And if they don't get the right food they throw it away! Democrat NY mayor Adams now wants to give invaders a college education at taxpayer expense!! Leave it to Democrats to dream up horrific plans for our Republic!! Our veterans don't get anything like this. And this is only the beginning. When they become voters they will vote for Democrats who will cave in to their demands, consequently voting themselves an increase for everything they are getting for free. They will have priorities in their free medical care and free food when shortages begin. Are you ready?

"A Republic cannot exist as a permanent form of government when the voters discover they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury."

Jerry Bartholome, Montrose



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

UPDATE ON DELTA COUNTY'S LAND USE CODE REVISION PROCESS DELTA

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – After much scrutiny of the 2021 Land Use Code (LUC), Delta County held a public hearing on February 28th for the

public to have the opportunity to speak to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) about their support, concerns, and recommendations for the revised up-

dates. The BOCC rejected the November 16, 2022, Planning Commission-certified copy, but the 2021 LUC remains in effect. Following the public hearing, the BOCC directed staff to prepare a redline version of the 2021 LUC showing changes up to and including the February 27th BOCC work session. The BOCC and the Planning Department met in a work session on March 9th to consider the revisions based on the comments received, hoping to create a code that is fair to everyone and reflective of the direction the BOCC wants for Delta County.

The BOCC is developing a draft that will be submitted to the Delta County Planning Commission to review. The Planning Commission has up to 30 days to review the recommendations and either support, reject, or suggest changes. The ultimate goal is to adopt changes intended to encourage economic development and streamline the land use code by making the overall process more efficient and consistent.

"This is an important step toward removing bureaucratic impediments in our land use processes," said Wendell Koontz, Chair of the Delta County Commissioners. "Our goal is to stimulate economic development and meet our responsibilities for health, safety, and welfare for our County, but in a way that says we are still a County fully dedicated to our agricultural land-owners and all residents of Delta County."

Delta County wants to be clear that the BOCC is not considering repealing the 2021 LUC. However, the County continues to listen to residents and encourages anyone concerned about specific aspects of the revision and how they might be affected to submit their comments to the Planning Department.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

BOCC PLEASE VOTE NO ON SU22-013

Dear Editor,

Shenanigans are afoot again. From all appearances, it looks like Angie Peterson is aligning herself with the Matt Miles team. Business cards being exchanged in public meetings is telling.

And after the county commissioners gave the Matt Miles team another 14 days to "tidy up" more loose ends and try to fill more holes, we guess we could add the buying out of property to shore up the SU22-013 application.

After all, the buying out of property adjacent to the proposed gravel pit worked very well at the Uncompahgre gravel pit south of Montrose.

With the additional 14 days continuation, the Matt Miles team will have been given a total of 26 days (so far) to attempt to complete the SU22-013 application. One

would think that an application would have to be complete when rendered to the County Planning Commission. That apparently is not the case.

As to the additional 26 days being granted to the applicant, we have the following observation: An additional 26 days were not given to the public. The public input was closed on 2/22/2023 thereby silencing our voices. We cannot comment in any way on any additional information put forth by the applicant. We cannot refute any and all expert testimonials put forth. We attend public meetings, but have no voice as the SU22-013 application changes, gets revised, more conditions are applied, requests for more information to be supplied.

We have all known people who have developed cancer. Possibly those were our

loved ones. We cannot know what that patient is truly feeling because we do not live in their body. If we take away that patient's ability to communicate, we have done that patient an enormous disservice. This cancer is being forced on all of the citizens being negatively impacted by SU22-013, yet our voices have been silenced.

The Montrose County Commissioners have been tasked with being the Public Health regulatory board for Montrose County. We can only hope now that they will look at the vital signs and symptoms of these silenced citizen patients.

An absolute NO vote on SU22-013, now and for the healthy future of these citizen patients is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim and Vicki Gardner, Montrose

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

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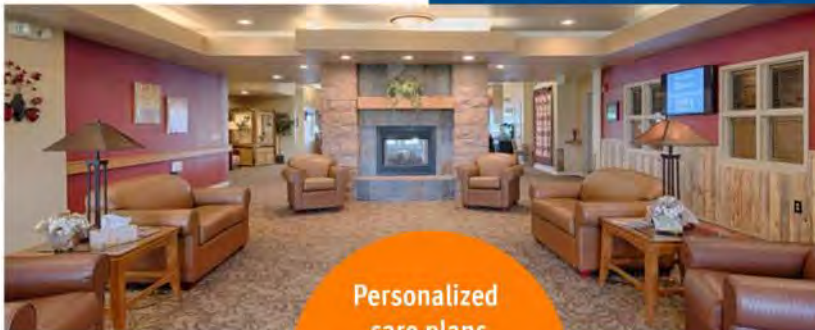
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NEW LAW REQUIRES COLORADO DRIVERS TO REGISTER VEHICLE OR PAY UP

Special to the Mirror

LAKEWOOD -- Colorado drivers with expired registration, your day of reckoning is nigh.

On Jan. 1, 2023 the clock began ticking for drivers who have refused to properly register their vehicles when they move to Colorado or have an expired temporary tag.

No longer will drivers be able to avoid paying the statutorily required taxes and fees owed to counties they reside in. If you moved to Colorado and haven't properly registered your vehicle within the required time frames or let your temporary tag expire after the new year, expect to pay more when you finally do.

Last year the Colorado legislature passed the **Colorado Registration Fairness Act (HB22-1254)**, effectively ending the free ride for many Coloradans who choose not to properly register their vehicles in a timely manner after moving to Colorado before the temporary tag expiration. The new law adds teeth to existing laws by requiring the collection of owed back taxes and fees for delinquent registrations. The late registration fines and payment of back taxes and fees will apply to all Coloradans who register their vehicles after the temporary tag expiration date, or after the 90-day grace period given to new residents moving into Colorado.

Prorated back taxes and fee amounts will vary for each Coloradan based on the vehicle and county of residence. Coloradans should visit their county motor vehicle office to find out how much they will owe if they are delinquent in registering their vehicle.

For more information about the new late fees, visit www.DMV.Colorado.gov/Taxes-and-fees.

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**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**
see something, say something

PARENTS ASK FOR SURVEY REGARDING RE-1J SUPERINTENDENT *From pg 1*

Board of Education, Jenkins said. "So they asked that I bring you candy."

Jenkins presented the Altrusa Apple award to Oak Grove Kindergarten Teacher Stacey Bohman and the KREX TV Golden Apple award to Centennial Middle School Janitor, Jay Haptonstall.

Recent donations to the school district include:

- The Edecker Family (Brett & Brooke) collected and donated several large bags of hats, scarves, gloves, and mitten/hat sets for distribution to students in grades PK-5. This donation worth is over \$1,000 dollars and this is the 27th year they have made this generous donation.

- The following donations to the RE-1J Engagement Centers at Montrose High School, Olathe Middle/High School, Columbine Middle School, and Centennial Middle School:

Montrose Community Foundation - \$3,200.

Colorado Outdoors - \$1,000

Peer Kindness - \$1,000

DMEA - \$1,000

Martinez Drywall - \$500

Alpine Bank - \$500

Chow Down - \$500

Retired MHS English Teacher Marjorie Morgenstern donated \$5,000 to the Montrose High School English Department.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Finance Director Emily Imus presented the quarterly financial reports including [funds](#) and [investments](#).

CODE OF ETHICS REVIEW

Prior to hearing Board Advisory Committee updates, Fishing read the Board of Education's Code of Ethics for the benefit of new District A Director Erik Westesen.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District D Director Tom West spoke very quietly, possibly about facilities. There are things that need fixed in the schools and things to be maintained, he said. "...Things do cost money."

District C Director Alice Murphy gave an update on the District Accountability Committee. The committee met in February and discussed the free lunch program. They heard the presentation on homework and grading by Mr. Steele and dis-

cussed the district calendar committee and the calendar update. Murphy gave a "shout out" to Olathe and to Olathe Elementary School for holding a doughnut appreciation day for the school board and district office, as well as for police and firefighters.

"They called those doughnuts power rings," Murphy said. She also spoke about the District Spelling Bee, which she had helped to judge. "That was a very well-attended event, lots of family and friends," she said. "Kind of nice to see those kids; they were spelling words I did not know."

COMMUNITY INPUT

First to speak was Jessica Newcomb. As the parent of a young Olathe Elementary School student with Autism, Newcomb questioned the constant shifting of resources for her child and others. "I'm here tonight because I am concerned. I am concerned about why certain things are being given to those classrooms and being taken away. The main concern is safety," she said. "There's a lot of special needs kids that have a need for support...The one room situation is not serving anyone well...for some of the kids in that room, it is a matter of safety for them to have a one-on-one so the teachers and aids can help take care of the other kids when there situations arise...why do we have to keep proving that something doesn't work and putting our kids through distress when they deserve an awesome, stable, consistent environment...that's not fair...I'm frustrated."

Her own son has been yanked from one new situation to another despite his non-speaking autism, Newcomb said. Although the OES Principal has listened to parents and has tried to help, she has been unable to get the full support of the district. "...I am just here to let you know that there's frustration on a lot of special needs parents' ends. And we want better and we want consistency for our kids."

Next to speak was Israel Combs. "...I am here to show unwavering support for Beth Kusar as the Principal of Olathe," he said. "...Our children's education is the reason for schools...educating our children is the sole reason for teachers...for the first time in a long time the education scores are

consistently going up. This means that things are working the way they're supposed to be working...scores improving continuously should be enough for support of a principal who has turned a school around...the parents love Beth...the children love Beth...the vast majority of the teachers love Beth...Beth is doing a good job...why isn't she being supported?"

Combs asked why the district would consider letting Kusar go. "Why are our children not important enough to keep the best thing that has happened to their education in years...I am really concerned why this is even on the table...when the school is doing so much better."

Ellen Angeles addressed the Board of Education. "Good evening board members...I am a community member who is both a teacher and a parent.

"I feel obligated to share some important concerns," Angeles said. "We need to get back to having a State of the District report for all stakeholders in our district. This transparency and cooperation between District office, UVEA and educators, along with school board, affords us the necessary checks and balances so that we can use taxpayers' money wisely for educating students," she said.

"...our district has allowed classrooms to become overcrowded, which is detrimental to students. It impacts learning, grades, testing. It hurts attendance, mental health, and graduation rates...first and foremost, our primary purpose and obligation is to educate students.

'Seventeen years ago, when I started teaching here, most of the administrators were in the small building next to the high school. We now have four to five times more people at district office, at a cost to students and educators."

Many educators feel unappreciated, taken advantage of, and under extreme duress, Angeles said. Unnecessary grants create jobs for administrators and place additional stress and responsibilities on teachers. "These grants create jobs at district office with people who never directly work with students. We're too top heavy."

Angeles also spoke about the upcoming school calendar changes. Removal of teachers' meeting time as proposed by the Superintendent impacts planning without

PARENTS ASK FOR SURVEY REGARDING RE-1J SUPERINTENDENT *From previous pg*

without fair compensation and is a violation of the master contract, she said. None of the proposed four-day-week calendar choices includes teachers and families.

"Teachers are at a breaking point," she said. "We are paying out of state specialists ridiculous salaries, meanwhile our paraprofessionals are not even paid a livable wage...these dedicated, hard-working staff whose work is instrumental in caring for our students qualify for food stamps...we need more teachers, we need more paraprofessionals, we need smaller class sizes. Money and resources need to be allocated closer to the classroom.

"...We need to get back to basics and remember that our main priority is the education of students," Angeles said. She thanked the board for their service and provided them with a copy of the annual State of the District report from a previous year.

A parent of five students, Kena Iversen spoke next. She addressed the resignation of Olathe Elementary School Principal Beth Kusar (included in meeting agenda under [Personnel Report](#)).

"I believe it came as quite a shock to so many when she entered her resignation," Iversen said. "Mrs. Kusar is so invested in our school that from an outside perspective it would seem there were extenuating circumstances surrounding this resignation.

"It is my belief that she has been forced out or bullied into this resignation," Iversen said.

She noted a perceived bias against Olathe schools and students as "rednecks" and "hicks," despite success stories like recent graduate Gavin Lindsey, now pursuing two undergraduate degrees at Harvard, and others. "...Imagine what our district as a whole could be, without the division we have endured the past few years."

Iversen requested that a survey of parents and staff be sent out to assess the superintendent and her performance, and that Kusar's resignation be denied until further investigation can take place.

Speaking next was former student, now a parent, grandparent, and paraprofessional

at OES Sherri Needham. Needham also asked for an investigation into the reasons for Kusar's resignation. "I do firmly believe that there is something going on..."

Kusar has been supportive and helpful, Needham said. "She even comes down herself to help when needed...Beth has been our only voice, she's our support...Beth has advocated for our program on many levels...without Beth where will that leave our program, worse yet our kids?"

Olathe Middle School Teacher Kari Keller spoke as well. She thanked board members who recently visited Olathe. "I have been a dedicated employee of the district for over 30 years...I have already shared my concerns that I have with the dress code policy...but beyond those specific concerns I am really upset."

Keller asked the Board of Education to think about the message they are sending with the dress code policy. "When leadership pilots a policy that does not support current board policy, you really are saying it's ok to not follow the rules. When leadership does not follow board policy it confuses all of us; we look to the board policy for direction.

Keller also asked why the language in the new policy does not match that recommended by the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB).

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

"I'm looking forward to talking to you about the dress code," Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said, noting that staff and parents had not yet seen the latest revisions. [The policy, presented on first reading](#), is included in the meeting packet along with comments received. Second reading and vote will be March 14.

Stephenson spoke about the process of looking at the dress code and the importance of considering the "attitude, mood, disposition" of the student while getting dressed. She reiterated one idea repeatedly as she spoke. "We want to help our teachers form a deeper relationship with our students."

Students have been humiliated in front of their peers when "dress coded," and when that happens, "They have a dam-

aged relationship with the teacher," Stephenson said. "...Kids don't like to be told what to do in a stern, controlling way."

Stephenson envisioned an alternative scenario in which a student was asked gently to stay after class to talk about what's wrong, "maybe they had a bad haircut, or a skin condition. "We are encouraging that compassion...those conversations with the child," Stephenson said.

Enforcement of rules can be inequitable, she said, and can be a barrier to developing a positive relationship with the student. "Bottom line, I recommend that we put power back in the hands of the parents."

The board spent time in discussion, asking questions and considering the boundaries of "instructional time."

District B Director Jacob Suppes, a retired law enforcement professional, said he has a problem with the wearing of hats in class. "So many things are wrong with that...gangs use hats, and we do have gangs in Montrose County...caps are the main way of showing gang affiliation."

Suppes warned of the potential for increased intimidation and sexual harassment with the dress code changes and suggested sticking with the language suggested by CASB. "Stepping away from CASB you lose their support, you lose their lawyer."

The policy is a step backwards, Suppes said. Students will face dress expectations in the adult world. "Life is not here to take care of you; you are here to take care of life."

At the end of the day the student's dress is the parent's obligation and responsibility, Board Vice President Eric Kelley said. "We have to be careful sacrificing freedom for security."

District A Director Erik Westesen spoke in favor of allowing teachers to make the decisions in their classrooms. "I'm willing to put trust in our teachers."

Fishing said that the new policy provides guidelines and standards and does not force the teacher to engage in awkward enforcement of dress code rules. Also, CASB does not dictate policies, but offers guidelines. "They are not CASB's

PARENTS ASK FOR SURVEY REGARDING RE-1J SUPERINTENDENT From previous pg

policies, they are our policies...there's no just taking CASB's policies and rubber stamping them. That's not what we do here."

HOMEWORK POLICY UPDATE

John Steele presented the Homework Policy recommendations, included in the packet. The recommendations are the result of work by a committee, Steele said. "We're doing a lot of homework in our homework committee."

No homework is recommended for elementary school students, though students and their families are encouraged to read at home.

The same committee will also review grading policy, and create a list of recommendations.

Fishing thanked Steele for the work on the homework recommendations.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda, including Personnel Report which includes the resignation of Olathe Elementary School Principal Beth Kusar.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed Board policy JICA, Student Dress Code as presented for first reading.

Also considered on first reading and approved was the filing of a lawsuit by Frantz Law Group, on behalf of Montrose County School District RE-1J, against Facebook, TikTok, Snap and You Tube.

The board heard the Enrollment Report. District Enrollment is 31 students higher than last year, and 29 students lower than last month.

ECC UPDATE

ECC Director Penny Harris was not present, however information is included in the meeting packet.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The Board of Education will meet again March 14.



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*Montrose Senior Center, 1800 Pavilion Drive,
1 pm. Mon., March 13th. Western History with Kate Burke*

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM OR CORPORATE SOCIALISM – AMERICAN IS FULL OF BOTH

Editor:

How often do emotions run high when one hears this program or that political party or that person practices socialism. We all take advantage of socialist programs! Don't believe me? Take a closer look at the "socialist" programs in our community, a community composed primarily of Republicans and Independents – not Democrats.

Although two terms often are thrown out in editorials published in The Montrose Mirror – socialism or democratic socialism – I would propose you consider a third term, corporate socialism.

Corporate Socialism

"The goal of democratic socialism is to eliminate extreme poverty and economic inequality . . . Corporate socialism is the ideological opposite of democratic socialism. Democratic socialism transfers wealth from businesses and the wealthy to the working class. **Corporate socialism transfers wealth from the working class to corporations.** Democratic socialism aims to eliminate economic inequality. Corporate socialism encourages the wealthy to accumulate as much wealth as possible and widens economic inequalities." What is Corporate Socialism? Definition & Examples, The Impact Investor, February 5, 2023, <https://theimpactinvestor.com/corporate-socialism/#:~:text=Corporate%20socialism%20is%20an%20economic%20system%20where%20a%20special%20relationship,the%20entire%20country%20suffers%20losses.>

The above article also provided examples of corporate socialism such as government bailouts, government contracts and subsidies for businesses, and corporate tax breaks and incentives.

Ralph Nader, in his July 18, 2002 article, stated that "'Corporate socialism'" is the privatization of profit and the socialization of risks and that misconduct is displacing capitalist canons. Corporation Socialism, Ralph Nader, July 18, 2002, The Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/>

[opinions/2002/07/18/corporate-socialism/65e15154-982f-4418-bd4b-0868b9dba787/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/opinions/2002/07/18/corporate-socialism/65e15154-982f-4418-bd4b-0868b9dba787/)

"Tax breaks such as these stimulate economic growth" is an argument frequently used to support these actions. David Waugh notes that the documentary "'Corporate Welfare, Where's the Outrage?'" highlights that despite some limited benefits such as direct employment, the majority of corporate welfare policies appears to remove resources from local populations and via cronyism, politicians try to insulate themselves from the loss of those benefits by removing community members from the decision process." Corporate Welfare: Where's the Outrage? A Review, David Waugh, September 24, 2021, American Institute for Economic Research, <https://www.aier.org/article/corporate-welfare-wheres-the-outrage-a-review/>.

Urban Renewal Authority (MONTROSE URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) – Corporate Socialism???

CO Rev Stat § 31-25-102 (2020) - <https://law.justia.com/codes/colorado/2020/title-31/article-25/section-31-25-102/> – This statute authorizes municipal authorities to designate areas within its boundaries as a **blighted or slum** area using specific criteria authorizing that area to be positioned for an urban renewal project. Except under very limited criteria, agricultural land cannot be included within an urban renewal area as such inclusion is a "matter of statewide concern."

Once an urban renewal plan is submitted and approved by a municipality, the municipality appoints an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) composed of City Council members and other governmental agency representatives. The URA works with the impacted parties and/or works in partnership with businesses assisting them financially by paying for some of the development expenses. A URA can execute contracts to pay contractors for these improvements using advances, loans, grants

and contributions from the federal government or other sources.

URA's, such as MURA, often utilize Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to secure financing to cover these costs – costs that without the URA would be borne by the real estate developer. These costs include such things as tearing down structures, preparing the area for development, e.g., excavation, site preparation, infrastructure installation, engineering and planning documents, etc. URA's often suggest these incentives are necessary to attract investors and provide other community benefits.

A TIF leverages **expected future increases** in property taxes and sales taxes after the renewal takes place to acquire financing. From my research, it appears future increased taxes collected are redirected to a Taxable Increment Revenue fund. This fund is used to repay the debt (bonds, loans, etc.) incurred by the URA for these real estate development costs.

The property taxes currently being collected for that area continue to flow to the municipality's tax district.

What does that mean to taxpayers? Rather than these additional tax revenues going to the taxing authority for the benefit of residents in that community to pay for needed services, including the increased need for services in the URA area, they are used to pay for real estate development costs for up to 25 years! So real estate investors/developers spend less of their investment money on these projects. Taxpayers, on the other hand, do not benefit from these additional property and sales taxes increases which could have potentially reduced their tax burdens or, at the least, provided additional services to them.

Again, this reduces the need for developers to use their own investment dollars for such things as pre-development. The intent of TIF was to influence investment but research shows that "most development attracted by TIF likely would have taken place in the same urban area . . .

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM OR CORPORATE SOCIALISM – AMERICAN IS FULL OF BOTH From previous pg

every dollar going to a TIF project represents a dollar taken away from schools, fire districts, and other tax entities.” Policy Analysis, Crony Capitalism and Social Engineering, The Case against Tax-Increment Financing, Randal O’Toole, March 18, 2011, Cato Institute, page 13 <https://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/PA676.pdf>

Independence Institute.Org’s analyzes the effect of URA and TIF projects in Colorado. It noted that: “TIF function by diverting the tax revenue stream of one government entity into the pockets of another government entity. The losing entities are county governments, special districts, school districts, and the State of Colorado. This harm caused to sister governments is why URAs are intended to be used ONLY when a serious threat to both the municipality and people of Colorado exists.” The Empty Promises and Untold Cost of Urban Renewal in Colorado, Independence Institute.Org, August 29, 2016, <https://i2i.org/the-empty-promise-and-untold-cost-of-urban-renewal-in-colorado/>.

As of January 17, 2023, Montrose Urban Renewal Authority Promissory Notes were \$13M and were used to pay for Black Mountain LLC design reimbursements, civil design, river improvement, power utilities, natural gas utilities, sewers, and horizontal site improvements (roads, parking, etc.) for Fairfield Hotel, Mayfly Site, Colorado Yurt, Basecamp Apt, Flex Building, Shelter Distilling. MURA minutes, 1/25/2023, <https://montroseco.portal.civicclerk.com/event/472/files>.

Per Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area, Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA), Updated TIF Revenue Projections & Financing Capacity Analyses, April 26, 2021, Anderson Analytics, LLC, page 29, <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3720>, total negotiated Tax Increment Revenue available for TIF (January 1, 2021 thru February 7, 2042) is **\$54,603,034 – money that would otherwise** go to fund taxpayer services. That amount will be used to pay off bonds, promissory notes, etc. used to pay for real estate development costs for Colorado Outdoor.

It does not seem the Basecamp housing units will benefit low income families either

as a one bedroom 719 square foot apartment costs between \$1,575 and \$1,650 and a two bedroom 995 square foot apartment costs between \$1,975 and \$2,050. <https://www.basecampmontrose.co/floorplans/>

Water and Sewer Connection Fees and Costs and Building Permit Fees – Corporate Socialism???

At a City Council work session on October 17, 2022, <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1824>, Montrose Regional Health (MRH) requested abating a connection fee of \$47,553 for the MRH Ambulatory Care Center. The minutes noted the city also intended to waive an estimated \$297,546 of building fees and contributing \$50,000 for Uncompahgre Riverway Trail improvements. As MRH announced this Ambulatory Care Center (ACC) would be built in February 2022, it would not appear that these incentives requested in October influenced the decision to build this ACC at this location. MRH owns this property. NexCore Group, a national healthcare real estate investment and development company, is building the facility. NexCore partners with investors to build these facilities, including physician groups. So, the developer, NexCore Group, received the benefits for waiving these fees by reducing its investment costs.

Selling Public Assets to Educational Institutions – Democratic Socialism???

Early information indicates that the City Council plans to sell the old City Hall to CMU for a dormitory and to house a hospitality program. This project will be funded through the Montrose Permanent Fund, a non-profit corporation, with \$1.5M contributed by City taxpayers and \$500,000 from CMU. So is this (educational institution) a market where competing businesses are publicly, cooperatively, or otherwise socially owned, a definition for “democratic socialists” provided by David White in his editorial in The Montrose Mirror on March 6, 2023, page 44-45, <https://montrosemirror.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/523ISSUEFINAL.pdf> ? Does it eliminate extreme poverty and economic inequality as defined above? Certainly, educational institutions receiving tax funding is not a new concept, but is it democratic socialism?

Behind the Curtain – Limited Liability Corporations and Non-Profit Corporations

As a side note, how do we know the web that may exist between individuals, businesses, investors, and our government representatives. It is very difficult! Often these businesses utilize legal entities that reveal little about the ownership behind the curtain or those benefiting from their existence, e.g., limited liability corporations (LLCs) and non-profit organizations, etc. LLCs (Colorado Outdoor properties and many other Montrose businesses) are not required to disclose who the LLC owners/managers are. At the same time, non-profit organizations legally have limited or no charitable contribution requirements and are not required typically to file any paperwork with the federal government reporting expenditures due to their tax exempt status. But hidden from view are the contracts made by LLCs and non-profits with the providers for services and the prices they charge – market driven or greed driven? In the case of non-profits, is this why that type of corporation seems so attractive – no accountability? In the US, 60% of community hospitals are nongovernment, not-for-profit hospitals.

Democratic Socialism

Some obvious examples of democratic socialism include fire and police protection, public education, Medicare, Medicaid, minimum wage laws, maximum hour restrictions, child labor laws, agricultural and energy subsidies, housing for the elderly, etc. – all intended to address poverty, economic inequality, and provide services that are for the common good. Even the CMU public landscape might be considered democratic socialism as we all have access to that area.

Reflections

So, the next time you hear someone talk about socialism, remember we all reap the benefits from it in one way or another. But are the benefits you receive furthering your health, welfare and comfort or improving your life (democratic socialism) or is it transferring monies from your pocket to someone else’s that already has bountiful resources at its disposal (corporate socialism)? Good or bad? It’s all in the eyes of the recipient.

Sue Schmidt, Montrose

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SHERIFF GENE LILLARD TO PRESENT @ REPUBLICAN WOMEN LUNCH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County Republican Women Lunch and Meeting- Friday, March 17, noon-1:30pm at Hampton Inn Montrose. Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard will give an update on the state of the Sheriff's Department and take questions. Brown bag lunch with beverages served.

PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING PROPOSED JUNK ORDINANCE

MARCH 16TH, 2023 | 6PM

Montrose County Public Works Conference Room
63160 LaSalle Rd Montrose, CO 81401

Learn more about a proposed junk ordinance to address junk and litter issues in unincorporated Montrose County.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: CARTOONS

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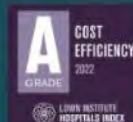
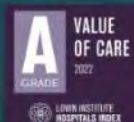
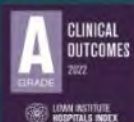
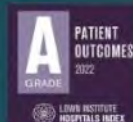
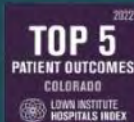


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PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT PLANNED FOR BUCKLEY PARK

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present as Montrose Mayor Dave Frank welcomed all to the Montrose City Council work session on Monday, March 6.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The first discussion item was a recommendation to award a contract to Green and Bearit for the City's 2023 Parks Turf Care in the amount of \$119,988.

Present for the conversation were Public Works Manager Jim Scheid and Parks Department Superintendent Dan Payne. Hiring out turf care allows city staff to focus on things that cannot be contracted out, Scheid said. The award is for 75 percent of the City's turf care needs, as the cemeteries on Sunset Mesa and at Cedar Creek are cared for by city staff.

The program has been very successful, Mayor Frank said.

Background- A memo from Payne to Council states, "The City's Parks Division contracts the turf maintenance of 13 out of 28 Parks with turf and is seven percent of the total City Park turf area, not including Sunset Mesa or Cedar Creek Cemetery. The contractor will perform weekly mowing, trimming, edging of all walks, cleaning up trash and debris, performing irrigation checks, and final clean up of all sidewalks, roadways, picnic areas, and walkways within those parks. The City's Maintenance contract expired earlier this year and was issued as an RFP to renew the contract. The Parks Division received four qualified bids that met all the requirements. A scoring matrix was utilized for selection, and below is a breakdown of the bids received.

Company	Annual Bid Price	Matrix Score
Alpine Property Services	\$142,830.00	1.30
Green and Bearit	\$119,988.00	3.45
Green Way Pro	\$116,714.00	2.55
Rain Maker	\$230,152.00	3.10

The City has been working with Green and Bearit since 2017, performing on-call services

mowing vacant lots, irrigation maintenance and repair, and has helped with other parks when

needed. They have been the primary contractor for Parks turf care since 2019.



Example of design for new playground. City of Montrose courtesy image.

Green and Bearit has done an astonishing job and has been flexible for events, weather, or other needs of citizens using the park system. City staff recommends awarding the contract to Green and Bearit."

Mayor Frank said that the city will publish the availability of jobs for seasonal workers.

Councilors also considered a recommendation to award the Buckley Park Playground contract to Just Be You Inc. dba Star Playgrounds from Littleton.

"We're excited to discuss the replacement of the playground in Buckley Park," Scheid said.

"This playground we're proposing is a modern style playground, which would be the first one in Montrose, designed around...new and longer lasting materials but also inclusivity of many different user groups, allowing it to be for a large range of uses," he said.

Background- A memo from Payne and Scheid to Council states, "The City of Montrose Parks Division audited all City-owned playgrounds in 2021 and found several playgrounds past their usable ser-

vice. A list of playgrounds that needed to be replaced regarding playground use, condition, and availability of replacement parts was formulated. As Buckley is one of the oldest and busiest parks, it was determined that this would be the best candidate for the first replacement. The City is looking for unique, inclusive play equipment with engaging features and high play value that will encourage physical activity and enhance motor skill development. Equipment design will include a focus on safety, inclusiveness, and fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the International Play Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA), the American Society of Testing Materials International (ASTM), and The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) playground safety standards. Statements of qualifications were requested through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process."

Payne said that parts of the current playground at Buckley have been in use since 1985.

Councilor Ed Ulibarri asked about equipment warranties, noting that "kids can be pretty rough on some stuff."

Payne said that a three-year guarantee will typically cover

Continued next pg

PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT PLANNED FOR BUCKLEY PARK *From previous pg*

cover electronic components, cables and ropes will typically be guaranteed for five to ten years, and decks and platforms are typically guaranteed for 10 to 20 years.

The metal slide will remain.

Mayor Frank asked which of the City's parks will be next to receive a playground update; Payne said that Riverbottom Park will be next.

Presented for discussion was a construction contract award to Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. (dba United Companies) for completion of the Moving Montrose Forward 2023 Contracted Street Maintenance Project.

Background- A memo from City Engineer Scott Murphy to Council notes that the total budget for contracted street maintenance in 2023 is \$4.3M, including surface treatments, this contract, and some targeted sidewalk maintenance and expansion in the northwestern quadrant of the City to be performed under separate contracts. Also budgeted was 200k for waterline replacements on select roadways which will be used to fund the waterline replacements within the contract.

Murphy led the discussion and gave details and timing of the work to be done.

Bynum said that Council receives more feedback on roads than on anything else.

Ulibarri suggested shortening the time frame for equipment replacement, to avoid untimely breakdowns.

"Also, I know right now it's hard to get equipment in...we should possibly look at purchasing more equipment now...if we start looking at it at a sooner time perhaps

we can be able to get our equipment in a more timely manner.

"I think roads are pretty important," Ulibarri said. "Like everybody else on council, I get complaints all the time about potholes and that sort of stuff."

The City of Montrose has also allocated \$150K toward sidewalks, Frank said. "We do have that also on our horizon...we're aware of that and responsive to that as well as to this."

Further discussion revealed that the best way to report a pothole is through the A Better Montrose app or the City's website. Also, the new hotmix asphalt recycler has arrived.

The city's street maintenance and capital plan is available on the City's MoveMo webpage at www.MoveMo.co.

Council also considered the Senegy Addition application and the associated zoning. The proposed annexation is approximately 35.5 acres in size, located along Miami Road northeast of its intersection with 6750 Road. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, City of Montrose Sewer Service Area, and City of Montrose Water Service Area. Annexation of this property will allow for connection to City utilities. An Annexation Agreement is required.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilor Doug Glaspell said that Council and staff are in the process of moving offices to another building. "If anyone in the community feels like they're not getting serviced properly or there's a little delay in that service, it could be because of our move going on these next couple

weeks."

Said Mayor Frank, "We always try to be responsive and helpful to the public but sometimes the public needs to be a little more patient. And in this case since we have people moving offices and moving buildings, give us some time."

Frank said he cannot help carry boxes as he is on lift restrictions.

Ulibarri apologized to staff for being sick and neglecting his duties. "I am catching up."

City Engineer Scott Murphy said that a four-foot storm line that was scheduled to be replaced has failed at Niagara and Hillcrest.

Final reports on major intersections are complete.

The water resource inventory is nearing completion as well. "This is something we're going to be working on for a long time...we're doing some modeling on growth projects, demand projects, and all that...we just want to make sure we plan properly for 50 years down the road."

Frank reminded of the annual Mayor's Water Challenge, a voluntary conservation program.

Bynum asked Murphy about progress on signals at intersections at Chipeta Road and at the Airport; he provided an update. Parts are coming for the signal at Chipeta Road, a county project.

At the Airport, the goal is to place a temporary signal on North Townsend at the airport by year's end, and designs for the permanent signal are 30 percent complete.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

REPUBLICAN WRITERS, TRUMP WANT TO TAKE US 'BACKWARDS'

Editor:

A recent letter by Mr. Henrie talks about the necessity of hearing different points of view in order to achieve common ground. He says "... if your ideas are true, beneficial, and actually work, you welcome open and honest debate...". I happen to agree with those statements. However, immediately following those, he goes on to list a litany of problems facing the country, all of which have one theme in common: they are caused by Democrats. The problem with his statements are that none of them are true. For instance, the "southern border invasion" is a complex subject with many tentacles, and if congress worked together, they could go a long way to solve the problem. Here are a few examples of what could be done: Comprehensive Immigration Reform, a bipartisan effort, which was meant to provide solutions, was shot down, mainly by conservative Republicans in the early 2000's. U.S. Consulates in Latin America, where legal immigration starts, were severely damaged by the gutting of the State Department which occurred under the Trump administration. Conservatives have long been opposed to birth control programs for Latin American countries, leading to a population explosion, and the resulting glut of people surging towards our borders. Foreign aid, targeted at putting men to work building infrastructure projects, thus cutting the need for young men to join drug cartels, has always been opposed by Republicans (yes, corruption in those countries abounds, but that also cries out for bipartisan solutions). Democrats aren't for "open borders", but that won't stop know nothings from spouting that claim time and again. Border walls may have their place as part of the solution, but only a small part. When it comes to the failures on the borders, Republicans are at least as much to blame, if not more so.

He claims Biden's "destruction of the economy", "progressive policies destroy cities", and "Biden's abject failures"; without any evidence at all, and, more importantly, offering no solutions to these problems.

On the contrary, Biden passed an infrastructure bill that is pumping \$374 billion into the economy for infrastructure projects. This is "seed money" for industries and municipalities of all sorts to get involved in starting projects to improve the quality of life for all of us, and provide jobs every corner of our country; the actual amount spent will be much greater, as municipalities and states add to the figures. This will stimulate our economy, but will take some time to gain momentum. He also recognized the fact that, in order to keep our economy up with the rest of the world, we must encourage EV manufacturing here in the U.S. The Chinese, after suffering decades of horrid air pollution in their cities, have embraced EVs, which last year rocketed to 22% of new car sales, whereas in the U.S., the figure was just 6%. The Chinese are way ahead in the market, and are poised to take over the rapidly growing EV trend all over the world with cheaper EVs, which also have longer ranges and lifespans than competitors. They have already produced 1 million mile batteries. Imagine a car that lasts a million miles! We can ignore this trend, just as Detroit tried to ignore the Japanese "invasion" in the 70's, and lose out on this vitally important source of jobs, but that would be foolish. Biden realized this, and his incentives for domestic EV manufacturing has already resulted in dozens of EV "gigafactories" being constructed by every major auto manufacturer, throughout the U.S., primarily in rural locations. These factories are hiring huge numbers of workers, numbers that will grow into the millions in the next decade. Meanwhile, what are the Republicans proposing? Crickets ... they didn't even produce a political "platform" in the 2020 election cycle; apparently deciding that the platform was anything coming from the erudite mouth of Donald Trump. And what, I may ask, has Trump proposed as solutions to our problems? Once again, crickets ... because complaining every day for several years about how you were "cheated" in the last election is ALL he ever talks about; well, perhaps except for his daily insults to anyone who disagrees

with him. Instead, he continues his national grift: soliciting donations to his ongoing efforts to get reelected, but, in fact siphoning much of that money off to pay for his ever present legal defense and personal expenses. Meanwhile, during the Dominion lawsuit, Fox News has been proven to have lied repeatedly and consistently about the "Big Lie". Major Fox personalities, Hannity, et al, admitted that the "Big Lie" was just that; but are STILL pedaling the Big Lie to this day; knowing that it is false. I recall listening to Hannity on the AM radio in the early 2000's, but his lies, distortions, and smarmy, faux patriotic theme music at the start of his program turned me off after a few listens. Nonetheless, his slick, resentful programming caught hold of those who were looking for a place to satisfy their grievances. Soon thereafter, he went to work for the Fox Lies network. As to the problem of crime, much is due to the pandemic economic disruption, but the increase has been much higher in states that voted for Trump than in those that voted for Biden, according to the FBI, and other sources too numerous to list here. And, BTW, most of the violence is due to the increased number of firearms, which is driven SOLELY by Republicans. As a trained and long time gun owner, I recognize the need for reasonable regulations on gun ownership. To me, the idea of having un, or under, trained individuals walking around in public with no restrictions is lunacy. So much more I could say about this, but consider this one thought: What goes through the minds of cops these days when they stop anyone for a violation; knowing that there's a good chance that they are armed. The answer is: "I have to have my gun drawn, and my finger on the trigger". This is a recipe for quick escalation, and death. Since one of the recent letter writers asked what Democrats have accomplished, here are a few: Social Security and Medicare, which many of the writers who decry Democrats are presently enjoying, has been on the chopping block of Republicans since Democratic presidents started them. The Rural Electrification

Continued next pg

REPUBLICAN WRITERS, TRUMP WANT TO TAKE US 'BACKWARDS'

From previous pg

Program of FDR, a Democrat, brought electricity to every corner of America. Blue Mesa Reservoir, a source of electrical power, water storage, and a great recreational playground, is named the "Aspinal Unit", after Democrat Wayne Aspinal, who was largely responsible for its existence. The Civilian Conservation Corps, another FDR program, employed young men building roads, parks, and other amenities during the Great Depression, giving young men hope, skills, and money to send home to their families. All of this was opposed by Republicans, who at the time called it; you guessed it: "Socialism". The list goes on, and, people who are old enough to know something about history will tell you that Democrats, rather than Republicans, were the ones who have historically and consistently supported the poor and working class in this country, while Republicans, always pushing division, since they generally have no ideas other than cutting taxes, have used division as a means to get voters angry enough to vote them, and their backward ideas (MAGA), into office. Another Biden accomplishment: Building a strong coalition of NATO allies to fight back against the butcher of Moscow. By any measure, Biden's effort has paid off so far; and, sadly, for that reason alone, many MAGA Republicans fighting against further Ukraine aid. This is disgusting, and people who support Putin need to wake up to where their allegiance lies. If Putin prevails in Ukraine, the entire world will pay the price; likely Taiwan, coveted by

China, will be next. Trump's only accomplishment with Ukraine was to hold up military aid for three months in order to try and dig dirt on Biden, and to convince Putin that a divided USA would be too weak to stand against his invasion. He misread President Biden. Trump's blackmail effort was caught, and he was forced to release the aid; which, you may recall, led to his first impeachment. His second impeachment, as we all know, was for attempting to overthrow our democracy, and replacing it with the dictatorship of Donald Trump.

Everyone reading this, whether they agree with me, or are enthralled by the constant stream of lies that come from the mouth of Donald Trump, the most prolific liar our country has never produced, can at least agree on one fact: Our country is divided as it hasn't been since the Civil War. If you have paid attention, as I have done for many decades to what is going on in politics, there is fault to be found from extremists on both sides of the political spectrum, but, by far, the lion's share of the blame lies squarely with Republicans. It all started with Newt Gingrich. If you are unfamiliar with him, I suggest that you look into what his role was in starting the culture wars that Republicans have taken on as their main strategy, which is tearing our country apart, and which has led to the absolute gridlock which has brought our national legislative body to a halt.

The modern Republican Party has become

the "party of grievance", and offers no realistic solutions for our 21st Century problems; so they want us to go "backwards to greatness"; which never works. Since they can't accomplish this, they instead stoke culture wars, hatred, and racial resentment; presented so faithfully by the deluded MAGA worshipping writers of letters to this news site. Sadly, the current Republican Party has become the "big tent" for white supremacists, and anyone with a grievance. This was not always the case (I grew up in a Republican household); but today's Republican Party is no longer "your father's GOP".

No matter how many letters apologists for Donald Trump and the Republican Party write to this news site, you won't hear solutions, only vitriol and blame, repeated time and time again; the same garbage that you hear from Trump. Much of the misinformation they spread originates in Putin's "Internet Research Agency". This strategy does little to promote the "unity" that these writers claim to support, but instead continues to tear us apart, thus guaranteeing that our country will continue to fall behind Asia and Europe in economic growth. This is precisely Putin's goal. No civilization can long survive the kind of division we are seeing today, and Putin understands this. As for myself, and those who wish to see our democracy thrive rather than wither away in a fog of disinformation, I place the blame squarely at the feet of MAGA Republicans.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

DESPITE TWO MAJOR BANK FAILURES IN THE PAST THREE DAYS, MONTROSE CITY LEADERS POUR MILLIONS OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS INTO SECRETIVE "PARTNERSHIPS"

Kudos to Councilor Ulibarri for asking questions, voting "no"

By David White

MONTROSE-A week ago, I wrote to the Montrose City Council in an "open letter" requesting some answers to their seemingly out of control spending on the "nice to have" projects that have taken priority over the necessities for which the citizens are paying taxes.

In reply, I received a short email from the Mayor, Dave Frank. The reply reads as follows: **"David, on behalf of council, thank you for your email. You have given us a lot to talk about."** I responded to the Mayor with a request for a face-to-face meeting. I haven't received a reply yet. Let's hope he chooses to meet with a concerned citizen.

While I'm hopeful that the City Council has "a lot to talk about," I don't have a good feeling that their referenced "talk" and ours are on the same page as evidenced by their decision to create yet another fund (The Montrose Permanent Fund - MPF) in conjunction with the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Foundation to be run by the Mayor, City Manager, the CMU President and three other bureaucrats. Only one citizen will serve on the board of the fund which will have \$1.5 million dollars of irrevocable City tax dollars invested in it and a half million of CMU money (all tax dollars you and I pay through the various taxes imposed upon us by the City and State).

The City is trying to cloud the issue of our tax dollars going to another taxing entity by saying that they'll fund their portion of the "investment" in the MPF by selling a public asset (which happens to be the Historic City Hall) to the same developers who are renovating the old Knights of Pythias Building into the boutique Rathbone Hotel (Clay Bales & Jason Raibles). These developers just received hundreds of thousands of dollars of City mon-

ey to renovate the building façade and structural components. They plan to turn the historic City Hall into another hotel and add a restaurant to it. Included in the proposed project is the addition of dormitory rooms to house CMU students for the culinary arts program being funded in part by the MPF where students would learn to cook meals as well as the restaurant business.

Projects like this take months to bring together, yet no one knew about it outside of City Management and Council who met in Executive Session several times to discuss it. Not even a FOR SALE sign ever appeared on the building. Why?? Nothing transparent here despite their pledge to be just that. And like all the other giveaways, City Council approved the sale last Tuesday on first reading of the ordinance allowing the sale. Hardly anyone spoke against it. What gives here?

Kudos to Councilman Ulibarri for voting NO on it. He's the only one asking questions. Sad.

Behind the scenes of this deal, we find not only the City Manager (who appears to have a penchant for eating out A LOT given his almost monthly green lighting of giveaways of tax dollars to eating and drinking establishments) playing a significant role in this new venture, but also former City Councilor and multi-year City Planning Commission member Anthony Russo who runs the Business Development arm of the City's D.A.R.T. Program (Development & Revitalization Team) and City Councilman and former Chairman of the CMU Board of Trustees, J. David Reed. Russo has worked for the World Trade Center in Denver whose motto is **"Global commerce isn't just one of the things we do, it's the only thing we do."** He has an economic development background that is comprised of working with mostly gov-

ernment funded or held agencies like Region 10, the USDA, etc. and is apparently closely aligned with the City Manager and his goal of making Montrose a true Democratic Socialist city through their handouts of **YOUR** tax dollars to anyone that fits **THEIR** criteria of what will make Montrose a better place to live and work.

Despite two (2) major bank failures (Silicon Valley Bank & Signature Bank – over \$300 billion) in the past three days and an economic contraction that many economists are warning us about in the 2nd or 3rd quarters of this year, our City leaders continue to pour money into partnerships with hotels, restaurants, distilleries and other businesses that rely on your and visitor's **AFTER-tax discretionary dollars** for their survival. When these speculative investments by ill equipped and uneducated (in business and finance) decision makers implode, we, the citizens will only have our collective selves to blame for not paying attention to what is happening to us and for not speaking out against it when we had the opportunity.

We live in a wonderful place. We want to encourage businesses (especially manufacturers with good paying jobs) to be here. Low paying jobs in the consumer and tourist industries aren't going to survive when there is economic uncertainty. Neglecting our streets and infrastructure won't benefit anyone.

Spending a stated \$4.3M on infrastructure (streets, water lines, etc.) in 2023 and almost \$4.5M on a façade for a new City Hall tells you something is terribly wrong at City Hall. A reprioritization of and community agreement on what our economic goals should be are what we the people expect of our government leaders, not speculative "investments" of our tax dollars through their public-private partnerships.

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

DOROTHY E. DOUGHERTY ***March 26, 1924 – March 6, 2023***



Dorothy E.
Dougherty

March 26, 1924 – March 6, 2023, at the age of 98 joined her heavenly father and family members in heaven as she passed peacefully on March 6. Dorothy was the devoted wife to Donald “Red” Dougherty married in 1945. They made their home for 60+ years in Ouray Colorado. She will

be remembered for her laughter and great cooking. As a great hostess, very elegant and dignified, you never left her home hungry. She was a very active member of the Mt. Hayden Rebekah Lodge Number 54 in Ouray since 1958, and given the prestigious award of Decoration of Chivalry in 2001.

Dorothy was the daughter of Hazel Mingus and the eldest of six children.

She was preceded in death by her mother Hazel, her husband Donald “Red”, her sisters, Gladys, Marjorie, and Betty, and her brothers Donald and Clifford.

She is survived by her nieces Connie, Barbara, Cindy (Dynamite), Karen (Tim), Brenda (Vern) and nephew Tim (Vicki) and her many grand nieces and nephews, which she was very thankful for all of the help

with her care through the years. She is also survived by one son Geary Dougherty of Oregon, two grandsons Darrell (Jodie), Brett, and 5 great grandchildren.

Donald “Red” was the mayor of Ouray in the early 70’s, and they would have been seen at many social events throughout the years. Aunt Dorothy worked as a cook for the Ouray School District before retiring in 1988. Many times students would approach her to say hello and thank her. Although she would not always remember who they were at the time, once they told her their name she did remember you all. She will be greatly missed. Services for Aunt Dorothy will be at the Montrose Christian Church, Thursday March 16, at 10 am.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Dorothy’s family.

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

SHARLENE FAY KOEHN UNRUH

September 18, 1948-February 26, 2023

SHARLENE FAY KOEHN UNRUH was born on September 18, 1948, to Franklin and Roberda Koehn in Garden City, Kansas. She passed away at Montrose Memorial Hospital in Montrose, Colorado, on February 26, 2023, from complications of multiple myeloma.

Mom grew up in Galva, Kansas, where she received her education. She was baptized into the Church of God in Christ Mennonite by Minister Abe D. Koehn on February 1, 1961. Bookkeeping at the Galva Feed Mill for her father occupied her during her teenage years. Later she worked as a secretary at the Galva Elevator, often staying late until the numbers were perfectly reconciled.

Mom was married to our Dad, Harold Unruh, on May 26, 1972, by Minister Herman Nightingale. They shared life together for just over fifty years. To this union were born three sons.

In 1973, Dad and Mom, along with some of Mom's family, moved to West Point, Mississippi. During this time, Jared was welcomed into their home. Two years later in 1975, a land leveling opportunity drew them to El Campo, Texas, where they spent the following eighteen years. Here Justin and Cody joined the family. Our parents relocated to Montrose, Colorado, in January of 1994,

where they lived until Mom's passing.

During our growing up years, Mom devoted herself to caring for us, and we knew that she loved us and sent many prayers upward on our behalf. A peaceable and quiet person, she found contentment in the daily tasks of homemaking. She taught Bible School and served many years on the Sewing Committee, especially enjoying the part of laying out blocks for comforters. Delighting in scrapbooking, she spent countless hours with this hobby, often giving away her handiwork. Mom expressed her love to us with cards for every occasion and simple gifts. Keeping a daily journal was important to her. A favorite pastime was setting puzzles, and many good memories were made as we joined in.

Babysitting the grandchildren was a huge part of Mom's life, and she was always ready to sit down with them to read a book or play a game. In later years, she held several different jobs outside of the home, creating many lasting friendships. After her father's passing in 2010, Mom and Dad spent a year in Galva, Kansas, caring for her mother Roberda.

Family was very important to her. Many holidays were spent in central Kansas with Mom's parents and siblings. Family reunions and trips to visit their children were

highlights for her. A treasured trip to the beautiful Olympic Peninsula in Washington state to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary with the whole family was very meaningful to her.

Mom was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2019. It was a challenging journey which she endured patiently until the end. Though she will be greatly missed, we believe our mother had a strong faith in God and is in a better place, free from the pain and cares of this world.

Mom is survived by her husband, Harold Unruh of Montrose, Colorado; three sons: Jared and Carol Unruh, Port Angeles, Washington; Justin and Monica Unruh, El Campo, Texas; Cody and Carmen Unruh, Olathe, Colorado; grandchildren: Landon and Trista, Levi, Tiffany, Todd, Luke, Wilson, Marcus, James, Simon; one sister: Rosa and Marlin Unruh, Galva, Kansas; three brothers: Lyndon and Karen Koehn; Larry and Karen Koehn; James and Renee Koehn, all of Galva, Kansas; one brother-in-law: Lonnie and Bev Unruh, Bowersville, Georgia; three sisters-in-law: Mary and Dennis Bitikofer, Canton, Kansas; Rhonda and Jeff Koehn, El Campo, Texas; Lana and Tim Johnson, Lakin, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her parents and parents-in-law. Crippin Funeral Home, Montrose assisted the family.

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

ISSUE 410 March 13 2023

ART & SOL

RIDGWAY STATE PARK ADDS TO FLEET THROUGH GRANT RECEIVED FROM COLORADO PARKS FOUNDATION

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY – Through grant funding received last year, Ridgway State Park has added to its fleet of recreational equipment available to the public.

The park received a \$5,000 grant from the Colorado Parks Foundation late in the summer of 2022. The funding went toward the purchase of 17 paddleboards, eight life jackets and 96 safety whistles. Ridgway State Park is now proud to provide 28 paddleboards and one wheelchair compatible paddleboard available for public use. That also adds to the 2022 addition of floating wheelchairs, track-chairs and a beach mat that has increased the park's accessibility for all users.

"We applied for this grant because we had an increase of interest in classroom teachers and organizations wanting to take students on the water, but we only had 11 paddleboards," said Ridgway State Park Senior Ranger Erin Vogel. "We look forward to being able to accommodate larger groups all at one time or multiple organizations on the same day at the park."

Ridgway State Park works alongside local nonprofit Friends of Youth and Nature to provide recreational outreach opportunities for underserved and socioeconomically challenged youth in western Colorado. These programs teach stewardship in the outdoors and help build resilient youth.



Paddleboarders launch at Ridgway State Park. Dustin Dorskocil/CPW photos.

"On behalf of Friends of Youth and Nature, Ridgway State Park would like to thank Colorado Parks Foundation for their generous funding," Vogel said. "We are grateful for CPF's dedication to enhancing outdoor experiences in Colorado's state parks."

Since receiving the grant, Ridgway State Park has hosted six self-guided field trips on the water by classes within Ouray School District. Friends of Youth and Nature also hosted a day at the park with Court Appointed Special Advocates, Partners West, Families Plus, Black Canyon

Boys and Girls Club and the Haven House.

To find out how to set up a school or organizational visit to Ridgway State Park, call 970-626-5822.

About Ridgway State Park: Ridgway State Park, located about 20 miles south of Montrose in southwest Colorado, is one of the state's most beautiful parks. Camping, playgrounds, hiking trails, picnic areas, a swim beach, boating and river fishing are available. For more information about the park and to make camping reservations, go to the CPW website

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION AWARD WINNERS



Montrose High School Division Award winners, Left to Right: Yarisbel Hernandez-Serrano, Trinity Huff, Gage Wareham, Gwen Kingery, Charles Boschen, Alicea Vigil, Adam Arellano, Samantha Go, Alvaro Lopez, and Briana Haddock. Courtesy photo.



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Info at: 970-252-0908

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Anglican Church in North America
Address: 2057 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401
Office Hours: Varies and by appointment
Contact Information: (970) 249-2451
<https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/>
Priest: The Rev Gary L. Way
Worship Service Times:
Sunday, 9AM, Holy Eucharist.

Wednesday, Noon, Multi-denominational Prayer Hour. There are multiple Bible Studies during the week. All Saints Anglican Church is Biblical, Anglican and Orthodox. The Liturgy (order of service) is from the Anglican Church in North America Book of Common Prayer (2019). Music is a combination of traditional hymns, contemporary, and more modern songs. This is a family-sized church that welcomes all individuals

and families. We are currently comprised of families and singles, ages 25 to 90. Fellowship time follows each Sunday Service with a potluck meal following the service on the 3d Sunday.

All Saints Anglican Church
2057 S. Townsend Ave
Sunday Holy Eucharist, 9 am
The Rev Gary Way, Interim Priest
allsaintsanglicanmontrose.org

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Independent Baptist
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P.O. Box 262

Olathe, Co 81425
Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021
www.biblebaptistchurcholathe.com
Pastor Gabe Skillo

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Denomination: Christ Lutheran Montrose
Affiliation: Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Address: 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401
Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org
Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com
Pastor: Tim Onnen
Worship: Sundays at 9 AM
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:15 AM; Women's Bible Study Fridays at 9 AM. At Christ Lutheran Montrose you will

find friendly people gathered in a welcoming environment being comforted and encouraged by the forgiveness and love of Jesus, and sharing that with one another. We are a small congregation of seniors and middle-aged, sprinkled with young children and teenagers.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

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

disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

Affiliation: Presbyterian
Address: 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO. 81401 **Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM - 12PM **Contact:** 970-249-4732, [\[form@fpcmontrose.com\]\(mailto:form@fpcmontrose.com\), \[www.fpcmontrose.com\]\(http://www.fpcmontrose.com\)
Pastor: Jesse Mabanglo
Worship Service times: 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM. *We strive to encourage, challenge and support one another*](mailto:in-</p>
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er 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.

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Denomination affiliation: United Church of Christ
Address: 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401
Office hours: By appointment
Contact information:

Phone number: (970) 249-9047
Email address: office@montroseucc.org
Website: montroseucc.org
Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd
Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.
Hillcrest Congregational UCC is a welcoming, open and affirming church, open to all no matter who you are or where you are

on life's journey.
Church demographics: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with us. (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles)
We offer inter-generational worship with a children's "prayer-ground" and activity packets. A cry room is also available.

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

montroseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

Address: 1598 E. Niagara Road, Montrose, CO 81401

Office Hours: Tues-Thu, 9am-4pm

Contact information:

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: www.RosemontBaptist.org

email: office@rosemontbaptist.org

Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

Denomination affiliation: Independent Interfaith

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

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

Home Office – 970-252-0908

Contact information: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908,

arlyn@spiritaware.org,

www.spiritaware.org

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.

Worship service times: In-person Sunday Unity Service at 11 a.m., (Social Time begins at 10 a.m.); Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m. Virtual Afternoon Service on Zoom at 2:00 p.m.; Chai Chats, a Wednesday morning midweek informal gathering at 10:30 a.m. at Pun Hill Himalayan Restaurant, Montrose; Thursday Empowerment Circle at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. Everyone is wel-

come. 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 Give-away and Wellness Fair. People of all ages are welcome. There are currently no Sunday School or nursery services provided but craft supplies are available for youth.

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-

Sario

Worship service times: Sunday Worship is at 9 am followed by a time of fellowship and snacks. Summit Church has frequent Bible studies and other events for adults, young adults, youth and children. Please visit <https://www.summitchurchmontrose.org/events> for more information.

Summit Church Montrose is a new church plant that preaches the Word of God,

reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages!

We have families with children (babies, school aged, recent high school and college graduates) There are retired couples and widows. During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to Kindergarten, in a kid friendly room called Base Camp.

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-6874;

email at info@vbcmontrose.org; website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Birth Certificates & Death Certificates

available at

MONTROSE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
1845 SOUTH TOWNSEND AVE. MONTROSE
WEST WING

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 4PM
(970) 252-5011 PUBLIC HEALTH
(970) 252-5009 VITAL RECORDS



WWW.MONTROSECOUNTY.NET



WEEKLY CARTOONS

SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



DineOutMontrose.com

Alpen Confections
970-648-0609

San Juan Brews
970-901-8594

Lighthouse Eatery
New Phone Number
970-964-7570

Remington's at the Bridges
970-252-1119

Horsefly Brewing
970-249-6889

Double Barrel Taco Co.
970-417-4340

Camp Robber
970-240-1590

Rio Bravo
970-964-4477

Trattoria de Sofia
970-249-0433

Crash Burger
970-249-0825

Jimmer's Steak & BBQ
970-252-1227

Rib City
970-249-7427

Coffee Trader
970-249-6295
970-787-9021

Fiesta Guadalajara
970-249-2460

Stone House
970-240-8899

Tacos & Beer
970-964-4448

El Jimador
970-249-8990

Mimo's
970-249-0616

Pahgre's
970-249-6442

Chang Thai Cuisine
970-240-4567

Sidelines Sports Bar
970-765-0129

Busy Corner White Kitchen
970-323-6215

Premier Sponsor:
Montrose Farmers Market
970-249-0705

Amelias Hacienda Restaurante
970-249-1881



FLEXREC

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RIBBON CUTTING!
CELEBRATE WITH US
MARCH 16



FUNCTIONAL FITNESS



CLASSES

We have several class offerings during the week including: Daily Functional Group Workouts, HIIT Yoga, & Flow Yoga.



THE RIG

Get your flex on working out on the Rig! Stations include a wide variety of exercises aimed at helping you reach your training goals.



LOCATION

Located on the North end of Montrose, right next to the Uncompahgre River and the connect trail in the Colorado Outdoors Complex.



MARCH 16, 4:00-7:00 PM
FREE FOOD, FACILITY TOURS AND MORE

1309 Mayfly Drive
(970)497-8590
www.montroserec.com



PEAK PROFESSIONALS

1550 Niagara Road Montrose
(970) 497-4921
peakpros.org

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES

947 South Fifth Street Montrose
(970) 249-2421 **VFC PROVIDER**
thepediatricassociates.com

NORTHSIDE HEALTH CENTER

528 North Uncompahgre Ave Montrose
(970) 240-6438 **VFC PROVIDER**
pfb.com/northsidechildhealthcenter

CEDAR POINT HEALTH

300 South Nevada Ave Montrose
(970) 249-7751
cedarpointhealth.com

BASIN CLINIC

421 Adams Street Naturita
(970) 865-2665 **VFC PROVIDER (RHC)**
basinclinic.org

UNCOMPAHGRE MEDICAL CENTER

1350 South Aspen Street Norwood
(970) 327-4233 **VFC PROVIDER (FQHC)**
umclinic.org **340B PARTICIPANT**

DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

255 West Sixth Street Delta
(970) 874-2165 **VFC PROVIDER**
deltacounty.com/8/personal-health-services

RIVER VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS

1010 Rio Grande Montrose
(970) 497-3333
308 Main Street Olathe
(970) 323-6141
rivervalleyfhc.com
340B PARTICIPANT & VFC PROVIDER (FQHC)

THE PIC PLACE

87 Merchant Drive Montrose
(970) 252-8896
pic.place

MESA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

510 29 1/2 Rd Grand Junction
(970) 248-6900 **VFC PROVIDER**
health.mesacounty.us/services/family/immunizations

VFC (VACCINES FOR CHILDREN)

The Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) is a federally funded program that provides vaccines 0-18 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid, who have no insurance, or who are American Indian / Alaska Native. *Children who are underinsured may receive VFC vaccines at a federally qualified health center (FQHC) or rural health center (RHC).

340b

The 340b Drug Pricing Program is a US federal government program created in 1992 that requires drug manufacturers to provide outpatient drugs to eligible health care organizations and covered entities at significantly reduced prices.

CITY MARKET SOUTH

16400 South Townsend Ave Montrose
(970) 240-1994 **340B PARTICIPANT**
Register Online

Flu	Shingles
Pneumonia	MMR
Tdap	Rabies
Meningococcus	Polio
Chickenpox	Japanese Encephalitis
Hep A	Hep B
	COVID-19

WALGREENS

2351 South Townsend Ave Montrose
(970) 252-1743
Register Online

Flu	Shingles
Pneumonia	HPV
Tdap	MMR
Td or DT	Rabies
Meningitis	Polio
Varicella	Japanese Encephalitis
Hep A	Typhoid
Hep B	Hep A/Hep B
	COVID-19 (Moderna)

CVS (IN TARGET)

3530 Wolverine Dr Montrose
(970) 497-8981
Register online

Flu	MMR
Hep A	Tdap
Hep B	Varicella
Hep A/Hep B	Pneumococcal
HPV	Meningococcal
Shingles	Hep A/Hep B
Typhoid	Japanese Encephalitis
Polio, adult	COVID-19 (Pfizer & J)

CITY MARKET NORTH

128 South Townsend Ave Montrose
(970) 249-2064 **340B PARTICIPANT**
Register Online

Flu	Shingles
Pneumonia	MMR
Tdap	Rabies
Meningococcus	Polio
Chickenpox	Japanese Encephalitis
Hep A	Hep B
	COVID-19

SAFEWAY

1329 South Townsend Ave Montrose
(970) 249-1160 **340B PARTICIPANT**
Register online

Flu	Shingles
Pneumonia	Tetanus
HPV	Pertussis
MMR	Meningitis
Hep A	Hep B
	COVID-19

WALMART

16750 South Townsend Ave Montrose
(970) 249-7742
Walk-in's welcome

Flu	Hep A & Hep B
Shingles	IPV
Tdap	Varicella
Td	Pneumococcal
MMR	Meningococcal
	COVID-19 (Moderna & J)

STACIE'S APOTHECARY SHOPPE

112 Village Square West Ridgway
(970) 626-7100

Flu	Pneumonia
Shingles	Tdap



Please note that this list is not exhaustive and is not an endorsement of any pharmacy or provider. Visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines for the latest recommendations. Please contact your Pharmacy or Provider to confirm availability of vaccines. Montrose County Public Health will not provide immunizations after June 30th, 2020. Last Updated 7-25-2022.

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970VIP to enable our
text blast service!



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By joining The Montrose Mirror VIP News Alerts, I agree to receive ongoing messages at the number provided.
Consent is not required to purchase goods or services. Message frequency may vary.
Reply HELP for help, STOP to cancel. Message & Data rates may apply.

Ts & Cs / Privacy Policy @ www.therevenuegenerator.com/terms_of_use.asp
TEXT mirror TO 55678

THE
MONTROSE MIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

Make a new home for your birdies at LaNoe DuBois Winery Makeovers & Move-in Ready Birdhouses Saturday, March 18 1:30-3:30 pm

Keep it, or show and sell it
at Kate's table in April at
MWC event, Friendship Hall.



**Birdhouse,
art materials,
decals, glue-ons,
and wine included. \$45.**
(group rate available)

67289 Trout Rd., Montrose. (5 mi. South of Target)
Register <https://kathrynrburke.com/031823LNbird>



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Email: **support@970vip.com**

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and fill in contact form!



SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

BOSOM BUDDIES BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP, Wednesdays noon-12:45, 645 S. 5th Street

GROUP MINDFUL MEDITATION SESSION to help you sustain and grow your practice with others. Every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm at New Leaf Studio 220 N Stough Ave in Montrose.

MONTH OF MARCH: SOLES4SOULS PROJECT collecting new, single, and gently worn shoes at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Sundays only from 9:00 am to Noon; 525 N. 5th Street, Weekdays; and Geek Coffee, 2305 S. Townsend Avenue, next to DMV, Weekdays, 7 am to 3 pm. Sponsored by the Spiritual Awareness Center, 970-252-0908.

MONTROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets 1st Wednesday of the month @ Montrose Events Center, 1036 No 7th Street 7 pm (970) 249-2085 www.montrosehistory.org

MONTROSE AREA WOODTURNERS second Saturdays 9 am. 17800 - 6400 Rd in Montrose. Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Information: Al Head 970-209-0981 or aheadaviation@outlook.com

GREATER MONTROSE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS – Mar. 23, Apr. 27, May 25.

Schedule a \$10 **RIDGWAY TRUE GRIT WALKING TOUR** of downtown filming sites. Named readers choice for best historic town tour by True West magazine. Contact evebeckerdoyle@icloud.com

NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS welcomes adults who are new to Montrose or have been here awhile, who would enjoy learning more about the town and area, plus have opportunities to participate in social activities. Meetings are held on the first Wednesdays of the months September-May. We gather at 10-11:30 am in the downstairs meeting hall of Cedar Creek Church (222 S. Townsend and S. 3rd). Hope to meet you there! Contact Patti at 951-544-6289 with questions.

NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP-Breastfeeding Support Group on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. An infant scale will also be available to check your baby's weight. Breastfeeding Support Group (Bring your questions and your family!) Montrose County Event Center (1036 North 7th Street Room 3) 10am - 12pm. Questions? Please call 970-252-5015.

BINGO EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY at 7pm at the American Legion Post 24 Olathe doors open at 5:30. Sunday Bingo will start at 1:30pm after Nov. 6. More info call Tom 970 260 8298.

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

THE HEALING COLLECTIVE OF WESTERN COLORADO welcomes local practitioners, who focus on healing the whole being. Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month and both are from Noon-1 pm, upstairs at the Mother Earth store on Main Street . We support one another with our practices, business, and personal needs. For more information please contact Erin Easton at ErinKEaston@gmail.com

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.)

MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET SCHEDULE -The market will be open every other Saturday from 10-1 inside the Centennial Meeting Room and on Centennial Plaza from January through April.

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

MONTHLY

March 13-On Monday March 13 at 4:30 Citizens Climate Lobby.org will meet at Montrose library meeting rm. nonpartisan, national environmental group progressing on local actions, All Welcome. Info at 970-765-9095

March 15-Dr. Dudley Gardner, archaeologist with Western Wyoming Community College, will speak about the ancient occupants of the site on the Gunnison River near Delta. Gardner has studied the Eagle Rock site since 2007. He will compare the subsistence strategies of the Native Americans at the shelter to those of mobile herdsman in the Targavatai Valley in Mongolia. The presentation to the Chipeta Chapter of the archaeological society will be on March 15 at 7 pm. The public is always invited, no charge. United Methodist Church, 19 S. Park Street, Montrose.

March 15-16-Housing Resources of Western Colorado invites Montrose and Delta County residents to a free two-hour educational night entitled "Homebuyer 101" at MADA (17 N 6th St, Montrose, CO 81401), co-sponsored by NuVista Federal Credit Union, the Hispanic Affairs Project and MADA. There will be two sessions, one in English and one in Spanish. The English session will be held on March 15 at 5:30 PM and Spanish session will be held on March 16 at 6:45 PM. Childcare and refreshments will be provided at both sessions. The course will provide an introduction on preparing for homeownership, community homebuyer resources and programs, and what homeownership entails after purchase.

March 16-Montrose County will host an open house on March 16 about proposed changes to the county's junk ordinance. The open house is at 6pm at the Montrose County Public Works Conference Room (63160 LaSalle Road). Please note that the proposed junk ordinance DOES NOT apply to properties zoned as General Agricultural, Commercial, Business or Industrial. The ordinance is limited to properties zoned as General Residential, Manufactured Home Park Residential and Multiple Family Residential.

March 17-Montrose County Republican Women Lunch and Meeting- Friday, March 17, noon-1:30pm at Hampton Inn Montrose. Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard will give an update on the state of the Sheriff's Department and take questions. Brown bag lunch with beverages served.

March 18-Come watch the Fly Fishing Film Tour, eat, drink, and win prizes. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Show starts at 6:30 p.m. \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door. Ticket link: <https://flyfilmtour.myeventcenter.com/event/A-Benefit-For-The-Uncompahgre-River-73751>

April 9-Rosemont Baptist Church Easter Sunday Service on April 9 at 10:45am. There will be a special Children's Easter service at the same time. Join us to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior! Rosemont Baptist Church 1598 E. Niagara Rd. Montrose, CO. 81401

June 24-Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans will host their 4th Annual Freedom Sings USA Concert in Montrose on June 24, 2023. This benefit concert will help fund the continuation of Freedom Sings USA Colorado, who will open for county music headliner HunterGirl at the Montrose Rotary Amphitheater at Cerise Park. Contact Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans at 970-765-2210 for more information.

Sept. 16-17-The much-anticipated Tribute to Aviation, the signature event hosted by Montrose Regional Airport, is officially set for Sept. 16-17, 2023. This crowd-favorite event is back this year after a break for a major airport construction and remodel project at Montrose Regional Airport. Tribute to Aviation is one of the largest static displays in the western United States featuring both military and civilian aircraft. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Vendla Stockdale at vstockdale@montrosecounty.net or 970-964-2479.

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Deb Reimann took this photo during a day trip to Silverton last week. "It reminded us that spring hasn't sprung everywhere!" she said.

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