Like us on Facebook! Visit us online at <u>montrosemirror.com</u>! Please Support our Advertisers!



www.montrosecounty.net





www.scottsprinting.com





https://montrosehealth.com/



https://the-res.com/



www.norrissnell.com



ULIBARRI VOTES NO TO SALE OF HISTORIC CITY HALL, CENTENNIAL ROOM TO HOTEL DEVELOPER



ONLINE NEWS

The City's iconic and beautiful Centennial Room, above, has been sold to a private developer along with the historic City Hall building. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-For the first time in recent memory, a Montrose City Councilor voted to deny the Consent Agenda at the <u>regular Council meeting</u>. On March 21, Councilor Ed Ulibarri voted to deny Consent items, including minutes of the March special and March 7 regular council meetings as well as "authorizing the City Manager and the City Attorney to execute documents as may be necessary to accomplish the transfer of the real property described in Exhibit "A," (the historic City Hall and Centennial Room buildings) and to attend a real estate closing on the City's behalf, wherein such transfer was to take place."

All councilors were present <u>for the meeting</u>. Mayor Dave Frank called the session to **Continued pg 46**

PARENT GROUP LAUNCHES PETITION FOR NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE ON RE-1J SUPERINTENDENT CARRIE STEPHENSON



By Caitlin Switzer

Photo of RE-1J District Office by Harry Switzer

REGIONAL-Kena Iversen has her hands full as a mother of five and has been battling cancer as well. Still, Iversen has taken time in recent weeks to speak at board of education meetings about her concerns regarding the superintendent and the way in which Montrose County School District RE-1J officials handled the departure of Olathe Elementary School Principal Beth Kusar.

Iversen said that for Superintendent Carrie Stephenson to have Kusar--a <u>popular principal whose resigna-</u> tion was tendered effective June 7—escorted from the building is "overkill."

Though she and her family live in Montrose, Iversen has been educating her children in the Olathe Schools, which she believes to be outstanding. Now, she and a group of her fellow RE-1J parents are circulating <u>a petition on Change.org</u>, seeking to establish a vote of No Confidence in Stephenson.

Continued pg 2

Bell ducks question on repayment schedule at MURA meeting!

Letters to the Editor! Regional News Briefs!

PARENT GROUP LAUNCHES PETITION From pg 1



Iversen said she is grateful for the level of community support the petition has received so far. "I am glad people are speaking up," she said. "They call us the silent majority but we're not silent any longer." Good schools begin with good leadership, Iversen said. "It starts with our leaders. We need new leadership that actually listens to us when we talk about what we feel are important issues... We are all part of the same school district, and Olathe is really great." Stephenson's recent focus on easing dress code restrictions is a distraction from more pressing issues, Iversen said. "She's not focusing on the things that should be a priority. This is just another thing that shows she's not for the parents, she's not for the teachers, and she is not for the students. "Tyranny's not allowed in Montrose. We're over it. We're stepping up," she said.

Receive The Mirror directly in your email! Sign up at Montrose Mirror.com

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado, to a readership of over 17,000 residents of Western Colorado. Founder, Editor, and Publisher: Caitlin Switzer

For additional information and advertising opportunities, please contact: Editor@MontroseMirror.com 970-275-0646

www.MontroseMirror.com www.Facebook.com/MontroseMirror www.Instagram.com/MontroseMirror



MEMBER OF THE Online news Association

We encourage contributions and commentary. Submitted content may not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher. Copyright © 2010-2022. All rights reserved. Content may not be reprinted, distributed, or re-used without the permission of the publisher.

Teen Game Night

Teen(ish) Game Night: March 29, 5-7 PM **Library Meeting Room**



Featuring Nintendo

Switches, board games, and snacks! If you have a portable console, feel free to bring it and any E and/or E10+ rated games to play! Ages 12-18 welcome.

Register at https://bit.ly/mrldteen or email arobinson@montroselibrary.org for more information.

320 S 2nd, www.montroselibrary.org Mon-Thurs 10-7, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5, (970)249-9656, Option 3.

PREMIUM QUALIT

COMMERCIAL OFFSPI PRINTING





Your project: Our priority. We put it in print.

ears JNNING

MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

> 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007. 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020..

315 South 12th Street

Montrose, Colorado 81401 tf 800.211.2038 970.249.2611 | fax 970.249.7068

www.scottsprinting.com

contact@scottsprinting.com

Printing News' "Top 100" Small Commercial Printers in

North America!

IOP

100

2020

WhatTheyThink PrintingNe



Trade Bindery & Finishing »

collating, stapling, folding, trimming, scoring, embossing, die-cutting, perforating, numbering, hole-punching, laminating, ... to name a few

Innovative Screenprinting » raditional silk screen capabilities from single to seven colo lesigns, plus simulated and 4-color process methods

Custom Digitizing & Embroidery »

in house digitizing with hundreds of thread colors to choose from, with single-head to multi-head capabilities

Direct-to-Garment Printing » direct digital printing in thousands of colors on multiple blends of garments

Creative Design & Prepress » in-house graphic design and prepress department utilizing the latest technologies and software

Promotional Marketing »

ASI' certified distributor with access to thousands of promotional items available to market your brand / idea

MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS

SPECIAL HEARING **MONTROSE BOARD OF** COUNTY COMMISSIONERS **GRAVEL PIT: SU22-013**

Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6pm **Montrose County Event Center**

Attendance Matters --They Want To See and Hear You!

PLEASE NOTE: The BOCC has opened public comment again on Monday, March 27 at 6pm in regards to additional documents submitted by the applicant. If you prepare a letter, HAND IT IN TO THE COMMISSIONERS.



You're retired. Your money isn't.



ElderAdo FINANCIAL (970) 249-9900

FAMILY OWNED

25

FOR 25 YEARS

MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS

UWP SEEKS STRATEGIC PLANNING FACILITATOR

THE UNCOMPAHGRE WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP (UWP)

seeks a qualified contractor to fill a part-time and temporary role to support a 10th anniversary stakeholder engagement process to produce a three-year strategic plan as well as 10year vision statement. The facilitator will help design the process including: helping guide the development of the information on projects and watershed conditions to share with stakeholders; helping develop the format for engaging stakeholders (i.e., individual contacts, group meetings, etc.); and facilitating the larger group discussions/communications with diverse stakeholders. The facilitator's work is planned for May to November 2023. RFP: https://

www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/wp-content/

uploads/2023/03/UWP-10th-Anniversary-Faciliator-RFP-3-15-23.pdf

EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

OF GRAND JUNCTION AND MONTROSE

Light Industria

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! We specialize in:



MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FIRE

PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

CALL NOW!

970-209-9764

ding service to Montrose, San Miguel, Delta Counties and surrounding area

crbishopservices.com

Wildfire Mitigation

Dirt Work



CR BISHOP SERVICES WILDFIRE MITIGATION TREE SERVICES • DIRT WORK

Nina Anderson, Owner/CEO 525 N. Main Street Montrose

970-242-4500



Office Services

WHETHER YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB OR NEED TO ADD MORE STAFF, **TURN TO THE LEADING EXPERTS** ON THE WESTERN SLOPE.

We are a full-service staffing and recruiting company, with the ability to place people in a variety of positions.

ExpressPros.com/GrandJunctionCo

Email us at: jobs.grandjunctionco@expresspros.com



f

WORLD THEATRE DAY



MARCH 27TH, 2023



SUPPORT COMMUNITY THEATRE IN MONTROSE!

Make a one time donation or pledge today to support the Building Toward Our Future capital campaign.



For more information visit magiccircleplayers.com or call 970.249.7838



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DOGGY PLAYCARE HALF DAY & FULL DAY DAYCARE OVERNIGHT BOARDING

Half Day: \$27

Full Day \$38

WWW.THEHYDRANTMONTROSE.COM

28 W. SOUTH 4TH STREET, MONTROSE, CO

970-650-8110

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CIMARRON CANAL

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Allan Distel, manager of the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District discussing the Cimarron Canal, its history, development, current importance, and maintenance. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, April 5, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in the Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available. Social distancing and COVID procedures are encouraged.

UPCOMING GUNNISON ROAD CLOSURE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE.— Montrose County Road and Bridge will close Gunnison Road on April 3 for two culvert replacement projects. The closure is on Gunnison Road from 6025 Road to South River Road. The closure is anticipated to last two weeks depending on weather conditions. Motorists are asked to use an alternate route during this time. For more information on road closures, please visit montrosecounty.net.





Western Colorado Farm & Ranch Brokerage (970) 835-9350 · (970) 596-4744 (970) 874-LAND WESTERNRANGE.COM



ARE YOU A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN NEED OF PROFESSIONAL ADVICE?

Being a Personal Representative comes with a lot of responsibilities, one of which may be selling a home. If you need help in understanding the process and selling a home as a PR, we're here to help! Call or text to learn more. We're your Local **Certified Residential Specialists!**



LESLIE GORE | GRI, CRS, ABR Associate Broker C: 970-275-3195 O: 970-249-7653

LeslieGoreRealtor@gmail.com



DIANE HAYNES | CRS, GRI, E-PRO, REO Associate Broker C: 970-596-3521 0:970-249-7653

DianeHaynes@outlook.com DianeHaynesRealtor@gmail.com

CONTACT US ABOUT OUR NEW LISTING!

Lot 2 Banner Road • Olathe CO 81425 This is a fantastic opportunity to own a pristine parcel just waiting for your dreams to be built on. Eight acres with 7.9 shares of UVWUA irrigation water, offering a picturesque variety of Mountain views are at every turn. To the south you will see the grandeur of the San Juan Mountain Range, to the west The Uncompangre Plateau. Look north to the amazing and colorful Grand Mesa. The East shows off the beautiful West Elks, and the southeast the fascinating Cimarron range. Create a beautiful building site, equestrian property, or hobby farm. This parcel and lot 2 have successfully been farmed raising corn, sunflowers, and hay. The location is convenient to Delta, Olathe, and Montrose, Montrose has an expanding and convenient regional airport with daily flights to major hubs. Medical facilities are located both in Delta and Montrose, and a short drive to a larger city of Grand Junction. The simple "covenants" literally are for an irrigation schedule, and state that no manufactured homes are allowed. True modulars (IRCbuilt), system-built, barndominiums (shop with living space), and stick-built are welcomed.



500 E. Main • Montrose, CO 81401 www.The-RES.com







REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WESTERN SLOPE GROUP OF THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB INTRO TO HIKING SAFETY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Western Slope Group of the Colorado Mountain Club Intro to Hiking Safety takes place Saturday May 20 from 10-11:30am at the Montrose Rec Field House Summit Room

Topics include:

Safety concerns: mountain weather, lightning, avalanche, animal encounters, getting lost (or staying found), cold weather gear, staying warm, hypothermia, and being stranded overnight.

Tools: how to prepare, what you need in your pack, how to respond to safety challenges, trip planning, 10 Essentials to carry in your pack.

Basic Navigation: how to stay found. Clothing: layering, materials, rain gear, sun protection, trail nutrition and hydration.

Trail Sense: registers, noting location, reading trail markers, trail etiquette, and obtaining Search and Rescue support. \$7 CMCmembers, \$12 nonmembers More info: WSGofCMC@gmail.com Seating limited, register at: <u>https:// www.cmc.org/groups-sections/groupsaround-the-state/western-slope-group/ course-templates/intro-to-hiking-safetywestern-slope/intro-to-hiking-safetymontrose-2023</u>



Let's Grow Together. Advertise with The Mirror!

Highly Effective & Unique Ad Opportunities, including Print, Email, Online, Facebook, and Text Messaging.

editor@montroseMirror.com 970-275-0646



Need Help Navigating Local Supportive Service Options?

Our local care navigators in Montrose and Delta Counties can assist you on your journey by providing information and assistance with the following:

> HOUSEKEEPING PERSONAL CARE FOOD/MEALS TRANSPORTATION MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & MORE

Contact us today for a no-cost consultation

ADVANTAGE Health Resource Center



In partnership with Region 10 Community Living Services

1-844-862-4968 | voa4you.org

MURDOCH'S RANCH & HOME SUPPLY WAS RECOGNIZED BY LOCAL VFW (VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS) POST 784



Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply was presented a plaque of appreciation from the local VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Post 784 of their support for veterans. (L to R) VFW Post Commander J. Bob Brueske, Murdoch's Manager Ryan Webb, and Steve Class. Although a nonveteran, Class is a dedicated volunteer to veterans. (Courtesy Photo)

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-During an in-store presentation on March 22, 2023, Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply was recognized by local VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Post 784 for their many years of support to veterans groups.

Post Commander J. Bob Brueske said, "Murdoch's are super supportive. They have donated over \$500 in care-items like socks and jerky to put in care packages to send to locally deployed servicemen. Murdoch's gives a veteran's discount and they let us sit up tables at their doors for the Poppy Drive [Memorial Day]."

Murdoch's received an engraved plaque, "For Meritorious and Distinguished Service in furthering the aims and values of the VFW #784."



FREE CONSULTATIONS Available Now MontroseHealth.com/MedSpa

Page 10

1

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • RECREATIONAL • FARM & RANCH

NORRIS-SNELL REAL ESTATE

Visit our associates at 306 East Main Street in Montrose, Colorado.



MANDY NORRIS-SNELL Owner/Broker (970) 209-6326 mandy@norris-snell.com



DARRELL & JULIA BOREN Broker Associates The Boren Team Darrell (970) 768-3399 Julia (970) 380-3783 darrellboren@gmail.com



Spring!

JUSTIN & DANA GLEASON Broker Associates The Gleason Team Justin (970) 275-5930 Dana (970) 209-2451 danagleasonrealtor@gmail.com



JENNIFER WEBER Broker Associate C: (970) 589-2999 wno501@aol.com



HALLEY COMBS Broker Associate C: (480) 252-2063 havalonnec@yahoo.com



CAROL CRAWFORD Broker Associate C: (970) 596-4470 carolann@montrose.net



SARA WOODWARD Broker Associate C: (303) 990-7271 sarawoodwardrealtor@gmail.com





KENZIE VANARSDALE Broker Associate C: (720) 361-7305 kenzievanarsdalerealtor@gmail.com



TERRI FLETCHER Broker Associate C: (970) 275-4679 terrifletcher1980@gmail.com

Visit our website to see current listings, request a showing, or schedule a tour! Sign up with an account to save searches and get new listings.

WWW.NORRIS-SNELL.COM



AT THE Hidden COMMUNITY!

APRIL 1ST FROM 11AM TO 2PM!



11 AM (AGES 1-5) Easter Egg Hunt & Take Your Own Pictures with the Easter Bunny Coloring Contest: Ages 3-5

> 12:30 PM (AGES 6-9) Easter Egg Hunt, Coloring Contest & Take Your Own Pictures with the Easter Bunny

62650 LaSalle Rd. • Montrose www.TheHiddenLakeCommunity.com **VEEKLY CARTOONS**











Amenities	22818 Uncompahgre,	Montrose, CO
-----------	--------------------	--------------

• 4 BEDS	• 13.46 AC.
• 1 BATH	RIVER FRONTAGE
• 1,591 sq. ft.	BARN/CORRAL/SHED
MOUNTAIN VIEWS	• MLS #801066

This 1346 acre property not only has fantastic mountain views but it also has river frontage! This is the perfect match for the perfect place to call home! Century old farmhouse boasts the workmanship and the unique layout of the "farmhouses" of past. Picture yourself enjoying your garden, animals, and everything a small farm has to offer in an area that is 2nd to none!

Colorado

awaits new

owners!

MICHELLE **KLIPPERT** Broker/Owner

Cell: 970-275-3016 michelleklippertrealtor@gmail.com



(970) 249-7653 500 E Main St, Montrose, CO OA the-res.com

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LETTERS ARE PHYSICALLY NON-VIOLENT, AND I CAN CHOOSE NOT TO READ THEM

Dear Editor:

I thought about suggesting that each editorial/opinion post in the Montrose Mirror be limited to a certain number of words. I then realized that this opportunity for my opponents to express their opinion, though misguided by FOX NEWS lies, has at least 2 benefits for me: (1) it is non physically violent (2) I can choose to participate, which is not available in a mass shooting. WELL CHILDREN, continue to play and remember to not hit anyone. *Jerome Waler, Montrose*

LAUGH LOUDLY EIFT WITH LESS WORRY



NOW OFFERING BULKAMID

Delta Health Urology is now offering Bulkamid, a unique agents because the gel maintains its volume over time, meaning that most women see durable, long-lasting results. The procedure itself only lasts around 10-15 minutes. The majority of women are able to resume normal daily activities within 24 hours.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS I 'OLD SCHOOLED' IT...

Dear Editor,

I found out at a dinner party that I was in the paper. Just before dessert was served the host printed up the letter from March 13 with my name in the first sentence. The first three paragraphs make bold assumptions regarding me. At the last meeting when the applicant SU22-013 was presenting there was a report that I hadn't seen before. It was the one that showed what their plan was to monitor the movement of the land. I tried to get my phone turned on and snap a picture of the map, however my phone was too slow, and the slide went

<u>PRICE</u>

IMPROVEMENT!

<u>\$585,000</u>

away. So, yes "I old schooled it" and went up and asked Zane Luttrell what that report was and if I could get a copy of it? He said yes to please give him my email address. So I did pull out an old appointment card from my hairdresser and wrote my email on the back and took it up to him. I also gave him my sincere condolences regarding his mother-in law who was a Montrose beloved. Then 2 days later he sent me the Del-Mont Consultants, Inc MONITORING PLAN dated 2/24/23.

From that exchange it was said that I wasSee you all at tselling out our 398 acres that adjoins the
applicant's land. I have done quite a bit ofRespectfully ar

professional real estate sales, as well as personal buying and selling over the years. I was not at any level negotiating to sell our property.

And to the last point in error anyone that knows me, my family or where our land is located would know exactly which side of the fence I am on. I am against this application; that has not changed nor will it. Since this is going out to the community, I do want to say I am glad to be back home!

See you all at the next meeting. Respectfully and fondly, Angie Petersen





- 4 Bedroom
- 2 1/2 Bathroom
- Open Kitcher
- 2,286 Sq. Ft.
- 1/2 Acre Corner Lot





HollyMontroseRealtor@gmail.com

Holly Hensley 970-208-4689 500 E. Main St., Montrose, CO 81401 **Real Estate**

Store

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW SOIL HEALTH TOOL AVAILABLE TO FARMERS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Valley Food Partnership (VFP) is excited to announce the availability of an ESCH 5603 no till seed drill for rent. The availability of this drill is intended to increase the ease of implementing on a smaller scale the soil health principles of minimizing disturbance, keeping the soil covered, maximizing diversity, and maintaining a living root.

Conferences are wonderful for the ideas they stimulate. During the 2022 Western Colorado Soil Health Conference, Julie Soderquist was one of those inspired attendees. She knew she wanted the use of a no-till seed drill for planting multispecies cover crops. Knowing many small producers could not afford to purchase a drill, she took that thought a step further. Why not also make it accessible to local farmers? This is when she approached Penelope Powell, Executive Director of Valley Food Partnership (VFP), with a proposition. What if she donated an ESCH no-till seed drill for VFP to make available for low-cost rent to interested producers? Fast forward to today. Thanks to the Soderquist family and the late George and Joyce Timmons, successful farmers and ranchers, VFP is now the proud owner of a 3-foot ESCH no-till seed drill.

While there are other renters of no-till seed drills in the area, namely Lifetime Ag and Down to Earth, these drills are significantly larger, leaving a gap in service. The smaller, 3-foot drill can be used for cover cropping a smaller plot, planting a pollinator/wildlife strip on a field's edge, and/or planting between rows, depending on the crop.

"As a passionate soil health enthusiast and healthy food advocate, I wanted to make sure our agriculturally rich valley had the opportunity to easily access a

smaller no-till seed drill," says Julie Soderquist. "My late uncle and aunt, George and Joyce Timmons (Notice, ID), were successful farmers and ranchers because of their willingness to be innovative. While George wasn't practicing regenerative agriculture, he delighted in trying new things and he found no better challenge in being told he couldn't and going on to prove them wrong! They were voted farmer/ranchers of the year practicing on just 65 acres at the time. This drill is funded from their final retirement sale of cattle - We wanted to honor them by providing this game changing tool for others to be innovative in their operations and hopefully reap the same success they did."

To receive a user request form or to find out more about the no-till seed drill, call Valley Food Partnership at 970-249-0705 or email penelo-

pe@valleyfoodpartnership.org.



Mini Med

COLORADO AHE

It's Back! It's Live! It's Amazing!

WHAT: Colorado Area Health Education Center (COAHEC) presents the historic "JJ Cohen's Mini Med School!"

ABOUT: Since 1989, Mini Med at the CU School of Medicine has educated and thrilled audiences of all ages and interests throughout Colorado and beyond with presentations by renowned doctors in the field on topics ranging from chronic medical conditions to current and emerging medicine. WHEN: Mini Med will be offered from the Anschutz Medical Campus one night weekly for four weeks in the fall semester and four weeks in the spring semester. It kicks off

April 5, 2023, from 7p - 8p,

including a live Q & A. Each session will be "live streamed" via Zoom from the presenter's location to communities in Colorado.

INTRODUCING: "Frontiers in Medicine." One session each semester will be presented from remote location in CD with a local doctor and live-streamed to all other locations."

Spring Offering				
Location	Date	Session Title	Presenter	
Montrose Regional Health – Classroom A	April 5, 2023	HEART ATTACK!	Dr. Mike Overbeck, MD	
Montrose Regional Health – Classroom B	April 12, 2023	Palliative Care at the End of Life	Dr. Maurice "Scotty" Scott, MD	
*Frontiers in Medicine Montrose Live streamed to Montrose Regional Health – Classroom A	April 19, 2023	Hormone Optimization for Women: What Does the Evidence Support?	Dr.Gayle Ann Frazzetta, MD, presented from Montrose, Colorado	
Montrose Regional Health – Classroom A	April 26, 2023	Infectious Diseases Not Named COVID-19	Dr. Robert Belknap, MD	

Ctober 4, 11, 18, and 25.



What's in it for you? <mark>Be a true part of the medical community in Colorado</mark> and come learn with us! Attend 6 sessions and receive your <mark>Mini Med diploma</mark> after the final session in October! Attend 8 sessions and receive a Mini Med special edition lapel pin.







University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

cuanschutz.edu/centers/coahec

co-ahec-communications@cuanschutz.edu

"This [project/publication/program/website, etc.] [Is/was] supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1,711,000 with 50 percentage, \$865,500, financed with non-governmental source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government."

Mini Med



2022 SKYLINE, LOT #1502 \$194,000 • UNDER CONSTRUCTION





CIMARRONCREEKCOMMUNITY.COM

WELCOME HOME!

Cimarron Creek is a beautiful community with great walking paths and views of the San Juan Mountains.

- 1,501 Sq. Ft.
- 2022 Champion
- Double-wide Model
- 3 Bedroom/2 Bath
- Open Concept
- Stainless Steel Kitchen Appliances
- Closet Pantry and a Large Kitchen Island

CALL today to schedule an appointment!

901 65.30 ROAD, #1000 MONTROSE, CO 81401 **970-249-0493**

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



SIDEWALK REPAIRS BEGIN ON SOUTH FIRST STREET

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Contractors working for the City of Montrose have begun sidewalk replacement work on a portion of South First Street in front of Straw Hat Farm Market and Kitchen Store. This work is expected to conclude by March 24.

Portions of parking spaces on the south side of the street will be closed until work concludes. This work will help add more parking spaces to the area and replace damaged sidewalks that have become a tripping hazard.

The city would like to thank business owners and residents for being patient while repairs are made.

Experienced, Educated, Certified, Smart



The following certifications can be found at The Real Estate Store

- Certified Residential Specialist (CRS)
- Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI)
- Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES)
- Resort & Second Home Property Specialist (RSPS)
- At Home with Diversity Certified (ATWD)
- Short Sales and Foreclosure Resource Certified (SFR)
- REO Certified (REO)
- Certified Pricing Strategy Advisor (PSA)
- GREEN Certified (GREEN)
- Military Relocation Professional (MRP)
- Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR)
- Seller Representative Specialist (SRS)

Wouldn't you feel more comfortable using a broker with both the education and experience for your Real Estate Transaction?

Personal, Professional, Property Brokers



500 E. Main St. Montrose, CO 81401 (970)249-SOLD (7653) Office www.the-RES.com

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LGBTQ YOUTH ARE MEMBERS OF A VULNERABLE GROUP AND NEED ACCESS TO RESOURCES IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dear Editor,

I am writing to support the Montrose Public Library's programming and books that support LGBTQ youth and citizens. The people in our children's lives have an impact. The books and programming that the library provides for its citizens can have an immediate impact on reducing the odds that an LGBTQ youth will attempt suicide. Including these materials and programming support our LGBTQ youth by facilitating and creating supportive conversations that could help them with their identity and use their chosen pronouns that affirm their identity. Having such a welcoming environment for our youth could help create a safe space and reduce LGBTQ youths feelings of anxiety and depression.

Transgender youth are twice as more likely to be bullied in schools than cisgender youth. Statistics show that 29% have been threatened or injured with a weapon, 60% of LGBTQ youth report feeling unsafe in schools and LGBTQ students in rural and religious schools experience more hostility. LGBTQ youth experience discrimination, trauma, high rates of mental illness, suicide attempts, suicide completions, homelessness, and physical and mental health concerns. Our gender identity as humans develops over our time. Gender identity is influenced by a multitude of factors such as: genes, hormones, and social factors from pregnancy through puberty and beyond.

The recent mass shooting at Club Q in

Colorado Springs was a violent and disturbing example of how members of the LGBTQ community are targeted. That individual was able to kill five people and he was able to injure nineteen others. That individual has now been charged with hate crimes along with the other 300 other charges. I would hope that the Montrose Advocates for Children wishes to prevent an incident like Club Q in Montrose, Colorado by not promoting the hatred of LGBTQ youth and by encouraging their already existing feelings of "separateness". What does Montrose, Colorado want to stand for, feel like for our youth, and represent? I would hope that Montrose would want to be a community of: Love

Inclusiveness

Mutual respect for our neighbors, friends, classmates, and family members - which LGBTQ youth all are.

Equality and access for all of our citizens especially in public spaces like the PUBLIC library that ALL CITIZENS pay for We should seek to be a community that fights back against the current National, negative trend of political divisiveness and not add to and encourage it

We should help our youth navigate all their struggles

We should help all of our youth thrive; not just the ones with whom we agree with their gender identity

We should help ALL youth become resilient and learn to function well in the face of the adversity they will face in life We should not become "The Bully" (as I feel the "Montrose Advocates for Children" are appearing to be and become). I am shocked that one of the members of Montrose Advocates for Children is a social worker. I have always known her to be a passionate advocate for children. However in this case she is not following an essential and important part of the National Association for Social Workers Code of Ethics which states:

"Value: Social Justice

Ethical Principle: Social workers challenge social injustice.

Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people. Social workers' social change efforts are focused primarily on issues of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice. These activities seek to promote sensitivity to and knowledge about oppression and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers strive to ensure access to needed information, services, and resources; equality of opportunity; and meaningful participation in decision-making for all people." LGBTQ youth are members of a vulnerable group in our society and they need access to resources in the PUBLIC library that gives them knowledge and validation about their forming identities. Thank you, Holly Speaks

Social Worker, LGBTQ Ally Montrose, Colorado



Western Colorado Farm & Ranch Brokerage (970) 835-9350 · (970) 596-4744 (970) 874-LAND WESTERNRANGE.COM



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

MONTROSE LIBRARY DOESN'T REALLY REPRESENT COMMUNITY

Dear Editor,

Do you feel like when you walk into our local library that it doesn't really represent our Community? From the displays to the books they offer? If you'd like to see more Conservative books being offered, please fill out SPECIFIC request lists and send to the staff. For years, I've tolerated or just thought I'd not find much of what I'd like to read. I accepted that maybe someday they'll get new staff or I just bought my own books that intrest me.

I got to thinking that these are OUR tax dollars supporting what is FOR US and OUR reading pleasure. Instead of hoping or assuming they might some day figure out what we like, maybe I should start requesting more tasteful books. Honestly, I got tired of searching for a book in the online catalog, only to find out there was nothing but liberal choices. That is not the

bulk of our wonderful community! and censorship at it's finest!! According to the library staff, we can't protect our local children from pornography in our library, but they feel the justification to censure Conservative books. Makes no sense to me. Here is the link for requesting what you'd REALLY like to see in our libraryboth on display and on our shelves! Be specific and actually name the books you want to see.

For the ADULT section: <u>http://</u> <u>www.montroselibrary.org/montrose-</u> <u>adults/</u> (scroll to the bottom of page) For the TEEN section: <u>http://</u> <u>www.montroselibrary.org/montrose-</u> <u>young-adults/</u> (scroll to the bottom of the page)

For the CHILDREN'S section: <u>http://</u> www.montroselibrary.org/montrose-<u>kids/</u> (scroll to the bottom of the page) If you don't notice much of a change, I recommend contacting our local Library Board Members (who are above the staff) and stating that they are NOT representing our local Conservative Community. Let's BE the change we want in OUR Community.

Montrose Library Board Members contact info:

rmunday@montroselibrary.org dadragna@montroselibrary.org amaymi@montroselibrary.org dosborne@montroselibrary.org lriddoch@montroselibrary.org eschneider@montroselibrary.org swilliams@montroselibrary.org If you haven't observed already, things get worse instead of better when we don't speak up. A concerned citizen,

Jodi Woodden, Montrose

TURF REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Develop a beautiful water-wise landscape and apply to get reimbursed for up to \$2,000 in project costs.

APPLY ONLINE

Program information and application can be found: montrosecounty.net/1121/turf-replacement-program





Use your Alpine Bank Loyalty Debit Card* and help us raise \$2.5 million to support Colorado community causes in 2023. Learn more at alpinebank.com/50YearsYoung.



*Alpine Bank debit cards are available with no annual fee to individuals with an Alpine Bank checking account.



INDEPENDENCE · COMMUNITY · COMPASSION · INTEGRITY · LOYALTY

ALPINEBANK.COM • MEMBER FDIC

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW MONTROSE CITY HALL ON MAIN STREET TO OPEN ON MARCH 27

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Beginning Monday, March 27, Montrose City Hall offices will open at their new location, 400 East Main Street.

Residents are invited to visit the new space to access city services, or they may continue to use online options via <u>www.CityofMontrose.org</u>.

The historic City Hall building was erected in 1926 and was the first structure added to the city's own historic register when the historic designation program was created in 2019.

During the relocation process city operations have continued at normal levels while renovations to the new City Hall, the former Wells Fargo bank building, are being completed.

For more information contact City Hall at 970.240.1400.

Control of the second second

Contact me today for more information!



PEG EVANOIKA, Realtor SRES, Associate Broker Senior Real Estate Specialist C: (970) 209-3934 • 0: (970) 279-SOLD (7653) THE REAL ESTATE STORE 500 E. Main St. • Montrose, CO









TIME: 4PM - 7PM DATE: 04/20/2023 montrose county event center

Join the Greater Montrose Chamber of Commerce for an evening of food, prizes, booths and more!





MLS #804465

Address:69557 Hwy. 50 East • Montrose, COAcreage:9.8, with 6.5 IrrigatedBuilt:2007Home:1,986 Sq. Ft.Garage/Shop:1,385 Sq. Ft.Includes:Outbuildings



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

I WILL CONTINUE TO BE A TIRELESS ADVOCATE FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

Editor:

During recent monthly meetings, the Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) Board of Trustees have been hearing public comments regarding two books in the library collection and the issue of LGBTQ programming sponsored by the MRLD. The books are Gender Queer by Maia Kobabe and Flamer by Mike Curato. Both books are for young adult (YA) audiences. The Montrose Advocates for Children are wanting to restrict access to these materials because of the LGBTQ content. This group considers the content of both books to be pornographic. This group wants to have these materials placed in a separate area of the library while requiring library users to ask for permission for access and requiring they show an ID proving they are over the age of 18. In public comments, this group is making religious arguments, thinly veiled as morality, for why these books should be alienated from the rest of the library collection. The group on the other side of the issue are community members who support the LGBTQ community, the mission of the MRLD, intellectual freedom, and inclusivity and kindness. The MRLD and its trustees must contend with two issues, user access and privacy. In Access to Library Resources and Services Regardless of Sex, Gender Identify, Gender Expression, or Sexual Orientation: An interpretation of 'The Library Bill of Rights' it states, "The American Library Association

stringently and unequivocally maintains that libraries and librarians have an obligation to resist efforts that systematically exclude materials dealing with any subject matter, including sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation." This clearly addresses the issue of user access. The second issue for the MRLD is privacy. Article VII of the Library Bill of Rights has this to say about privacy. "All people, regardless or origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy."

The Montrose Advocates for Children are using religion and their definition of morality to advocate for taking away the privacy of library users and limiting access to materials. They are using the faulty narrative of "protecting the children" to push their own narrow-minded anti-LGBTQ agenda. If you support inclusivity, access, privacy, and the LGBTQ community in Montrose, I invite you to attend the next trustees meeting on April 3 @ 3pm in the library meeting room. Showing support in a public setting is incredibly powerful. I think many people on both sides of this issue would be interested in hearing from the three members of the Montrose County Commissioners: Sue Hansen, Keith Caddy, and Roger Rash. The commissioners appoint members of the library board of trustees. Their direct involvement in

this issue is inevitable. My guess is that these three individuals will place politics above all and fall on the side of those wishing to suppress information and access. After all, they represent an extremely conservative population of voters. Why would any of the three upset a single member of the majority to do the right thing?

Members of the Montrose Advocates for Children should worry about what their own children read and regulate materials accordingly. They should not for one second attempt to parent other children in the community. If they have issues with materials in the library, simply don't access those materials. The solution is quite easy. The solution is to not restrict access but to provide content and information about any concerning materials. It is the duty of the library to provide materials and have these materials available to all users. Censorship, the restriction of access, and any moral narrative should be kept in the home and out of the library. I will continue to be a tireless advocate for the LGBTQ community in Montrose and for the MRLD. My support will be consistent and vocal. When this issue is ultimately resolves and intellectual freedom prevails. I will personally ensure the MRLD has plenty of copies of these books and any other challenged books readily available for public access.

Rob Brethouwer, Montrose



RESPONSE TO THE DETAILED LETTER SUBMITTED BY DAVID WHITE

Editor:

We would like to provide a response to the detailed letter submitted by David White in the March 20 edition of the Mirror. Mr. White's letter is substantial and deserves a thoughtful response. We appreciate his strong desire to see MCSD improve, though we think he may be missing important information and context. We are both teachers for MCSD, and have been for over twenty years. Kurt teaches social studies, including US History and Government. Patti teaches algebra, statistics, and calculus. Both of us teach younger students in introductory classes as well as AP courses for college credit. We both lead our respective departments at MHS, and we have served on various district and state level committees. Patti is currently serving on the Homework and Grading committee, so she is able to address some of Mr. White's concerns on those issues directly. Kurt has recently served on the state standards committee for social studies and has knowledge of the requirements of the new laws that may be helpful to readers.

First, Mr. White raised a concern over new laws regarding instruction about LGBTQ culture in social studies classes. While experienced teachers never feel standards are perfect these were created by a wide range of teachers throughout the state of Colorado. In reference to the article Mr. White referenced it is important to note the language of our state standards. When standards say, "for example" it gives the school and teacher freedom to determine which examples to use or even to use others not mentioned. Beth Suppes does not seem to know this about standard documents and it is important when reading and determining meaning. While HB 19-1192 did have influence on determining the new standards the changes do not add or detract from what is being taught as skills in almost every case. Here are a few brief examples of teaching culture from the standards: Kindergarteners should show interest in interacting with others, second graders should understand how

community members advocate for rights, sixth graders should gather and critique information from diverse perspectives, eighth graders should understand how changes in citizenship in America have impacted various groups of people. These ideas do not imply we should glorify and indoctrinate members of our community in an LGBTQ+ mindset, but tend to indicate that we need to continue to create thoughtful American citizens. I can speak best to the standards that apply directly to high school in this regard and there is only one, "Research and interpret viewpoints from diverse groups." There are seven minority groups included in just this one evidence outcome. Perhaps one time in the entirety of high school a student will need to find an LGBTQ+ viewpoint and then determine for themselves what they think of that viewpoint.

Second, Mr. White raised another concern over the use of homework by MCSD teachers and students. The Homework and Grading committee has been meeting this year to work on these issues that are central to learning. In terms of context, we have framed our discussion around several needs and concerns. It is important to explain what those are.

We know that our student achievement data are not showing the progress and growth that our students deserve and that our community expects. We also know the drop in performance disproportionately impacts students who qualify for free/ reduced meals and non-white students. For example, at MHS we have seen post-COVID drops in a number of areas in our test scores. When we dig more deeply, we find that our students who are not part of the groups mentioned earlier have recovered more significantly from COVID era struggles than their peers. In addition, we have seen at all levels a noticeable drop in student engagement at school among those same groups in particular. Feedback from parents and students at all levels revealed a concern about both homework and grading. Typical concerns centered around the assignment of work without a

clear purpose, excessive work assigned, or work assigned that students were not able to complete without significant help from parents. Some parents are unable to assist their children with homework, either because they are working or in some cases because they are unsure how to help. On the teachers' side, there has always been a frustrating split between those who are willing to turn in work and those who simply don't. For those who do turn work in, we know that some significant portion of the work may be done via copying, internet hacks, and even just mindless completion without retention. The reasons why students don't do homework vary. Some students are dealing with highly unstable home environments, some struggle with learning and can't keep up. Our directive as a committee was to look at two main areas. We needed to understand what research exists around homework, and we needed to create clear and transparent guidelines for teachers, students, and parents. It is worth noting that most of our committee members are not only educators but also parents themselves and so they offer insight from both roles at every meeting.

We met and began the process of studying what research had to tell us about effective use of homework. What we found varied by the age of the student. (It is worth noting that we included an extensive bibliography of sources in the presentation that Mr. White linked in his letter for anyone interested in more detail) For elementary age students, we could find no evidence that assigned work outside the school day led to higher achievement for all students. That is not to say that enriching activities such as reading, educational exploration through projects, visits to museums, and the like are not incredibly valuable - they are! But we found that parents can and should have more control over what is most appropriate for their own children. If a child struggles with learning, then they may come home exhausted at the end of a trying day and need a chance to engage in play, family interaction,

RESPONSE TO THE DETAILED LETTER SUBMITTED BY DAVID WHITE From previous pg

sports, dance, theater, or other valuable activities, or to simply rest. Our elementary teachers on the committee were unanimous in their support for focusing on learning during the school day, and allowing elementary students to be kids at home.

For secondary students, the research shifts. It says that homework CAN be an effective aid to learning and achievement, BUT it must be carefully planned and implemented with purpose. For example, homework is most effective when it is targeted and a student can complete it independently in a reasonable amount of time. One thing we learned from the research that is not necessarily common practice is that homework is best assigned at the beginning of a class period rather than at the end. Why? It is because time should be dedicated in class to explaining the assignment and allowing students to begin work on it to determine if they can finish independently or not. Then, the day's lesson should continue. That implies that homework needs to focus more on established concepts rather than new ones from that day. We also learned that the best types of practice for long term retention involve spacing that practice over time (days and weeks) and cycling through ideas regularly. Lastly, we learned that homework only contributes to learning when it receives regular and meaningful feedback for improvement. It is critically important that students can make mistakes without penalty as they move through the learning process. This means that grading practice in various ways can have a perverse effect on learning, since students can focus more on the grade itself rather than what they are supposed to learn. One way to think about it is to ask why players at a sports practice don't put points on the board (or lose them) in the next game. The idea here is the same. It would seem that a foundational concern raised by Mr. White is about how all of this develops character and work ethic in students. This is important and should be addressed. It is notoriously difficult to observe and measure effort in learning. This is due to the fact that learning is internal and hard to see, and also that not all students need to extend the same amount of effort to learn the same things. If one student learns a concept or skill quickly with limited practice, is it fair to have them do the same work as everyone else? Should a student who is struggling be penalized for not completing work they did not understand by an arbitrary deadline? As a result of this, when we take homework completion as a proxy for work ethic, things get very fuzzy. We are also dealing with children and adolescents who are learning how to manage themselves and how to advocate when they don't understand something. We need to make learning full of opportunities to try, perhaps to fail, to get useful feedback, and to improve. If this all sounds like something that takes a lot of time and effort for teachers to do well, that is absolutely true! To do homework well we will probably do less of it. But on balance, we have an opportunity to do a better job for our students and their families. Ultimately, homework should be a dialogue about learning between a student and teacher. Mr. White raised a third concern about changes in the dress code. We work with students each day and try to approach dress code issues with them through our

relationships with them. We have found success in having private conversations with students about questionable clothing choices that occur in a way that doesn't interrupt the work of the day. When we treat our students with dignity and respect, we have found they respond in kind as they learn what it means to be responsible adults. None of the students we have encountered this year with a request to change something about their attire has argued or refused in any way. They have willingly made the adjustments to attire that were requested and the coaches Kurt works with have all had the same experience.

Both of us are members of our school leadership team and in those meetings have had discussions about all of the ideas and issues mentioned in Mr. White's letter. As our department heads we then took this information back to our departments for discussion as appropriate. I do not know what staff members Mr. White talked to but it would seem to be a problem with communication as opposed to district priorities.

Kurt and I would like to thank Dr. Stephenson for her leadership and for raising these important and challenging issues. We believe that Montrose County taxpayers can feel confident that we are moving in the right direction, though change will be a process over time.

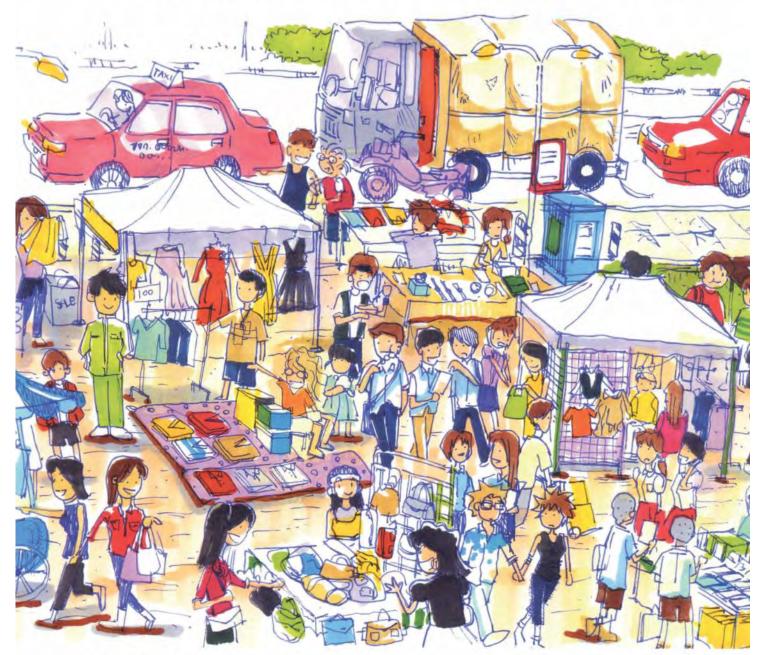
We also believe that our community supports us and we appreciate that support very much. We hope to become more transparent and accountable to students and families over time, and we love what we do. We hope to keep doing it for some time to come.

Kurt and Patti Scriffiny, Montrose



Friday April 7th 9.30-6.00pm | Saturday April 8th 9.00am -4.00pm Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fair Grounds

The Flea Market Craft Show



Free admission Hour door prizes Over 70 vendors for your shopping pleasure For Vendor information call Debbie 970.531.2438 or email: montrosefootwear@aol.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY MEETS AT MONTROSE LIBRARY APRIL 11

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Tuesday April 11 at 5pm, Citizens' Climate Lobby meets at Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan, National, Environmental. All welcome info 970-765-9095.

Feeling Lost in the Maze of MEDICARE? Join us for MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE Medicare Name/Nombre JOHN L SMITH & You 101 Medicare Number/Número de Medicare 1EG4-TE5-MK72 Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza This seminar is FREE! Entitled to/Con derecho a 03-01-2016 HOSPITAL (PART A) 03-01-2016 MEDICAL (PART B) 111

Region 10's Certified Medicare Counselors are offering an informational seminar on how to navigate the Medicare system.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH - 6-8 PM

CASCADE HALL, 336 S. 3RD ST. Corner of Cascade & S. 3rd St. in Montrose

Call or email with questions: 970-765-3129 • Cecilia@Region10.net

SHIP State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Region 10

Navigating Medicare



BE PREPARED BEFORE AN EMERGENCY STRIKES!

SIGN UP FOR MONTROSE COUNTY ALERTS



REGISTER IN ENGLISH

montrose.genasys.com/portal/en

REGISTRARSE EN ESPAÑOL

montrose.genasys.com/portal/es

Please complete all fields: Name Physical home address Cell phone or landline numbers Email address Zip code

It is critical that you enter your home address location to receive geo-targeted (location based) messages!

BELL DUCKS QUESTION ON REPAYMENT AT MURA MEETING "The city doesn't need the repayment as bad as the community needs the investment," –Montrose City Manager Bill Bell

By Gail Marvel

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

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

The March 22, 2023 MURA board meeting was held at 2 p.m. in the Centennial Meeting Room. Chair Barbara Bynum opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Board Representatives Allison Howe and Steve Bush were absent, all other board members were present.

Call for Public Comment

Instructions for Public Comment include, "Please be aware that neither the MURA Board nor staff are expected to respond or engage in discussion or debate."

Citizen Jim Anderson was recognized and asked three questions: (1) requirements for the terms of repayment on the promissory notes, (2) what the property tax repayment plan was, and is there a written amortization schedule, and (3) particulars concerning the Vectra Bank Loan, i.e. repayment schedule, interest paid/interest accumulated, MURA repayment balance sheet liabilities.

Anderson then submitted the questions



During the Call for Public Comment at the March 22, 2023 Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) Board meeting, citizen Jim Anderson (standing) posed questions to the board. The board will take the questions under consideration and respond at a later date. Photo by Gail Marvel.

in writing to Chair Bynum, who said the board would discuss the questions later, but not during Public Comment. However, during the meeting, some of Anderson's questions were touched upon.

Consideration of Minutes – Deputy City Clerk Briceida Ortega.

Brad Hughes had some corrections for the minutes. He said, "I apologize for not being at the January meeting. During roll call I'm listed as not present; but the minutes state I was present and absent. On the second page [proposed Bylaws] it says we removed Article 5, but it should be Section 5."

Referencing the TIF Expenditure Update, Hughes said, "The second quarter, I just want to make sure I understand, 80 percent of the fund reimbursed expenditures to-date, or is that 80 percent of the Basecamp reimbursements?"

City Engineer Scoot Murphy said, "That is an incorrect statement. Basecamp is 80 percent, it's zero for Shelter [Distilling] and Fairfield."

Hughes also questioned the date given for the Colorado Outdoors Medical Center as early 2024. He said, "Is that a realistic expectation?"

Chair Bynum said, "That is why we continue to update. The minutes actually reflect what was said." The minutes of the Jan. 25, 2023 meeting, as amended, were approved unanimously.

Approval of the Proposed Bylaws for the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) – City Attorney Ben Morris. Background: Since its inception in 2016, the MURA Board has had no officially adopted Bylaws.

Morris said, "This is a clean copy, the final draft of the Bylaws."

Councilman David Frank said, "We've done enough massage. I feel comfortable approving."

Hughes said, "I understand the issue with Article 5, Section 3, but the [State] Statute on Conflict of Interest hasn't

BELL DUCKS QUESTION ON REPAYMENT AT MURA MEETING From previous pg

changed in 48 years. Go back to the purpose of the Bylaws. This is a guiding document for the board. I don't want something cumbersome, I'd like to get rid of Appendix A."

Chair Bynum said, "We want to be transparent. We had a lengthy discussion at the last meeting. Your idea was really discussed. We can update the Appendix annually when it changes."

Councilman Reed said, "We can amend [the Appendix] from time to time without board action." The Bylaws were approved unanimously.

TIF Expenditure Update - City Engineer Scott Murphy

Murphy gave an update on the three outstanding reimbursement projects: -Fairfield Hotel Horizontal Site Improvements - expected to be reimbursed the first quarter (\$600,000).

-Basecamp Apartment Horizontal Site Improvements – 80 percent reimbursed (\$1,367,000).

-Shelter Distilling Horizontal Site Improvements – working on site development (\$375,766).

Murphy said, "In a financial reconciliation, a clerical error in 2017 of \$70 was found. It will be showing up. Basecamp [apartments] are bringing in tenants. They are waiting for weather on landscaping. Shelter has broken ground, but [reimbursements] are still zero."

Frank said, "Could we update the photo on the Basecamp? The [temporary] 2 X 4 safety railing on the apartments photo needs to be updated."

Development Update - David Dragoo, Colorado Outdoors

In a 15-minute PowerPoint presentation Dragoo gave an update to the board on the Fairfield Hotel, COMC (Colorado Outdoors Medical Center), Flex Rec (Recreation District), and Shelter Distilling. A private groundbreaking event for Shelter Distilling will take place on April 3.

Dragoo said, "Basecamp [apartments] are renting now. There is a fulltime leasing agent on site. Shelter has a contract to have a bar on the second floor of the airport [inside security]."

Dragoo also reported on two new projects, which are known publicly by code names, but are yet to be formally identified.

Dragoo said, "Project Green is a threeand-a-half-acre site on the east side of Shelter. It is mixed-use (commercial and retail). There will be 7,000 square feet of commercial and construction will start in late 2023." Project Lollipop is contracted to medical offices. The impact won't be known until analysis, but there will be warehouse and retail."

Citizen Anderson said, "Is this any competition with any businesses in town?" Dragoo said, "I can't say. It is an expansion of a business."

Bynum asked Hughes to put on his Montrose County Assessor hat. She said, "How soon will we see property taxes for the hotel?" Hughes responded that the collection year is 2025, "It will be added to the tax roll so we will see it in our [MURA] revenue stream." It was noted that sales tax and lodging tax are more immediate than property tax.

Citizen Anderson questioned Hughes on the sale of the Basecamp apartments to another party. He said, "They sold for over \$100,000 on each apartment."

Hughes said, "We will never be able to
value that for what they sold for; it's high-
er, above market value." The Basecamp,
with the purchase of additional land, sold
for approximately \$33.5M. Hughes said, "I
don't know the circumstances. They paid a
lot for 96 apartment units."Urban Renewal Area and administers the
Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding
mechanism to finance public infrastructur
in the MURA.
The property, which covers 158 acres
along the river corridor between the Jus-
tice Center on the north and West Main of

The board completed their agenda; however, prior to adjournment Hughes wanted financial information and future direction concerning finances. He said, "I hope that I am interpretating this right, there is substantial revenue coming in and the board needs to decide when we are going to pay on the promissory notes. Now that we are getting funds, we need to get a payment schedule for some of the debt we [MURA] have."

MURA Executive Director and Montrose City Manager Bill Bell said, "We need to have that be a board discussion. There are two new projects coming up. New analytics need to be done. A plan on what we are going to do as the money comes in."

Hughes said, "We haven't made any repayment at all. How are we going to retire debt without more loans?" Currently the City of Montrose holds promissory notes for the MURA.

Bell said, "Case by case [on projects]. We invest more in development than paying the city back. The city doesn't need the repayment as bad as the community needs the investment."

Hughes said, "At some point I need to know what we have going forward." Citizen Anderson said, "The taxpayer's accountability side of it. Liabilities as well as the plus side need to be accounted for. I think we need a clear picture of assets

and liabilities."

Bell said, "We'll issue a revenue report." Future meetings:

April 19, 2 p.m. in the Buckhorn Conference Room in the new City Hall. May17

June 21

Background: The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) was formed in late 2016 by a resolution of the Montrose City Council. Generally speaking, the MURA Board oversees the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area and administers the Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding mechanism to finance public infrastructure in the MURA.

The property, which covers 158 acres along the river corridor between the Justice Center on the north and West Main on the South, is being developed by the Dragoo's Mayfly Outdoors. The Dragoo Developers are son David Dragoo and father Doug Dragoo.

The 10-member MURA board is made up of Montrose City Council (five members), City Manager Bill Bell (Executive Director), Brad Hughes (Montrose County), Tad Rowan (Montrose Fire Protection District), Steve Bush (Montrose School District) and Allison Howe (Special Districts Representative). The six-member city constituency holds the controlling interest and actions of the MURA Board.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

PLEASE SHOW UP AT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING, MARCH 27, 6 P.M. AT THE MONTROSE COUNTY EVENT CENTER

Editor:

There had been challenges for a while... drought and less water for irrigating, development pressures, rising expenses, misinformation – think cow farts being reported as the biggest climate concern, Urban Rural Divide, and young people not pursuing agriculture as it was hard work that probably wouldn't make you rich. Then came the promises of hemp. It was like folks were walking around with stars in their eyes. It was the new gold rush. I'm here to tell you that wasn't how the 2019 hemp season in western Colorado played out. The failed hemp saga has continued to impact farmers to this day. Many were convinced by the hemp investors to give it a go; lease your property to us; finance us buying your ag lands; and all myriad of schemes.

On 5875 Road we experienced the hemp fiasco first hand and the legacy of the hemp mess continues to cause us angst. A hint of the problems to come began in 2018 when a new pump house was put in near the canal that supplies our irrigation water. There were rumors of hemp going in and the land being sold to Blue Dog Hemp. You'll recognize this area as it now faces the threat of a large gravel pit and portable batch plants, loads of traffic and the end of rural tranquility as we know it. Coincidentally the new owner of the land bought, in a foreclosure sale and proposing the gravel pit is Matt Miles who owned General Processing of the Olathe/Delta area. This was the only major hemp processor on the Western Slope during the 2019 hemp frenzy. A November 22, 2020, Daily Sentinel Article reported that General Processing sold to EcoGen Biosciences. But I transgress and need to continue my story. Even though I draw a connection from hemp to pit and how some of the same are bound to come out ahead and others continue to be negatively impacted, if we cannot get the gravel pit permit denied.

There were other folks nearby, Spring Creek, down in Shavano Valley and

throughout the west slope that gave into the hemp mania of 2019. I know that many of these folks suffered losses either due to hemp not being harvested, too high THC levels and a glut on the market. I don't like to see anyone lose money and I feel bad that in a sense they were duped. You can't really blame the producers that thought they would give it a go. Colorado Department of Ag, the governor's office and elected officials were touting hemp as the next big thing in ag. It's hard not to grasp for reported easy money when more often than not farmers will struggle to keep their heads above water.

On 5875 Road in late winter/early spring of 2019 they came in with discs and markers and ditchers and changed the direction of the rows in the fields. They filled in the ditches at the bottom of the fields, nearest the county road. Then they began laying the black plastic, drip lines and misting sprinklers and connecting the system to the pump house. As all this played out, we realized the tail water/waste water we relied upon especially in drought times was at risk. The tail water had been legally used as a part of our small family farms operations since the 1930's. Along with rain which has been a little sparse, the tail water also helps to recharge the water table or groundwater and percolates to our spring and seep ditch. The spring and seep ditch was filed on in 1979 for irrigation and stock use and a neighbor's spring filed on a few years later. We felt these could all be drastically impacted from the filling in of the ditches on the hemp fields and we weren't wrong.

We heard all irrigation water would run through the drip lines, water that would make it to the bottom of the field would be pumped back up the grade to dump back in the canal or other ditch up above. Sprinkler systems may be considered more efficient but they really impact groundwater and wetland areas. Flood irrigating works best to recharge the groundwater. Many farmers find a mix of sprinklers and flood irrigation to suit their needs best

combining efficiency with groundwater recharge and saving wetlands, marsh areas, and springs benefitting land and wildlife alike. Many of the practices instituted as hemp went in just didn't seem to ring very environmentally friendly to me. In early summer 2019 I reached out to UVWUA and the Division of Water Resources concerning the waste water and potential impacts to our spring. I was told that waste water rights depend on what the farmer on the ditch ahead of you does. We were told that it doesn't make it the neighborly thing to do or even best farming practices, and even though you've had the rights for decades, it can all change on a whim. The only recourse if our spring was negatively impacted and to fight for tail water rights was if we could afford to hire a water attorney and take a case to civil court. Some folks had been successful that way. The only problem is being the little guy with less resources fighting a corporate or more wealthy entity than you, oftentimes proves a losing battle as they can outlast you. My daddy used to say there they go, picking on the little guy with one eye. He changed the saying a little from the 2001 animated hit Monster's Inc. However, I think you get the gist.

Forward to 2023, Matt Miles in the March 6th Montrose BOCC special meeting stated they would farm some of the acreage simultaneously with the gravel pit and they believe they had rights to use the waste water for the gravel pit needs as well. I have confirmed with Colorado Division of Water Resources, that waste water does not have to be used for agriculture by the producer 'creating' the waste water. I am very disappointed as this seems to be some kind of loophole that negatively impacts agriculture. How can it be that water in the Uncompany project is stated by the Bureau of Rec to only be for domestic and agricultural use, yet after it runs across farm ground it can be put to industrial use? At the meeting, Mr. Miles also emphasized, 'watering practices will stay

PLEASE SHOW UP AT COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 27 From previous pg

as they are', and 'discharge points will stay the same'. My hopes are the 'watering practices' can return to what they historically were from the 1930's to the 2019 growing season when the waste water flowed through to our small family farm and on to others down in Coal Creek Valley benefitting crops, livestock, land, wildlife and groundwater recharge. A couple of rain events in July 2019 causing flooding, proved the ill-conceived idea of doing away with the ditches at the bottom of the field. The house surrounded by the hemp fields and my mom and brother's home was flooded with 6 to 12 inches in a couple of separate rain events. During one such event my brother was up at the summer country where he worked for a ranch and I happened to be visiting, trying to help out.

You see we had lost my dad due to an accident on the farm in the fall of 2017 and life was a lot more challenging and keeping up with farm chores proved to be tough. I came over from Carbondale as much as I could and still do to lend a hand where I can. I didn't yet know exactly which headgate was ours as daddy had done the irrigating and now brother; so, I had to call on an 80-year-old family friend who once leased our hay fields and pasture to come help me try to remedy the flooding. The hemp farmers drove by and watched us trying to get the water to drain from the neighbors and our yard but never stopped to help. We had tried to speak to them many times to see if we could work out a win-win situation. The flooding had never to this extent occurred

before, until those ditches were covered up and the rain water pooled and roiled looking for an escape route. Other pleasantries were the skunky smell of the hemp once it sprouted, causing all the neighbors to close their windows that were usually open to enjoy the fresh air. Fall of 2019 there would be no harvest of hemp, due to a freeze and higher than allowed THC levels.

The black plastic, drip lines, volunteer hemp and weeds, the skunky smell, and dust that remained especially on 5875 Road would be written about in the news. Promises to clean it up would be made by Blue Dog in early 2020 with no results. The clean-up would finally be done by the new property owner, who bought the land up in a foreclosure sale. Blue Dog could not pay the landowner, they were purchasing the land from. I even bought a Power Ball ticket or two hoping I might win and purchase the property; concerned about what the future would hold. A portion of the approximately 200 acres, maybe $1/3^{rd}$ of it was cleaned up for the 2022 planting season after it sold to Matt Miles. The remainder would be cleaned up in the fall of 2022. The black plastic, drip lines, et al would be rolled up on a spool on the back of a tractor and then many of the rolls would be set on fire. I have pictures of the smoldering black plastic. Being a history buff, I have documented a lot of the story of hemp with pictures. I also wanted folks to know what had transpired hoping we can learn and not fall to the promises of quick and easy prosperity and riches of the next great thing.

So, I end this tale thinking of what the consequences will most likely be if the proposed gravel pit is approved. I fear we will not regain our waste water; the spring and seeps may dry up; the farm will become a lot drier; the hay ground and pasture smaller; the weeds more plentiful; more trees dying; and wildlife water and habitat will shrink. The view my mom so values out her living room window will be of machinery digging at the earth and dust filling the air. Mom can't get out much as rheumatoid arthritis has affected her mobility. Much joy is gained as she looks out on the mountains and the passing of people going about their day. Folks stop and wave and old friends sometimes stop by to visit a bit before resuming their walk. The view was even more pleasant when it looked out upon fields of corn, onions or pinto beans instead of the remains of failed hemp.

Many have written comments, letters to the editor and made public comments on well founded concerns of ground stability, potential flooding, safety on roads not capable of handling the increased traffic, loss of farmland, loss of rural tranquility and heritage, and many other substantial and valid concerns.

I am pleading to folks to not give up the fight and please please show up at the Board of County Commissioners Special Meeting, March 27, 6:00 p.m. at the Montrose County Event Center. We need your presence to show your unity to deny the pit.

Concerned Ag Producer Virginia (Ginny) Harrington, Montrose



What Are the Benefits to Senior Living?

- 1. Bordem Buster!
- 2. Help When You Need It
- 3. Intellectual Stimulation
- 4. Safety and Security
- 5. Healthier Lifestyle
- 6. Focus on Independence

Each of our senior living care communities and programs are designed to provide optimal opportunities for every resident or participant to have the ability to live the life that makes them the happiest.

We are available to discuss options and recommend which services would be a good fit for you or a loved one!

Home Health of Western Colorado The Homestead at Montrose Valley Manor Care Center Horizons Care Center Senior CommUnity Meals Senior CommUnity Care PACE AdvantAge Health Resource Center



©2022 Volunteers of America National Services. We are designated tax-exempt 501 (C) 3 organization.

Visit voaseniorliving.org for information on local and national services for older adults





2022 SKYLINE, LOT #1604 \$157,000 • UNDER CONSTRUCTION



CIMARRONCREEKCOMMUNITY.COM

WELCOME HOME!

Cimarron Creek is a beautiful community with great walking paths and views of the San Juan Mountains.

- 972.8 Sq. Ft.
- 2022 Champion
- Single-wide Model
- 2 Bedroom/2 Bath
- Stainless Steel Kitchen Appliances
- Brown cabinets & cream marble countertop
- Sliding door from kitchen onto deck

CALL today to schedule an appointment!

901 65.30 ROAD, #1000 MONTROSE, CO 81401 **970-249-0493**

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CULVERT REPLACEMENT, REPAIRS SCHEDULED FOR OGDEN ROAD

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — In response to a failing culvert between 6700 Road and Bridges Drive, City of Montrose Streets Division crews will begin repairs and traffic detours at 5 a.m. on Monday, March 27. The roadway is expected to reopen to traffic the following morning, weather permitting. All motorists are asked to adjust routes for their morning and evening commute to avoid Ogden and use Niagara as their primary access to town.

Westbound vehicles will be detoured through The Preserve neighborhood via Outlook Drive onto 6700 Road heading north. Eastbound vehicles will be detoured onto Bridges Drive towards Niagara.

Until the repairs are completed, motorists are urged to use caution in the work area and follow the detours that are in place. Public Works would like to thank



the public for being patient as crews repair the damage. For information, visit <u>CityofMontrose.org</u>.



Spencer Hamner PA-C Se habla Español

Spencer Hamner provides safe, sophisticated care featuring:

- Precancer & Cancer Screenings
- Skin, Nail, & Hair Disease Treatment & Management
- Non-Invasive Repair of Damaged Skin
- MOHs Surgeries
- Cosmetic Procedures
- TeleDerm Appointments
- Parking Lot Check-Ins
- Monthly Specials

Make Integrated Dermatology of Montrose your skincare destination of choice!

3480 Wolverine Dr. Suite F Montrose, CO 81401

Open M-F 8AM-5PM

Call today at **970-252-7444** or visit us at:



www.IntegratedDermatologyofMontrose.com



Let's Grow Together. Advertise with The Mirror! 970-275-0646



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

ROADS ARE FULL OF CHUCK HOLES, OUR TAX FUNDS BLOWN ON PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, BECAUSE THE CITY MANAGER THINKS IT'S THE THING TO DO...

Editor:

We, the readers of The Montrose Mirror, have had the honor and privilege during the last few weeks of reading articles superbly written by some of our local authors. I speak particularly of David White, Jerry Bartholomew, Sue Schmidt and Dee Laird.

While I certainly do not agree with all that they have written they have done remarkable research on their material and put it forth in a fine manner. David White has asked, among other questions, two extremely important questions. The first being how 'lil ole Montrose' can, in good conscience spend large sums of tax receipts (money taken from the population) on numerable kitchens in properties that the city does not even own. Ostensibly this is to foster restaurants to open and employ more of our citizens but it does not seem we need any more eateries. This simply means these new ones take business from the existing ones. Not only that but America (and by definition Montrose) is ostensibly a capitalistic business environment not one run by city hall. I would opine that if city council, manager and employees knew how to run a business that they would be out in town running one and by extension of this thought WITH THEIR OWN MONEY. David points out that our roads are full of chuck holes and we blow TAX FUNDS on private enterprise APPARENTLY just because our city manager thinks that this is the thing to do! Just where is all the money coming from for Bill Bell's frivolous

spending. From the Public Safety Sales Tax larks and strip malls. This fits well with so called excess? the low income jobs he is fostering in the low income jobs he is foste

He goes on in another article citing the inappropriate rolling over to CASB's policies on public education of various sexual proclivities without even a 'squawk' when CASB has no lawful mandate to be obeyed. I Call on every parent who does not wish their children to be so propagandized to 'have a doctor's appointment' whenever those subjects mandated by the state are to be presented. And require announcements as to when they will be presented. Parents should let the school board know their dissatisfaction and demand that the board fight for families rights not to have their kids brainwashed. If the brainwashing continues, perhaps we should bring a Charter School or two to Montrose!

Just why is the city proposing to sell (or give away) our old city and county buildings to the college? Because the college needs space? Let them build what they need. American colleges are receiving huge amounts of tuition money from their students and state funds. Colleges are rich or they are wasting their money. Everybody knows that because the tuition bills are so high. We should not even consider such gifts until EVERY CITY AND COUNTY EMPLOYEE sits in a city or county OWNED OFFFICE! In other words, let we the taxpayers keep our assets (the buildings) and let the college build their own. I guess Bell wants to sell them so he can use the funds for more kitchens or some more of his so-called 'low income housing' larks and strip malls. This fits well with the low income jobs he is fostering in the city subsidized kitchens, eh? We, the taxpayer, WILL NEVER recover what our 'frivolous four' have given to their friends, cronies or golfing buddies.

Over at the county the citizen masses want the gravel pit quashed. Kudos to the BOCC for taking that issue up with the public at numerous county meetings. I have met Matt Miles several times and he seems like a likable cuss but we must realize that he is only interested in getting his way for himself and his cronies. Hence no 'expert' testimony, just the 'considered opinion' of the people who will profit either from the PIT, from their employment or their friendship. From what I have read, a lot of people, their property values, their health and views will be injured for their lifetimes and longer. Promises as proposed by the pro-pit people, the 3-P folks, will last no longer than it takes to get the pit approved and then they do as they wish because such promises, even if reduced to writing, will be unenforceable. I love the new Colorado law HB22-1254 that will force getting the cars of new residents of Colorado to be registered almost immediately. Or will it. I have voiced my displeasure about all of the out of state vehicles parked at residents for months if not years. The law as written is enforceable but not enforced in Montrose. Sue Schmidt wrote a perceptive narration of what I call the "Montrose Mess". Go back and read it folks. Read it and weap! Bill Bennett, Montrose



Western Colorado Farm & Ranch Brokerage (970) 835-9350 · (970) 596-4744 (970) 874-LAND WESTERNRANGE.COM



MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS

APOGEE ADAPT-X FOLDING ALUMINUM TRAILER





Like new, 2022 Adapt-X Apogee 500 folding aluminum trailer, perfect for transporting motorcycles, scooters, ATV's, UTV's, golf carts and more. It folds for storage to occupy a footprint only 39 inches deep. Interior dimensions 61.5 in. x 123 in. Overall width = 83.5 in. Weight = 500 lbs. Loading capacity = 2,212 lbs.

Like new with less than 600 miles. Price: \$5490

BobTownsend42@gmail.com



GAYLE CLARKE MEMORIAL Scholarshp,

<u>Eligibility Criteria</u>

- Graduating senior of Montrose County in the 2023 school year
- Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher
- Planning to attend a post-secondary institution in the fall of 2023
- Community and extracurricular involvement

Apply now: montrosedems.org/scholarship

We welcome all applicants, regardless of gender identity or political affiliation. We support all students and families in Montrose County.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 14, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Paid for by the Montrose County Democratic Party





\$2,000

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

REPRESENTATIVE MARC CATLIN'S HIGHER EDUCATION CRISIS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION BILL IS NOW LAW

Special to the Mirror

DENVER – Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin moved HB23-1007, Higher Education Crisis And Suicide Prevention bill, into law.

The bill was signed by Governor Jared Polis on March 17, 2023. The law requires schools of higher education print the Colorado and National Crisis and Suicide Prevention contact information on the back of student identification cards. The law does not require a state expense. The bipartisan bill received 97% approval from all state legislators. The prime sponsors in the Colorado House of Representatives were Judy Amabile (D-HD49) of Boulder County and Marc Catlin (R-HD58) of Montrose County. The prime sponsor in the Colorado Senate were Dylan Roberts (D-SD8) of Eagle County and Byron Pelton (R-SD1) of Logan County.

Representative Marc Catlin says, "I am concerned at the increase of suicides in our teenagers and young adults, especially on the Western Slope. By printing the suicide hotline numbers on student id cards, we are giving young Coloradans an invitation to ask for help. All across Colorado,

suicide and mental health are on the minds of our residents. This law will elevate awareness of the help that is available to our students." Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin represents the eight counties of Dolores, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel.

Representative Catlin Vice Chairs the Agriculture, Water, & Natural Resources Committee, a member of the Capital Development Committee and Ranking member of the Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee.

This property in the Brown Ranch Subdivision is waiting for you!





Peg Evanoika

REALTOR SRES, Associate Broker Senior Real Estate Specialist The Real Estate Store 500 E. Main St., Montrose O: (970) 279-SOLD (7653) C: (970) 209-3934 This home on a cul-de-sac in Brown Ranch is 2200 square feet of luxurious living. The stucco home has a large, open living area with soft hues of grey, charcoal, and neutral that give a relaxing feel. The main bedroom suite features a soaker tub and dual walk-in closets. Designed with a split floor plan, the guest rooms and bath are opposite the common areas. A spacious dining room and covered patio are just waiting for you to start living and relaxing. Welcome Home!

The Homestead

at Montrose

Volunteers of America SERVICES

Prices starting at \$3260 PER MONTH ASSISTED LIVING STUDIO

- STUDIO/ 1 BR / 2 BR APARTMENT FLOORPLANS
- SECURE ENTRANCES
- OUTDOOR PATIOS
- WALKING SPACES
- ELEVATOR
- SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
- RESTAURANT
- WI-FI & UTILITES INCLUDED
- LAND LINE PHONE NUMBER
- SMOKE-FREE
- TRANSPORTATION
- CONVENIENT LOCATION



55+ ASSISTED LIVING & INDEPENDENT LIVING COMMUNITY

Prices starting at \$1420 PER MONTH INDEPENDENT LIVING 1BR



CONTACT US We look forward to meeting you!



1819 Pavilion Drive Montrose, CO 81401 homesteadatmontrose.org 970-964-3400

SHAUN PETER CASSIDY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Shaun was born in Montrose, CO, on December 24, 1987. This is where he grew up and attended preschool, elementary, middle, and high school. He was raised on his grandparents' farm, surrounded by his large family. He always loved playing various sports such as: soccer, football, baseball, and wrestling. He loved the outdoors, listening to music, and playing the drums; but most of all he loved hanging out with his family and friends. He would always be ready to lend a hand and was always there when you needed him the most. In high school, Shaun really enjoyed auto mechanics. This scholarship is established in Shaun's memory to help a deserving student who plans to further his or her education in the auto mechanics industry.

~ What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone, but what is woven into the lives of others~ Scholarship Description:

One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 will be awarded to either a Montrose School District RE-1J high school graduating senior or to someone who has graduated within the past 2 years and plans to continue his or her education or training in the field of auto mechanics. The scholarship can be used for any accredited vocational/technical program.

This scholarship will be offered annually. Can be used for a Colorado or out of state school or accredited program Name

Ad-

dress_____ (include City & zipcode) Parents name

Cell Phone: ______e-mail:

Career

Goal_____ School/Program: Attachments: Transcript Resume' Letter of Recommendation Essay Question : Explain your financial need and why receiving this scholarship is important to your academic success. Deadline for submitting application April 5

CITY MANAGER SHUTS DOWN REMOVAL OF LETTERS FROM HISTORIC CITY HALL PRIOR TO SALE TO DEVELOPER

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-A City Council discussion as to whether the letters "CITY HALL" should be removed from the historic City Hall Building now that it is being sold to a private hotel developer resulted in City Manager Bill Bell giving Council a firm "no" at the end of the March 20 work session. At the start of the work session, which was held at the Montrose Police Department's new conference room due to renovations to Council chambers, Mayor Dave Frank had moved Discussion Item D, the Otter Pond Dam Utility Relocation Project, to the end of the agenda as Councilor Bynum lives in Otter Pond and wished to recuse. A staff report from Police Chief Blaine Hall on the "2A Report Card" was moved forward on the agenda so that Bynum could take part in the discussion. All councilors were in attendance, with Bynum attending virtually. The session was not live-streamed due to the temporary location.

THANK YOU FROM CMU STUDENTS & STAFF

Mayor Frank welcomed Colorado Mesa University Montrose Campus Director Steve Metheny and Student Services Coordinator Chris Wilcox. Metheny introduced Wilcox and welcomed several CMU students whose studies were enabled through the CMU Success Fund. Students who stepped forward to say thank you for the Success Fund scholarships majored in criminal justice and business.

Wilcox presented demographics and trends. Enrollment has been growing, he said, and could soon return to the pre-COVID enrollment of 300 students, last seen in the Fall semester of 2019. Thirtysix percent of CMU Montrose enrollees are Hispanic, and the typical CMU student is under age 24 and female, Wilcox said. "...We wonder, where are all of the male students...we've got to try to crack the nut on where the male students are." Wilcox hopes to expand CMU Montrose's Outdoor Recreation offerings, and "We still need faculty." **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Council considered a formal Ordinance "Appropriating Funds for the Endowment Fund and Authorizing a Loan for 433S. First Street." Councilor J. David Reed called the item "a house cleaning" ordinance.

Per the new Ordinance, "...The sale price of City Hall, which has the address of 433 South First Street, Montrose, Colorado 81401, is \$1,550,000. Rathbone PropCo, LLC has placed \$50,000 earnest money in escrow and shall pay the City \$250,000 of the sale price at closing. City Council hereby authorizes the loan of \$1,250,000 of the sale price of City Hall to Rathbone PropCo, LLC as a condition of the sale." The ordinance also "authorizes the allocation of \$400.000 to the Colorado Mesa University Foundation to create the Montrose Permanent Fund, for the current fiscal year. The allocation of the \$400,000 is contingent upon the closing of the sale of Citv Hall."

Additional discussion items included the Anderson Road Paving Contract Award, in which Council will be asked to approve \$679,873.30 in expenditures for construction of the Anderson Road Paving Project, including the award of a construction contract to Skip Huston Construction in the amount of \$639,873.30 and a survey/ engineering support contract to Del-Mont Consultants in the amount of \$40,000. Background-A memo from City Engineer Scott Murphy to Council states, "Anderson Road was originally built as a gravel-road commercial park directly off of Townsend Avenue sometime around the mid-80's... Since its initial construction, the roadway has remained more or less in its original configuration with gravel through lanes and no accommodations for pedestrians. This project would pave Anderson Road from Townsend Avenue to Commercial Way and add sidewalks down both sides of the roadway in order to reduce dust emissions, improve aesthetics, and improve pedestrian safety/connectivity... It should be noted that as development continues in the area and when Rio-Grande is extended between East Oak Grove Road and River



The new Montrose Police Facility is being used by the State of Colorado and other entities for training free of charge, Police Chief Blaine Hall said on March 20. Mirror file photo.

Landing, Anderson Road will likely also be further extended to the west at some point in the future."

Also discussed was the 2023 Parks Mower Purchase Recommendation. Council will be asked to approve the purchase of three Toro mowers from Roaring Fork rentals in Glenwood Springs for a total of \$51,423. During the conversation Mayor Frank asked when winter debris would be cleared from sidewalks trails. Public Works Manager Jim Scheid said that everything, including trails, will be washed starting in April.

Finance Director Shani Whitaker asked Council about scheduling a big picture budget meeting, and council and staff agreed to hold the meeting on April 17 following the regular work session. "We can bring in lunch," Bell said. Police Chief Blaine Hall presented a "2A

Report Card." The report focused on hiring, with current officer numbers at 46. There are issues with potential employees passing or agreeing to undergo background checks, Hall said. There were eight officers hired in 2022, with six departures. Hall said he is committed to hiring another school resource officer. The new facility is being used for training by other entities at no charge.

The Police Department held a crime prevention seminar and there are grant opportunities for local businesses to implement <u>CPTED</u> measures.

CITY HALL LETTERS INCLUDED IN SALE From previous pg

Hall said the city is collecting items to be placed in a time capsule for the new public safety facility.

"Can you put me in there?" Mayor Frank said. "It would take a lot more masonry than you thought."

Ninety percent of construction on the new police facility is complete; the parking structure was installed incorrectly and is being replaced.

"We're trying to close out the punch list with all of the items not done correctly," Bell said.

OTTER POND DAM UTILITY RELOCATION PROJECT

Murphy presented information on the unbudgeted relocation of water and sewer utilities around the Otter Pond Dam replacement project, the timing of required improvements, and potential paths forward. "We're carefully monitoring the situation," Murphy said. "So far there has been no drainage of any kind to any home."

Background: A memo from Murphy to Council tells the story, "Otter Pond, located off of Woodgate Road in the City of Montrose, is a private 14-acre pond and residential subdivision first developed around 1994. The pond was created by impounding the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) F-Drain through construction of a dam embankment and outlet works at its northern end as shown in Figure 1. The Otter Pond Circle right of way and utilities were constructed by the developer over top of/ through this embankment. Prior to being turned into a pond, the land was irrigated farmland and was relatively distant from the City's urban core...The pond, its embankment, and outlet works are private amenities owned and maintained by the Otter Pond Homeowner's Association (HOA). A recent records search has indicated that the embankment was never formally permitted with the Bureau of Reclamation (as the F-Drain facility owner) or the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR, as the regulator of water impoundments in the State) ... In the late summer of 2022, city street crews started to receive calls about subsidence at the northern end of Otter Pond Circle over-top of the pond's outlet works. Upon further investigation, it was

Pond were structurally compromised due to corrosion of the pipes. Entire portions of the outlet work pipes (twin 24-inch diameter corrugated metal pipes on steep grade) had failed which was then allowing for erosion, significant soil loss, and development of large underground soil caverns within the embankment. Once the caverns became large enough, they started to collapse in on themselves which then showed up as sinkholes and depressions at the road surface.

"Once discovered, Otter Pond Circle was closed by city street crews in the vicinity of the embankment. Following discovery of the outlet works failure, the Otter Pond HOA reached out to the Colorado DWR, division of dam safety. The regional dam safety engineer performed an emergency inspection of the embankment and immediately ordered the HOA to begin emergency drawdown of the pond on the premise that progression of the embankment to failure was plausible if left in the current condition. The Otter Pond HOA then worked to setup a siphon over the embankment and partially drew down the pond. Since this initial inspection, the dam has remained under a formal fill-level restriction order imposed by the State Engineer. The division of dam safety then worked to determine the jurisdictional status and hazard classification of the pond and its embankment. Following several surveys and modeling of the flood hazard presented a potential failure of the embankment, the division of dam safety determined that the embankment and reservoir do fall under the jurisdiction of the State and classify as a significant hazard. Modeling indicated that a failure of the embankment would lead to flooding several feet deep between Otter Pond and the Uncompanyer River, including much of Woodgate Road and the Community Recreation Center property. Classified as a significant hazard dam under the jurisdiction of the State, repair of the embankment and its outlet works would need to occur under the State's purview and according to their dam-safety rules and requlations. To that end, the Otter Pond HOA hired an engineering consultant specializing in dams to complete design of the repair. In the interest of protecting property downstream of the pond and ensuring the

emergency situation was stabilized as quickly as possible, the City also committed \$100k in ARPA funds to assist with emergency drawdown, design, and repair of the embankment. At this stage in the project, the cost for Otter Pond HOA to replace the dam and its outlet works is estimated to be between \$500k and \$700k."

GENERAL COMMENTS

Councilor Ed Ulibarri commented that water can cause a lot of damage when it starts to flow.

Mayor Frank reminded everyone that the city will be moving offices from the old City Hall to the new. "It's going to be a lot more approachable for our public." Councilor Doug Glaspell encouraged everyone present at the work session to "grab a handful of books" to carry to the new building.

IT Director Greg Story discussed timing of transitions to the new space. Renovations to Council Chambers are scheduled to be complete and chambers open to the public by month's end. The first meeting to be once again held in the Elks Civic Building will take place on April 17.

City Attorney Ben Morris alerted Council that the actual City Hall signage was not presently listed in the list of "exclusions" of things that will remain with the building. "If we want to take those, I probably should know what the group desires...We're just going to leave them at this point."

Mayor Frank expressed concern that citizens could be confused if the signage is not removed, "...They're going to come out and see the lettering for City Hall and be confused."

Morris said, "Am I to take that as a hint that maybe we should take the letters down?"

City Manager Bell intervened. "Let's Wait and see," Bell said. "... we have all the other things that are tied in on the closing date, items that will be removed from the building, so I think we need to talk about process, not just make a decision on the fly."

Frank said, "I don't want to make a decision, I think that's more up to staff and what you've already have planned." With no further business, he adjourned the work session.

determined that the outlet works for Otter

Decorate a Birdhouse at Mosaic Step-by-step Instructions To paint this birdhouse. Or design your own.

5:30-7:30 pm Thr., March 30

21 N. Cascade Ave., Montrose Drink, birdhouse, materials included \$35 Register https://kathrynrburke.com/033023bird

ULIBARRI VOTES NO TO SALE OF HISTORIC CITY HALL, CENTENNIAL ROOM TO HOTEL DEVELOPER <u>From pg 1</u>

order, and all joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Bynum had no changes to the meeting agenda.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved five to one, with Ulibarri voting "no."

ORDINANCE 2616 - SECOND READING Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2616 on second reading, amending Section 6-4-1 (B)(4) of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, Colorado. to correct an internal cross-reference. **ORDINANCE 2617 - SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING**

City Manager Bill Bell said that while Ordinance 2617 was previously approved on first reading, "Tonight is technically the public hearing," he said.

Councilor J. David Reed, who commented extensively upon first reading, asked that those comments be "incorporated into this meeting also." With Ulibarri voting to deny, the rest of the City Council voted to adopt Ordinance 2617 on second reading, "authorizing the sale of real property at 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,"* selling the community's historic City Hall and Centennial Room at a bargain rate to a private hotel developer under the guise of benefitting Colorado Mesa University.

RESOLUTION 2023-04

Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 2023-04, setting May 2, 2023, as the hearing date for the Senergy Addition Annexation.

Background-A memo from Planner William Reis to Council states, "The Senergy Addition is a proposed annexation approximately 35.5 acres in size. The parcel is located along Miami Road, northeast of its residential development on the southern 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.

DRY CEDAR CREEK PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

The Dry Cedar Creek Preliminary Planned Development as presented by Planning Manager Jace Hochwalt was approved unanimously. The applicant is RealAmerica Development, LLC.

Background-A memo from Hochwalt to *Council notes, "…The Residences at Dry* Cedar Creek is a proposed 60-unit multifamily development in southern Montrose. The site does not have an address, but is situated on the south side of Ogden Road, to the east of the Ogden Road and Woodgate roundabout, and directly adjacent to the east of the Montrose Recreation Center. The entire parcel is approximately 7.34 acres in size, although the Planned Development (PD) area proposed is the area north of Dry Cedar Creek, which encompasses 4.41 acres. The property is zoned R-3A Medium High-Density District. The development proposal... includes three buildings. Building 1 is a three-story multi-unit residential building proposed to contain 36 units. Building 2 is a three-story multi-unit residential building proposed to contain 24 units. The third building is a clubhouse that will include amenities for the residents. The site is proposed to contain approximately 1.82 acres of open space, which accounts for 41.3 percent of the Planned Development area. The Preliminary Planned Development was reviewed by the Planning Commission on March 8, 2023, and Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval." THE GROVE SUBDIVISION PRELIMINARY PLAT

Also as presented by Hochwalt, Council voted unanimously to approve the Grove Subdivision Preliminary Plat. Background-A memo from Hochwalt to Council states, "The Grove is a proposed side of Montrose. The property is approximately 44.64 acres in size and is located at the southeast corner of 6725 Road and Otter Road. The property is zoned R-2 Low Density District. The subdivision proposal

anticipates 129 residential lots, and 21.35 percent of the entire property will be retained as open space. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve The Grove Preliminary Plat. A Final Plat will also be required within five years of approval of this Preliminary Plat (City of Montrose Municipal Code, Section 4-7-5(C) (1) (a))."

ORDINANCE 2619 - FIRST READING

Councilors Bynum and Reed left chambers and recused from Agenda Item 12, "Consideration of Ordinance 2619 on first reading... amending the zoning designation of Lot 12 of the Miami Business Park Subdivision Filing No. 1 and Lots 5-11 of the Miami Business Park Subdivision Filing No. 2, totaling 5.56 acres, from OR Office-Residential to R-4 High Density District." The applicant is ESC Partners LLC. Those present voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2619.

Background-A memo from Planner II William Reiss to Council notes, "The Applicant is proposing a request to rezone approximately 5.56 acres from OR Office-Residential District to R-4 High Density District. The site area comprises eight parcels and a trail and detention tract located along the 600 block of E Star Court, adjacent to the south of the Star Drive-In Theatre. The Applicant has expressed interest in constructing a multi-building multi-family development as outlined in their General Project Report... In the current zoning district of OR, the Applicant is required to go through a Conditional Use Permit process for any multi-family construction, and density is limited to approximately 15.0 units/ acre. However, the R-4 zone district would allow multi-family proposals as a use by right (a Planned Development is required if there are multiple buildings proposed on one parcel). Furthermore, the R-4 zone district would allow a higher density of 18.9 units/acre. For these reasons, the Applicant is seeking a rezone from OR Office-Residential District to R-4 High Density District. The property is more particularly described as follows: LOTS 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, AND 11, MIAMI BUSINESS PARK SUBDIVISION, FILING NO. 2, ACCORDING

ULIBARRI VOTES NO TO SALE OF HISTORIC CITY HALL, CENTENNIAL ROOM TO HOTEL DEVELOPER From previous pg

TO THE PLAT RECORDED OCTOBER 29, 2004 UNDER RECEPTION NO. 727951, COUNTY OF MONTROSE, STATE OF COLO-RADO.

ORDINANCE 2618 - FIRST READING

Ordinance 2618 on first reading amends the zoning designation of 122 acres adjacent to the south of the Cobble Creek Golf Course bordering 6400 Road from R-3 Medium Density District with conditions to R-3 Medium Density District with no conditions. Two letters were received from the public on the zoning designation. City Manager Bill Bell reminded Council that the vote on Ordinance 2618 concerned only the zoning and not any transportation issues. Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2618 on first reading as presented, expressly conditioned upon the execution and recording of the Agreement and Declaration of Covenants between the City of Montrose and Weststar Development, LLC that was authorized by City Council for signature at the Feb. 21, 2023 Regular meeting.

During the roll call vote, Ulibarri said, "I have reservations, but if we're only voting on just removing that...then I'd have to say yes."

2023 PARKS TURF CARE CONTRACT AWARD RECOMMENDATION

Council voted unanimously to award the 2023 Parks Turf Care Maintenance Contract to Green and Bearit of Montrose for the total amount of \$119,988.

BUCKLEY PARK PLAYGROUND AWARD RECOMMENDATION

As discussed previously in work session, Council voted unanimously to award the Buckley Park Playground Replacement design/build contract to Just Be You Inc., doing business as Star Playgrounds of Littleton, Colorado, for the not-to-exceed amount of \$420,000.

"I am really excited to see us upgrading those playgrounds and our parks and making them a little more accessible and a little less dangerous," Mayor Frank said.

MOVING MONTROSE FORWARD 2023 CONTRACTED STREET MAINTENANCE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Council voted unanimously to award a contract to OldcastleSW Group (dba United Companies) in the amount of

\$2,900,000 for completion of the Moving Montrose Forward 2023 Contracted Street Maintenance Project.

STAFF REPORTS

BUDGET

Finance Director Shani Wittenberg presented the <u>Sales, Use & Excise tax report</u>. Mayor Frank said that Police Chief Blaine Hall gave a 2A Report Card at the work session, and invited Hall to comment.

"Things are definitely looking up," Hall said. "We are attracting more certified officers to apply with us...I think things are turning around a little bit, may have something to do with the beautiful building we're in...On top of that our training room is just being used constantly," Hall said, "by several different agencies to include the State of Colorado doing a lot of train-

ing there, so it tells me it was definitely needed and it's become a great facility to use; it's centrally located."

Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler said that the city will be moving to new offices on Main Street. To those who need in-person services, she said, "...come see us on Main Street instead of across the street here on South First Street." Councilor Doug Glaspell commended staff for carrying on business and keeping track of office supplies despite the move. Mayor Frank thanked the IT Department

(Greg Story) for keeping up with demands, "...The constant tornado that you're

battling all the time..."

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



PROMISES MADE

PROMISES DELIVERED

BUDGET	
43% of General Operations Allocated to Public Safety	☑ 43% in 2023 = \$8.360 million
STAFFING	
3 Patrol Officers	M M Hired December 2022
1 Community Operations Sergeant	
2 School Resource Officers	🗆 🗹 1 Hired
2 Traffic Unit/Park Safety Officers	🗆 🗹 1 Hired
3 Street Crimes Officers	
3 Detectives	D 🗹 🗹 2 Hired
1 Crime Analyst	
2 Civilian Report Technicians	
1 Public Safety Attorney	
2 Record Technicians	র ব্
FACILITY	
Site Preparation	100% Complete
Move-In	100% Complete
Operational	100% Complete
Construction	90% Complete - Punch List Ongoing
PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	
Hiring & Training	8 New Hires 1 Certified Officer (former Colorado State Patrol) 6 Departures
Western Colorado Law Enforcement Academy (new classes begin May 2023)	Defensive Tactics: MPD, CSP, MCSO, OPD Drug Recognition Expert Certification - State course Community Corrections Interview Class - State course Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Class Mental Health Crisis Intervention Certification
Public Communication	Hosted Business Crime Prevention Meeting Planning Phase: Theft Reduction & Prevention Grant

RESPONSE TO MR. HENRIE: MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS

Editor:

If you were to read two recent letters, one from Mr. Henrie, and one from myself, you might ask yourself : "How can two people reach such radically different conclusions relating to the truth of the issues facing America?"

For instance: Mr. Henrie states: "They increase taxes and the defi-cit, give a little back to the citizens, and spend the rest on liberal causes, and call it a stimulus. Biden tested this theory by spending over \$5 trillion on 'infrastructure' and 'inflation reduction.'"

Mr. Henrie's statements are a sloppy misrepresentation of facts; and although I could spend pages explaining how his statements are wrong, I'll just make a few points: By 2025, government expenditures under the IRA are projected to be \$437B, but will result in revenue of \$737B, resulting in deficit reduction during this period of \$300B (source: Investopedia). This will happen through many mechanisms, including drug pricing reform (decreased Medicade/Medicare outlays), increased IRS enforcement on the wealthy, a minimum 15% corporate tax (for instance, some of the largest corporations in America pay zero tax currently, and Trump is included in this group), etc.

He states: "Instead of an improved economy, we got inflation at a 40 year high". Mr. Henrie doesn't acknowledge, or perhaps understand, that the Pandemic brought economies worldwide to a near standstill, creating a market for increased demand across the board. With increased demand for scarce goods, prices rose. Chip manufacturing, auto manufacturing, food production, shipping and transport, etc, all took a major hit, leading directly to the inflation we are suffering. Auto and grocery prices went up, but it had nothing to do with Democrats. Blaming Democrats might make him feel good, but demonstrates a total lack of understanding of economics, and/or willful ignorance.

The IRA, and the CHIPS act, passed by Democrats during the Biden Administration, were implemented in order to get our economy going again, and to increase our economic resilience by strengthening our infrastructure through building electronic chip, EV manufacturing and associated industries, with products, materials, and resources produced here in the USA. This legislation will cut our reliance on China for these vital commodities. As I said in my previous letter, U.S. manufacturing is gearing up quickly, presently creating literally hundreds of thousands of new jobs in many rural locations. By bringing manufacturing back to the USA, we might eventually stop seeing "Made in China" stamped on nearly everything we buy.

On borders, Mr. Henrie's statements are a mixture of exaggerations and misinformation. His arguments make no sense, including his claims on immigrants, who, on average, are working harder than white welfare recipients; the latter making up the largest number of welfare recipients in the USA.

On Social Security and Medicare, Mr Henrie states: "The idea that Republicans want to abolish these programs is not a Democrat theory --- it is a blatant Democrat lie." Well, here are the actual facts:

Congressional Republicans, in addition to fighting bitterly against the creation of Social Security in the 1930's, calling it "Socialism" at the time, have consistently and repeatedly called for cuts to Social Security, and later, Medicare and Medicaid, dozens of times since they became a reality. Raising the retirement age to 67 or 70, and constant efforts to privatize (which would leave poor seniors without any sort of nestegg), have been a constant in the party; including during the Reagan Administration. They say they would never take these programs away, but their actions over the decades say otherwise, and they have definitely weakened these popular and vital programs. They have consistently attempted to weaken these programs for their entire existence. They claim to be against "entitlements", but are in fact more concerned about preserving entitlements for the rich.

To the extent that there are problems with Social Security, it is incumbent on Congress to fix them. Social Security is worker funded, and not a "tax". There are plenty of ideas out there to keep the program solvent, but beware of Republican plans to "privatize" Social Security and Medicare, because with

regulation-averse Republican oversight, profiteering, and the inevitable resulting fraud, will be the result. Mr. Henrie's description of Social Security as a "Ponzi scheme" shows that he doesn't know what a Ponzi scheme is. Social Security, a program conceived and implemented by Democrats, works. Fix it ... don't throw it out. Like a scratched 45, Mr. Henrie again repeatedly refers to "the Biden Crime Syndicate". The fact is, Joe Biden has never been convicted in a court of law for any infraction. Can the same be said for Donald Trump? Here's the actual score card, which is a matter of public record, and cannot be denied: According the the American Bar Association, by 2019, Trump had been embroiled in over 3500 lawsuits in the course of his career. The report I refer to was written by James Zirin, a self described lifelong moderate Republican. In his report, Zirin stated that "All this aberrant behavior would be problematic in a businessman," ..."But the implications of such conduct in a man who is the president of the United States are nothing less than terrifying.".

Since then, Trump 's reliance on nonstop lawsuits has grown, but he has been losing more often. The Trump organization was found this past fall to be guilty of 17 counts of tax fraud, taking place over several years, and was fined \$1.6M. He lost in 52 separate courts of law with his fraudulent claims of a "stolen election". These lawsuits, aside from being thrown out of court as frivolous, cost the U.S. taxpayers many millions of dollars. I could list many other cases where Trump was found guilty, and fined for charity fraud, racial discrimination, etc., but it would take several more pages. Even Melania Trump is presently under investigation in Florida for charity fraud. Jared Kushner, while employed at the White House, somehow got over \$2 billion for his sovereign wealth fund from the Saudi's as the Trump Misadministration was drawing to an end. Ivanka received 41 patents from China while her daddy was negotiating with the Chinese. These are in the public record, and can easily be verified. Meanwhile, good luck finding a SINGLE verifiable case of corruption in the case of Joe Biden, except in the fevered minds of his opponents. He has a troubled

RESPONSE TO MR. HENRIE: From previous pg

son, who had drug problems, etc., but that's not unusual, even in the best of families. The Hunter Biden corruption case has no merit; and though his work at Burisma may have been unseemly, no legal research, nor Trumps attempted shakedown of President Zelensky, has found evidence of corruption; despite what is claimed in right wing media (In other words ... where's the beef?). Even if it were found to be true, playing on his father's position pales in comparison to the Kushner's hiring by the Trump Administration, and their business dealings, which were pure nepotism. I won't even go into the role that Putin played in this controversy. Mr. Henrie brings up immigration again; apparently disagreeing with my explanation of the some of the causes of the problems at the border in a nonsensical paragraph that shows his lack of understanding of the issues surrounding immigration, and the history behind the issue. I can appreciate that he doesn't understand the issues underlying the problem, given that he listens to "news" and opinions that pander to xenophobia and misinformation. I, on the other hand, was employed in Diplomatic Security at the State Department for five years, have been exposed to the issues first hand. To say that Democrats aren't concerned about border security is simply a lie that people like Mr. Henrie repeat ad-nauseum until they believe it is so. Instead, we are interested in intelligent solutions for border security. Accusations thrown at the opposition party do not solve problems; sincere negotiations across the aisle are the only way to confront the problem. I will add one more issue relating to border security: If you think that mass emigration to the U.S. is bad now, wait until rising temperatures and rising seas, along with the resulting civil strife and war that these will cause, force literally billions of refugees to be on the move, ignoring borders all over the world. The Republican's answer to this existential threat to the human race? Drill Here, Drill Now, Drill Everywhere! ... thus speeding the day when all most of the glaciers in the Arctic and Antarctic melt into the oceans, and flood every coastline in the world.

In the course of his rant, Mr. Henrie accuses Democrats of supporting "defunding the police". Having been in law enforcement for a total of 15 years, I consider this an insult that cannot stand. Yes, a few people who

call themselves Democrats made this call during racial justice demonstrations, but they are a vanishingly small minority. That Republicans have taken up this "defund the police" charge and repeat it endlessly does not make it true; it's simply one more false claim in their seemingly endless list of culture war lies. There are MANY times more national socialists, white supremacists, and simple racists who have flocked to the Republican Party. He also claims, falsely, that crime is higher in areas controlled by Democrats; I already addressed this in my previous letter; but if you don't believe me, look it up yourself on the Snopes fact checking website, where they list this claim as "False". Lying repeatedly about the issues may convince some readers, but, not those who retain critical thinking skills.

He also claims that "Democrats were the party of the KKK, Jim Crow laws, and racial hatred...", totally ignoring the "Southern Strategy" of Nixon, which appealed to southern racists in a successful effort to draw southerners who happened to be racists from the Democratic into the Republican Party. This is another example of either willful ignorance, or a lack of knowledge of history.

Mr. Henrie challenges my knowledge on guns and crime, but, he cherry picks information; citing the fact that mandatory gun ownership in Switzerland leads to lower crime. On the face of it, he is correct, but here's what he leaves out: Military service is mandatory in Switzerland, so gun owners are highly trained. They also have an entirely different regulatory environment, as a opposed to a relatively nonexistent regulatory environment here in the US. Even with mandatory gun requirements, they still have a per-capita gun ownership rate ¼ of that in the US. They have a homogeneous society, many fewer large cities with economic and racial disparities, and are free of the rampant unregulated militias that we have here. So, Switzerland is an exception. I'm a gun owner, and I received training in the military, law enforcement, and through hunting in my youth. I support gun ownership by law abiding citizens, but I also believe in regulation, registration, background checks, and mandatory training and licensing ... period. No reasonable, law-abiding citizen should have any problem with such requirements.

The above disagreements show what happens when almost half of the country listens to intentionally biased news from news organizations with a proven track record of lying to their listeners, and angering them, instead of fostering realistic and reasonable discussions on how to solve our nation's problems. Since Mr. Henrie likely gets much of his information from Fox "News", and other right wing sources, he probably isn't aware of the blatant lying and distortion attributed to Fox News pundits such as Tucker Carlson, Shaun Hannity, and others over the past few weeks. These Fox personalities stated, in recently released records, that they did not believe Trump's claims that "the election was stolen", but STILL spread the Big Lie consistently over the past two years, in order to increase flagging ratings, by telling viewers like Mr. Henrie what they wanted to hear. It is all coming out in the Dominion lawsuit, and soon, Fox listeners will know what the rest of the world knows: Rupert Murdoch's tabloid universe of lies is what has caused the division and strife in U.S. politics, and led to a grifter being elected president. And, in a strange twist of fate, even Murdoch has changed his mind, and has called out Trump as a danger to the USA. Meanwhile, the Butcher of Moscow plays Tucker Carlson's demented rants regularly on Russian TV; which ought to tell Carlson's viewers something ... but I'm not holding my breath that they will see the light. It might be interesting to note that, during Soviet days, Pravda (translation: Truth) was the only sanctioned news outlet in the USSR. I find it interesting that this is the same name that Trump has chosen for his social media toilet.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Trump supporters are behind the decay of decency in every corner of America. Those who support such an obvious and blatant miscreant, while claiming to support "American values", are simply calling out their own moral bankruptcy. It's all led by the Grifter in Chief, who is now calling for violence against our justice system, in a corrupt attempt to fundraise from his deluded supporters to pay legal fees in order to keep himself from being indicted for fraud resulting from numerous criminal investigations. Trump will eventually be held to account for his crimes against our democracy. The damage he has done to our national

RESPONSE TO MR. HENRIE: From previous pg

unity will remain for years to come; however, I am confident that history, as well as our justice system, will judge him in the end.

Since the advent of Trumpism, blatant lying, conspiracy mongering, degraded online behavior, and misinformation in general have exploded in America. Trump's formula, to anyone who has paid attention, is to make ever increasing inflammatory and outrageous statements; each one meant to keep anger alive in his supporters, and move the bar on public discourse lower with every passing week. A reasonable person might ask why, after a lifetime of lying which is off the charts, cheating repeatedly in his business dealings, multiple bankruptcies, and lawsuits too many to list, costing taxpayers millions of dollars, cheating consistently on all three of his wives, generally disgusting behavior, tax fraud, a complete lack of understanding and respect for our Constitution and government, and insulting everyone who has ever crossed his path, anyone would still support the man. This shows the power of a media such as Fox, OAN, Sinclair, Newsmax, Infowars, and others, who capitalize on driving anger by spreading false and misleading information on a massive scale in order to

make money.

Finally, there is nothing I can do to stop the frequent Trump apologist letter writers from spewing their bile and misinformation on a weekly basis in this paper, so I will just have to ignore them (as I hope others will), and stick to discussions that will hopefully lead to solutions to the problems that plague our country. I won't waste any more time than I have responding to their raving, which adds nothing to a forum which exists to promote unity and solutions to the challenges that face us. One would hope, as used to be the case in the days before Trump, that writers who spread lies and misinformation, much of it originating in or amplified by Russia, would be shamed into silence; but, unfortunately, this is simply where we are today. Subtlety, analysis, and reasonable discussions have no place in the Magaverse, so even though they might have real grievances, they cannot offer solutions; only vague hopes to return to a "time of greatness"; which is not possible by complaining ceaselessly and fueling culture wars. A warring society cannot solve problems. This should be apparent from the writings of the aforementioned letter writers, who rarely offer any solutions to the problems of our times; but

instead complain incessantly about Democrats, the Woke, Socialists, and every other culture war issue they can concoct out of whole cloth. They have no answers, so they insult, and spread anger and disaffection. This is the Trump formula; and they have learned it well. This same problem of unglued commentary plagued our new country in the late 18th and throughout the 19th century, until professional journalism practices put a stop to the madness. I look forward to the return of those journalistic values that we were blessed with when I grew up.

As sure as the Sun rises tomorrow, the Trump backing letter writers will attack me, as well as others who tell the actual truth; but we all have to live with the bad as well as the good under the First Amendment. As the saying goes: "sticks and stones". My parents, both Republicans, long ago told me either to ignore, or when appropriate, stand up to those who complain all the time, but offer no solutions. I will follow that advice. One day, one way or another, Trumpism will fall under the weight of its own dishonesty, but, until then, the rest of us will carry on the effort to unite our country in the common cause of American Democracy. David Congour, Montrose





Caring for you like family means AWARD-WINNING CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES



800 S. 3rd Street Montrose, CO 81401 970-249-2211 MontroseHealth.com

f in 💿

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY CONGRATS TO THE CITY ON THEIR NEW CITY HALL - NEEDED OR NOT, TAXPAYERS JUST BOUGHT IT!

By David White

MONTROSE-In a press release dated March 22, the City of Montrose announced that they will officially open their "new" City Hall today, March 27, 2023. With the help of a Grand Junction based moving company, the City began moving their operations into their new digs on Main Street back on March 6th.

On February 15, 2023, the City released a video on the project (<u>City Beat February 15, 2023</u> <u>- YouTube</u>). Featured in the video was Public Works Manager Jim Scheid and Deputy City Manager Ann Morganthaler. At the 3:20 mark in this nicely done video justifying the need for a new City Hall, Mr. Scheid states that **the cost to repair the old "historic" City Hall and associated renovations was "too expensive due to its age" and that renovating the almost 60 year old Wells Fargo building was less expensive,** hence the decision to move City Hall to new quarters.

Then, almost a week later in a press release dated February 21, 2023, the City justified spending \$4.3 million dollars on the new City Hall (so far, with more potentially coming for a new façade for an additional \$4.5+ million dollars) by saying that "Due to its age and the need to make major renovations and improvements, the city is working to move City Hall operations from 433 South First Street to the former Wells Fargo building located at the corner of Main Street and Cascade Avenue. The City Hall Relocation Project is set to be completed this spring, according to Public Works Manager Jim Scheid. Once completed, all City Hall operations and personnel will move into the new space while the initial design phase for renovations to the old City Hall will begin. More City Hall news will be released once it becomes available." (News Flash • City of Montrose • CivicEngage) So, the City of Montrose claims on the one hand that it was too expensive to repair the old City Hall and then a week later states that renovations to the Old City Hall were beginning. Then, out of nowhere, these announcements are followed two weeks later with a VOTE by the City Council on March 8th whereby "City Councilors voted 4-1 to approve Ordinance 2617, on first reading, to **SELL** the city's historic City Hall located at 433 South First Street for

use as a functional educational facility and world-class hotel. Proceeds from the sale will be contributed to a permanent endowment fund in collaboration with the Colorado Mesa University Foundation for further expansion of the CMU-Montrose physical campus and its program offerings."

REALLY?? Why all the subterfuge? The plan ALL ALONG was obviously many months in the making and the public wasn't even brought into the discussion! Million and millions of dollars are being spent for the ultimate benefit of a private business owner and a publicly funded university (CMU) to establish yet another downtown hotel (with no parking to speak of) and a "hospitality program and culinary arts school" with a few dorm rooms to fulfill another piece of the City Manager and the City Council's "Democratic Socialist" agenda.

In spite of all of the lipstick put on this pig of a deal, the City Hall folks conveniently forget to tell you that back on November 7, 2017 that they "hocked" to Zions Bank, the old City Hall building to the tune of \$2,980,504 and the Montrose Pavilion & Events Center for \$7,019,496 for a total of \$10,000,000 in a loan and lease back scheme to principally fund the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA -Colorado Outdoors) project and some street projects as well as to pay off the broker of this deal, D.A. Davidson Companies (D.A. Davidson Companies | The Strength of Advice (dadavidson.com)) the hundreds of thousands of dollars they charged in fees. Through diligent research, it has now been discovered that in order to "sell" the old City Hall to private investors (no doubt below its current value of over \$2.4 million dollars) and also, without a doubt, the taxpayers - you and me, paying for the "renovations" to the building as disclosed in the City's February 21st press release, the City Manager and Council intend to transfer the balance of the "loan for lease" debt owed on the old City Hall to the City owned Montrose Animal Shelter and the Brown Center properties located just north of the City at no doubt a much higher interest rate than the 1.91% they originally received from Zions in 2017 along with a revised lease

payment and payback term.

One thing is for sure, the City leaders are a crafty bunch. They can spend our money on more of these progressive Democratic Socialist schemes than any small-town mafia ever could and usually by keeping it within their everexpanding family of acolytes willing to profit off the taxpayer dole.

And there's no doubt more of this nonsense coming. In a press release dated December 7, 2022, the City P.R. team states:

City Adds Two Iconic Structures to Local Historic Register

Montrose, CO — City Councilors have voted unanimously to place a pair of historic structures located on the City of Montrose's own Register of Historic Places...The historic Montrose Electric Light & Power Co., the original electric power generation station in Montrose located at 44 S Grand Ave, along with the Montrose Radium Ore Sampler, located at 112 W Main Street, were each added to the city's register Tuesday evening during the City Council's regular meeting.

Guard your wallets! Every time they designate something "historic," you can be darn sure your tax dollars are going to flow to a renovation of the building as well as to pay for the installation of curb, gutters, sidewalks, lighting, landscaping or some other improvement to ostensibly make Montrose a better place to live. I think we're all fine with living in a nice place but making it unaffordable for the working man and woman has got to stop as most of this spending has not created any manufacturing jobs, just jobs dependent on people's discretionary income, i.e., the left-over dollars once all their bills are paid.

I'll say it again, <u>WAKE UP MONTROSE</u>! We are being led by a bunch of spendthrifts in the guise of the City Council and a City Manager with grandiose ideas for turning Montrose into the Boulder of Western Colorado.

Mr. White is an active citizen & community servant as well as a business owner, entrepreneur, former Montrose City Councilmember and County Commissioner and has served on many boards and commissions during his career. He & his wife are the parents of six children and have 10 grandchildren & 1 great grandchild.

Get the Mirror

delivered fresh to your phone each week! We are working with **970VIP** to enable our text blast service!



Text MIRROR to 55678 now to opt-in to our NEWS TEXT alerts!

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

MONTROSEMIRROR

Your Source for Local Business News and Information

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

SAMUEL CLAYTON PARSONS May 4, 1946 -March 19, 2023



SAMUEL CLAYTON PARSONS was born on May 4, 1946 in Tampa Florida to his mother, Mildred Louise, and father, Oscar Roscoe Ellerbee. He was the third child of four. His sister, Dorothy, and brothers, Richard and Mark, all stayed in Florida, but Sam set his sights on the west. After living and working across the United States on civil engineering projects like dams and waterways, he finally found his home in Western Colorado and his true passion...antiques. He owned and operated Traders Way, the antique chain just south of Montrose, CO, for over 30 years before retiring and moving to the country outside of Delta, CO. He enjoyed his later years, loved to laugh, and continued to trade antiquities for the remainder of his life. He passed on from this world on March 19, 2023 to join his parents, brothers, and children: Kimberly, Jessica, Michael, and Elliot. He is survived by his son, Sage, his significant other, Deanna, and his granddaughter, Genevieve. He is gone, but not forgotten and lives on through all of the lives he touched.

The Mirrore For coverage that never leaves our readers out in cold ...

www.montrosemirror.com

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ROBERT DAVID HANNUM June 21, 1936- March 14, 2023



ROBERT DAVID HANNUM, 86, of Montrose, passed away of natural causes on March 14, 2023 surrounded by his close family and close friends.

Bob was born in Arvada on June 21, 1936, to George Hannum and Thelma Booth. Bob's younger sister and his only sibling, Shirley Meyers, preceded him in death. Bob spent much of his childhood in Arvada dall David, joined the family, and four but also moved to several other locations within Colorado. According to his calculations, he changed schools 13 times by the time he made it to the eighth grade. When Bob was 13 years old, his mother and father divorced, and that is when his formal education came to an end as he had to grow up quickly to help his family. Bob soon began working full time for his longtime mentor, Warren Bartlett, as a service



station attendant in the Denver area. By the time he reached his 19th birthday, Bob had become the owner of that business. From that day forward, he worked for himself

and owned several businesses throughout his life in Denver, Frisco, and Silverthorne. On March 23, 1963, Bob married (as he would say) his beautiful bride, June (Hagley) Hannum. Bob brought with him his two sons (Russell Lee and Jeffrey Dean) from a previous marriage. June brought with her a daughter (Tammy Lynn) whom they cared for until her passing only 4 months after the marriage. Shortly after their union, Bob and June's first son, Ranyears later, daughter Tina Denise came along.

Bob and June moved from Silverthorne, CO to Montrose, CO in 1988. In 1997, Bob sold his Interstate Battery distribution business and was planning on retiring until he began wholesaling cars, which became a passion of his. In addition, Bob enjoyed water sports, snowmobiling, riding his Harley Davidson, and attending and enter-

ing his hot rods in shows throughout Colorado. He also loved listening to country music and NASCAR. However, he always said the highlight of his life was spending time with family and friends at his cabin on the Grand Mesa.

Bob and June were happily married for just shy of 60 years before Bob's passing. He is survived by his wife (June Hannum Montrose, CO), son (Jeff Hannum-Rifle, CO), son (Rusty Hannum-North Carolina), son (Randy Hannum-Crested Butte), daughter and son in law (Tina and John Beekmann-Durango, CO) step sister (Donna King-Westminster, CO), grandsons, granddaughters, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other assorted family and caring friends.

Services will be held April 1, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Victory Baptist Church, 2890 N Townsend Ave., Montrose. Following the service, there will be a Celebration of Life at the Ute Indian Museum, 17253 Chipeta Rd., Montrose, beginning at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Bob's memory to Hope West, 3090 North 12th St., Grand Junction, CO 81505 or through their website www.hopewestco.org/ways-to-donate/ #ways-to-donate



ART&SOL

PROSPECTOR GULCH SECTION COMPLETED FOR NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Special to Art & Sol

GUNNISON-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Gunnison Ranger District in partnership with the Colorado Trail Foundation (CTF), Student Conservation Association (SCA), Western Colorado Conservation Corps (WCCC) and Clearway Services announce the completion of the final segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST). The 7.3 mile Prospector Gulch section of the CDNST was completed fall 2022 and will officially open summer 2023.

Located within the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness, the Prospector Gulch section was part of a larger CDNST Trail relocation project. The overall trail relocation and reconstruction project entailed 27 different segments and was started in 2006. These projects were completed in partnership with the Pike-San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands. Construction for the Prospector Gulch section began in 2017. Nonmotorized/mechanized tools were used to complete construction including cross-cut saws, pole saws, axes, grubbing/ excavating tools, shovels, buckets, rock breaking tools, chains, hammers and other primitive tools allowed in National Forest



ISSUE 412 March 27 2023

Waterloo Creek, Prospector Gulch section of Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, GMUG NFs. Courtesy photo.

Wilderness. Livestock and pack animals were used to haul in equipment, tools, supplies and camp equipment due to the remote location of the project. Signing of the new trail segment is scheduled for spring 2023. The Prospector Gulch section is the final segment to complete the approximately 58 mile long overall trail project. "Construction of the Prospector Gulch trail segment replaced the motorized Timberline Trail which had been the CDNST," said Greg Austin, Gunnison Ranger District, Trails Manager. "The overall trail project and the Prospector Gulch section were completed by a multitude of partners as well as Forest Service Trail Crews. Planning and implementation of the overall project involved many people including folks who have since retired. We are thrilled to see this finally come to completion and look forward to the opportunity to share with the public."

Decorate a Birdhouse at Mosaic Thr. March 30, 5;30-7:30 pm

Drink, Birdhouse, & art materials included. \$35

Register https://kathrynrburke.com/033023bird



SOLES4SOULS

A Miracle Project to give people hope through re-purposing gently worn shoes.

Drop off new, single, or gently worn shoes of all styles and sizes to the following locations during the month of March:



Sundays, 9:00 am - Noon, Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada

Weekdays - 525 N. 5th Street, front porch box

Weekdays, 7:00 am – 3:00 pm, Geek Coffee, 2305 S. Townsend Avenue, between DMV and Goal High School

Sponsored by the Spiritual Awareness Center

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 <u>https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/</u> Priest: The Rev Gary L. Way, Interim Priest Worship Service Times: Sunday, 9AM, Holy Eucharist. Wednesdays, 11AM Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Independent Baptist 112Main St. P.O. Box 262

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

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

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: Wednesday, Noon, Multi-denominational Community 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. Children's Christian Education Program is conducted during the 9AM service. This is a family-

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

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

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

form@fpcmontrose.com, www.fpcmontrose.com Pastor: Jesse Mabanglo Worship Service times: 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM. We strive to encourage, challenge and support one anoth-

Phone number: (970) 249-9047 Email address: <u>office@montroseucc.org</u> Website: <u>montroseucc.org</u> **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 sized church that welcomes all individuals and families. We are currently comprised of families and singles, ages 13 to 90. Fellowship time follows each Sunday Service with a fellowship meal following the service on the 3d Sunday. Welcome home to a family celebrating Christ, in fellowship, growing in the truth of God's Word, with worship in the Anglican tradition.

Mission statement: Restoring Hope.

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

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.

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.

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.

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-

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

Denomination affiliation: Independent Interfaith Address: Meeting at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Montrose Office hours: Tues-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm, Home Office – 970-252-0908 Contact information: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908, <u>arlyn@spiritaware.org</u>, <u>www.spiritaware.org</u> Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation: Southern Baptist Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403 Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026 email:<u>summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com</u> website: <u>www.summitchurchmontrose.org</u> Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-

roseumc.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

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

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

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

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

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 Giveaway 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.

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 <u>https://</u>

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

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS INAUGURAL PARTNERS PALOOZA EVENT SET FOR MAY 6

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-- Partners Palooza is set to occur on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at Cleland Park in Delta. This event aims to bring awareness to Delta County residents about the numerous resources available to them through more than twenty nonprofit organizations. The celebration will include live performances by local bands Cousin Curtiss, Kipori Woods, and Cabin Dragon, a climbing wall, food trucks, and familyfriendly games.

Delta County's Public Information Officer, Lindsay Mitchell, explained that the event was the brainchild of Delta County and the organization Partners of Delta. The goal is to showcase the many local nonprofits and their missions and to offer them the opportunity to reach citizens in one place. "We have seen an enormous response from the nonprofits and the business community," she said.

Many nonprofits have already committed to being at the event, including Roice-Hurst Humane Society, The Nature Connection, Delta County Library, Delta County Human Services, The Learning Council, River Valley, Peer Kindness, Kidz Clinic, Special Olympics Colorado, and Delta Family Center. The event is made possible by the generous support of sponsors, including The Delta County Independent, Delta County Board of Realtors, Grand Mesa Real Estate, Jack FM, Mesa Rentals, Alpine Bank, King's Concrete, Alpine Bank, and more.

Nonprofits, sponsors, and food trucks who wish to get involved still have time to sign up. An online form is available on the Partners Palooza Facebook page (www.facebook.com/PartnersPalooza), or interested parties can <u>email Lindsay Mitchell</u> or call her at 970-874-3583. Partners Palooza aims to unite as many Delta Coun-



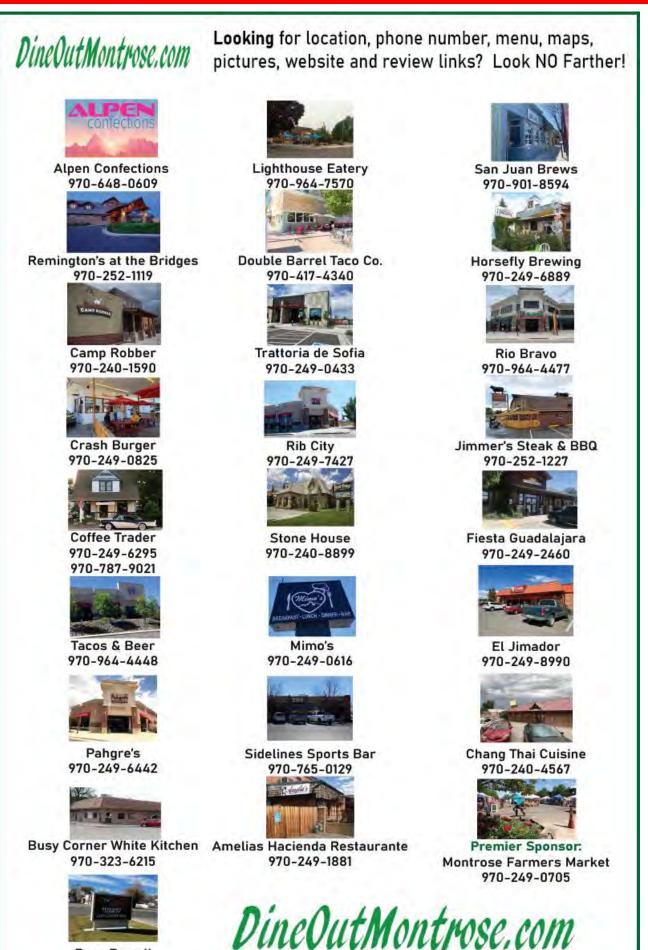
ty nonprofit partners as possible, along with local businesses, entertainers, and the community, in one place for a special event.

The aim is to raise awareness of the resources available to Delta County residents through the nonprofit sector.



REALTOR SRES, Associate Broker Senior Real Estate Specialist The Real Estate Store 500 E. Main St., Montrose O: (970) 279-SOLD (7653) C: (970) 209-3934

Come quickly to see this new home in Brown Ranch Subdivision. The 6'-wide entry immediately welcomes you into the home. Warm tones in the cabinetry as well as quartz countertops throughout are a refreshing combination. Laminate and tile floors are another welcome bonus. The pantry and inviting work island, extending from kitchen into dining area, are both so efficient. Notice the dual walk-in closets in the main suite along with the 5-piece bath with wonderful tile detail. Outside you will find the 21'x12' covered patio ready for entertaining or relaxing. This home is on a cul-de-sac just minutes from the busy-ness of Montrose.



Beer Barn II 970-249-5550

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

FACING THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE



Special to Art & Sol

WORLDWIDE-Millions around the world will join Jehovah's Witnesses the weekend of April 1-2 for a program entitled, "You Can Face the Future With Confidence!" This event will be followed by the annual observance of the Memorial of Christ's death on April 4. In the face of widespread economic strain, national conflicts and social unrest, surveys indicate that confidence in the future is at an all-time low in many countries, including the United States.

According to the 2023 Edelman Trust Barometer, 24 of the 28 countries surveyed are seeing "all-time lows in the number of people who think their families will be better off in five years."

Against this backdrop of pessimism, a special global program featuring the theme, "You Can Face the Future with

Confidence!" will be held on the weekend of April 1-2, 2023. The free 30-minute presentation will be hosted locally at a Montrose Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, with a videoconferencing option available. Please check the "Attend a Meeting" section on the homepage of jw.org for local addresses and meeting times.

"The challenges we face may seem overwhelming, but the Bible holds out a powerful hope for the future that can help us right now," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "This global program is designed to give all those who attend tangible reasons to face the future with confidence."

Colorado resident Isaac Frausto has clung to this Bible-based hope for over 30 years in the face of kidney failure, plasmablastic cancer and a stroke. "No more sorrow, no more pain, ... those are promises that I look forward to," said Frausto of how the Bible's message has helped him endure serious health challenges.

"I could never imagine not having the hope."

The special talk is the first of two free programs that will be held in all 118,000 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses during the first week of April. The public is also invited to join nearly 20 million other global attenders for the annual observance of the Memorial of Jesus Christ's death, to be held on the evening of Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

Admission to both programs is free, and no registration is required.

Details on when and where these events will be held locally are available on jw.org, the official website of Jehovah's Witnesses.

The Mirror: many views, one newspaper.

ALTRUSA LUNCHEON 2023 Photos by Gunnison Clamp







This year's theme was "Fairy Tales," as Altrusa welcomed the community to the Montrose Pavilion on Saturday, March 25 for the 33rd Annual Spring Lunch. Photos by Gunnison Clamp.



Page 66

Local Immunization Providers

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 Uncompany 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/imm unizations

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
Нер А	Нер В
	COVID-19

WALGREENS

2351 South Town (970) 252-1743	send Ave Montrose
Register Online	
Flu	Shingles
Pneumonia	HPV
Tdap	MMR
Td or DT	Rabies
Meningitis	Polio
Varicella	Japanese Encephalitis
Hep A	Typhoid
Нер В	Hep A/Hep B
	COVID-19 (Moderna)

CVS (IN TARGET)

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

Flu	MMR
Hep A	Tdap
Нер В	Varicella
Hep A/Hep B	Pnemococcal
HPV	Meningooccal
Shingles	Нер А/Нер В
Typhoid	Japanese Encephalitis
Polio, adult	COVID-19 (Pfizer & JJ)

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
Нер А	Нер В
	COVID-19

SAFEWAY

1329 South Townsend Ave Montrose(970) 249-1160340B PARTICIPANTRegister onlineFluFluShinglesPneumoniaTetanusHPVPertussisMMRMeningitisHep AHep BCOVID-19

WALMART

16750 South Townsend Ave Montrose(970) 249-7742Walk-in's welcomeFluHep A & Hep BShinglesIPVTdapVaricellaTdPneumococcalMMRMeningococcalCOVID-19 (Moderna & JJ)

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

REVELATION UNFOLDING: ACTION-PACKED BIBLE PROPHECY SEMINAR

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-March 17 thru April 15. Everyday but Monday and Thursdays. 7pm - 8pm. Children's program provided. Our world is changing. Nearly everyone seems to recognize this fact. But what does this change mean, and where is it leading? Revelation Unfolding is an action-packed Bible prophecy seminar that unfolds the Bible's central prophecies and reveals where we are today in the flow of prophetic time. Most importantly, Revelation Unfolding will show you, from the Bible, how to be prepared for the massive changes now taking place in our world.



BIBLE PROPHECY SEMINAR

BEGINS FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 7:00 PM MONTROSE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH 1551 VALLEY RD, MONTROSE, CO 81401



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: EDUCATION

KENNETH GIFFORD NAMED TO MSOE DEAN'S LIST FOR WINTER QUARTER 2023 WITH HIGH HONORS

Special to Art & Sol

MILWAUKEE, WI-- Kenneth Gifford, from Montrose, was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Dean's List with High Honors for the 2023 Winter Quarter. Gifford is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering.

Undergraduate students who have earned at least 30 credits and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher (out of 4.0) are on the Dean's List. Students who have main-

tained a 3.70 or higher receive "high honors." Milwaukee School of Engineering (www.msoe.edu) is the university of choice for those seeking an inclusive community of experiential learners driven to solve the complex challenges of today and tomorrow. The independent, non-profit university has about 2,700 students and was founded in 1903. MSOE offers bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering, business and nursing. Faculty are studentfocused experts who bring real-world experience into the classroom. This approach to learning makes students ready now as well as prepared for the future. Longstanding partnerships with business and industry leaders enable students to learn alongside professional mentors, and challenge them to go beyond what's possible. MSOE graduates are leaders of character, responsible professionals, passionate learners and value creators.





Did you know that we are a local company that offers the following services?

- Digital Loyalty Systems
- Text Message Marketing
- NEW! Digital Mobile Coupons
- NEW! Waitlist System & Birthday Club (Restaurants/Delis)
 - Database Builds for any Organization
 - Help Wanted Broadcasts
- Text Reminder System

 (Physicians, Chiropractors, Massage Therapists, Mechanics, etc.)

Call/Text: 970-417-1516

Email: support@970vip.com

Or Visit: www.TheRevenueGenerator.com 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: AI Head 970-209-0981 or <u>aheadaviation@outlook.com</u>

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 <u>evebeckerdoyle@icloud.com</u>

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 27--On Monday, March 27 at 1p.m. Gunnison author Dave Primus will discuss his new book "Beneath Blue Mesa: The Gunnison River Valley Before the Reservoir", at the Warrior Resource Center, 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way. The program will include historic photos of towns, resorts/hotels and ranches that once existed along this 23-mile stretch of the Gunnison River. The public is welcome to this event sponsored by the Montrose Genealogy Center.

April 5-Passover Seder at Covenant Hebraic Fellowship for Everybody. Did you know that Jesus is all through the Passover seder? If you would like to find out, please join us on Wednesday, April 5 at 5PM or have questions, please call 720-951-9941. Directions will be given.

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

April 5-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Allan Distel, manager of the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District discussing the Cimarron Canal, its history, development, current importance, and maintenance. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, April 5, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in the Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available. Social distancing and COVID procedures are encouraged.

April 11-Tuesday April 11 at 5pm, Citizens' Climate Lobby meets at Montrose Library meeting rm. Nonpartisan, National, Environmental .All welcome info 970-765-9095

April 29— On Saturday, April 29 Steve Fitzhugh will be special guest at the Annual Montrose Area FCA Night of Champions Spring Fundraising Event at Montrose Christian Church (2351 Sunnyside Rd, Montrose). This event is free to attend, but online registration is required: <u>https://</u><u>montroseareafca.org/montrose-banquet</u> because seating is limited. An opportunity for a tax-deductible financial investment will be provided. Formal attire is requested. Individual tickets are free. Childcare is provided but please register online. Reservations can be made at: <u>https://</u><u>montroseareafca.org/montrose-banquet</u> Silent Auction begins, and doors open at 5:30pm. Silent auction ends at 8pm. Banquet begins at 6:30 PM. Live auction begins at 8:10pm. Banquet ends at 9pm.

May 20-Western Slope Group of the Colorado Mountain Club Intro to Hiking Safety takes place Saturday May 20 from 10-11:30am at the Montrose Rec Field House Summit Room \$7 CMCmembers, \$12 nonmembers More info: WSGofCMC@gmail.com Seating limited, register at: <u>https://www.cmc.org/groups-sections/groups-around-the-state/western-slope-group/course-templates/intro-to-hiking-safety-western-slope/intro-to-hiking-safety-montrose-2023</u>

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.

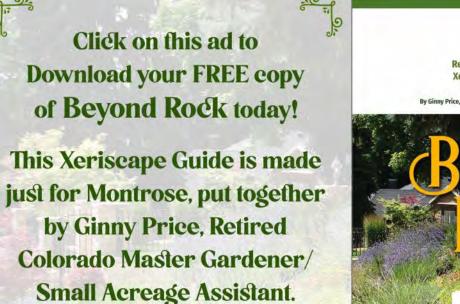
MONTROSEMIRROR

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

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



DELTA-Photographer Deb Reimann snapped this photo of a pronghorn antelope herd near Delta. "These beautiful and unique animals are sometimes called 'speed goats' and the fastest land mammals in North America and can reach speeds up to 70 mmp. They have horns that are pronged and shed every winter along with exceptional eyesight," she said.



Courtesy of **MONTROSEMIRROR** Your Source for Local Business News and Information

