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# the Montrose Mirror

@ Issue No. 531 May 1, 2023

## DMEA APPOINTS EMILY SANCHEZ TO DISTRICT 4 SEAT



*Delta Montrose Electric Association's (DMEA) newest board member Emily Sanchez and DMEA Board President Kyle Martinez. During the April 25, 2023 board meeting Sanchez was appointed to fill the District 4 seat which was vacated by Ken Watson when he moved out of state. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The April 25, 2023 Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 3 p.m. All Board Members were present. Appointment to the District 4 seat recently vacated by Ken Watson was scheduled to be filled following executive session. However, the agenda item, as well as a brief Executive Session, was moved forward and followed approval of the Consent Agenda.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening meeting prayer, determination of a quorum, and approval of the consent agenda (Membership & Meter Report and Minutes from the March Regular Board Meeting).

### Executive Session

The board exited the boardroom for discussion on the District 4 Seat.

Upon their return the

*Continued pg 24*

## MONTROSE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER'S OFFICE NOW OPEN AT NEW LOCATION

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Clerk and Recorder's Office closed April 19-20 and reopened for business on April 24 after moving to a new location. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is always busy, but according to staff, the Monday reopening had customers standing in line before 7:30 a.m. More than 65 customers were served in the first three hours of business. The customer service line remained strong and by 11:30 a.m. there were still two dozen customers sitting or standing in line, with a wait time of more than an hour.

The new location, 317 South Second, offers improved accessibility and a larger service area. The Montrose County Clerk and Recorder's Offices are closed on Friday. For specific hours of business for individual departments phone 970-249-3362.



*Montrose Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) moves to a new location at 317 South Second. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

[Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D:](#)  
[Your Brain on Nature: Rage Gardening 2023!](#)

[Dancing into May](#)  
[By Bob Cox!](#)

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### GRAND VALLEY'S WWII NAVY TORPEDO BOMBER WILL FLY THIS SPRING

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION-After almost 40 years of flying from the Rocky Mountain Wing (RMW) of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Grand Junction Airport Museum and Hangar, the Grumman Avenger TBM-3E Torpedo Bomber is ready to show off it's \$100,000 like factory new, 14-cylinder, 1900 horsepower radial engine, and finish last minute preparation to take to the skies over Grand Junction and the Grand Valley. TBM "309" will be showing its stuff at an OPEN HOUSE this coming May 13th. Everyone is invited to attend, touch and feel "309" and maybe even take a ride in "309's" CAF companion Warbird, the RMW's Navy NE-1 Piper J-3 Cub. The TBM is the largest, heaviest single engine aircraft of WWII and the NE-1 J-3 is the smallest, lightest, piloted Navy aircraft of WWII. TBM "309" is not only just a living example of the Navy Carrier based Avenger, but the Only Certified Colorado Historic Aircraft - and one of a very few still flying Certified National Historic Aircraft. Plan to come to the Grand Junction Airport, May 13, 2023 between 12:00 Noon and 4:00 PM to not only see these truly historic aircraft, but also visit the RMWCAF WWII Museum. Take Horizon Drive east from I-70, first exit from the traffic circle on Eagle Dr, then the next right on Navigator's Way straight to Gate 10. RMW Colonels will provide access to the airport and directions to the CAF Museum and Hangar.

## THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

### REP. MARC CATLIN'S BILL TO EXTEND AG WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IS LAW

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER— Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin sees HB23-1094, Extend Agricultural Workforce Development Program become law. The law extends the terminal date the program will exist. Also, the law allows for the agricultural workforce development program internships to last for one year, instead of just a six-month period.

The program was created in 2018 for Colorado's agriculture industry to find and train interns to help build a well-trained workforce. The development program financially incentivizes farmers, ranchers, and ag businesses to hire and provide hands-on training to individuals who would like to pursue a career in agriculture. The online information for the ag

workforce development program can be [found here](#).

The Law was signed by Governor Jared Polis on April 25, 2023. The bi-partisan bill received 93% approval from all state legislators. The prime sponsors in the Colorado House of Representatives were Meghan Lukens (D-HD26) of Routt 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 Rod Pelton (R-SD35) of Cheyenne County.

Representative Marc Catlin says, "This is legislation that will help build the bench of agriculture in the state of Colorado. Agriculture has remained on the outskirts of town, quietly doing its job providing for communities. This legislation recognizes the farmers' 401K is their land and way of life. This law is one way to protect their investment. Colorado should be proud of its agricultural community."

Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin represents the eight counties of Dolores, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel. Representative Catlin Vice Chairs Agriculture, Water, & Natural Resources Committee, is a member of the Capital Development Committee and Ranking member of the Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee.



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET SUMMER MARKET SEASON STARTS IN MAY

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Montrose Farmers Market Summer market takes place every Saturday from May through October from 9 am to 1 pm in Downtown Montrose. Fresh produce, local meats and eggs, baked goods, beautiful artisan crafts, live music, kids' activities. South Uncompahgre Avenue, Centennial Plaza and South First Street.



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## OUR TAXES GO UP – INVESTORS REAP THE BENEFITS THROUGH CORPORATE SOCIALISM, NOT DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM!

*Editor:*

Corporate Socialism is rampant in Montrose County and Republicans are at the helm directing our tax dollars into the pockets of wealthy investors. Remember, the GOVERNMENT controls who gets our tax dollars BUT corporate socialism transfers wealth from the working class to corporations who generally don't like to share that wealth while democratic socialism transfers wealth into our hands with the intention to eliminate extreme poverty and economic inequality.

How is Corporate Socialism being played out in Montrose? Economic development costs, renovations and improvement expenses, paying for site plans, and business incentives are paid using our tax dollars by leveraging laws established years ago to address "blight and slum areas."

Once designated as an Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) or a Downtown Development Authority (DDA), a special fund known as the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) fund can be established that holds incremental increases in property and sales tax dollars that are realized after development takes place. These funds are used to pay for these investor expenses rather than used to address taxpayer needs like filling chuckholes, improving utility infrastructure (water, sewer, etc.), increase school funding, support fire and police, etc.

Today, TIF funds are used to pay for infrastructure (roads, parking lots, sewer/water lines,) public space improvements, and planning and design and now renovation costs – costs that investors would typically pay! Now your government is using tax dollars we would realize to defray those investor expenses.

What's the latest giveaway? Pursuant to City Council minutes dated December 13, 2022, the City has diverted from the "remaining Downtown Development Authority (DDA) TIF funding" the following: Rathbone Hotel Received \$500,181 in DDA TIF funds (of \$893,750 total expenses) was approved to go to the Rathbone Hotel investors for masonry work

(\$720,570); historic windows (\$70,000 above standard costs); fire suppression (\$53,900); and exterior improvements (\$49,280) on the property at 33 S Cascade Avenue.

But wait – Region 10 and the Colorado Economic Development and International Trade also awarded Rathbone Hotel investors a Community Block Grant for \$400,000. The intent of block grants pursuant to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development is to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Not less than 70% of CDBG funds must be used for activities that benefit that audience. HUD Exchange, <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-state/state-cdbg-program-eligibility-requirements/> So do you think those boutique hotel rooms fit that description?

Scott Stryker (S & J Development Received \$109,695 in DDA TIF funds to help finance a commercial kitchen at the Pomona Brewing Company, 830 North Townsend (NOT IN the DDA designated area!). S & J Development owns this building.

See Special City Council Meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 – <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1842>.

Even though Montrose City Council dissolved the DDA on July 2, 2019 pursuant to Ordinance 2482 (<https://www.cityofmontrose.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3193>) apparently the City has been managing increasing TIF funds. At the time of dissolution, DDA only had \$130,000 in TIF funds and had only loaned out \$20,000 to Daily Bread; \$18,922.72 to The Vine Bistro; \$20,000 to Canyon Creek Bed and Breakfast; \$20,000 to Chuck's Glass; and \$5,500 to Amazing Glaze. Two of those LOANS had been paid back at the time it was dissolved. But the minutes above indicate that the DDA TIF fund had over \$600,000 in it.

**Rathbone Investors to Acquire City Hall – Another Taxpayer Giveaway**

KM Hotel gets yet another taxpayer-owned asset at a bargain basement price. City Council just approved the sale of City Hall, 433 South First Street, for use as a "functional educational facility and world-class hotel." Blog: City Council Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 - <https://www.cityofmontrose.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1870>. Per early articles the plan was to have a restaurant and bar, and, in partnership with the Rathbone investors, dormitories upstairs to create training programs for CMU-Montrose culinary and hotel management students.

**Here are the facts:**

Current actual value per Montrose County assessor records is \$2,374,550 for this building containing 10,459 sq feet of heated space. In May, we are getting increased valuations projected to be 47% above current valuation. So, this number could actually be \$3,490,589.

Rathbone is paying \$1,550,000 -- \$800,000 less than its booked valuation and \$1,500,000 below booked value with the anticipated increase. So that disparity (difference between valuation and price paid) is even GREATER! Think the City will decide our valuations our less than they say they are so we pay less taxes? The City is financing \$1,250,000 (after deducting the \$300,000 Rathbone put down). Well, the City is us so taxpayers are carrying this loan.

It has not been disclosed what interest rate is being charged but it has been indicated to be substantially below prime interest rate.

The new City Hall at 400 East Main Street was purchased by the City for \$1,500,000. Total heated square foot: 23,308. Basement 8,776; Base Area 15,244; Basement Finished 3,654; and Finished Upper Story 4,410. Phase I renovations were \$1,500,000. Phase II renovations were \$1,135,000. Phase I and II included abatement, restoration, and remodeling of the interior spaces on the first and second floor. To date, the City has committed \$4,135,000 to this building. A proposal for Phase III which includes the removal and

*Continued next pg*



# IT'S CORPORATE SOCIALISM, NOT DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM!

## From previous pg

and replacement of the building's white brick façade is bid at \$4,547,213. The City Council has asked the contractor to consider other options that may cost less.

So, what is the cost to taxpayers for this NEW city hall if Phase III is approved? \$8,682,213.

It appears that the City Council has agreed to a memorandum of understanding with CMU to invest funds from the City Hall project (old building) into the Montrose Permanent Fund Endowment that will be used to support higher education initiatives including adding a hospitality management and culinary arts curriculum at CMU's Montrose campus. Question: How much of the \$1,500,000 purchase price will be used for the renovation of 433 S First Street?

### Don't Be Fooled By False Promises of Generating Skilled Jobs in the Hospitality and Culinary Fields

It is estimated that 12 jobs will be created at the Rathbone Hotel for a total salary of \$375,000 per year. What does that look like from a job creation perspective.

1 – Hotel Manager - \$67,000 average base salary

4 – Front Desk - \$28,032 average base salary (\$13.48 Hr)

7 – Housekeeping - \$36,563 average base salary (\$17.58 Hr)

Purely from the estimate provided by the Rathbone Hotel, the annual salary for its anticipated 12 employees would be \$375,000 or \$31,250 per person. It is estimated that a livable wage for Montrose, CO for a single adult is \$38,712. So, the jobs created by this business and the educational experience will pay less than the required minimum livable wage.

### Will the True Owner of the Rathbone Hotel Please Stand Up

Who really owns the Rathbone Hotel? If your answer is two local entrepreneurs – Clay Bales (Thomas Clay Bales) of Montrose and Jason Raible of Telluride (referenced in articles about the Rathbone Hotel project), the answer is NO.

As always, the primary investor has used Limited Liability Corporations (LLC) to create a veil of ownership that makes it difficult to know exactly who owns what. But

the answer is important as we often assume that tax dollars will be used for the benefit of local entrepreneurs who are struggling to make a project work.

Through investigation, it would appear that instead those tax dollars are being used to expand and perpetuate the wealth of those people who need it the least.

Rathbone Propco LLC purchased 33 S Cascade Ave from Uncompaghe Lodge Inc. on 8/1/2022 for \$765,000 one month after this LLC was formed (7/28/2022.) No names were listed on the LLC articles, but the registered agent's address was noted as 100 W Colorado Ave, Ste 209, Telluride, CO (associated with 100th Meridian Law Group, PC) and the mailing address was 66590 Solar Rd, Montrose, CO (associated with Thomas Clay Bales). Jason K. Raible is a broker for Sotheby's International Realty. In articles about this project, it was indicated that Raible was working with Baes.

Montrose County real estate record on 8/1/2022 notes Jason K. Raible (real estate broker for Sotheby's International Realty) and Thomas Clay Bales (living at 66590 Solar Rd), Managers, appears on Warranty Deed but notary acknowledgment is missing.

Montrose County real estate record on 2/27/2023 notes there does not appear to be any authorized person listed in item #5, statement of authority, signed by Thomas Clay Bales and Jason K. Raible as managers of TCB Hospitality 33 LLC, a Colorado limited liability corporation (this LLC formed 9/8/2022 per Secretary of State records and that record contains same addresses as Rathbone Propco LLC.)

Real estate record on 3/2/2023 notes an assessment and financing agreement with Colorado New Energy Improvement District 959768 (allows an additional property tax levy on real estate taxes collected to help buyer defer the up-front cost of HVAC improvements by paying the cost over time as part of their real estate tax payments.)

On December 13, 2022, attached to the Special City Council Meeting Agenda is a letter from Thomas Clay Bales, KM Hotels,

Director of Acquisition & Development), requesting the City to increase the TIF funds due to increased masonry expenses and other increased expenses not originally anticipated when it requested monies for the development. Select Agenda Packet-PDF - <https://montroseco.portal.civicclerk.com/event/497/files>.

So, although this purchase was clouded in LLCs to hide from view the actual investor in this property, the letter requesting an increase in TIF funds clearly established the TRUE purchaser.

### Who is KM Hotels (<https://kmhotels.com/>)?

KM Hotels is a hotel management and development company. When looking at "About Us," its tagline is "Acquisition, Development, Management, Disposition." KM's CEO and President is Mayur Patel. His company manages properties from the 4 largest hotel chains in the world along the east coast and several in-land states. Remember early articles on the Rathbone purchase noted that Bales was in the area looking for investments? "Montrose is a very special place. I was lucky enough to find Montrose while working on due diligence on another hotel opportunity," Bales said. "I have spent my career in hospitality and had the pleasure of working on hotel developments all over the country from Vancouver, Canada, to Washington D.C. and have never found a place where being hospitable is so deeply ingrained in everyone in the community."

<https://www.nbc11news.com/2022/08/25/historic-building-montrose-will-transform-into-boutique-hotel/>

Well, Bales found a jackpot for KM Hotels and a city council willing to finance the venture with your tax dollars. With TIF funds, those dollars will not flow back to you for 30 years!

### Our Taxes Go Up While Investor Costs Go Down and Their Profits Go Up

So, let's recap the CORPORATE socialism give away authorized by our Republican leaders in Montrose noted in this editorial and the one published on March 13, 2023 in The Montrose Mirror:

*Continued next pg*

## IT'S CORPORATE SOCIALISM, NOT DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM!

### From previous pg

**\$500,181 (DDA TIF):** KM Hotels a/k/a Rathbone Hotel for masonry, windows, fire suppression, and landscaping

**\$400,000 (Region 10)** – KM Hotels – purpose of funds unclear

**\$1,500,000** (with 47% estimated valuation increase) – Difference between what KM Hotels paid for 433 South First Street (old City Hall) and the projected new Montrose County assessor valuation

**\$109,695** – Scott Stryker (S & J Development) for a commercial kitchen in the building he owns at 830 North Townsend

**\$8,682,213** – Wells Fargo and construction contractors for New City Hall – costs paid by taxpayers and assumes \$4,547,213 façade Phase III bid is approved

**\$54,603,034** (estimated) (MURA TIF) – Colorado Outdoors to convert farmland to a business park

**\$400,000** (connection fees, building permit fees, trail improvement) – NexCore Group  
So, you, the taxpayer have given up \$66,195,123 – wealth that has been transferred to corporations – while we are facing higher and higher taxes and being asked to provide feedback on how to address the affordable housing issues in our community.

Think these businesses will provide lodging to you at a discount, use their commercial kitchen to serve reduced priced meals, or reduce the cost for leasing medical office space to help defray patient care costs?

At some level it is almost laughable that Montrose taxes are going up while corporations are reaping the benefits of programs Republicans are using to transfer our money to corporations by leveraging programs such as the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and other business incentives. These programs, initially created to reward investment in slum and deteriorating parts of a city, are now the new corporation socialism program.

Throughout the country, none of these conditions apply today in MOST areas where these incentives are being used. Agricultural land is designated as a “slum” area and converted to commercial centers, low-income housing is torn down and replaced by high-rent apartments, buildings are being converted to “boutique” lodging, etc. And, your government is shifting these projects to preferred locations (not necessarily the right locations) as investors influence government or government influence investors with these attractive incentives using taxpayer dollars.

And, corporations now expect and look for these bargains. What's to lose. If it doesn't succeed, the corporation walks and stick the community with the project and debt. And it is a great tax write off to reduce corporate tax liability.

So much for a free market.

Sue Schmidt, Montrose



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# AVOID IRS TAX PENALTIES

remember to start withdrawals from IRAs and other retirement plans to avoid penalties.

If you were born in 1950, or earlier, and have money in a retirement plan, there are important upcoming deadlines for required minimum distributions (RMDs). Not taking a required distribution, or not withdrawing enough, could mean a 50% tax penalty on the amount not distributed. An RMD is an amount that retirement plan and IRA account owners must generally withdraw annually in the year that they turn 73. This age has changed a few times in recent years.

The amount of your RMD depends on your age and account balance at the end of last year. You can delay taking your first RMD until April 1 following the later of the calendar year you reach age 73 (or in a workplace retirement plan when you retire). RMDs are taxable income and can increase your overall tax bracket. There are however ways to minimize the taxable impact of RMD age. To learn more about these, discuss with a financial or tax advisor.

Roth IRAs do not require distributions while the original owner is alive. If you inherited a retirement plan, you may also be required to take an RMD before you reach age 73.

The RMD rules have been updated and changed multiple times in recent years and are set to change again in 2033. It's vital to make sure that you're following these rules mandated by the IRS otherwise you can find yourself in a position with a big tax bill. Contact one of our financial advisors to help you navigate the journey.

CALL US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR  
REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION



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# MIRROR CLASSIFIEDS

## KENADEE HADLOCK WINS 2023 GAYLE CLARKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



**THE MONTROSE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY (MCDP) is delighted to announce our 2023 Gayle Clarke Memorial Scholarship \$2,000 winner, Kenadee Hadlock. Kenadee will attend Northern Colorado University in the fall, majoring in music education with a minor in English. Pictured are Kenadee, her family, Gayle Clarke's daughter Cathy Williams, and Kevin Kuns, MCDP Chair. (Courtesy photo).**



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**1 out of 3 American adults has prediabetes.  
If you have prediabetes, you can make**



## MAYOR BYNUM RESPONDS TO WHISTLEBLOWER CLAIM OF \$3K MONTHLY PAYMENTS TO MONTROSE DAILY PRESS BASED ON 'VERBAL AGREEMENT'

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-A whistleblower's allegations have begun to circulate online in recent weeks, directed at financial decisions made by the Montrose City Council and current City Manager William Bell. One post referenced a decision made several years ago to enter into an ongoing "verbal agreement" with the *Montrose Daily Press* for unspecified services, at a cost to taxpayers of \$3,000 per month.

"...Obligations rarely were met by the paid publication, which caused a headache for staff because there was no written agreement," the source stated.

Mirror reporters were able to verify

claims with a search through the City's "transparency Module," which revealed regular, unspecified, payments to the *Montrose Daily Press*.

When contacted for comment, Montrose Mayor Barbara Bynum responded on behalf of the city, see below:

"Dear Ms. Switzer,  
On behalf of City Council, thank you for your email. I appreciate that you reached out for more information about the City's advertising process and budget.

The City of Montrose budgets for the placement of community announcements, job announcements, ads that describe services offered, and event promotional

ads so that we reach the intended audience for the information with the most cost-effective use of tax dollars.

A few years ago, the *Montrose Daily Press* approached the City with an offer to provide a package deal for advertising across the MDP line of products (print, online, and newsletters). This package deal allows the City to place ads in each issue at a reduced overall price. Previously, individual City departments such as Public Works, OBT, the Police, Planning, Human Resources, and the Black Canyon Golf Course all placed ads in the MDP on a regular basis. Multiple invoices came in from the MDP, and were then billed-out to those various departments. The process was time-consuming and it was sometimes unclear which invoice applied to which ad. The offer to combine almost all advertising into a single flat-fee package for \$3,000 per month was attractive to the City. We continue to use this flat-fee approach.

Legal notices, requests for proposals, and HR classifieds that are published in the back of the printed newspaper are handled separately and are not included in the advertising package.

The City also decided a few years ago to pivot some existing advertising funds to a more regional marketing strategy. This includes radio advertising throughout the western slope on stations in Montrose, Paonia, and Grand Junction. Also, the City advertises in lifestyle print publications that cover the greater western slope region. Regional marketing is used mostly for event and job advertising when the aim is to reach a larger audience.

The City does not pay any media to cover City business. The City uses a long list of media contacts and regularly sends out press releases. Like the *Montrose Mirror*, other regional media outlets sometimes choose to reprint or otherwise use these releases. City press releases are available to anyone, and individuals can subscribe to 'civic alerts' on [CityOfMontrose.org](http://CityOfMontrose.org). Thank you again for reaching out.

**BARBARA BYNUM**

Mayor, City of Montrose"



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**PRAISE HIM MINISTRIES PRESENTS**  
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 2023

**FEATURING**  
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**ALEXANDER PAPPAS**

sponsored by:  
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Tuesday, May 9th, 2023  
 6:30pm  
 Montrose, CO

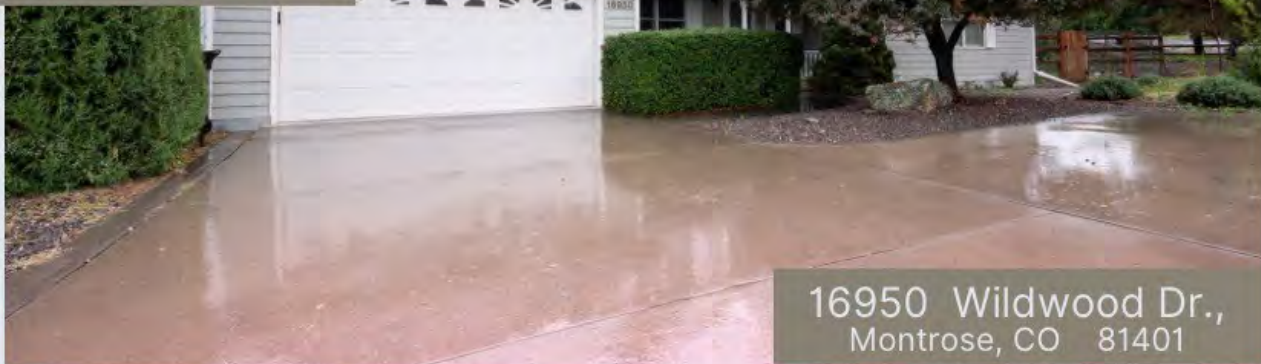
## WOMEN'S GIVING CLUB TO HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING MAY 1

### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Women's Giving Club will have their 2nd quarterly meeting on Monday, May 1 at 5:30. Bridges Golf and Country Club. With a \$100 donation and a \$10 room rental fee (which includes a drink and appetizers) you will be a part of a donation to the local non-profit which garners the most votes post three presentations. Sounds confusing? It's not. Sounds like fun? It most certainly is. Do you have to talk in front of a room full of women who will become your friends? No, you do not. Call 970-209-9598 with questions or just show up at the time mentioned above. All women welcome

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The Real Estate



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- 4 Bedroom
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- 1/2 Acre Corner Lot





# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## SHALL WE BAN THE BIBLE TOO?

Dear Editor,

There is another book in the Montrose Library that discusses homosexuality and gender roles. Some of your readers will agree with what it says. Some will disagree and choose to live in a different way. Each are within their rights. Shall we ban that book, too?

The book is the Bible.

Rick Bleier, Montrose



#NationalVolunteersMonth

DELTA HEALTH

april is  
**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER**  
month

This month is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer services and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. Delta Health would like to shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their communities.

- thank you

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK  
APRIL 16 - 22**



## HOUSE FEELING A LITTLE EMPTY?

Now that the kids are out on their own, do the empty rooms have you thinking it may be time for a change? If this sounds familiar, give us a call today. We can help you navigate this change with ease, get you a great price for your current house, and find you the perfect home for a bright new beginning. Call or text to learn more. We're your Local Certified Residential Specialists!



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## CONTACT US ABOUT OUR NEW LISTING!

1473 Haystack Rd. • Montrose, CO

This Ranch-style home with a split floor plan has 1,377 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, an office, 2 full bathrooms, plus a 2-car extra-long garage, and a fully fenced backyard with a shed that has electric. The homeowner is currently fixing some damaged areas after tenants just moved out.

MLS #801303





# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## BLM SOUTHWEST DISTRICT RAC SHEEP GRAZING SUB-COMMITTEE TO MEET MAY 9

*Special to the mirror*

MONTROSE-The Bureau of Land Management Southwest District Resource Advisory Council will hold the third meeting of a sub-committee formed to study domestic sheep grazing in bighorn sheep habitat on May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The discussion will focus on economics related to livestock grazing and bighorn sheep on BLM-administered lands.

The sub-committee will convene at the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO. The meeting is open to the public.

A thirty-minute public comment period will be provided from 12:45 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Individuals who wish to speak are encouraged to submit a written copy of their statement for the administrative record. Interested parties unable to attend the meeting in person are invited to join online via Zoom (registration required): <https://blm.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltduCqgzouHiKh47gdAt7aB3fSV7gqUsY>.

"Our third meeting will provide an overview of the economics associated with both domestic and bighorn sheep," said **District Manager Stephanie Connolly**.

"We are so appreciative of the hard look the sub-committee is taking into this complex issue."

The Southwest District Resource Advisory Council advises the BLM Colorado Southwest District, which includes the Gunnison, Uncompahgre, and Tres Rios field offices. The sub-committee consists of five members who have demonstrated their interest and experience related to sheep grazing. The sub-committee will aim to present their conclusions to the full Resource Advisory Council for their consideration in fall 2023.

The meeting agenda is available online at: <https://www.blm.gov/sites/default/files/>

[docs/2023-04/2023-0509-AGENDA-Meeting3-SWRAC-Sheep-Grazing-Sub-Committee.pdf](#). The meeting may be recorded.

For more information or to register to speak during the public comment period, please contact Maggie Magee at (970) 240-5323 or [dmagee@blm.gov](mailto:dmagee@blm.gov).



## 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:

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# RE-1J SCHOOLS TO UPDATE CURRICULUM RESOURCES

## Board President forbids use of “technology” at public work session despite state law

### Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-With all but one director present, the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education met for a work session at district offices on Tuesday, April 25. Present along with RE-1J Board President Sarah Fishing were Board Vice President Eric Kelley, District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, and District D Director Tom West. District G Director Stephen Bush was absent.

As a *Mirror* reporter arrived with a camera, Fishing informed all that the session was “no technology,” and that only board members were allowed to use “the required amount of technology.” (See *Editor’s Note on CRS 18-9-305*, below).

### CURRICULUM RESOURCES UPDATE

A presentation on the adoption of new resources was led by a staff team that included RE-1J Academic Services Director Jessica Beller as well as Montrose High School Principal Heidi Voehringer and Assistant Principal Crystal Sabatke-Smith. Presentation materials on the [resource adoption process](#) as well as the are included in the work session packet.

Also included is a [proposal](#) to adopt the [Springboard English Language Arts resource](#) for MCSD Secondary Schools, Grades 6-12.

Current resources are 15 to 20 years old; the district had not purchased new resources for writing classes since 2002, Sabatke said.

The proposed Content Cycle encompasses a seven-year time frame:

23-24: *Personal Wellness, districtwide*

24-25: *Elementary Science*

25-26: *Secondary Science; elementary social studies*

26-27: *Secondary social studies, elementary math*

27-28: *Secondary math: elementary electives & secondary world languages*

28-29: *Secondary electives STEM & Fine Arts*



*Trade-based programs are emphasized over standard tests at Vista Charter School, above, and there are new opportunities and course offerings. The Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education heard an update from Vista at the regular work session on April 25. Mirror file photo.*

### 29-30: Elementary LA & Secondary LA

#### VISTA CHARTER SCHOOL UPDATE

The Board of Education was joined by [Vista Charter School](#) Executive Director Luke Siebert, Principal and Special Education Case Manager Robi Wells, and Counselor Miss Ali.

There have been numerous staff changes; Vista enrollment is currently 161, which is an increase of 41 students. Vista staff would like to see students earlier in their school careers so they have a better chance of helping them succeed. Trade-based programs are emphasized over standard tests, and there are new opportunities and course offerings. The environment is welcoming, and students often prefer Vista to other local schools. Vista Students read to Northside Elementary School students as a part of these programs.

There is a thoughtful approach to discipline, which involves restorative justice rather than punitive justice.

The Vista team would like to reconsider its connection to RE-1J schools, to allow for shared resources and programming, specifically to allow students access to resources from other schools in the district even if they’re attending Vista Charter.

District D Director Tom West said that there are concerns about consistency, Fishing said that the perceived “lack of consistency is concerning.”

**Editor’s Note:** Although previous boards have live-streamed work sessions as well as meetings, the current administration does not live stream the regular work sessions. The “no technology” policy appears to be newly adopted. Still, see [CRS 18-9-305](#). Exceptions. (1) Nothing in sections 18-9-302 to 18-9-304 shall be interpreted to prevent a news agency, or an employee thereof, from using the accepted tools and equipment of that news medium in the course of reporting or investigating a public and newsworthy event...”



Just in thyme for spring ...

**The Mirror**

Homegrown content with flavor.



## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### MR MILES HAS DECIDED TO SUE OUR ELECTED LEADERS

*Editor:*

I support Commissioners Rash, Hansen and Caddy in their unanimous denial of SU22-013. Our commissioners know the law, the code, zoning rules and regulations very, very well; they applied them fairly and appropriately when denying the application. They, along with the Planning Commissioners, gave the applicant due process to present their application. Nothing was arbitrary, capricious, or based on impermissible criteria. Their decision was based on competent, credible and reliable professional data, imparting professional leadership, resonating with the Montrose County Master Plan and Code.

The decision by the County Commissioners is supported by credible, scientific and highly reliable evidence that *is* in the record. Citizens of Montrose County know the Commissioners did not misapply the law in any way, shape or form.

But, in case you can't find it, I have provided the recorded resolution, with its abundant findings of fact, declarations of specific denial, and resolute rejection of a plan that would be materially injurious to Montrose County, as recorded into the public record by the Commissioners.

As a side note, and while I am not a lawyer, if you read the complaint carefully you will note there are multiple egregious errors just in that one filing. The county will set the record straight in their reply to this bogus complaint.

I do also want to provide a clip from an incredibly valuable case law review and Memorandum from Davis, Graham & Stubbs who addressed the topic of "Spot Zoning" in Montrose County. Their professional legal opinion was :

*"Here, there is substantial evidence before the Montrose County Board of County Commissioners to support the position that the Application constitutes prohibited spot zoning...thus if the Application is approved, an injured party will have the ability to prove there is claim for prohibited spot zoning for which relief can be granted and such claim will very likely survive a motion to dismiss."*

From my perspective, we know this will provide support to the Commissioners' decision that SU22-013 was legally denied.

Wouldn't it be great if the developer decided to do something meaningful with the pristine agriculture land?

Carey Simon, Montrose

### ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL HAVE THEIR HEARTS IN THE RIGHT PLACE

*Dear Editor:*

I infrequently read the letters to the Montrose Mirror so imagine my surprise when I took a deep dive into past editions and saw the pages and pages of space that David White has used to drone on and on about how he would have done this, or he would have done that if he were in charge. Well guess what Mr. White, you are not in charge. The voters of Montrose County have had plenty of opportunities to return you to leadership positions since your disastrous and divisive tenure as a Montrose County Commissioner and guess what... they've chosen not to. I understand that if people are in their basements listening to extremist talk shows all day, they're prone to think everyone in elected office is a "Democratic Socialist" or whatever other exaggerated label that gets good ratings with the QAnon crowd. Those of us who have been serving our community for decades understand that the elected members of the Montrose City Council have their hearts in the right place and they're making decisions they believe are best for our community's future. They're not launching impractical lawsuits against our hospital or wasting time with lawyers chasing ghosts at the airport. They're leading. So, to City Manager Bell, Mayor Bynum, Mayor Pro Tem Reed, Councilors Frank, Glaspell and Ulibarri ---please tune out the sour grapes chorus and keep up the good work making Montrose a great place to live, work and play.

*Sincerely,*

Phoebe Benziger

**Because your voice carries a lot of weight.**

montrosemirror.com



# Montrose Botanical Society

## 2023 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The calendar is subject to change so stay tuned for updates.  
Programs are held at the Botanic Gardens (1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose) unless otherwise noted.

### **XERI VERSUS ZERO: WATERWISE GARDENING IN WESTERN COLORADO**

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> • 10:15am - 11:15am  
Montrose Public Library Community Meeting Room  
*Presented by: Landscape architect  
Sara Ungrodt and Bryan Cashion*

### **LAUNCHING OF THE ROSES**

Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> • 9:30am - Noon  
Pruning orientation & review followed by  
hands on pruning of the roses after winter.  
*Presenter Paige Payne*

### **MONTROSE BOTANIC GARDEN WALKING TOUR**

Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> • 10:00am  
*Join Sara Ungrodt for a stroll around the  
gardens and learn about the plants to do well in  
Montrose, the Plant Select program, and low  
water irrigation practices.*

### **AGOGUE GARDEN CSA TOUR**

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> • 10:00 am  
475 Water Ave. Montrose, CO 81401  
(Across the RR tracks from the High School,  
just north of 2 red silos)  
Take a tour of this farm with a freshwater  
aquaponic system. Aquaponics is the  
combination of aquaculture, the growing of fish  
in a closed environment, and hydroponics, the  
growing of plants in a soil-less medium.

### **ROSES: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE BUGLY**

Wednesday, June 14 • 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
*Presenter. Melissa Schreiner. CSU Extension  
Entomologist in conjunction with the American  
Rose Society Outreach Program*

### **PHOTOGRAPHING WILDFLOWERS**

Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> • 10:30am - 11:30am  
Montrose Public Library  
Community Meeting Room  
Jim will give a slide presentation on summer  
wildflowers and tips for photographing  
wildflowers in the wild.  
*Jim Pisarowicz, Montrose photographer and  
member of the Colorado Native Plant Society*

### **SAVE THE DATE! SCARECROW FESTIVAL**

October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

Other gardening programs and field trips in  
the area are sponsored by:

- Plateau Chapter of the Colorado Native Plant Society (CoNPS.org)
- Weehawken Arts (Weehawkenarts.org).

For more information, the schedules are posted  
at the Botanical Gardens entrance kiosk, or visit  
the organization websites for details and any  
registration requirements.

**ALL EVENTS OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Presentations are free, unless otherwise noted • Donations always welcome

**WWW.MONTROSEGARDENS.ORG**



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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION



MONTROSE REGIONAL  
LIBRARY DISTRICT



# UNITED STATES NEWS BRIEFS

## "STAMP OUT HUNGER" FOOD DRIVE

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO — Saturday, May 13th marks the 31st anniversary of one of America's great days of giving — the National Association of Letter Carriers *Stamp Out Hunger* Food drive. Letter Carriers walk through the community every day, often coming face to face with a sad reality for too many, hunger. So, each year on the second Saturday in May, letter carriers across the country collect non-perishable food donations from our customers. These donations go directly to local food pantries to provide food to people in Colorado who need our help. Over the course of its 30-year history, the drive has collected well over 1.82 billion pounds of food, thanks to a postal

service universal delivery network that spans the entire nation, including Puerto Rico, Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands. The need for food donations is great. Currently, more than 35 million Americans are unsure where their next meal is coming from. More than twelve million are children who feel hunger's impact on their overall health and ability to perform in school. And nearly 5.2 million seniors over age 60 are food insecure, with many who live on fixed incomes often too embarrassed to ask for help.

Our food drive's timing is crucial. Food banks and pantries often receive the majority of their donations during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday sea-

sons. By springtime, many pantries are depleted, entering the summer low on supplies at a time when many school breakfast and lunch programs are not available to children in need.

Participating in this year's Letter Carrier Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is simple. Just leave a non-perishable food donation in a bag by your mailbox Saturday, May 13, 2023, and your letter carrier will do the rest. With your help, Letter Carriers and the US Postal Service have collected over 1.82 billion pounds of food in the United States over the 30 years as a national food drive. Please help us in our fight to end hunger, as we celebrate our 31st anniversary year in America's great day of giving.

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## Feeling Lost in the Maze of MEDICARE?



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

**MONDAY, MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> • 6-8 PM**

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## FATIGUE-CAUSED CRASHES CONTINUED TO CLIMB IN 2022



Special to the Mirror

COLORADO- Distractions while driving aren't always something we hold in our hands or sit in our passenger seat, sometimes our body's physical condition, like drowsiness, can be a distraction and prevent us from focusing. According to the [National Safety Council](#), drowsy driving is similar to driving under the influence of alcohol and can make drivers three times more likely to be in a car crash if they are fatigued.

"Fatigue impacts your reaction time, judg-

ment and vision, basically shutting down the senses you need to be safe on the roads," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "It may not be convenient to get a hotel or pull over in a safe place for a nap, but it may make the difference in saving your life."

After Colorado State Troopers saw a concerning jump in driver fatigue and drivers asleep at the wheel causing serious injury and even fatal crashes in 2021, there has only been a slight decline in 2022. According to Patrol distracted driving crash data, there were 88 crashes due to fatigue or a driver falling asleep in 2021. In 2022, these crashes decreased slightly by 4.5% (84 crashes). According to the [National Sleep Foundation](#), drowsy drivers may find themselves weaving back and forth between lanes, unable to maintain the right speed and unable to keep an appropriate distance from other vehicles. They also may be unable to react

in time to avoid an obstacle.

"Never underestimate the importance of a good night's sleep when it comes to driving," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "If you are sleep-deprived, put down the keys."

If you do notice signs of drowsiness, pull over and take a 20-minute nap in a safe place. The [National Sleep Foundation](#) provided some of the top signs of drowsy driving, which are similar to signs of drunk driving

- Heavy eyelids or frequent blinking
- Frequent yawning
- Daydreaming and trouble focusing
- Drifting back and forth between lanes
- Hitting a rumble strip
- Drooping head
- Poor recall of the last few miles
- Missing signs or exits
- Restlessness, irritability, and aggressiveness including tailgating

*Troopers continue to take a low tolerance approach to lane violations while launching a yearlong campaign called "Stay in Your Lane." This campaign is designed to remind people to control their lane position based on their current driving environment. This campaign also aims to bring attention to three of the most common and avoidable behaviors that contribute to lane violations – driving aggressively, driving distracted or driving while impaired.*

69557 Highway 50, Montrose, CO

### Home for sale

What a perfect rural property with beautiful home, GREAT SHOP (1385 Sq Ft) / garage, sheds, hay storage and so nicely landscaped. Live in the country, have animals & toys and be close to town. This beautiful modular, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, and office has great open space, oak cabinetry, vinyl plank flooring and carpet and wonderful windows for light and views. The split floor plan shows a spacious main suite with soaker tub and roomy bath. So much storage in this home, even the laundry is spacious.

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## Share a Cup, Thank You

The MCDP May 2023 community outreach campaign, “Share a Cup, Thank You” invites you to show your appreciation to our teaching community with a small token of thanks in recognition of their incredible efforts.

Each “Share a Cup, Thank You” card is good for one complimentary medium beverage plus a single pastry item at all Montrose Coffee Trader locations. Cards will be distributed to all Montrose County School district educators and their support staff during the final week of school.

100% of donations in any denomination will support this campaign and are most gratefully welcomed.

Donate at [montrosedemocrats.org/thank-educators-2023](https://montrosedemocrats.org/thank-educators-2023) or mail a check to Share a Cup Campaign, PO Box 2126, Montrose, CO 81402.



Helping our community to do  
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### **MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS, 'MURDER DITCH, TALE OF AN OTHERWISE INSIGNIFICANT DITCH TOLD IN FOUR SCENES'**

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Society would like to invite the public to our general meeting and program, Wednesday, May 3rd, 7 pm Montrose Events Center, Nicki Inman with DARG will present "Murder Ditch, Tale of an Otherwise Insignificant Ditch Told in Four Scenes."

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# coloring CONTEST

Winners will help celebrate the Montrose Regional Airport Terminal Expansion at a ribbon cutting ceremony

## CONTEST INFO

Looking for kids ages 5 - 11 to participate in the Montrose Regional Airport Coloring Contest. Contest Winners will receive an invitation to attend the official ribbon cutting ceremony and be one of the **first kids** to ride the **first escalator** in Montrose County. Five winners will be chosen for each coloring page. Multiple entries are allowed.



## PRIZES

- Be one of the first ten kids to ride the first escalator in Montrose County at a ribbon cutting ceremony
- Prize Basket

## COLORING PAGES

Download & print coloring pages from [flymontrose.com/coloringcontest](https://flymontrose.com/coloringcontest)

## TO ENTER

Mail entries to:  
Airport Administration  
2100 Airport Road  
Montrose, CO 81401

Must be postmarked by June 1, 2023  
Need assistance? Call 970-249-3203



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SOLES4SOULS PROJECT A GREAT SUCCESS



*Rev. Arlyn Macdonald presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Christopher Davis, shift manager at Geek Coffee in Montrose, which served as a collection site. 455 shoes were collected. Courtesy photo.*



*Kim Taylor, Manager of Second Impressions, (second from right) accepts a Certificate of Appreciation along with staff members, Mary Dull and Ann Evans, from Rev. Arlyn Macdonald, (far left.) Second Impressions donated four large boxes of shoes from its storeroom. Second Impressions is a project of Community Options, and also provides employment experience to its clients. Courtesy photo.*

#### *Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-455 men's, women's and children's shoes were donated from the community during the recent Soles4Souls project. These gently worn shoes will be sent on to people in developing countries, especially women, to start their own micro-enterprise business selling shoes to help support their families and provide for an education for their children.

"This was such a worthwhile project," said Rev. Arlyn Macdonald, whose Spiritual Awareness Center congregation sponsored the project. "We wanted to do something to help the greater community of life and the response from the commu-

nity was amazing. Zappos paid for the shipping costs, so it was a win-win situation for everyone. I'm sure whoever opens the boxes will know they came from Colorado as a majority of the shoes were hiking boots and shoes." Soles4Souls has already collected 83,125,796 pairs of shoes and pieces of clothing. They also partner with schools across the U.S. to provide new athletic shoes for children in

need to eliminate a barrier to educational and extracurricular programs and provide shoes and clothing to people in crisis.

"We've already had requests to do the project again next year," she added. A special thank you is extended to Geek Coffee and Second Impressions for their assistance in collecting the shoes and to the UPS Store for their assistance in shipping.

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## DMEA APPOINTS EMILY SANCHEZ TO DISTRICT 4 SEAT From

board voted unanimously to appoint candidate Emily Sanchez to fill the seat.

Sanchez, one of four finalists interviewed, will complete Watson's term and be eligible for re-election in 2025. Sanchez was welcomed as she took her seat at the table. With the addition of Sanchez, President Kyle Martinez will make appointments to adjust board committees.

### Member Comments

DMEA co-op members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments, which for this meeting were scheduled for 5 p.m.

### Introductions:

John Broadbrooks (Operation Round-Up Trustee) and Kent Cloward (Delta) attended in-person; member Mike Atwood (Paonia) and Tasha Englehart attended via Zoom.

### Board Committee Reports:

**Finance-Audit-Rate Committee (FAR)** – Damon Lockhart, Chair.

Lockhart said, "We had discussion mostly on Form 7. Our folks [staff] are doing a deep dive into this thing and looking at our finances. We talked about how funds transfer out, but inconsistent with the CFC [Cooperative Finance Corporation] formula. Second, we discussed the 2022 audit with a new auditor. Thirdly, Capital Credit allocation and two different methods; revenue [how much each member brings to the co-op] and kilowatt hours. We decided to continue with revenue, the same as last year." Capital Credit Allocation approved unanimously.

**Engineering – Construction – Energy Services Committee** – Stacia Cannon, Chair.

Cannon said, "We did not meet. Nothing to report."

**Member Relations Committee** – Bill Patterson, Chair.

Patterson said, "Did not meet."

**Executive Committee** – Kyle Martinez, Chair.

Martinez said "We discussed the District 4 seat. There were 10 candidates and we interviewed four."

**Non-Privileged CEO Report** – CEO Jack Johnston.

Johnston gave the board prototype of a fact sheet for his report (potential classes, Gunnison rate increase), as well as circu-

lating magazine articles that might be of general interest to the board.

Johnston said, "You may have heard there is a lot of concern about flooding in Delta County. Possibly moving prisoners out of prison temporarily. Substation-wise we are okay. Sandbags are passed around; we have equipment and personnel [if needed]. DMEA is not an immediate risk."

Concerning the use of the DMEA Community Room, Johnston said, "We have a set of guidelines for non-profits during business hours, 8 am – 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. After-hours [use] is a burden on dispatchers. We won't be requiring a deposit."

Johnston updated the board on legislative issues, particularly SB 1282 (Colorado Consumer Protection Act) and HB 1039 (Resource Adequacy). DMEA will be looking at rate structures of other co-ops that are addressing net-metering on their systems. Johnston said, "We have 1,500 net-meters on our system." He touched briefly on the Light Up the Navajo project, giving board members a direct phone number to dispatchers in case they get calls from members about outages, grants, the country western theme for the annual meeting, and the hydro start-up.

For this meeting, no public financial report was given other than Johnston saying, "Financially 4.3 positive for the first quarter of the year." Johnston did not ask Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Gayle Gouker to give a Financial Report with Variance Report, nor did any member of the board ask questions concerning financial issues, or the lack of a report.

Vegetation Management Supervisor. James Benton compared Asplundh (contract vegetation crews) with the in-house DMEA crews. He said, "DMEA is outperforming Asplundh. Our crews are exceeding expectations. The City of Olathe is complete, it's 100 percent trimmed out. From Olathe to Delta will take about a year and a half to complete. It takes three-years for a whole cycle."

### Capital Projects

Johnston said, "An issue has come up with two tree trimming trucks. The assumption made at the time was the hopper could be fully filled. There is a weight

limit on our vehicles. Two new trucks will maximize job requirements. This is an unbudgeted item for 2023." The purchase of two new trucks was approved unanimously.

**Non-Privileged Legal Report** – Jeff Hurd, Attorney.

Attorney Sarah Abbott, a colleague of Hurd, was present and learning the landscape as general counsel for DMEA.

Hurd reported on certifications for the upcoming election. Two of the three seats open are contested. Ballots will go out and voting will start May 15 and close June 13. Other activities from the legal department included fiber construction agreements, board policy index review scheduled for next month, and legislative issues. Hurd said, "I'll reserve the rest of my report for executive session."

### Representative Reports

**Western United Electrical Supply (WUES) Report** – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, "Going there [meeting] Thursday."

**Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) Report** – Damon Lockhart.

Lockhart said, "There will be a virtual meeting in May. The legislative [issues] are moving so fast that there is no point in reporting on them. A lot of differences of opinion come out of CREA. The big one I'm thinking is the Consumer Protection. CREA invested in commercial paper with the highest interest rate."

**Conference, Webinar, etc. Attendance Reports**

Cannon attended the Club 20 Spring Conference. She said, "There was a lot about energy." Patterson discussed United Power as it pertains to electric vehicles and the potential for batteries feeding the grid.

### Informational Item:

**Unclaimed Capital Credit Fund Balance/Recent Donations**

DMEA tries to maintain a fund balance of at least \$50,000. Retirement of Unclaimed Capital Credits is done on a three-year cycle, with 2025 being the next year for retirements. Currently The balance is approximately \$1 M.

**Operation Round-Up Bylaws and Trustee Status Update**



# **DMEA APPOINTS EMILY SANCHEZ From previous**

Operation Round-Up Trustee John Broadbrooks proposed some amendments to the Bylaws, Article 27 and Article 29. He said, "We are having more requests than we can honor. Right now we aren't able to serve a lot of the requests we are getting. We have \$70,000 in reserves [bylaw requirement] that are sitting there not serving the purpose. We'd like to have the flexibility to spend that \$70,000." The second change proposed by Broadbrooks concerned the required yearly audit. He said, "Take out [the word] audit and say review. The cost for a full audit by a CPA is \$6,000. We want to be good stewards of DMEA member's money."

The board decided to send the issue to the Member Relations Committee for further review and consideration.

Dennis Olmstead and Judy Weaver were appointed Operation Round-Up trustees.

## **Member Comments**

Paonia member Mike Atwood said, "A few months ago I got a transformer upgrade that I had to pay for. When and who pays for grid upgrades?"

Atwood also expressed concern about DMEA power supplier Guzman Energy and how their business model works. He said, "They are a trading firm [similar to Enron]."

Fleming said, "There is a campaign against Guzman, saying they are unreliable and don't keep promises, but nothing specific." DMEA has found Guzman to be reliable.

## **Future Meetings**

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. on May 23, 2023.

## **Executive Session**

-Privileged CEO Report

-Privileged Legal Reports: Corporate, Litigation, and Regulatory Matters including Legal Bills

-Cyber Security Consultant Update

**Executive Session Summary**—Amy Taylor, Executive Assistant.

In an email Taylor summarized the executive session, "At 5:53 p.m., upon motion from Director Lockhart, seconded by Director Fleming, the board unanimously approved to enter executive session to receive a privileged CEO report; to review a privileged legal report highlighting key corporate, litigation, and regulatory matters; and to review an update from DMEA's cyber security consultant.

Director Sanchez left the meeting at 6:10 p.m. At 7:05 p.m., upon motion from Director Patterson, seconded by Director Lockhart, the board unanimously approved exiting executive session. There

were no action items from executive session to address."

**Background**—During meetings the board of directors hear verbal summary reports of their monthly meetings and activities. Co-op membership has access to some of the written staff reports submitted for board approval, i.e., minutes of the previous meeting, CEO report, and action items (resolutions). Following the meeting members can access packet information through SmartHub, the online service which allows members to manage their DMEA accounts.

Dist. 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449, [bpatterson@montrose.net](mailto:bpatterson@montrose.net)

Dist. 2 - Kyle Martinez, 970-615-7124, [kyle@touchofcarepcp.com](mailto:kyle@touchofcarepcp.com)

Dist. 3 - Jacob Gray, 970-778-9512, [jacob.gray@dmea.com](mailto:jacob.gray@dmea.com)

Dist. 4 - Emily Sanchez

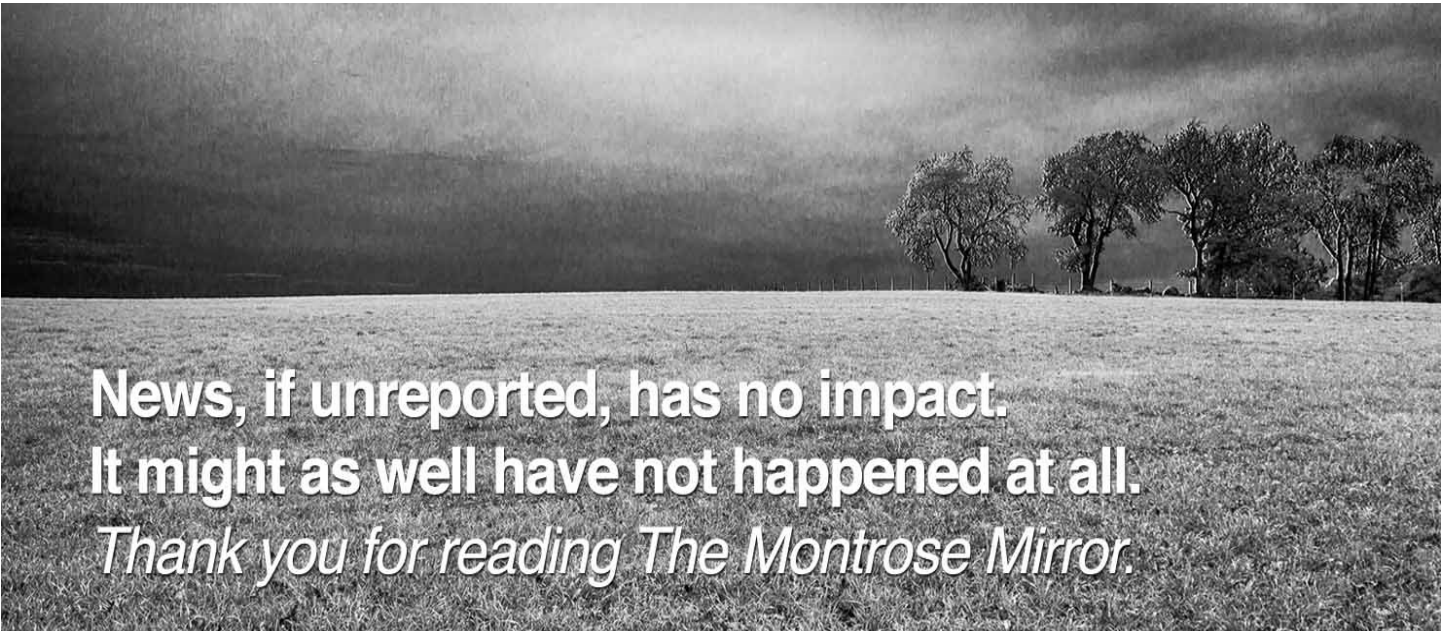
Dist. 5 - Kevin Williams, 406-839-1603, [kevin.williams@dmea.com](mailto:kevin.williams@dmea.com)

Dist. 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071, [damon.lockhart@dmea.com](mailto:damon.lockhart@dmea.com)

Dist. 7 - Enno Heuscher, 970-270-6523, [enno.heuscher@dmea.com](mailto:enno.heuscher@dmea.com)

Dist. 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-207-8831, [stacia.cannon@dmea.com](mailto:stacia.cannon@dmea.com)

Dist. 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-275-1808, [jock.fleming@dmea.com](mailto:jock.fleming@dmea.com)



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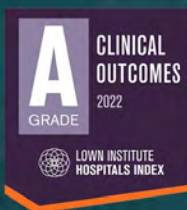
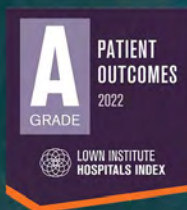




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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BLM PLANS TO CONDUCT PRESCRIBED FIRES ON WEST DOLORES RIM AND ANIMAS CITY MOUNTAIN

*Special to the Mirror*

DOLORES— The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to conduct two prescribed fire treatments within the Tres Rios Field Office this spring.

If conditions are right, the burns could occur between May 1 and 15. Fire crews would ignite up to twelve burn units using a combination of ground and aerial resources and patrol the burns until extinguished. The plan involves continuing treatment of up to seven units totaling about 1,254 acres in the West Dolores Rim project area east of Dove Creek in Dolores and San Miguel counties. The area is dominated by ponderosa pine and Gambel oak and locally referred to as the “East and North Pines.”

The BLM is also tracking weather and fuel conditions, along with firefighter availability, for conducting a controlled burn of up to five units of the Animas City Mountain project area in Durango, CO. BLM fire specialists estimate that the ignition of up to 494 acres of ponderosa pine and Gambel oak could take two to three days or more

and require a brief closure of Animas City Mountain trailheads and access points to ensure public and firefighter safety. The BLM expects to use designated trails as containment lines. To protect nesting peregrine falcons, the two northernmost units would not be part of a spring burn. “These planned burn projects are designed to improve ecosystem resiliency, enhance wildlife habitat, and reduce the potential for catastrophic fire on BLM-managed public lands in the Durango area,” said acting **Tres Rios Field Manager Derek Padilla**. “The BLM is working collaboratively with our partners to safely implement these important treatments. We ask for the community’s patience as we move forward to increase fire resiliency in southwest Colorado.”

Conducted under appropriate weather and vegetative conditions, prescribed fire mimics natural processes, improves forage for wildlife, increases plant diversity by creating breaks in the understory where grasses and flowers can thrive, and effectively reduces hazardous fuels while en-

hancing woodland health.

The projects are part of the BLM’s ongoing commitment to protect human health and safety while maintaining or enhancing forest and woodland health and functionality. To make this project a success, the BLM is in close coordination with federal, county, and local government partners, as well as non-governmental organizations, emergency managers, fire departments, public health officials, and state smoke regulators.

Current information on the Animas City Mountain prescribed fire treatment will be posted online at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cosjd-animas-city-mountain-prescribed-burn/>. Follow the BLM Southwest Colorado Fire and Aviation Management Unit Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BLMMontroseFireUnit> and Twitter at [https://twitter.com/SWD\\_Fire](https://twitter.com/SWD_Fire) for the latest information on wildland fire and prescribed burns in the BLM Southwest District.

# SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



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## MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS



# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## FIRST COLORADO BAT TESTS POSITIVE FOR DEADLY WHITE-NOSE SYNDROME

*Special to the Mirror*

**LA JUNTA**— A bat infected with white-nose syndrome, a disease caused by an invasive fungus that has killed millions of bats in North America, has been confirmed in a bat in Colorado for the first time.

The bat was an adult, female Yuma bat (*Myotis yumanensis*) found March 29 by National Park Service (NPS) staff at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site in Otero County outside of La Junta. It was on the ground and unable to fly. It appeared to have a white powdery substance on its forearms. NPS staff euthanized the bat and sent it to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Wildlife Health Center for testing.

Laboratory tests conducted by the USGS confirmed the bat had wing lesions characteristic of WNS and was positive for *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd), the fungus that causes the disease.

Last summer, USGS researchers detected the presence of the fungus on a Yuma bat at Bent's Old Fort during a disease surveillance study funded by NPS. None of the 25 bats captured at that time had signs of WNS. White-nose syndrome affects hibernating bats, often resulting in death before or shortly after they emerge from hibernation in the spring. The fungus also was found at three other sites in Colorado last year — in Baca, Larimer and Routt counties.

"After the discovery of Pd last year, we expected this news was inevitable in a year or two, given the experience in other states as white-nose syndrome has spread

westward," said Tina Jackson, CPW Species Conservation Coordinator. "We've been monitoring for the fungus for a number of years and this is the same pattern seen in other states."

Jackson said CPW will continue to study bats statewide with additional surveys planned this year in collaboration with partners, like NPS and USGS, to assess the spread of white-nose syndrome and its impact on the native bats of Colorado. "We are working with our partners to monitor these and other bat colonies. Scientists around the world are searching for vaccines and treatments and many actions have already been taken to help conserve bats, minimize the spread and impact of white-nose syndrome and to minimize other sources of mortality for vulnerable bat species. We will implement the most effective measures to ensure our bats' continued survival throughout our state."

White-nose syndrome was first documented in New York state in 2006. Since then it has been confirmed in 12 North American bat species and, with the addition of Colorado, it now occurs in 39 states and seven Canadian provinces.

The impact of the disease in Colorado could be devastating. Of the 19 bat species native to Colorado, at least 13 may be susceptible to this disease. Any large-scale loss of bats would spell trouble for the health of Colorado's ecosystems and economy, given estimates that these voracious insect eaters contribute \$3 billion annually to the U.S. agricultural economy through pest control.

The fungus does not infect humans or pets, and bats are the primary way the fungus spreads. However, the fungus can be transported on gear and clothing that has been in contact with contaminated environments, such as caves where bats hibernate.

State and federal agencies in Colorado and throughout the U.S. ask that outdoors enthusiasts help by following these recommendations:

- Stay out of closed caves and mines.
- Decontaminate footwear and all cave gear before and after visiting or touring caves and other places where bats live.
- Do not touch bats. Report dead or sick ones to CPW by calling 303-291-7771 or email [wildlife.batline@state.co.us](mailto:wildlife.batline@state.co.us).
- Gear and clothing used in areas where Pd or WNS occurs should not be used in areas where Pd is not known to occur. White-Nose Syndrome ([whitenosesyndrome.org](http://whitenosesyndrome.org))
- To avoid accidentally transporting bats, check canopies, umbrellas and other outdoor items for any bats that may have roosted in a nook or cranny.

Visit CPW's website for more information on WNS.

Cooperating state and federal agencies in Colorado include:

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- U.S. Geological Survey
- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

See the full range of national decontamination guidance for the U.S. at <https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination>



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## GOD LOVES AMERICA WHETHER THE AMERICA-HATERS LIKE IT OR NOT

Editor;

"Democracy---democracy---democracy"!!! The latest usual rally cry from Democrat politicians. It's pathetic how in the last 12 months they constantly use the word "democracy" in their statements and speeches to imply they are concerned about America and patriotic beyond reproach, but their clever word salads are phony and their deeds give them away for who they really are. They apparently all get the message the same day about what words to use that day or week to describe their phony anti-American agenda, but their misuse of the word "democracy" is not excusable. They have no shame! They are purposefully working overtime to deny you of your democracy. They imply your rights are derived from those who control the government. They are not. they are "endowed by our Creator....to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them".

One of the limited powers of the US Congress is to establish a uniform rule of naturalization which is the power to create laws for legal immigration. Sadly, this is one of many laws our government no longer adheres to because we have an America-hating president and Democrat party-turned Marxist dictators who have torn up our Constitution, which has resulted in the massive foreign invasion and destruction of America we are witnessing today. In the end this invasion will be responsible for the fall of the United States of America. Democrats constantly use the word "democracy" in their speeches as their cover. You see, their tactic is that if they want to sneakily destroy something sacred they will constantly place it in high regard in their phony speeches and statements to their news media buddies to cover for their actions behind the scene to destroy it; an old physiological trick!

In order to enslave a once free people children were raised to hate freedom, favoring Marxist principles of division, pitting themselves against one another over a senseless list of divisive issues. "Every

kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand."----Matthew 12:25. Democrats are demoralizing American children by promoting "drag queens" and men in girls clothing and lipstick in female shower rooms. Democrats are authorizing \$1.2 million(your tax money)for LGBTQIA+ "pride centers". \$1.2 million (your tax money)for "services for DACA recipients"(aka free everything for illegal aliens). \$1million (your tax money)for Zora's house in Ohio, a co-working community space.(huh?) \$3 million (your tax money) for the American LGBTQ+ museum in New York City. \$3.6 million for the Michelle Obama trail in Georgia. Just a scant example of Democrats' manipulation and abuse of our "democracy"! The Library of Medicine revealed there is evidence that young transgender people are particularly vulnerable to violent radicalization. In fact, a member of a group called "Rainbow Reload" was quoted as saying, "If the world is dangerous, then you have to be dangerous back, and that very much has pushed me into where I am now." Is this the Democrat definition of "democracy"? And now the Biden ilk are exercising their derangement syndrome to convert military equipment over to electric vehicles!! GREAT!! Can't you just see the Abrams tank after traversing over hill over dale and onto the dusty trail and then the China battery goes dead?? Only Democrats could think up such insanity! And who would vote for those who hate America that bad as to get us defeated on the battle field with a dead battery bought in China? And our illiterate president announced he wants to "finish the job"! After what he's already done to America, that should bring fear to all. Everyday it looks like he is already finished!! If "the job" is bringing the United States to its knees, he's on track. His "finish the job" slogan sounds more like a threat and a Obama order rather than a guarantee of future prosperity.

Biden has failed America. He has broke his promises. He constantly shouts vile re-

marks about "MAGA, MAGA, MAGA" as he staggers around, falls going up stairs, and shaking hands with the air. He destroys all the good things other people have done for America and his intent is to finish the job destroying America. His latest America-hating tirades is to penalize people with good credit by charging them higher interest rates on a home loan than those with poor credit and rewarding poor credit with lower interest rates than those with good credit! That's all part of Obama's Marxist "spreading the wealth." And then there's the idiotic college loan forgiveness scheme of spreading the wealth and buying votes!! And now Democrats have introduced a Bill in Congress that would make LGBT invaders immune from detention at the border!! Yup.....now all they have to do at the border is say, "hey, I'm queer step aside you oppressive American I have a right to come here for all the free stuff!! Ya just can't make this insanity up!!! Remember this? "On this January day, my whole soul is in this: Bringing America together; uniting our people and uniting our nation; history, faith, and reason show the way; the way of unity. We can see each other not as adversaries, but as neighbors. We can treat each other with dignity and respect. We can join forces, stop the shouting, and lower the temperature. For without unity, there is no peace, only bitterness and fury". Biden only managed to make his last sentence come true, "only bitterness and fury" with his Trump derangement syndrome. He is obsessed with his anti-MAGA hatred. Biden hates what he is afraid of and he is afraid of what he hates!

He forgets MAGA people represent over half America's population. an honest election would have allowed Trump to win the election in a fair election. But Biden announced to the news media just days prior to the 2020 election that he had just developed the most sophisticated voter fraud scheme ever. And it worked.

Remember.....God loves America whether the America-haters like it or not!  
*Jerry Bartholome, Montrose*



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE COMMISSION TO MEET MAY 3 - 4



### *Special to the Mirror*

GLENWOOD SPRINGS-At a hybrid meeting in Glenwood Springs, the Commission will conduct a Final Wolf Restoration and Management Plan Overview and consider final regulations regarding payment of compensation for gray wolf depredation.

The Commission will consider final regulations authorizing owners of livestock to file applications with CPW seeking to injuriously or lethally take gray wolves, including applications seeking retroactive authorization for take of wolves caught in the act of attacking livestock or working dogs and consider regulations codifying procedures related to the filing and review of applications seeking authorization

to injuriously or lethally take wolves, and related administrative appeals. In addition, the Commission will reflect and take a vote on approving the Final Wolf Restoration and Management Plan.

The Commission will open for final consideration on adoption of all limited license numbers for black bear, deer, elk, pronghorn and moose for the 2023 big game seasons and modifying the big game license distribution to an across-the-board allocation for black bear, deer, elk and pronghorn of 75% for residents and 25% for nonresidents effective for the 2024 big game seasons. The Commission will also open for consideration of changes to preference points for deer, elk, pronghorn and bear including point banking.

The Commission will make final considerations of necessary changes to implement and administer the Search and Rescue program and open for review of Chapter W-9 to consider property-specific requirements for, or restrictions on use of wildlife properties controlled by CPW.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wed., May 3 and adjourn at 5 p.m. The commission will reconvene at 8:30 a.m. on Thu., May 4 and adjourn at 2:20 p.m. The meeting will be streamed live on CPW's YouTube page.

Additional agenda items include:

-Department of Natural Resources Update

-Department of Agriculture Update

-Financial Update

-GOCO Update

-2024 OHV Trail Grant Funding Recommendations

-Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Update

-Halligan Water Supply Project Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan presentation and CPW staff report

-Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program discussions and final approval

A complete agenda along with all materials for this meeting can be found on the CPW website for public review. The public is encouraged to email written comments to the commission at

[dnr\\_cpwcommission@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us). Details on providing public comments for hybrid meetings are available on the CPW website.

The Commission meets regularly and travels to communities around the state to facilitate public participation. Anyone can listen to commission meetings through the CPW website. This opportunity keeps constituents informed about the development of regulations and how the commission works with Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff to manage the parks, wildlife and outdoor recreation programs administered by the agency. Find out more about the commission on the CPW website.

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# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## DOROTHY DILLON *August 12, 1927- February 24, 2023*



Montrose, Colorado resident Dorothy Dillon, our beloved Mom and Granny passed away on February 24th, 2023, at the age of 95. Her celebration of life will be Saturday May 6th, 2023, at 11 A.M. at the Rose-

mount Baptist Church in Montrose, Colorado.

Dorothy was born on August 12th, 1927, in Richey, Mississippi to William Herbert Furr and Willie Felt (Hicks) Furr. After her birth she joined her older brother Buddy, and sister Frances on the family farm in Delta City, Mississippi. Shortly thereafter, James Harvey was born and the Furr family was complete. Being raised on the farm Dot would always say "we were just poor dirt farmers, but we never went hungry."

Granny loved to read and learn. She always had a book in her hand, or later in life she would listen to her books on tape. She could say the ABC's faster backwards than forwards. A little trick her brother Buddy taught her that she would show to her grandchildren. Dot's love for

knowledge led her to graduate Valedictorian of her high school class.

Dot went on to marry her best friend and high school sweetheart Ruhel Dewey Whitworth after he returned home from World War II. They were married on March 16th, 1946, in Greenville Mississippi. For the next four years they lived all over the United States, in New Mexico, Kentucky, and Illinois. They welcomed their first daughter Patsy, and three years later Brenda was born. After the birth of Brenda, Dot and Ruhel moved to Colorado where they welcomed their third daughter Terri. Her mother Felt owned the Tip Top Cafe in Montrose, where Dot and Ruhel worked alongside each other for many years. On October 3rd, 1962 she and Ruhel divorced, and they remained friends until his passing in 2004.

On April 2nd, 1965, Dot married James Dillon, and they were blessed to welcome their son Cody in February 1972.

Dorothy worked many years at Montrose Memorial Hospital and ended her working career at Russell Stover's candy factory. She loved sports, and was a huge fan of The Denver Broncos, Rockies, and Avalanche. Her love for sports was passed down to her children and grandchildren. One of the most important parts of Dot's life was her faith. Granny loved God, and

her faith never wavered. She had a prayer chain that at times was so long its' length rivaled the miles of the Mississippi. With her friends Shirley Allies and Dot Thompson, they would visit church members who could no longer get out, and then would go enjoy lunch together at the Camp Robber. Our hearts are full of gratitude, and we want to send a special Thank You to Shirley and Dot for making sure Mom always had a ride to church.

Many thanks to the staff at Larchwood Inn who took care of our mom and Granny for the past two years. Thank you to Hope West Hospice for all the kindness you showed us, and the dignity you gave our mother in her last few weeks. We appreciate all you did.

Dot was preceded in death by her husband James Dillon. Dot is survived by her daughters Patsy Hathaway, Brenda (Tom) Smith, Terri (Frank) Kinney and son Cody Dillon. Her grandchildren Weldon (Traci) Neff, William Neff, Courtney (Jason) Podoll, Haley (Paul) DiMarchi, Zacc Kinney, Alexa Kinney, Bryan (Hannah) Dillon, Karissa (Dennis) Labita, Brett Dillon, Kayley and Josh. Nine Great grandchildren and one Great, Great grandson. We will miss you Mom and Granny. We love you! Crippin Funeral Home and Crematory is assisting the family. 970-249-2121.





# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## **CARL JOSEPH BOLLINGER** ***June 8, 1932- April 22, 2023***

CARL JOSEPH BOLLINGER born June 8, 1932, on a farm in Timber Lake, South Dakota, passed away surrounded by family on April 22, 2023, in Puyallup, Washington. A beloved son, brother, husband, father, uncle, grandfather and great-grandfather, Carl grew up a "country boy" in South Dakota attending a one room schoolhouse that if asked said, "he had to walk uphill both ways to attend." Active in football, baseball, basketball, track, glee club and student council, he graduated from Montrose High in 1951. His first summer job was racing horses as a jockey while he was working in the oil fields. He joined the Navy after receiving a draft notice and served during the Korean War. He traveled all over the Atlantic on the USS Bennington, USS Lake Champlain and USS Ticonderoga as an E-5 airplane structural mechanic. He was a carpenter in Southern California where he worked for the LA County Art Museum, McDonnell Douglas, and Long Beach General Hospital. In 1968, he moved to Montrose with his wife, Jan and family and co-owned the Montrose Machine Shop with his father-in-law. In 1971, they moved to Olathe, Colorado, where he owned his own construction company. As a realtor, Carl co-owned All-Area Realty and "flipped" houses with his wife and family until his retirement. Carl lived a full life, filled with stories. Carl and Jan's joy was watching their sixteen children and many grandchildren play sports or participate in any activity. They traversed the state and spent countless hours sitting in the bleachers. He was known to challenge his children in a race or a card game and was fortunate enough to play softball with all six sons when he was in his sixties. After losing Jan, he remarried and spent time traveling with his wife, Belinda throughout the US. He was a devout traditional Catholic and founding member of Saint Joseph Traditional Roman Catholic Church in Olathe. He was a kind, generous, humble,

and happy man, with just a touch of orneriness in his sense of humor.

Survived by spouse Belinda Trough Bollinger and her four children, Father John Trough, Sister Therese Marie, Lester, and Christina; Carl's brother, Frank (Karen) Bollinger of Olathe and sister, Elizabeth Witter of California; and sisters-in-laws, Fran, Kristie and Michelle Bollinger.

Carl is also survived by his sixteen children, seventy-three grandchildren and forty-two great-grandchildren: Janmarie (Stephen) Priddy of Olathe, CO (grandchildren - Michael, Kate, Jamie, Jason, Ryan, Joseph and Benjamin and fourteen great-grandchildren) Karen (Lonnie) Northrup of Olathe, CO (grandchildren - Jessica, Jeremy, Sean and Luke and six great-grandchildren) Joseph (Bridget) Bollinger of Montrose, CO (grandchildren - Rebecca, Justin, Ashley and two great-grandchildren) Mary (Matt) Appelhanz of Anchor Point, Alaska (grandchildren - Sarah, Thomas, Adriane, Anthony, Lyndsay, Sebastian, Caleb, Katrina and two great-grandchildren)

Jennifer (Sean) Stansberry of Montrose, CO (grandchildren - Zachary, Morgan and Audrey) Kathleen (Troy) Jole of Montrose, CO (grandchildren - Samantha, Trenton, Trevor and Tyler and two great-grandchildren) James (Amy) Bollinger of Olathe, CO (grandchildren - Casey, Amanda, Gabriel, Jonathan, Anastasia, Angelina, Alycia and five great-grandchildren)

Patricia (Drayton) Harrison of Bayfield, CO (grandchildren - Brenden, Taylor and Jordyn and four great-grandchildren) Stephanie (Thomas) Godfrey of Parachute, CO (grandchildren - Cynthia, Erica and Andrew) Daniel (Carrie) Bollinger of Palisade, CO (grandchildren - Brent, Alison and Nathan) Mark (Emily) Bollinger of Palisade, CO (grandchildren - Jacob, Ethan and Reece) Michelle (Scott) Longwell of Eaton, CO (grandchildren - Kristen, Marcus, Brooke

and Landon and seven great-grandchildren) Stephen (Anna) Bollinger of Liberty Lake, WA

(grandchildren - Fiona, Meghan and Padraig) Amy (Martin) Quigg of Sydney, Australia (grandchildren -

Stephen, Sarah, Anna, Emma and Elizabeth) Marie (Brent) Lazarenko of Renton, WA (grandchildren - Sophia and Cora) Gregory (Bernadette) Bollinger of Spokane, WA (grandchildren - Nicholas, Scott, Derrick, Michael, Samuel, Filomena, Xavier, Carli, Rafael and Joanie).

He is survived by numerous nieces and nephews, multiple in-laws and many cousins whom he cherished very dearly.

He was preceded in death by his parents Frederick Bollinger and Elizabeth Schaefer Bollinger; first wife of 53 years, Janet Hiss Bollinger; his "Mom," Clara Ellei; Brothers - Bill Bollinger, Don Bollinger, Pete Bollinger, Dick Bollinger, Bob Bollinger, and Mike Bollinger; grandson, Nickolas Bollinger and great granddaughter, Michelle McPherson

Carl will leave quite a legacy in the community. He was loved and respected and will be greatly missed by many.

In lieu of flowers, it is asked that you donate in his honor to your local High School Athletic department, Holy Guardian Angel's School, or St. Joseph Catholic Church building fund in Olathe.

Private funeral Mass and burial. A memorial service to follow at the Olathe High School Gym, May 6th at 1 p.m. for the community to share stories and help the family celebrate his life.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### STACIE RILEY BROWN *November 4, 1970– April 22, 2023*



STACIE RILEY BROWN 52 passed away at Montrose Regional Health on the morning of April 22, 2023. Services will be held at Circle 3 Cowboy Fellowship (C3CF) (62885 LaSalle Rd. Montrose, CO 81401) Friday, May 5th at 4 PM with refreshments to follow.

Stacie was born in Warren Ohio on November 4th, 1970, to proud parents Edward (Dan) and Bonnie Langley. She spent her early years in Ohio with her family and

relocated to Colorado in 1999. Here with her daughter Ashton, she met her beloved husband Jeremy Brown in 2000 and they had three more children, all sons Jared, Caleb, and Ethan.

Stacie was a bright mind who loved to learn, and she already attained her bachelor's degree before coming to Colorado. She would later, in 2018, complete her master's degree in organizational leadership. In 2022 She began the process of earning her PhD in Theological Studies; she sadly passed before this could be completed. She loved to read and was highly organized, bringing her day planner with her everywhere she went, including on vacation. She was a phenomenal wife and mother to her husband and her four children; she was always cooking, cleaning, and nesting to make a wonderful home for her family. Stacie had a servant's heart and would do anything she could to lend even complete strangers a helping hand she loved people and she made sure they knew it. She made a career as a social worker by day and anything to help her dear friends at C3CF further the reach of Jesus and his word by night.

Stacie is survived by her husband Jeremy, her children Ashton, Jared, Caleb, and Ethan. She was recently blessed with the addition of one grandson Connor, her

brother Eric Langley, her father Dan Langley, and her stepmother Sherry Langley all of Montrose. She is also survived by her in-laws Lane and Tammy Brown of Delta Colorado.

Stacie met Jeremy at church shortly after moving to Montrose, she was his right-hand man as well she was an integral part of the C3CF administration. She always put people first, especially children tirelessly seeking the needs of those less fortunate. You would not find a finer servant of the Lord and his people functioning as the very hands and feet of Jesus. She was always looking forward to the next vacation as she loved to travel and relax a little before diving headfirst back into the hustle of her work and the Lords, she was always busy doing something for someone. Even a breast cancer diagnosis could not and did not slow her down.

Stacie has been given a job promotion and a bonus new body working with and for her Savior Jesus Christ her discipleship with him goes back to the age of 8. She will be enormously loved and missed by the very many people she has touched in her short life. Her number 1 rule she had for her family was do not leave a man down.

Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting the family.



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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### MILDRED "MICKEY" JOANE CULVER COX *January 10 1947 to April 7 2023*

Mickey was born in Montrose Colorado to Ralph Cleo and Minnie Mae Culver on January 10, 1947. She was part of a large family where she was the third youngest of eleven children. Mickey was very close to her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She went to school in Montrose and graduated from Montrose High School in 1965. After High School she went to Secretarial College. She then entered the work force as a secretary for Crystal Dam Project and Dr. Peak.

She met Gordon James "Jim" Cox, the love of her life, which she married in Montrose. Jim was in the Marine Corp, and they moved to North Carolina where he was stationed. They had a daughter there, Georgette. After Jim was discharged, they returned to Montrose. Not long after their return to Montrose, Jim was killed while hunting. Mickey carried on and completed the home they had begun to build.

She was an amazing mother to Georgette. Devoting a great deal of her time to her daughter and to her large family. She was always there for events of Georgette's and for her nieces and nephews, always cheering them on. This devotion carried on when she became a grandma to Georgette's two sons, Dustin and Cordell Stroud. She had many others that became her surrogate children and grandchildren that she there for and supported. She was so happy to become a great grandmother and when the family expanded again when Georgette married Chad, she was happy to have more grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Mickey was a strong woman in all aspects. She was emotionally strong, a rock that supported people through just about any-

thing and she did this in part to her spiritual strength. She had an incredible faith in God that helped carry her through life. She was also one of the strongest women physically. She showed this strength when she helped her brothers on construction sites and as an amazing athlete.

Mickey was a very good softball player and started playing softball with her sisters. She continued to play softball into her 40's. The speed and force of her throws were incredible. She shared this love for softball with her daughter and many young ladies over the years as a coach. She taught them skills and a love for the game. She made the game fun.

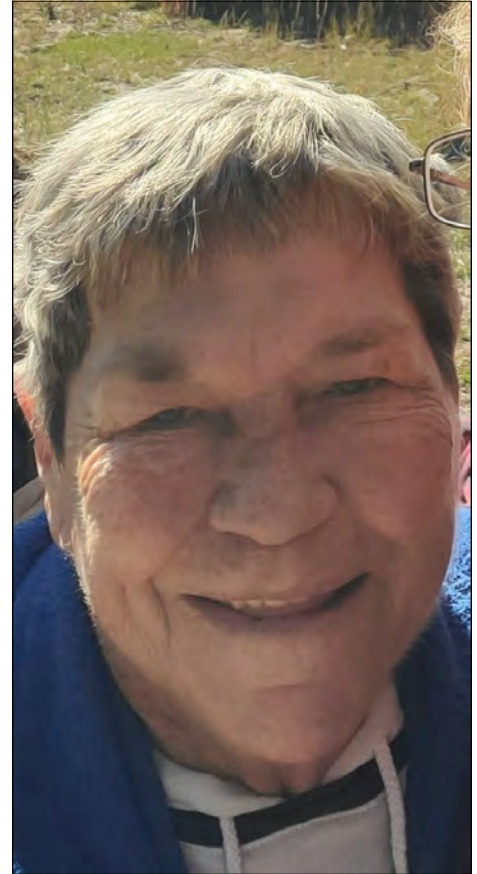
She brought that fun into another skill of hers and that was for bowling. She was an amazing bowler and she bowled most of her life. She also shared her love for bowling as well and coached youth bowling. She was there every weekend to coach and haul bowlers all over the state for tournaments. She was very competitive, but she was there to have fun.

Mickey had an incredible sense of humor and love of life. Her laugh and smile would fill the room. She would be ready to have fun at a moment's notice. Later some of that fun would be at bingo. She enjoyed going to bingo with her friends and family.

Mickey was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, aunt, mother, grandmother and friend. To say she will be dearly missed is an understatement but there are many of us that are truly blessed to know her and share part of this incredible life.

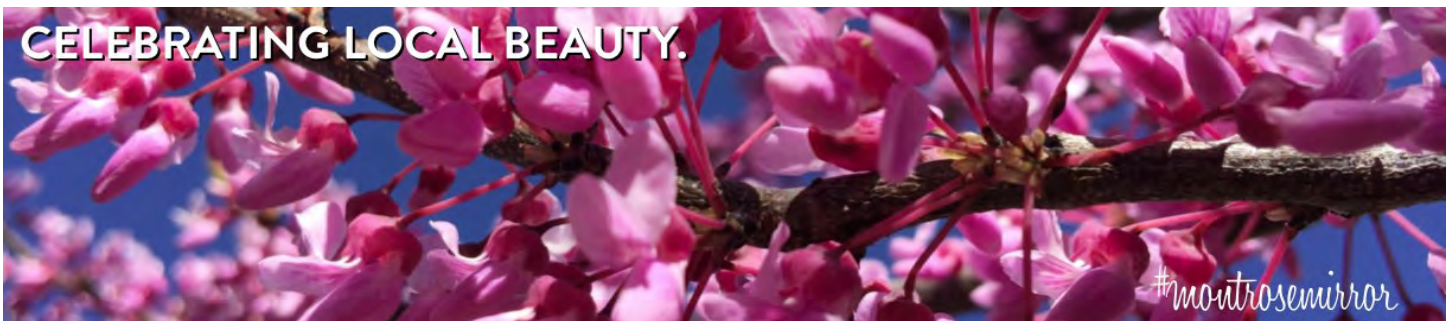
She left this world on April 7, 2023, at her home in Montrose, to join her husband and family that she has missed greatly.

She is proceeding in death by her husband Jim, her parents, Cleo and Minnie



Culver, her brothers Ralph Jr, Richard, John, Robert, Frank, Dode, Lenard, and Oliver Culver, her sisters, Emma Cooley, and Patsy Stewart and grandson, Robert Black. She is survived by her daughter, Georgette Black and her husband Chad, her grandsons, Dustin and Kayla Stroud, and Cordell and Heather Stroud, Chad and Jewel Black, and granddaughter Tasha Black and great grandchildren, Peyton and Logan Stroud, Leann, Aspen, Chesa, Aden, and Kolter Black, her sister Betty Richburg and numerous nieces and nephews. Crippin Funeral Home and Crematory is assisting the family. 970-249-2121.

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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### EUDULIA "ABUELA" PANCHE MOLINA May 5, 1959 - April 18, 2023



EUDULIA PANCHE MOLINA, Age 63, passed away on April 18th, 2023 surrounded by her loved ones.

Eudulia was better known as "Abuela" for her loving spirit and eagerness to nurture and feed everyone she met. She had so much love for life, and everything was 'beautiful' to her. There was never a dull moment at family events because Abuela enjoyed herself and made everyone laugh.

She was born in Los Lirios, El Nayar in Nayarit, Mexico to Firmato and Cecilia Pancho on May 5th, 1959. She spent her childhood and teenage years in her Rancho with her four brothers and two sisters: Augustin, Lauriano, Luciano, Isabel, Tomasa, and Anguela. She left Mexico in her early adult years with her husband Guadalupe and infant son, Jonas to the farming community of Montrose, Colorado in the mid-80s. Once settled in Montrose, they

welcomed a daughter, Juanita Molina. The family became members of the Lutheran Church where they were embraced by Gary and Nicki Parsons. The Parsons Family helped them significantly in so many ways throughout the years, and for that they remain grateful.

Eudulia worked at Russell Stovers for 20+ years, where she worked very hard and made many special friends. She enjoyed crocheting, making "servilletas," and listening to her collection of cassettes. She loved to make food for her family, especially corn and flour tortillas, and taking care of her grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her husband of 40+ years, Guadalupe Molina.

She is survived by: Son - Jonas (Natasha) Molina and Daughter - Juanita (Juan) Molina of Montrose. Son: Gabino De la Trinidad of Mexico, and Step-Son: Pedro (Elidia) Molina of Trinidad, Colorado. Seven Grandchildren: Cicilia Molina, Alissa Molina, Julia Molina, Juan Banda Jr, Lluvia Banda, Jonas "Andreas" Molina Jr, Amilia Banda, and 1 great grandchild: Maleah Molina. She has many Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, and Special Friends, Gary and Nicki Parsons.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Eudulia Pancho Molina, de 63 años, falleció el 18 de Abril de 2023 rodeada de sus seres queridos.

Eudulia era mejor conocida como "Abuela" por su espíritu amoroso y su afán de nutrir y alimentar a todos los que conocía. Tenía tanto amor por la vida, y todo era "hermoso" para ella. Nunca hubo un momento aburrido en los eventos familiares porque la abuela se divertía e hizo reír a

todos.

Nació en Los Lirios, El Nayar en Nayarit, México, hija de Firmato y Cecilia Pancho el 5 De Mayo, 1959. Pasó su infancia y adolescencia en su Rancho con sus 4 hermanos y 2 hermanas: Agustín, Lauriano, Luciano, Isabel, Tomasa y Anguila. Dejó México en sus primeros años de adulto con su esposo Guadalupe y su hijo pequeño, Jonas, a la comunidad agrícola de Montrose, Colorado a mediados de los años 80. Una vez instalados en Montrose, dieron la bienvenida a una hija, Juanita Molina. La familia se convirtió en miembros de la Iglesia Luterana, donde fueron abrazados por Gary y Nicki Parsons. La familia Parsons los ayudó significativamente de muchas maneras a lo largo de los años, y por eso siguen agradecidos.

Eudulia trabajó en Russell Stovers durante 20+ años, donde trabajó muy duro e hizo muchos amigos especiales. Le gustaba hacer ganchillo, hacer "servilletas" y escuchar su colección de casetes. Le encantaba hacer comida para su familia, especialmente tortillas de maíz y harina, y cuidar a sus nietos.

Ella falleció antes que su esposo de 40+ años, Guadalupe Molina.

Le sobreviven: Hijo - Jonas (Natasha) Molina e hija - Juanita (Juan) Molina de Montrose. Hijo: Gabino De la Trinidad de México, e hijastro: Pedro (Elidia) Molina de Trinidad, Colorado. Siete nietos: Cicilia Molina, Alissa Molina, Julia Molina, Juan Banda Jr, Lluvia Banda, Jonas "Andreas" Molina Jr, Amilia Banda, y 1 bisnieto: Maleah Molina. Ella tiene muchos Sobrinas, sobrinos, Primos y amigos especiales, Gary y Nicki Parsons. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family.

## CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### JEFFREY JOHN PASSEHL *December 7, 1962– April 14, 2023*

On the evening of April 14th, 2023, in Telluride, Colorado, Jeffrey John Passehl left this world at the age of 60.

Jeff was born in Colorado Springs on December 7th, 1962, to his mother Gloria Drobnick (Smith) and father, Larry Passehl. His brother, Kevin, was born just over a year later. When he was 3, the family moved to Montrose, Colorado, where Jeff spent his childhood and graduated from Montrose High in 1981. He briefly joined the Air Force, and upon his return began his over 20-year career at City Market in downtown Montrose. He married Cynthia Wiltse in 1987 and their first child, Jeremy John, was born in December of the following year. Their second child, Candice Dawn, was born in May of '93.

2002 brought a period of great change, in which he explored other jobs and was divorced. He thoroughly enjoyed his time at the Montrose Rec. District, organizing

and officiating baseball, hockey, soccer, basketball, and even creating wiffle ball and ultimate frisbee leagues. Other jobs included repairing transformers at Betz in Olathe and delivering ice cream to the Western Colorado and Eastern Utah regions for Dryers. While delivering ice cream, he found the opportunity to work at a new grocery franchise in Mountain Village which opened in 2007. That move culminated in a 17-year career wherein he had the opportunity to travel the U.S. to help set up new markets.

On his days off, he would often be found at his workplace. He loved almost all sports and always carried a frisbee, soccer ball, or hockey gear in his car. As a child, he collected baseball cards, which eventually led to collecting historic books, perfume, sneakers, and other sentimental items from his past. He spent countless hours reading books and poetry, listening

to podcasts, and watching movies.

In recent years, he enjoyed visiting his children as they moved across the country. He also traveled the world, including Moldova, Egypt, Czech Republic, Ukraine, and Turkey. He was outgoing, yet endlessly introspective. Jeff was an overflowing, fun-loving spirit, a best friend to many, and had an appreciation of the weird, wacky, and ridiculous. He unapologetically marched to the beat of his own drum, was generous beyond reason, a reliable and loving father, and had a gift for spreading beauty and love. If you would like to support the family, please go here: <https://gofund.me/874c5e58>



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*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**

ISSUE 416 May 1 2023

# ART & SOL

## YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – RAGE GARDENING 2023

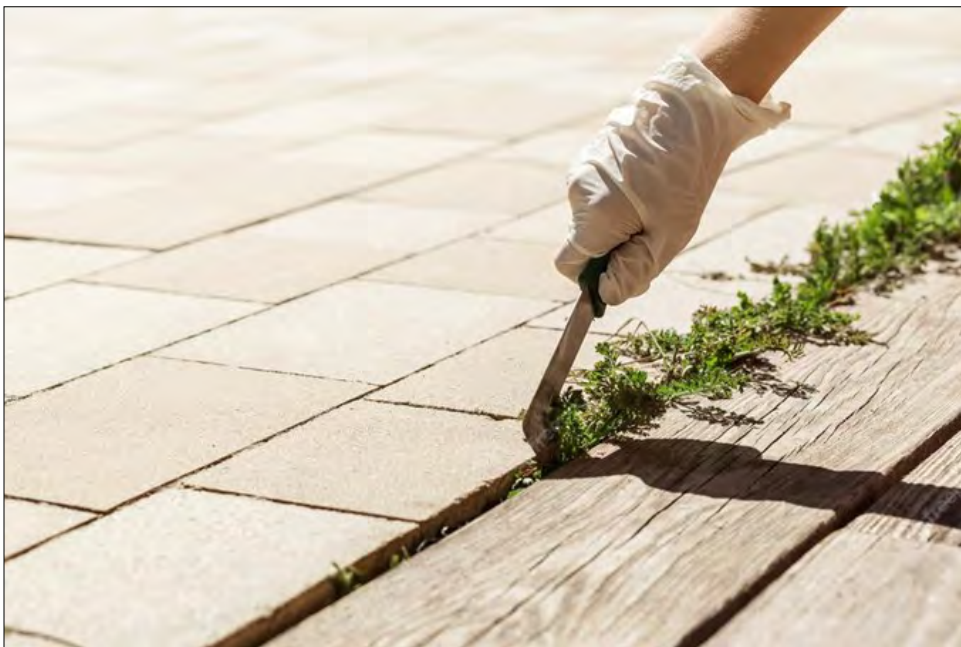


By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.

MONTROSE-Greetings Mirrorites!

May is my second favorite month. It is full of freshness, promise, and is not too hot. Other than October, it's the month that most meets my expectations and I am very seldom angry at May. Other months I find myself angry at nature for not accommodating my designs. That I get angry at nature may surprise you. But it can certainly happen when it violates too many of my self-imposed restrictions upon it. The fact that I like a Camelot sort of nature, where it's pleasant and balmy every day and only rains at night, is unrealistic and silly. Nevertheless, when there is too much wind, too many bugs and weeds, too many rabbits or birds raiding the garden, I can get pissed and irritable. That's when a little 'hair of the dog' is best. I need to do some rage gardening.

Researchers have correlated rage with feelings of overwhelm, 'losing it,' and so



*This qualifies as rage weeding! Photo Courtesy of M. Serdynska.*

forth that contain a strong measure of frustration. Losing it can come from a place of helplessness. From domestic violence to road rage, there is usually some element of feelings of loss of control and unmet expectations. When a sense of control can be established, even if it is in another area of life, there are brain chemicals that are engaged to bring the psyche off its thundercloud and back down to a place where good judgment and compassionate perspectives can reassert themselves. Sometimes it takes sublimation to make this happen.

Sublimation is a defense mechanism that

involves channeling unwanted or unacceptable urges into an admissible or productive outlet. For kittiwakes crammed onto a cliff-face (kittiwakes are tiny little sea gulls who live in very dense colonies), facing away is their favorite sublimation. When they stare at a crowding neighbor, they tend to peck. But when they know they shouldn't because the boundary violation is not the neighbor's fault, then they face away, they look somewhere else. For me, facing away from nature's inconveniences involves pruning, pulling weeds, spraying, chopping, hoeing, etc. Nurturing actions such as applying fertilizer or hoof

*Continued next pg*



# YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE - RAGE GARDENING 2023

trimming need to wait. And it does work. Control over something was achieved, and a satisfactory end result was observable. Taking this sort of action keeps me from becoming depressed about the growing season.

Frustration and irritability can cause depression, or visa versa. When there is too much of something that prevents progress toward achievement of a personal goal, we often become unreasonably angry. I say unreasonable, because sometimes our boundaries are truly being violated by someone, and anger helps us defend our space. But being angry at nature, well that's pretty unreasonable. Whether reasonable or not, when an outburst of physical expression is needed, we can scream into a pillow, punch a wall, or rage garden. People who punch walls live to regret it, while those who rage garden live to admire it.

When action is not taken, discouragement and then depression can result.

One expert I only sorta agree with recommends that..."If you're feeling angry, instead of expressing negative emotions in a dramatic way, try to act the way you wish you felt by finding a calm way to express your feelings—or take steps to distract yourself." Or like me, you can do both in the correct sequence. Rage gardening

allows you to be dramatic and even a bit violent for a while, and then proceed to calmness as the chemicals that incite irritability exit the building.

Once the anger has been taken out on the weeds, then a sense of reverie in the beauty of the end result, as well as a sense of satisfaction, can take the place of the anger. Soft fascination can happen as you sit back and admire your handiwork. This will permit your attention to become involuntary as you notice pleasant things around you and before you know it, your attention will have slipped into the default mode network. You will know you are there if you begin to daydream or to suddenly be able to see a recent problem or conflict from another person's point of view. When perspective taking occurs, its presence suggests to things: a feeling of being out of control has evaporated, and problem solving that springs from a sense of self-efficacy is at hand.

It has been demonstrated both anecdotally and in laboratory settings that any positive actions that are the equivalent of yanking out weeds by the roots, smashing earwigs, whacking that hoe between the rows, and so forth will begin to stabilize mood in less than 30 minutes. One hour later at the most, a sense of perspective, and actual satisfaction and wellness has

usually been achieved. That is if the activity has been uninterrupted by those same friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers, or whoever put you in that state to begin with. It's important that this process unfold unhindered, usually in private, for this transition to occur as quickly as possible.

So, is rage gardening better than rage housecleaning or rage baking? Probably, since sunlight has been known to increase serotonin levels. But also, it's most emotionally beneficial to take action against the proximate cause of our anger. Proximate cause is a legal term for 'one action leads to another that then caused injury'. So if my delicate feelings are injured because bunnies ate my carrots, then my emotional response to this will be appeased more effectively if I do some rage fencing, rather than rage vacuuming. The injury is the loss of my carrots, the proximate cause is Peter Cottontail. Fencing that little sucker out and watching his frustration the next day has a sort of unholy glee to it. Take that!!

So that's why the lovely month of May, tra la, makes my days delightful more often than not by meeting my expectations of perfect nature.

Have a calm and productive Montrose May yourself!



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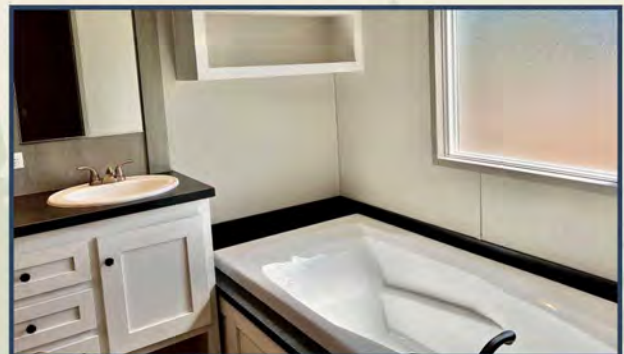
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## COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

# NEW STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES COLORADANS TO PREPARE FOR WILDFIRE

*Special to Art & Sol*

**DENVER** – Colorado faces a “new normal” when it comes to wildfire. Ongoing drought and warmer temperatures elevate wildfire risk for many Coloradans, and wildfires now occur year-round in the state. To encourage more residents to prepare for wildfire, local, state and federal entities that manage wildfires in Colorado will launch a new public outreach campaign called **Live Wildfire Ready**.

The campaign will empower residents, especially those who live in the wildland-urban interface, to know the risk that wildfire poses to them and what they can do to mitigate that risk to their life, homes and property.

**Live Wildfire Ready** is directed and generously funded by the State of Colorado through [Senate Bill 22-007](#) and developed by the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, USDA Forest Service and Colorado State Fire Chiefs. The campaign will launch in May 2023 during Wildfire Awareness Month, an annual observance in Colorado to encourage residents to better prepare their homes, property and communities for wildfire. With more than half of all Coloradans living in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and being susceptible to wildfire, it’s important for people to take action to reduce their wildfire risk and create more fire-adapted communities.

“Wildfires are a vital part of the natural cycle that keeps Colorado’s forests healthy. Yet persistent drought combined with a warming climate has led to more frequent and more destructive wildfires. If you’re a Coloradan living in a wildfire prone area, being prepared must become second nature,” said Matt McCombs, state forester and director of the CSFS. “This campaign will give residents the tools they need to do their part and live wildfire

ready. You have a responsibility to yourself and your family, as well as your community, to prepare your home and property to be resilient in the face of wildfire.”

### **Practical Actions to Reduce Wildfire Risk**

The campaign will share simple, practical, relatively low-cost actions that Coloradans can take to prepare their homes and property for wildfire. These actions include the following:

- Regularly clear leaves, pine needles and other debris from your deck, roof and gutters.
- Rake and remove pine needles and leaves 5 feet from your home.
- Store firewood at least 30 feet from your home, preferably uphill, and never on or under your deck.
- Move items under your deck or porch to a storage area.
- Prune branches hanging over your roof and within 10 feet of your chimney.
- Remove flammable material within 6 vertical inches of your home’s siding.
- Mow grasses to 4 inches or less within 30 feet of your home.
- Clear brush, shrubs and other plants within 10 feet of propane tanks and gas meters.
- Screen attic, roof, eaves and foundation vents and wall-in areas below decks and stilt foundations with 1/8-inch metal mesh.

In addition to preparing one’s home, living wildfire ready means being ready to evacuate during a wildfire:

Ensure home address signs are clearly visible from the street. Contact your local Office of Emergency Management to register for emergency notifications and encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do the same. Confirm at least one alternate path out of your neighborhood other than the one most commonly used and be prepared for

potential evacuation requiring the alternative route. “No person or community is exempt when it comes to wildfire preparedness. We are committed to helping individuals understand that everyone plays a role in mitigation, what to do to reduce the risk of wildfire, and what must be done in the event of an emergency,” said CSFC President Kristy Olme.

### **Wildfire Outlook**

DFPC presented the [2023 Wildfire Preparedness Plan](#) to Governor Polis; the plan includes information on the wildfire outlook and the State’s plan for responding to wildfires in 2023.

“Historically, wildfire seasons were a four-month event in the middle of summer; today, the average core wildfire season is 78 days longer than in the 1970s, with Colorado experiencing large fires every month of the year,” said DFPC Director Mike Morgan. “But DFPC is developing a strategy to be prepared for longer and more destructive wildland fires by shifting our resources to a model that allows us to respond more effectively to Colorado’s growing wildfire seasons.”

### **Campaign for Colorado**

Wildland fire management in Colorado is an interagency partnership among local, state and federal agencies, so **Live Wildfire Ready** reflects that dynamic through its development by the CSFS, DFPC, USFS and CSFC. By working together on efforts, including this campaign, the goals of these entities are resilient, fire-adapted landscapes and communities that best provide for firefighter and public safety and protection of natural resources. For more about the campaign, visit [Live-WildfireReady.org](#), or search for #LiveWildfireReady on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram during Wildfire Awareness Month in May and throughout the summer.

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**The Homestead at Montrose**  
**Valley Manor Care Center**  
**Horizons Care Center**  
**Senior CommUnity Meals**  
**Senior CommUnity Care PACE**  
**AdvantAge Health Resource Center**



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local and national services for older adults**



# DANCING INTO MAY



**A group of youngsters perform a maypole dance in May of 1915 at the Sopris School in Las Animas County. Photo by Otis A. Aultman, courtesy of the Denver Public Library.**

By Bob Cox

REGIONAL-In the busy world we live in today, an ancient tradition has slipped into history and is rarely recognized.

May Day has its origins as a European festival. It celebrates a time about halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice.

While some May Day celebrations were linked to pagan celebrations, the tradition of celebrating the coming of May carried over to the New World and was still common well into the 20th century. May dances, including the maypole dance were held in many communities, including those in Colorado.

Another May tradition that might well be seen today as strange is the making of May baskets. For many years young people fashioned baskets of candy and flowers and presented them to special people. Some were secretly hung on doors to show that the recipient was special to someone.

The May 8, 1902 edition of the *Montrose Enterprise* described a not-so-unusual event:

*Miss Wilson and her pupils spent a portion of last Friday in making May baskets. They then took a stroll out to the hog back and gathered some of the beautiful wild flow-*

*ers to be found there. Lenore Townsend was chosen by her class and crowned May queen. The children enjoyed it very much and no doubt learned a great deal from their observations as they always do on such an occasion.*

More than a decade later, some of those little ones in Miss Wilson's class might well have been attendees at May Day celebrations like the one held in Montrose and reported by the *Montrose Daily Press* on May 2, 1914:

*At 11:30 a very elaborate two-course luncheon was served by Miss Zena Hoshisky and Miss Claudia Wharton, who charmingly dispensed the delicacies. The centerpiece was a pretty doll, sixteen years old belonging to the hostess' sister, Mrs. H. D. Payne. The doll looked as young as ever and was tastily gowned in pink and was surrounded with apple blossoms. The place cards were dainty May baskets decorated with pink and filled with apple blossoms.*

The next year, on May 14, 1915, *The Norwood Post* reported a recognition of May and the last day of school by announcing: *May Festival*

*Friday, May 21, the last day of school celebration will be in the nature of an all day, out-of-doors, May fet, or festival, begin-*

*ning at 10 o'clock it the morning The Women's Club will present the school with the playground equipment; there will be a Maypole dance, various drills, games and so on. At 12 o'clock the Club will have 290 packages of lunch to sell to the school children and visitors for 15c each—coffee free.*

One celebration that garnered some significant coverage was held in Colona in May of 1915. The article in the May 21 edition of *The Ouray Herald* says it best:

## **MAY DAY FESTIVAL AT COLONA**

*The May festival, given at the Hotchkiss Hall Friday night, under the training of the teachers, Professor and Mrs. Bailey and Miss Bessie Hotchkiss, was one of the finest, to say nothing of the most beautiful, entertainments ever given in Colona. The songs, drills and dances were all in perfect harmony and the thousands of beautiful paper roses made the stage look like a veritable fairyland. The queen's throne was surrounded by a lattice-work frame and canopy and was covered with many beautiful roses and baskets of flowers.*

*Miss Bertha Stakebake, dressed in grass green and covered with garlands of pink roses, made a typical fairy queen. She was attended by four little fairies in the persons of Luelle Stakebake, Blanche Elliot, Mona Byerrum and Evelyn Fender. Special mention should be given the rose phantasy, given by nine high school girls and the rose-hoop drill by sixteen girls. The teachers and pupils both deserve great praise and thanks for furnishing the public so excellent an entertainment.*

The fancy May baskets, as mentioned earlier, were recognitions to someone special. This little tidbit appeared in the *Montrose Daily Press* on May 1, 1917:

## **Snap Shots at Home News:**

### **May Baskets Delivered**

*May baskets were being delivered Tuesday morning in honor of Mayday. Miss Amy Tuttle, city clerk found a pretty pink basket full of primroses hanging on her door when she came to work and was very much delighted.*

Various May celebrations were reported over the next years, but the significance was waning. In May of 1923 Montrose had a revival of sorts and held a May Day festival, but it was not held on the first of May, which was a Tuesday. The organizers

**Continued next pg**

# DANCING INTO MAY From previous pg

chose instead to have the event take place on Friday, May 4th. The *Montrose Daily Press* announced the plan in the May 3rd edition:

*The May Day festivities to be held on Main Street near Cascade, beginning at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon, is attracting a great deal of attention. It is to be a gigantic undertaking and one of the most spectacular events ever staged in Montrose.*

Several businesses closed for an hour during the festival and school let out early, but there was no apparent follow-up in the newspaper.

On May 1, 1930, a luncheon held in Cedaredge attracted the attention of the *Surface Creek Champion*:

## MAY DAY LUNCHEON

Mesdames Clark and McHugh were joint hostesses Thursday at a beautifully appointed May Day luncheon given at the Clark home. Lilacs and apple blossoms were massed effectively about the large living room and each of the small tables was appropriately centered with baskets of May time flowers, the decoration motif being completed by gay May basket place and score cards and rose-pink glassware. The three-course luncheon, which attained the ideal of every hostess, being attractive to the eye, satisfying to the palate and conducive to sociability, was followed by an afternoon of bridge.

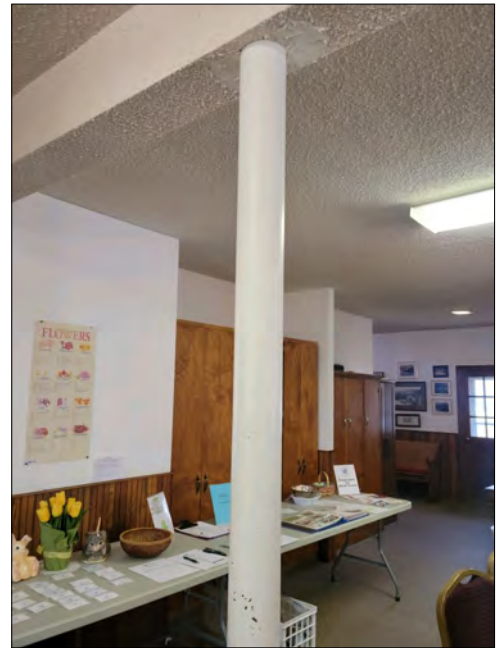
While only a few references to May festivities were found in the 1940s, the 1942 Junior/Senior Prom in Cedaredge earned a descriptive write-up in *The Champion*, which described the decorations as featuring, "A May Day theme complete with a

maypole in the middle of the room."

Some of the alumni of the Ouray School Kindergarten classes of the 1950s still remember Mrs. Azalia Nickel and the support pole in the middle of the room being transformed into a maypole for that fun dance. Jamie de Frevel and Martha Spencer both remembered their time there and how hard they tried to wrap the maypole correctly.

Trudy Best Eret remembers the pretty pattern on the pole as does Sherrie Funburg. Rita Corlett responded to a request saying, "It was the maypole. What fun weaving in and out to make a pretty pattern! I remember Mrs. Nickel and Mrs. East was my mother." Barbara (Goddard) Weber also has fond memories of Mrs. Nickel.

Sally Pahler remembers her first grade class at the Lincoln Park School in Grand Junction with one of the best descriptions: It was great fun having the Maypole dance in first grade, Lincoln Park School Cottage which was brand new in 1958. The girls dressed in crepe paper skirts; the boys had crepe paper bow ties. As I recall we used the two tether ball poles on the playground. The teacher had attached long crepe paper streamers to the tops of the poles (two colors for each pole). Two groups lined up in a circle around each pole, boys alternating with girls. Each picked up the end of a streamer and moved out into a big circle. When the music started, we walked, taking our streamers over the child in front, under the next. At the end we would be back near the pole and it would have been covered in a



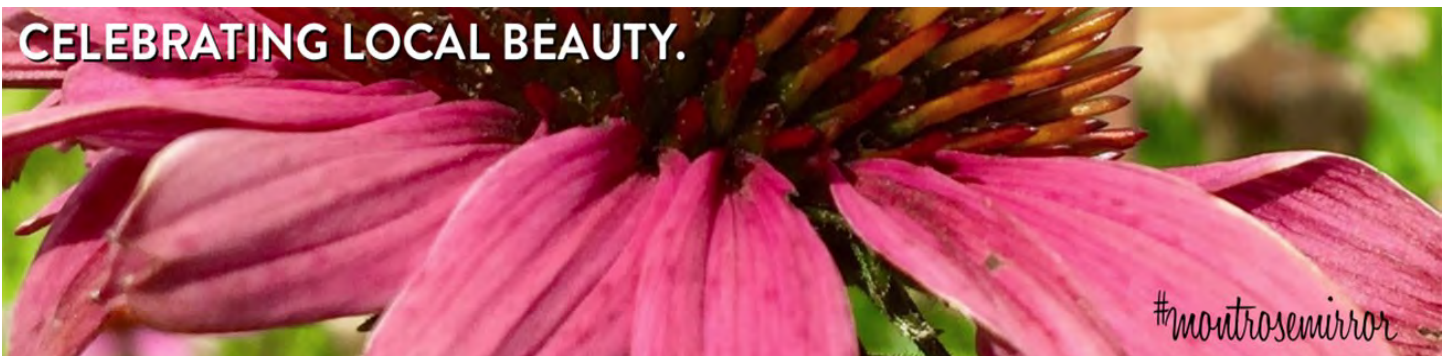
**A structural post in what was once the kindergarten room at the Ouray School now stands bare, with only the memories of young children welcoming in May with the maypole dance. Photo by Cindy (Cox) Lacey.**

braid of colored crepe paper. We must have practiced a lot before May Day when parents came to watch! Otherwise, I can't imagine a group of six-year-olds pulling it off! I also remember collecting flowers and making May baskets to secretly hang on neighbors' doors.

Who knows?

Maybe some fun-loving person or organization might someday revive that joyous time when April showers bring May flowers and we welcome the month with celebration.

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# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Anglican Church in North America

**Address:** 2057 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401

**Office Hours:** Varies and by appointment

**Contact Information:** (970) 249-2451

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

with prayers for healing.

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-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.

## BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Independent Baptist

112Main St.

P.O. Box 262

Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021

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

Pastor Gabe Skillo

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

## CELEBRATION CHURCH

**Denomination:** Southern Baptist Church (SBC – Southern Baptist Convention)

**Address:** 2900 Sunnyside Road, Montrose, CO 81401

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Phone:** (970) 497-4925

**Email:** [celebrationmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationmontrose@gmail.com)

**Website:** <https://celebrationmontrose.org/>

**Senior Pastor:**

Pastor Brandon Mathis

**Church Description/Mission:** Celebration Church makes disciples that make disciples. Our core values include the Scripture, discipleship, community, service, prayer, love, and unity.

**Demographics:** Multi-generational

**Celebration Kids:** Nursery (Birth-4 years old) 8am, 9:30am & 11am  
Celebration Kids (Ages 5 – 10) 9:30am & 11am

**Discipleship:** Students (Ages 11-18) 9:30am Sundays

Adult D2 Classes: 9:30am & 11am Sundays

**Other Discipleship Opportunities:**

Youth Night: First & Third Wednesdays of month 6pm

Celebration Groups (all ages): Sundays – Fridays various times & locations

Seasons Young Adult (Ages 18-26) Celebration Group: Thursdays @ 5:30pm off campus location

Celebrate Recovery: Friday nights @ 6:30pm

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Denomination:** Christ Lutheran Montrose

**Affiliation:** Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

**Address:** 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401

**Contact:** 970-633-0226

**Website:** [www.montroselutheran.org](http://www.montroselutheran.org)

**Email:** [montroselutheran@gmail.com](mailto:montroselutheran@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Tim Onnen

**Worship:** Sundays at 9 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 10:15 AM; Women's Bible Study Fridays at 9 AM. At Christ Lutheran Montrose you will

find friendly people gathered in a welcoming environment being comforted and encouraged by the forgiveness and love of Jesus, and sharing that with one another.

We are a small congregation of seniors and middle-aged, sprinkled with young children and teenagers.

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene

**Address:** 705 South 12th Street

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

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

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM  
Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

**Affiliation:** Presbyterian

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

81401 **Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM -

12PM **Contact:** 970-249-4732, [\[form@fpcmontrose.com\]\(mailto:form@fpcmontrose.com\),](mailto:in-</a></p>
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[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)

**Pastor:** Jesse Mabanglo

**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM. *We strive to encourage, challenge and support one another*

*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.*



# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previ-

## HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Denomination affiliation:** United Church of Christ

**Address:** 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

**Office hours:** By appointment

**Contact information:**

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: [office@montroseucc.org](mailto:office@montroseucc.org)

Website: [montroseucc.org](http://montroseucc.org)

**Current Pastor:** Rev. Wendy Kidd

**Worship service times:** Sunday, 10 a.m.

Hillcrest Congregational UCC is a welcoming, open and affirming church, open to all no matter who you are or where you are

on life's journey.

Church demographics: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with

us. (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles)

We offer inter-generational worship with a children's "prayer-ground" and activity packets. A cry room is also available.

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist

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

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

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

[montroseumc.org](http://montroseumc.org)

**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Kevin Young

**Worship service times:**

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully inclusive, loving, and just servants of

Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with or without children, from diapers to den-

tures. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come discover hope, joy, peace, purpose.

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Affiliation:** Southern Baptist

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

**Office Hours:** Tues-Thurs, 9am-4pm

**Contact information:**

Phone: 970.249.4887

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

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

**Senior Pastor:** Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

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

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

**Denomination affiliation:** Independent Interfaith

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

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

**Home Office** – 970-252-0908

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

**Name of current pastor:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn

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

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

come. The Spiritual Awareness Center is an interfaith spiritual community welcoming spiritual seekers and people of all faiths, providing a safe place to explore and nurture the individual's unique connection to the Divine through Unity services, classes, family and community projects, including the Great Community Give-away and Wellness Fair. People of all ages are welcome. There are currently no Sunday School or nursery services provided but craft supplies are available for youth.

## SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

**Denomination affiliation:**

Southern Baptist

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

**Office hours:** Varies

**Contact information:**

phone number: 970-275-7026

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

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

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

Sario

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

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

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

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

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previ-

## VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

**Denomination Affiliation:** Independent Baptist

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

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

**Contact Information:** Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at [info@vbcmontrose.org](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

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

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

### Church Directory

#### Mirror Editorial Staff

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

### 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?

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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## PLANS UNDERWAY FOR NEW PLAYGROUND AT DELTA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

### *Special to Art & Sol*

Delta County has started planning the new playground at the Delta County Fairgrounds with funds from the Colorado Health Foundation grant awarded to the county late last year.

The process follows the tool kit The Colorado Health Foundation provided that heavily focuses on equitable development and built environment planning at the Delta County Fairgrounds in a community input process.

Delta County, along with assistance from the Nature Connection, Delta County Libraries, Partners of Delta County, and more, assembled a diverse group of residents to assist with input on the design of the new playground area of the Delta County Fairgrounds.

"April 26th was the second of many meetings to come where the group of local citizens (Co-Creators) that were carefully recruited and have agreed to volunteer their time came together to focus their attention on developing a community space that is suited for a wide variety of Delta County's diverse population of residents," said Lindsay Mitchell, Public Information Specialist for Delta County.

"We have created a space for these meetings to ignite creativity and fun, providing dinner, games, toys, giveaways, interpreters, childcare, and mileage reimbursement, so there are limited barriers for our group participants to attend and bring their ideas to the table. Most of our participants in the group are not the usual people you would see providing input for

a playground, and that's exactly what we want. We also have representatives from the library, the fairgrounds, and the schools."

Once the Co-Creators have completed several steps of the planning process, a playground specialist will be brought in to assist the group through the completion of the planning process. The group will present their ideas and work with the specialist to put them in an official application that will then be submitted to The Colorado Health Foundation for the full grant that could fund the construction costs of the new playground area. For information about The Delta County Fairgrounds Playground, please visit <https://deltacountyco.gov/771/Delta-County-Fairgrounds-New-Playground>.

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### **DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT**

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### **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.



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

**WALGREENS**

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

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

**CVS (IN TARGET)**

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

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

**SAFEWAY**

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

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

**WALMART**

16750 South Townsend Ave Montrose  
(970) 249-7742  
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Flu	Hep A & Hep B
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Td	Pneumococcal
MMR	Meningococcal
	COVID-19 (Moderna & JJ)

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





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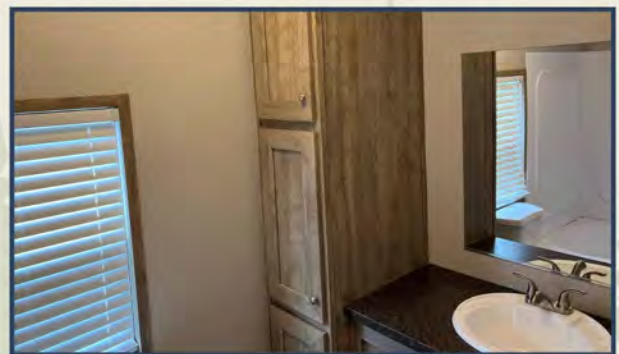
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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## RIDGWAY CHAMBER ANNOUNCES FREE BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

### Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-After 30 years of serving the community, the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce (RACC) is reigniting its dedication to helping local businesses thrive and supporting the local economy while also considering the importance of environmental and social sustainability.

To better support local businesses in the years ahead, the RACC has announced a complimentary Basic Membership plan that goes into effect on May 15th. The membership is designed to provide business owners with increased visibility and additional channels for sharing their news and events — including a business listing on the RACC website

(RidgwayColorado.com) and the Town of Ridgway directory, a space for marketing materials at the Ridgway Visitor Center, and promotion on the RACC's social media channels, bi-weekly e-blasts, and quarterly visitor newsletters.

"Over the past year it became clear that not all businesses could invest in a paid membership option," said Ashley Perkins, the executive director of the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce. "By providing the free Basic Membership, businesses can be found through our website and connected through use of the town directory. This will result in better support from community members and visitors alike." In an effort to grow local tourism sustainably year round, the RACC is championing efforts to draw visitors to Ridgway during quieter times of the year, such as the RACC-sponsored Noel Night in early December and spearheading the Ridgway Chamber Annual Golf Open in September. They are also initiating conversations on ways to support local events like San Juan Skijoring and working to enhance the Shop Local campaign that runs from December to March.

"I often hear from business owners that they must work extremely hard during the summer months to save for the winter months when things slow down. Our hope is that we can reduce some of that stress for local businesses by following this approach and help to increase revenue dur-

ing off peak season," said Perkins, who notes that the RACC is also championing the use of responsible messaging so visitors understand the ethics of Leave No Trace and Know Before you Go tactics, amongst others. "Marketing nowadays is geared towards a visitor's safe and sustainable experience that compliments the local community and is no longer about over-exposing these small towns."

To aid in their endeavors, the RACC has hired a new marketing and public relations specialist. Catherine Johnson with Capti-

vate Consulting will focus on the chamber's social media presence and be charged with the chamber's visitor newsletters and e-blasts. She will also head up a series of business education workshops beginning in May. Johnson's role was previously held by Tanya Ishikawa, who started working with the RACC in 2018 and is now the secretary for the RACC board of directors. To learn more, the public is invited to attend the RACC board meetings on the first Monday of every month at 5 p.m. at the Ridgway Public Library.



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# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

### RIDGWAY TRUE GRIT WALKING TOUR

Re-live the exciting days in 1968 when Ridgway was transformed into Fort Smith, Arkansas and John Wayne, Henry Hathaway, Robert Duval and Glen Campbell came for the filming of True Grit. A guide will escort you to downtown filming locations and share insights about Ridgway's film history and little known facts and anecdotes about the Duke. The tour was recognized by True West as Readers Choice for Best Historic Town Tour. Meet at Ridgway's Hartwell Park gazebo. **FREE!** Details: 469.682.9710 (Donations are welcome.) 3 pm every Friday from June 2 to Sept 1; 10 am and 12 pm Monday, Sept. 4, 2023; 10 am and 2 pm Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023

**MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET**-Summer market every Saturday May-October from 9 am to 1 pm in Downtown Montrose. Fresh produce, local meats and eggs, baked goods, beautiful artisan crafts, live music, kids' activities. South Uncompahgre Avenue, Centennial Plaza and South First Street.

**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.

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

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

**GREATER MONTROSE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS** – May 25.

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

## MONTHLY

**May 1**-On Monday, May 1, Montrose Giving Club meets at 5:30pm at the Bridges.

**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](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com) Seating limited, register at: <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>

**June 3**-Cleaning Expo-10am, 1020 S. Townsend Ave. 970-787-2006

**June 24**-Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans will host their 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**July 29-30**-Colorado Mountain Club Western Slope Group is hosting two days of Wilderness First Aid, July 29 and 30 in Montrose. Details and registration at: [https://www.cmc.org/groups-sections/cmc-state/course-templates/wilderness-medicine-school-wilderness-first-aid/copy6\\_of\\_wilderness-first-aid-cmc-state-2023](https://www.cmc.org/groups-sections/cmc-state/course-templates/wilderness-medicine-school-wilderness-first-aid/copy6_of_wilderness-first-aid-cmc-state-2023)

Questions: [WSGofCMC@gmail.com](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com)

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



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