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the Montrose Mirror

Issue No. 533 May 15, 2023

RE-1J SEES INCREASE IN PER PUPIL FUNDING AS BUDGET STABILIZATION FACTOR DECREASES



A parent captures the moment as RE-1J Fifth grade students took part in the annual district Track Meet on Friday, May 12.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Board President Sarah Fishing called the [regular meeting](#) of the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education to order on Tuesday, May 9. Present along with Fishing were Board Vice President Eric Kelley, District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, and District G Director Stephen Bush. District D Director Tom West was absent. "Just as a real quick reminder just one more time, you'll notice there are still no screens in here because we're having the room re-fitted," Fishing said. "A lot of the members of the public will be really happy about that because there's been a lot of feedback about not being able to hear online and all that sort of stuff."

"But that does mean that you will

[Continued pg 16](#)

FREEDOM SINGS USA COLORADO TO OPEN FOR COUNTRY MUSIC HEADLINER HUNTERGIRL

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-On June 24, the Montrose Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans (WHAfV) will host their 4th Annual Freedom Sings USA Colorado.

The mission of Freedom Sings USA Colorado is to "empower veterans and active-duty military to tell their stories through the process of songwriting in creative and therapeutic settings."

Each year Freedom Sings USA Colorado accepts applications from veterans who want to attend a two-day retreat that includes songwriting workshops, performances, and putting the veteran's stories into song. Held at the Warrior Resource Center, the two-day retreat allows veterans to work with top award-winning songwriters. This year's instructors are Steve Dean, Wood Newton, Bobby Tomberlin, Bill Whyte and Irene Kelley.

For two years HunterGirl, who placed second in season 20 of American Idol, was a

[Continued pg 4](#)



HunterGirl, season 20 runner-up on American Idol, will headline the Fourth Annual Freedom Sings USA Colorado on June 24. The concert, which will be held at the Montrose Rotary Amphitheater at Cerise Park, will begin at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at the Warrior Resource Center, or online @WWW.WHAfV.ORG. Courtesy photo

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

[Editorial Commentary](#)
[By David White!](#)

[CB Williams on Class of 2023](#)
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Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Liquor Store located at 1601 Oxbow Drive is holding a local tasting Friday, May 19, from 2 pm to 6 pm. This tasting is a great opportunity to support your local business while getting to try a variety of their stock. Drinks and food will be provided. 10% of sales made during the tasting will benefit the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club. The event is open to anyone 21 years of age and above, so join The Liquor Store for an afternoon of quality community fun!

CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY MEETS MAY 15

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-On Monday May 15, 430-630pm Citizens' Climate Lobby.org meets at Montrose library meeting rm, Non-partisan, national, environmental, All welcome. info 970-765-9095.



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FREEDOM SINGS USA COLORADO TO OPEN FOR COUNTRY MUSIC HEADLINER *From pg 1*

member of this elite group of songwriters. This rising star in country music helped local veterans write their songs.

WHAFFV Executive Director April Heard was one of those veterans who benefited from one-on-one songwriting instruction. Heard said, "HunterGirl helped me write my song, *Secondary PTSD*. It's on the Freedom Sings USA Colorado website."

This year's benefit concert to help fund the continuation of the program will have Freedom Sings USA Colorado open for country music headliner HunterGirl.

Concert - June 24, 2023 - Montrose Rotary

Amphitheater at Cerise Park, Montrose, CO

Tickets, which are required for admission, are on sale now and can be purchased at the Warrior Resource Center, or online @WWW.WHAFFV.ORG

-General Admission \$30

-Children under 10 years of age \$20

-VIP \$50 (Limited tickets)

-VIP/Meet & Greet **SOLD OUT**

Gates opens at 4:30 p.m.; music begins at 5:30 p.m. Seven food trucks, a brewery, wine garden, and kettle corn will be available.

Heard is especially grateful to local law enforcement (Montrose Police Department, the Montrose County Sheriff, the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse) and the City of Montrose for partnering with them on this community concert event.

Heard said, "There is parking at the Montrose County Event Center and there will be shuttle service. Handicapped parking on Shane's Way at Cerise Park is limited."

Volunteer Coordinator Amy Eifling said, "I still need volunteers to work at the concert. If anyone is interested, they can call me at 970-765-2210."



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SPECIAL EVENT PROGRAM - "NORMANDY HEROS"

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Special Event Program - "Normandy Heros" by Montrose High School History Teachers and Students. Montrose County Republicans are hosting its monthly Conservative Social Hour. Tuesday May 16, 5:30p-6:15pm Venue: Wild Horse Wine & Whiskey Bar - 439 E. Main St. Montrose.



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COUNTY ISSUES RFP FOR COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS

Montrose County Seeks Proposals for Design Build Renovation
MONTROSE-Montrose County has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a design build renovation of the historic Montrose County Courthouse. The county is seeking qualified bidders to design and construct the required renovations. "This is a huge step forward for the project," said Commissioner Roger Rash. "We need to move forward. We've pivoted to the design build process to finally get a firm cost and move directly into construction. From what we're seeing, this process should yield a substantially less expensive process than prior plans."

The timeline in the RFP contemplates an early 2024 start date for construction following the conclusion of the design phase. The county has set a targeted construction budget of \$11,000,000. The project is already budgeted and cash is on hand. There will be no debt financing required. Proposals for the project are due on June 28th. The county aims to award the contract to the selected bidder in July. Any award is subject to approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

"We've had some challenges and delays with this project. It's time to move past speculative cost estimates and get real work underway," said Commissioner Keith Caddy. "I'm excited to see the proposals."

To view the RFP, please visit: <https://www.montrosecounty.net/bids.aspx?bidID=228>.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LARGEST TEACHERS UNION IN THE STATE PASSED RESOLUTION COMMITTING THE ORGANIZATION TO FIGHT CAPITALISM

Editor:

I previously discussed why we can no longer trust our federal and state governments, our public schools, or even our own local library board. Since then, our illustrious governor Polis' actions have proven me correct. The Colorado Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) was instituted in 1992 to limit taxing and spending by the Colorado government, and mandates refunds to Colorado taxpayers rather than allowing the government to spend excess funds.

You will recall Polis tried to re-define the last TABOR refund to be a result of Democrats "wanting to put more of your hard-earned money back in your pocket"--- in spite of the fact Democrats, with Polis leading the charge, have been trying to get rid of TABOR since it was enacted.

Now, Polis is using the catastrophic property tax increases in another sleazy attempt to get rid of your TABOR refunds. Rather than offering real solutions to limit the property tax burden, Democrats are tying any relief from the property valuation increases to another attempt to eliminate TABOR. He is proposing to take less of your money on property taxes, but

only if you agree to let him keep more of the money which is already owed back to you from overtaxation. Democrats think we are too foolish to ask "If you really care about taxpayers, why don't you do something positive to reduce property taxes, without also making one more scam attempt to increase taxes by keeping our TABOR money?"

Remember, these are the same Democrats who just passed several clearly unconstitutional gun bills, one of which restricts adults from exercising their constitutional rights until they are 21 years old, and who also attempted to take control of local zoning from towns and cities.

Unfortunately, Colorado teachers have also proven me correct. The Colorado Education Association (CEA), the largest teachers union in the state, has just passed a resolution committing the organization to fight capitalism as a fundamentally exploitative economic system that must be destroyed. This is not some fringe part of the union or a couple of crazies on TikTok. This was adopted as the union's convention as the official position of the union. So much for teachers' unions being "for the students" or for protecting their

workers.

One would think that being concerned about student performance would be #1 in the minds of CEA.

Instead, they have declared capitalism as the problem. They are no longer interested in actually teaching students things like reading, writing, and arithmetic, or how to make a living.

The CEA is Colorado's affiliate of the National Education Association (NEA), the nation's largest teachers' union. Unfortunately, our local teachers' unions, the Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA) and the Delta County Education Association (DCEA) are affiliates of CEA/NEA.

In the absence of any clear refutation of the CEA resolution on the part of UVEA and DCEA, one has to conclude that the teachers' unions representing Montrose, Olathe, and Delta County have also committed themselves to communist activism rather than education. Is it any wonder that public schools are witnessing a mass exodus of good teachers no longer willing to deal with the radicals running their unions?

Ed Henrie, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REPUBLICAN WOMEN LUNCH AND MEETING MAY 19

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County Republican Women Lunch and Meeting- Friday, May 19, Noon-1:30pm at Hampton Inn Montrose. Colorado House District 58 Representative Marc Catlin will give a Legislative Update on the First Regular Session of the 74th General Assembly. Brown bag lunch. and beverages served.

OPEN HOUSE ON CITY BUILDING CODE UPDATE SCHEDULED FOR MAY 22

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose is updating its building codes to the 2018 International Code Council's (ICC) building code series to be in compliance with the Colorado Energy Offices' requirement to have adopted one of the three most recent ICC International Energy Efficiency Codes (IECC) by July 1, 2023.

The city's Building Services Department will host the open house on Monday, May 22, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The open house will be held in the Community Room of the Montrose Public Safety Complex at 434 South First Street downtown.



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Local School Board: Control of Instruction, CRS Title 22, outlines other responsibilities

Contact Stephen Varela: VarelaforColorado@gmail.com

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

VICTIM OF SUSPECTED DROWNING IDENTIFIED

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—In the late afternoon hours of Wednesday, May 10, Richard Zehm, a 72-year-old Redvale man drowned while kayaking on the Dolores River 6.6 miles

south of Bedrock.

Mr. Zehm and a friend were kayaking when they hit a rock and the kayak overturned. The friend survived and was able to flag down assistance from nearby

kayakers. The rescuing kayakers were ultimately able to recover Mr. Zehm's body, and bring him to a near by boat ramp, where first responders were on-scene.

"The rivers are running extremely fast due to the large amount of snowpack in the mountains," said Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard. "Use caution when recreating on the rivers and streams."

The cause of death appears to be drowning and the manner of death is under investigation by the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation and Montrose County Sheriff's Office. Additional assisting agencies included the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse and Nuclea-Naturita Fire and EMS. An autopsy has been scheduled.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL AUTHOR FEATURED AT MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE



Montrose Historian and Author Elaine Hale Jones signed copies of her newest book, "The Ghosts of Montrose," at the Montrose County Historical Museum Open House on Friday, May 12. The book has been published in partnership with the historical museum, and features photos by William Woody. Photo by B. Switzer.

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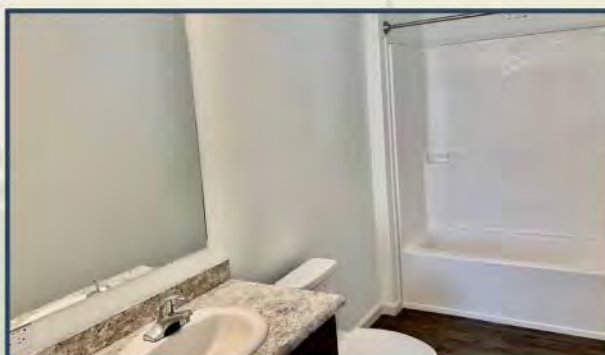
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SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

GROWER AND LICENSED CAREGIVER JAMES BARRETO

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Now in his 40's, Montrose businessman James Barreto represents one of the younger sectors of one of the Valley's oldest industries—agriculture. Barreto has more than 20 years of experience as a grower specializing in cannabis, hemp, food products, and plants that produce essential oils. As a licensed caregiver here, he also has an extensive background in organic foods, vegetables, and in natural medicines, and can help those in need of a caring and licensed consultant. He hopes to reach Montrose seniors who need local access to natural forms of pain relief.

"Residents of Montrose have to drive half an hour to alleviate symptoms by going to dispensaries in Ridgway," Barreto said. "I can show you how to alleviate symptoms without having to drive so far."

Though his business background is not limited to growing—Barreto has also owned call centers, gyms, and real estate—he sees strong growth potential in the healing sector.

The son of a Taino medicine man, James grew up studying the medicinal properties of dried herbs. He is interested in mushroom products as well; in 2022 Colorado

voters approved the Natural Medicine Health Act, which allows for the use of mushrooms at state-regulated healing centers under the supervision of trained facilitators for adults over the age of 21. Retail sales are not permitted.

Born at Denver General Hospital, James is a graduate of Denver's West High School and was involved in Outward Bound in the Rockies as a teen.

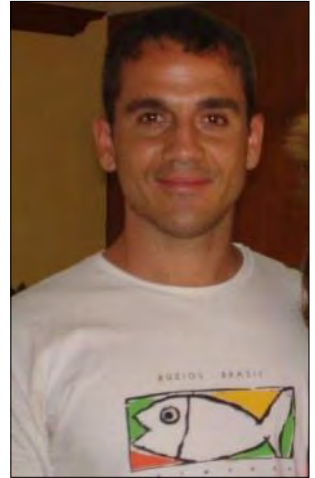
After working as a grower in other states, he returned home. "I missed the mountains, originally being from Denver," Barreto said. He was familiar with Montrose because his father had cared for a patient whose father was born here, and he had also researched the Uncompahgre Valley for growing conditions. "Water for farming is easily accessible here," he said. "I had owned food and tree farms in Florida."

Barreto hopes that consumers are fully aware of the options available to them under state law. One local patient, now in his 70's and facing major hip replacement surgery in the near future, spoke to the *Mirror* on condition of privacy. The patient feels that working with a dedicated medical provider can be more beneficial than buying pain relief products from a dispen-

sary. "To me, the real difference between the random dispensary purchase and the care-giver product has to do with the intensity and its feeling like a targeted high, which for me results in real pain relief," the patient said.

Working with a designated provider can also be more affordable for those on a fixed income, Barreto said. "Farmers are willing to donate to disadvantaged people—find out if you qualify," he said.

To learn more about licensed Colorado caregivers visit the Colorado state registry. For health information, questions, or concerns related to medical cannabis, visit <https://marijuanahealthreport.colorado.gov/health-data>.



James Barreto. Courtesy photo.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



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ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS

RE-1J SEES PER PUPIL FUNDING INCREASE *From pg 1*

not be able to see the presentations and slides that we can see on our iPads...you're absolutely welcome to pick up your phone, get on [Board Docs](#), and look at the agenda and all of the attachments there, that is absolutely within your rights, and you can probably also use the WiFi and the Wifi password, it's right back there," [Fishing said](#).

All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance; the Board voted to approve the meeting agenda as written.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Montrose High School (MHS) Senior Kate Ensor briefed the board on May happenings. Before listing calendar items, Ensor said that the Fourth Grade Natural Resources Festival had been held earlier that day. "...It's been going on a little over 30 years, you know Ms. Murphy was there, we can talk about that again a little bit later."

After mentioning the full slate of activities and ceremonies scheduled on building and district calendars during May, Ensor said, "Ms. Murphy, what did you think of the Fourth Grade Natural Resources Festival?"

District C Director Alice Murphy said, "...That was pretty fun!" Being around the students is the best part of the day, Murphy said. "Lots of kids running around, having fun at all the stations, conserving water...all these outside agencies, community members that came in, volunteers that came in serving the food...lots of things to learn from that..."

Ensor said that she was excited for the Special Olympics Track Meet. "And I am super excited to graduate on the 21st."

Fishing asked Ensor, "What are you doing after high school?"

"Oh!" Ensor said. "I don't know yet. But living, for sure."

RECOGNITION & DONATIONS

Ann Carr of Montrose Altrusa presented the Altrusa Apple awards, "It's a joy to be here," she said.

Carr presented Altrusa Apple Awards for May to MHS Custodian Robert Molina; Black Canyon High School Head Secretary Carolina Gasson-Lopez; Outer Range kindergarten teacher Tiffanie Dorale; and Peak Academy Third through Fifth Grade

Teacher Kayla Pfannenstiel.

The KREX Golden Apple Award for May was awarded to Northside Elementary First Grade Teacher Theresa Fuller, RE-1J Public Information Officer Matt Jenkins announced.

Dr. Dorothy Boisen and Mr. Matthew Boisen have donated \$10,000 for the Outer Range Campus to be used for outdoor lighting. "Thank you for that donation," Jenkins said.

Jenkins also gave a brief update on changes to the Board of Education meeting room.

"Hopefully...We'll have some technology up to be able to show some stuff off next month...we certainly are going to get a bunch of safety and security resources out of our upgrade...we use this space for professional development, there are community organizations that reserve this space to use...we have had a lot of requests to improve our functionality and technology in here," Jenkins said. "We're hopeful that will take place in June...we'll see a new look on our livestream for these board meetings."

QUARTERLY FINANCIALS AND 2023-2024 BUDGET FORECAST

RE-1J Finance Director Emily Imus presented an in-depth look at the district's quarterly financials as well as the outlook for the coming school year. Quarterly reports include a report [by fund](#) as well as [an investments](#) report.

Imus discussed the passage of the [School Finance Act](#) and local impacts. "...That takes our per pupil funding...from \$9,534 to \$10, 538, a significant increase."

The budget stabilization factor has been reduced from \$2,125,000 to \$956,000, she said.

Projected pupil count excluding preschool count shows an increase of nine students compared to last year; with the five-year averaging removed, the count shows a drop of 15 students, Imus said. The district was preparing for Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA) negotiations, which take place this week.

So far budget priorities for 2023-2024 include, not in order of priority:

- Expanding the visual and performing arts;
 - Expanding Career Pathways;
 - Being the highest paid district on the Western Slope;
 - Supporting mental health needs of students and staff;
 - Ensuring safe and adequate facilities;
 - Program sustainability for programs implemented with the use of grant dollars.
- The proposed 2023-2024 budget will be submitted to the Board of Education by May 31, with the proposed budget presented to the Board at the meeting of June 13. The Board must formally adopt a proposed budget by June 30, 2023.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District C Director Alice Murphy spoke about attending local events hosted by educators and mentioned the teachers by name. "There's been a lot of things going on," Murphy said. "I kind of told the teachers I would shout out their names."

Hosting a student art show at Montrose Center of the Arts were Elementary Art Teachers Carol Brown Elvira Butler and Tori Warren, Murphy said.

"It was a really cool display of elementary students' art," Fishing said. "...those teachers are so passionate about what they do..."

At Montrose High School, Art Teachers Lauralee MacHale, Chad Morris, and Stephen Motley also put on an art show, Murphy said. She commended Middle School Art Teachers Heather Jennings and Melissa Piazza.

At Pomona Elementary, Lisa Franks organized an ag day with help from Olathe Middle High School FFA students and local producers, Murphy said. "...They had sheep. It was nice to talk to my former students..."

Murphy also attended the Cinco De Mayo Festival at Montrose High School put on by Becky Moreno and Lidia Bond of LULAC. "That was fun, good music, great food...they actually raised money there for scholarships..."

MHS Music Teacher and Band Director Sheridan Lloyd organized a swing dance and final concert, Murphy said. "Just a shout out to all these teachers doing great things for our kids."

RE-1J SEES PER PUPIL FUNDING INCREASE

From previous pg

The Fourth Grade Natural Resource Fair was great, she added. "I got a sunburn." Murphy discussed the PAC and District Accountability committee meetings. Parent turnout was light for the accountability committee as the meeting was held on a scholarship night.

COMMUNITY INPUT

There was no community input.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Imus presented information on Healthy School Meals for All. The meeting agenda notes, "the initiative passed in the November general election, which means that public School Food Authorities participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs in the 2023-24 school year may choose to opt into the Healthy School Meals for All program. Opting into this program includes:

- Notifying the CDE School Nutrition Unit of participation during next year's application renewal.

- Participating in the Community Eligibility Provision and implementing School Breakfast and National School Lunch programs at all qualifying CEP schools.

- Providing free meals to all students enrolled in all school sites that participate in the School Breakfast or National School Lunch Program.

MCSD will be opting into the Healthy Meals for All program effective July 1 for the 23/24 school year as soon as the application form at CDE is available."

Imus said that there will still be charges for a second meal, and there will be a form to fill out.

Sodexo Manager Preston Weaver was present to answer questions and discuss the implementation of Healthy Meals for All in the Montrose and Olathe schools.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board of Education approved Policy IHCD, Concurrent Enrollment - revised eligibility requirements.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Items 4 and 5 were pulled for further discussion; the remaining Consent Agenda items including Personnel Report were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 4, "Approve contract for 2023-2024

with the Consortium for providing student Medicaid assistance" was approved separately following a brief discussion.

Background-The meeting agenda states, "The Consortium agreement is a renewal of an existing contract to provide Medicaid claiming, training, consultation, and technical assistance for student services that are eligible for Medicaid. Funding will be from the General Fund, Exceptional Student Services budget."

PIO Matt Jenkins shared background information prior to board approval of Item 5, "Accept the School Nurse Workforce Grant from the Colorado Department of Education in the amount of \$272,636 and approve related expenditures."

Background-The meeting agenda states, "We received the School Nurse Workforce Grant from the Colorado Department of Education in the amount of \$272,636. We will use this grant to fund two additional registered nurses to support physical school health and increase student safety through the district. With this grant they are able to start training in the 21/22 SY and will continue to the end of the 22/23 SY. We are also able to support funding for their training and required technology for them to begin work. Funds will also be used to retain our current registered nurses as well as restructure health services to include a Lead Nurse position focused on infrastructure and processes related to health services."

The Board of Education voted to approve Boundary adjustments for Northside and Johnson Elementary Schools.

Background-The meeting packet includes the following information on the proposed changes: "Proposed School Boundary Changes ([Click here for map views](#)) We propose changing school boundaries for two locations in Montrose because, due to the growth of our town, the current boundaries are confusing. These changes have been reviewed by Student Transportation of America who are supportive of these changes. Area off of the bypass (N. San Juan), west of the Fairgrounds. Sunshine Peak Apartments and area surrounding.

Currently: The school boundary was drawn

before the current development. The school boundary cuts through Sunshine Peak Apartment complex and some of the surrounding neighborhoods. Half of the homes are in Northside's boundary and the other half is Johnson.

Proposal: Redraw school boundary so as to reassign Sunshine Peak Apartment and surrounding area to Northside. This will keep the students in this neighborhood at the same school. The area is closer to Northside (.6 miles) versus Johnson (2.5 miles). Also, Northside is better able to absorb the extra students.

14461 Marine Road. This address is home to a couple of different trailer parks. Currently, The Oak Grove and Northside school boundary cuts through the middle of the trailer park which all has the same address of 14461 Marine Road. Currently, families in trailers #1-499 are going to Oak Grove and families in trailers #500 and above go to Northside. This has resulted in more students who live in trailers 1-400 erroneously going to Northside than to Oak Grove.

Proposal: Redraw school boundary so all of the street addresses at 14461 Marine Road go to Northside. This will keep the students in this neighborhood at the same school. Northside was chosen over Oak Grove as it is closer to Northside (2.1 miles) versus Oak Grove (3.5 miles). Also, Northside is better able to absorb the extra students.

Additional Information:

Students will be grandfathered in their current school if they choose to remain in their current school. For those students who choose to stay in their current school, STA said they would gladly work with these families to continue to provide transportation for them. [Link to school boundary map](#), courtesy of Montrose County GIS."

The Board of Education voted to adopt and purchase SpringBoard ELA as a resource for secondary English Language Arts courses for all secondary schools in the amount of \$265,930.20. Following the vote, Academic Services Director Jessica Beller said, "You've just changed the lives of 60 educators. They are very excited."

RE-1J SEES PER PUPIL FUNDING INCREASE From previous pg

Background- The agenda states, "Academic Services is seeking Board approval for the adoption and purchase of SpringBoard ELA as a resource for secondary English Language Arts courses in grades 6-12 for all secondary schools. SpringBoard is published by College Board, who also publishes Advanced Placement (AP) courses and the PSAT/SAT state assessments, so the resource is well-aligned with existing MCSD AP courses and our high stakes assessment for 9-11 grade students.

SpringBoard is also the highest rated secondary English resource by EdReports and has been thoroughly vetted by MCSD Academic Services, secondary ELA teachers

and secondary administrators. Attached with this proposal is a quote for SpringBoard ELA 6-12 grade for each secondary school, including both the print and digital editions for four years. The total cost is \$265,930.20, which breaks down to \$66,482.55 per year for the next four years. The cost of this quote also includes an initial three-day professional development training for 57 secondary ELA teachers plus follow-up professional development. Here is a link to full digital access to the SpringBoard ELA resource. We believe the adoption of the SpringBoard ELA resource will greatly improve instruction and student engagement in secondary ELA courses to support student growth and

achievement for Reading, Writing, and Communicating."

DISTRICT UPDATES

Imus presented the Enrollment Report. Districtwide, enrollment is currently 6,047, which is down by 12 students since the previous month but up by 56 students over last year at this time, Imus said.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC) UPDATE

ECC Director Penny Harris said that ECC registration is now open. More information will be forthcoming in three weeks. "It's a rush right now." ECC Information and data dashboard are included in the meeting packet.

With no further business, the Board of Education voted to adjourn.

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WEEKLY
CARTOONS

SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



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- SHARON PEDERSON - PATIENT



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Montrose County Neighborhood Watch

CORPORAL TRAVIS THOMPSON is the Community Outreach Deputy and works with the Neighborhood Watch volunteer groups in an effort to teach and inform residents on becoming more publicly aware and how to properly report any suspicious activities. We can all do our part in keeping our neighborhoods, businesses and community safer. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you", a simple yet strong directive.

We Want You and need citizens like you who are willing to do the "neighborly thing" and help our law enforcement better protect our community from unwanted and unnecessary stress due to havoc and mischief so that every neighborhood has one of these signs.

In small communities such as Montrose, knowing our neighbors to the north, east, south and west of us might be a smart move. The Montrose County Neighborhood Watch program under the leadership of the Sheriff's Office has been in effect since the early 1970s. As members of the National Sheriff's Organization, the Neighborhood Watch program has proven to be an effective tool for volunteers to partner with local law enforcement agencies to cohesively collaborate in crime prevention by doing the "neighborly thing."



If your Neighborhood has an active group and haven't received recent communication from the Sheriffs Department, or if you are interested in forming a group, please call 970-252-4499 or e-mail nhwmontroseco@outlook.com

For detailed information go to the Montrose County Sheriff's website. www.montrosecountysheriff.com ... CLICK Community > Neighborhood Watch

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LOT 2 BANNER ROAD • OLATHE CO 81425

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



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

SAN JUAN BREWS IS MONTROSE REPUBLICAN PARTY SUBCOMMITTEE FOR STRATEGY AND PLANNING FIRST SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT AWARD WINNER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Republican Party subcommittee for strategy and planning put forward a list of candidates for our very first small business spotlight award winner and the winner this month was San Juan Brews.

San Juan brews was chosen for several reasons. As open ambassadors of their Christian faith they have an inviting and inspiring business with verses of the day posted on their walls.

They've become a frequent meeting location for local homeschool teenagers as well as the young life teen community.

On top of this every month they give their patrons an opportunity to donate towards local non-profit charities. This is all in ad-

dition to a welcoming fun ambiance and incredibly good coffee and cocktails. For our very first small business spotlight

award winner the Montrose republicans could not be more proud to recognize the amazing community and treats available



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BOSOM BUDDIES TO HOST CORNHOLE 'FUN-RAISER' JUNE 10 *One Toss Closer to Help and Hope at the Montrose Recreation Center*

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Bosom Buddies and the Montrose Rec Center are teaming up to have fun and fight breast cancer with a Cornhole "Fun-Raiser" Saturday, June 10. "This will be a 100-percent fun, unofficial, Cornhole tournament," said Chairperson Kim Jones. "But there will be cash prizes, so we expect to have a big turnout and hope to raise funds to help those affected by breast cancer in our service area."

The tournament will be limited to 64 two-person teams, so Jones recommends that teams enter early to secure their spot on the roster.

Teams can register online or download the registration form to send in on the Bosom Buddies website at WWW.BosomBuddiesSWC.org/events-meetings/ or printed forms are available

at the Rec Center. The deadline for online registration is May 23rd. Printed forms must be postmarked by May 20th.

"The cost is only \$35 per person/\$70 per team for a full day of summer fun," said Jones. "Plus, each competitor will receive a day pass to the Rec Center and a tournament t-shirt."

Jones added that a "Long Toss Competition" will also be set up so anyone can buy a ticket to toss a Cornhole bag at a distanced board. Tickets will be available at one bag for \$1; six bags for \$5; and 28 bags for \$20. At the end of competition, one talented "tosser" will win a special prize.

Food trucks and a beer tent will be on-site to refuel competitors, so cheerleaders and families are encouraged. "Just bring sun block, a lawn chair, and a refillable water



Bosom Buddies 2021 Cornhole "Funraiser" was so much fun that the organization is doing it again on June 10 at the Montrose Recreation Center. Courtesy photo.

bottle as the Rec Center is setting up a "water monster" to keep all hydrated," said Jones.

Check-in and warm-up for registered teams will begin at 9:30am on the lawn in front of the Rec. Center. Each team is guaranteed three games of tournament play and each player will receive an event t-shirt. Cash prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third place teams.

Teams will be able to register the day of the event but only if there are available slots. "Teams registering on Cornhole Day may not receive event shirts," said Jones. "So, we recommend everyone pre-register if at all possible."

Since 2001, Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Group Of Southwestern Colorado has helped more than 4,000 people almost \$1,000,000 in financial support for those affected by breast cancer. Bosom Buddies serves the residents of Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel Counties.

Jones emphasized, "All money raised from this event and our October Walk/Run is spent locally to help locals. We need your help to keep our services available so come have fun on our Cornhole Day, June 10th!"

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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 or mail a check to Share a Cup Campaign, P.O. Box 2126, Montrose, CO 81402.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

LET'S GET BACK TO FOCUSING ON THE THINGS WE HAVE IN COMMON

Editor:

At coffee the other morning the guys were talking about the fact that in a couple of weeks, our church service will be devoted to celebrating the "rainbow community". They are (at most) 2% of the population, and I have a problem with singling out any one group. My belief is that "*All lives Matter*".

But what if we wanted to devote the next weekend to the other 98%, make it all about heterosexuals? Or single

adults? I'm sure there'd be a huge hullabaloo about that.

Switching to racism, if you look at age 23 and under in our country's population, Caucasians are now less than 50%, so everyone in that generation belongs to a minority. That means we'll either have to give preference to everyone, or do away with giving minorities special privileges.

As for ethnic backgrounds, let's talk about my favorite subject -- **food**. Who doesn't like pizza, or tacos, or a Jewish pastrami

rueben, or Chinese takeout, or Polish sausage, or Greek baclava, or Philippine lumpia, or Asian curry, or German brats 'n kraut? Every immigrant group has brought something tasty to the table, and I thank them for that.

So we could go on and on, but you get the point. It's time we got back to focusing on the things we have in common, the things that make America such a great place to live.

Ray Ross, Montrose

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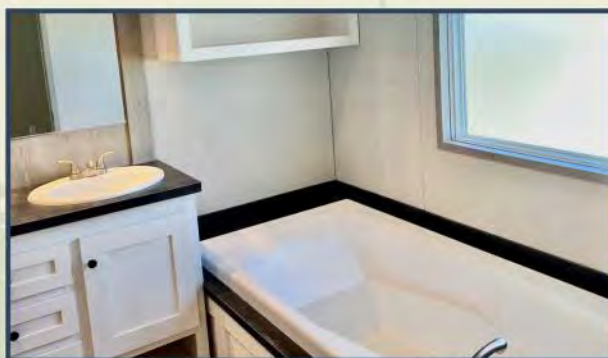
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CATLIN MOVES NOXIOUS WEED ADVISORY BILL INTO LAW

Special to the Mirror

DENVER—Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin moved SB23-185, Sunset Noxious Weed Advisory Committee bill, into law. The bill was signed by Governor Jared Polis, on May 1, 2023. The law implements the recommendation of the Department of Regulatory Agencies to continue the noxious weed advisory committee until September 1, 2034. The law does not require a state expense. The bi-partisan bill received unanimous 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 Rod Pelton (R-SD35) of Eagle County and Janice Marchman (D-SD15) of Larimer County. Representative Marc Catlin says, "The Noxious Weed Advisory Committee has made great strides to control the invasive species that reduce agricultural productivity, exacerbates wind and water erosion and pose an increased threat to wildfire. It is great to see that the state of Colorado will continue this committee which our agriculturalists and rural communities need to thrive."

Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin represents the eight counties of Dolores, Delta,

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



Colorado State Rep. Marc Catlin. Courtesy photo.

MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH'S SALLY O'CONNOR NAMED CHC DAN WILFORD AWARD WINNER



Sally O'Connor, Director of Care Coordination at Montrose Regional Health, received the 2023 Dan Wilford Award. Courtesy photo.



Nominees for the 2023 Dan Wilford Award. From left to right: Wendy Knifer, Admissions; Corin Middleton, Intensive Care Unit; Chelsie Kukulan, Medical Imaging; Brad Carrico, Plant & Engineering; Fred Schmidt, Mountain View Therapy; Mary Jo Anleitner, Mountain View Therapy; Sally O'Connor, Care Coordination; Nima Sherpa, Acute Rehabilitation Unit.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — Montrose Regional Health announced Sally O'Connor, the hospital's Director of Care Coordination, has been named the winner of the 2023 CHC Dan Wilford Award for Compassion and Community Service. The award is for her dedication to the hospital and the surrounding community, going to great lengths to ensure patients receive great care inside and outside the hospital. "I am the result of my team," said O'Connor, giving credit to the Case Management and surrounding supportive environment around her. "My team does this work every day, I'm just lucky it was written down on paper for me." O'Connor's nomination reads of her tireless efforts to serve the

needs of hospital patients. One story in the nomination brought attention to the great lengths O'Connor went to locate a patient's family member: after exhausting all avenues, she enlisted the help of the consulate of the patient's host country. The consulate was able to locate the patient's sister, allowing for arrangements to be made to discharge the patient into her care. In another story, Sally spent numerous hours working with various federal and state agencies to seek approval for a 21 year old patient to receive a bowel transplant. Throughout the nomination, stories of O'Connor's compassion and energy to improve the lives of patients are well-detailed.

The award, named after Dan Wilford, a

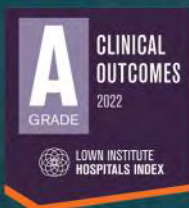
founding Community Hospital Corporation board member and retired CEO of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System of Houston, Texas, represents outstanding care and remarkable concern for a community and its local hospital. CHC provides consultative services to Montrose Regional Health, an independent non-profit 501(c)3 hospital. Other CHC Dan Wilford Award nominees from Montrose Regional Health included: Chelsie Kukulan, Medical Imaging, Nima Sherpa, Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Brad Carrico, Plant & Engineering Wendy Knifer, Admissions/Registration, Fred Schmidt, Mountain View Therapy, Mary Jo Anleitner, Mountain View Therapy, Corin Middleton, Intensive Care Unit



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WESTERN SLOPE LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED BY CDOT AND MADD

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION- At a ceremony last week the Colorado Department of Transportation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving announced the winners of the 2023 Law Enforcement Champion awards for the Western Slope and Mountain regions. These awards focus on efforts to reduce impaired driving, increase the use of seat belts and reduce speeding.

The Law Enforcement Champion award winners are:

-Outstanding Individual Dedication to Occupant Protection: Colorado State Patrol / Western Slope - Trooper Henry Netherton (Montrose)

-Outstanding Dedication to Underage Drinking Prevention and Enforcement - Trooper Derrick Heller, Colorado State Patrol (Golden)

-Outstanding Team Dedication to Occupant Protection: Colorado State Patrol / Western Slope - Troop 5c, Colorado State Patrol (Montrose)

-Outstanding Individual Dedication to Impaired Driving Enforcement - Western Slope/Colorado State Patrol - Trooper Ben Carnes, Colorado State Patrol (Grand Junction)

-Outstanding Individual Dedication to Impaired Driving Enforcement: Local Law Enforcement / Western Slope - Officer

Felipe Gomez, Glenwood Springs Police Dept. (Glenwood Springs)

-Outstanding Victim Advocate - Alicia Bourdon-Goure, Colorado State Patrol (Grand Junction)

"We are ever grateful to the brave men and women in law enforcement who keep our roads and communities safe," said Darrell Lingk, Director of the Highway Safety Office at CDOT. "At CDOT, we take a holistic approach to safety on our transportation system, which includes recognizing the role of public safety officials in keeping impaired drivers off our road, promoting seat belt use and enforcing speed limits."

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DEREK PADILLA SWORN IN AS
THE BLM TRES RIOS FIELD MANAGER

Special to the Mirror

DOLORES— Derek Padilla was sworn in last week as the field manager for the Bureau of Land Management Tres Rios Field Office. Padilla will oversee the management of more than 600,000 acres of public land and over two million acres of federal mineral estate within BLM Colorado's Southwest District, with trust responsibility for minerals management on 800,000 acres of tribal lands. Within the field office boundary, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument contains the highest known density of archaeological sites in the United States, contributing to our understanding and appreciation of the rich history of indigenous cultures.

BLM Colorado State Director Doug Vilsack administered the oath of office at the community center in Mancos, CO.

"The BLM is always made better when we have the opportunity to bring in talented leaders from our state and federal partner agencies," said Direc-

tor Vilsack. "Derek's range of experiences will contribute greatly to our agency's collective knowledge and capabilities in managing our public lands on behalf of the American people."

Derek is well known to many in the Dolores community, where for over 11 years he has been a District Ranger for the Dolores Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest. Following a stint as a District Ranger in Cuba, New Mexico, he and his wife Leslie relocated to Colorado in 2012 with their daughter (now a geologist with the Forest Service in New Mexico), 13-year old son, and Australian shepherd, Raider.

Prior to becoming a line officer, he served as a Rangeland Management Specialist in Arizona, as well as a Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist in New Mexico. He completed a detail as the Forest Supervisor for the Gila National Forest and is an experienced agency administrator for prescribed and wildland fire.

"The Southwest District is excited to

welcome Derek Padilla to our corner of BLM Colorado! Derek's experience could not be a better match for continuing the priority work underway at the Tres Rios Field Office," said **District Manager Stephanie Connolly**. "We're especially grateful to gain his strong background in fire, which will benefit us greatly in achieving prescribed fire goals in the area."

Derek holds a Bachelor of Science in Range Science, along with a Biology minor, from New Mexico State University. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hiking, and motor boating.

"I am looking forward to expanding my land management knowledge with a new agency and hope to continue the great work that employees of the Tres Rios Office have been carrying out over the years. I am also glad that I will be able to continue working with the San Juan National Forest and other partners in the management of the great resources that Southwest Colorado provides for the American people," said Padilla.



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**MONTROSE REGIONAL
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see something, say something

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

WHY IS MONTROSE GOING CULTURALLY 'WOKE'?

By David White

The City of Montrose and Montrose County have historically been, for the most part, politically and culturally moderate to conservative for most of their existence. However, things began to change about 12 or so years ago as new folks found themselves coming to our communities to enjoy the amenities that living in Western Colorado has to offer. Scenery, four season outdoor activities, a good selection of retail shopping (national brands as well as unique local stores) and a stable political environment (outside of the usual dustups that happen in small towns) all combined to lure folks from all over the country to Montrose.

With new residents come new thoughts and ideas. A lot of people get to a community and wish for some of the things they left behind. It seems that today, some of what has been left behind elsewhere has made its way here from not only retail shopping, restaurants, coffee shops, healthcare, etc. standpoint, but also from an ideological and political perspective.

We are seeing more and more controversy over issues related to "wokeism" being played out by our local elected and appointed officials on the school board (recent changes to the dress code, homework standards, etc.), library board (LGBTQ reading material for children), City Council (recent proclamations, spending of taxpayer money questionable private ventures), etc. According to Dictionary.com, wokeism is the "promotion of liberal progressive ideology and policy as an expression of sensitivity to systemic injustices and prejudices." Wokeism Definition & Meaning | Dictionary.com

While I won't argue that our society is perfect, I find it ironic that the main promoters of these progressive ideas as well as Democratic Socialist policies currently being implemented by our City and various governmental special district leaders, seem to have found their way into our lives through the proverbial back door.

In a Montrose Mirror interview back on July 23, 2018, the then Chairperson of the Montrose Democratic Party, Connie Pittenger stated that "We have progressives on the board of Delta-Montrose Electric Associa-

tion, the Rec District, on City Council, and on a lot of other boards around town that are critical – and they are being successful." "We are working in places where we can succeed."

Reviewing where we are today, 5 years later, I must say that congratulations to the Montrose Democratic Party are in order. It appears that they have, in fact, been very successful in bringing about the progressive cultural change that their party's ideology is seeking by getting their people into positions on these non-partisan elected boards. The conservative elements in our community (led by a weak GOP) have been asleep at the wheel for far too long in my opinion as a politically unaffiliated conservative individual.

With an aging demographic, the conservative voices in our community have failed to communicate the founding principles of our country to the younger generations. Those coming up through society today don't understand the basis of our freedoms. Their decisions are not founded in history or our Federal or State Constitutions, but more upon how an issue seems to affect them in the moment or how something makes them feel or other sensitivities that really have nothing to do with abiding by the founding principles of our nation and state.

Of course, the very folks who are behind changing our local culture seem to use the same tactics to discredit anyone who brings their agenda into the light. Recent critics of commentary or opinion pieces that I've written use the typical leftist talking points to try and pigeonhole my comments into the category of those attached to conspiracy theorists or MAGA conservatives. A wealthy local retired doctor's wife who is a prominent member of the Democrat Party as well as a community activist and influencer (she has been on the school board, City Planning Commission and other boards), in a Montrose Mirror commentary two weeks ago, used terms like "people are in their basements listening to extremist talk shows all day" as well as "whatever other exaggerated label that gets good ratings with the QAnon crowd" to describe those who find credence in what I've written to be the problem with our community. Even the current Chair of

the Democrat Party has thrown in with words such as "misinformation", "unfair", "dishonest", "toxicity" in his commentary a while back. Why? To mimic the talking points coming from their leaders in Washington and Denver? You can't have the success they've had without help from their lackeys in the media to the corrupt bureaucracies that are agenda driven at all levels of government and who all use the same virtue signaling and same malignment of those they disagree with by standardizing their talking points. Well done, I say.

As we've just seen at the close of the Colorado State Legislature's 2023 session where more of our individual liberties are being taken or curtailed in the name of climate change, gun control, social justice, intersectional justice, queer topics, citizen's rights to housing and on and on. Fees and taxes to pay for the bills just now being signed into law are going to impact all of us and continue to drive individuals and families into financial distress that no amount of legislation is going to prevent. Then again, maybe that's the end game...make us all dependent on THEM for our existence. That, my friends, is a fact.

Bringing it all back home, these same topics and support for them can be found right here in our town. The progressive agenda is successful. The laws and policies being implemented at the state and local level are here or coming soon. Get involved. If your values don't align with those currently driving our local governmental entities (City, County, Rec District, Library District, School District, Fire District, Water Districts, etc.), start going to their meetings. Stand up. Say something and maybe you can make a difference before we're all forced to drink the "woke" Kool-Aid.

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

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ELIZABETH JEAN BULL GILLEECE

March 7, 1932- April 16, 2023



ELIZABETH JEAN BULL GILLEECE passed away peacefully on April 16, 2023 at age of

91, at Valley Manor Care Center in Montrose, Co. Jean was born March 7, 1932 at the family ranch on Surface Creek in Cedaredge to Earnest A. Bull and Dorothy A. Nelson. After graduating from the Delta County schools, she attended Colorado Mechanical and Agricultural college, which became CSU, in 1954 with a major of Vocational Home Economics. Jean later received her masters in Life Science from Western State College.

Jean's teaching career while mostly based in the Grand Valley, from Fruita to Palisade, she taught home economics in Delta County, Lamar, Cherry Creek, and even a reservation in Wyoming.

Besides creating a family with her son, Jean loved spending her time outside caring for and riding her horses. Jean was one of the original members of the Side Saddle Sissy's, that became the Frontier Bells, which performed in parades and rodeo's on side saddles all around the Western States. Jean also enjoyed singing in church

choirs, and after she retired from teaching she did volunteer work with Saint Mary's hospital pathology lab.

Jean is survived by her Son, James (Beth) Gilleece of Montrose, Grandson Aaron (Crystal) Gilleece of Grand Junction, Granddaughter Rachel (Camron) Gilleece of Montrose, five great grandchildren with one on the way, and many nieces and nephews. Jean was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Willard and Robert Bull and sister Marolyn Wood.

Memorial service for Jean will be held at United Methodist Church in Cedaredge, at 1 pm on May 27.

The family would like to express they're thanks to the staff at Montage Creek, Valley Manor Care Center and the Members of Hope West Hospice for their wonderful care of Jean. Memorial gifts can be made to Hope West Hospice at 725 South 4th Street, Montrose, Colorado 81401. Arrangements are being handled by the family and Crippin Funeral Home.

Our aim is true

the montrose mirror

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JOANN JEFFCOAT

January 22, 1934-May 4, 2023

JOANN JEFFCOAT, 89, of Montrose, Colorado passed away on May 4th under Hospice care. She was born January 22, 1934, in Pilot Point, Texas to Walter and Avis Locke. JoAnn met her beloved husband, Marion, when she was just 15 years old. After just a few short months of dating, Marion proposed, and they married on November 12, 1949. Marion was in the Air Force, so in the beginning they relocated often, finally settling down in Aztec, NM where they would reside for almost 50 years before moving to Colorado in 2009. She was a happily devoted wife for 65 years before Marion's passing in 2014. Anyone who knew them knew that they were hopelessly devoted to and madly in love with each other.

She was the epitome of a happy homemaker. Only a few times in her life did she work outside the home. She took tremendous pride in keeping a clean, comfortable home and providing delicious, home-cooked meals for her family. She gardened, canned, baked and ran a tight ship. Dinner was always on the table at exactly 6:00 because that's when Dad got home from work. Her job was keeping track of all the inner workings of her household and caring for kids and family, and she did it well. Her passions in life included camping, hunting, fishing, reading, and playing card

games, but most of all, her family. She was always there to give support, guidance, and love. Whenever possible, she showed up! For ballgames, plays, band and choir concerts, graduations, anything her family was involved in. In her later years, after Marion died, she got an iPad so she could keep up with what was happening in the lives of everyone she knew. She loved looking at photos of friends and family and being able to reach out and connect with people from her past. She was genuinely loved by everyone who knew her and she will be deeply missed.

JoAnn was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Marion Jeffcoat, their son, David Jeffcoat and great grandson Adam Jeffcoat, her parents, Walter and Avis Locke, sisters: Billy (Bill) Garner, Lou (George) Murray and Sue Locke and brothers: Andy (Judy) Locke and Buddy (Evelyn) Locke.

She is survived by her children: Sharon (Martin) Roddy, Daryl Jeffcoat and Linda Steil all of Montrose, CO. Her nieces she and Marion helped to raise, Brenda (George) Figueroa of Las Cruces, NM and Vicki (David) Sutton of Phoenix, AZ. Grandchildren: Lisa (Mike) Warren of Montrose, CO, Autumn (Brian) Cofer of Napa, CA, Nick Jeffcoat of Joplin, MO, Alex Steil and Olivia Steil of Montrose, CO, Brittany

(Josh) Collier and Jorge, Angelina and Maya Figueroa all of Las Cruces, NM, Tera (Tyler) Hoff of Temecula, CA and Wesley (Megan) Sutton of Phoenix, AZ., and seven great grandchildren and two great great grandsons.

She is also survived by sisters: Peggy (Raymond) Nelson of Farmington, NM and Patsy Tanner of Hayfield, MN.

Arrangements are under the care of Crippin Funeral Home, Montrose, CO.

Our family would like to thank her hospice nurse and nursing assistant, Mary Kaestendieck and Drew Miller, for their incredible compassionate care for our sweet mom and for us as we said our goodbyes.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Montrose Hope West Hospice. By mail at 725 S. 4th St., Montrose, CO 81401 or by phone at 970-240-7734.



Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

SANDRA C. JEFFERSON

September 13, 1937 - May 4, 2023

SANDRA C. JEFFERSON, age 85, of Montrose, Colorado passed away Thursday, May 4, 2023 at Elk Ridge Skilled Nursing Facility. Sandra was born September 13, 1937 in Hannibal, MO to Edwin S and Dorothy C (Mulhern) Erickson. She attended Hannibal High School.

On January 14, 1956 Sandra married William H. Jefferson in Hannibal, Missouri. Sandra was a homemaker and they had 3 children, 1 girl and 2 boys. They loved animals and had dogs their whole life. When the children were older Sandra started working as a Floral Designer. She loved arranging flowers in baskets, vases and creating beautiful Wedding bouquets, boutonnieres, corsages, etc. She was very good at designing. Sandra also enjoyed crocheting and made many baby sweaters, blankets, etc. Sandra was a big Rockies fan and met Jeff Parret. She had her picture taken with him when they went to the Spring Training games in Tucson, AZ.

Surviving family members include daughter, Debra L. Wells of Illinois; son, Terry L. Jefferson of Montrose, sister, Linda Garret of Illinois, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Sandra was preceded in death by her son Michael S. Jefferson; parents Edwin & Dorothy

Erickson, her husband William H. Jefferson and brother, Edwin S. Erickson. Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association in lieu of flowers.

HIRAM H MILLER JR.

July 2, 1936- May 7, 2023

HIRAM H MILLER JR. was born on July 2, 1936 in Holt, Michigan. His parents, Hiram Sr. and Mildred, owned a grocery store in Lansing, MI, where he worked as a meat cutter when he was a teenager. He graduated from Eastern High School in Lansing, MI, in 1954 and shortly after graduation, he joined the army. He spent the next 4 years in Germany as a helicopter mechanic before being honorably discharged in 1958. Shortly after leaving the service, he began working at General Motors in Lansing, MI. Starting on the line, he eventually worked his way up to Team Coordinator before he retired with 30 years of service. In the year 2000, he moved to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where he spent the next 15 years with his sons close by. He left Michigan in 2016 to move to Colorado, to be close to his daughter. He passed away on May 7, 2023, in Olathe, Colorado, at the age of 86. He is survived by his children, Tammie Valdez, Hiram Miller III, and

Joseph Miller, as well as his grandchildren, Wallace, David, H. Michael, Daniel, Norena, Brandon, Elijah, Joseph, Austin, Shantel, Nadia, Jayden, Alayna, Alyssa, and Mia, along with 15 great-grandchildren.

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to our dad. He was an exceptional father who always put his family first. Growing up, some of our fondest memories were the times spent with him.

He loved taking us out to eat at our favorite restaurant, where he would always order his favorite meal. We would laugh and share stories over plates of delicious food.

Dad was also an avid outdoorsman, and he loved taking us camping and fishing. He showed us how to appreciate the beauty of nature and taught us how to catch our first fish.

Watching us play soccer and taekwondo was one of his favorite pastimes. He was our biggest supporter, cheering us on from

the sidelines, and never missed a game or tournament.

Dad also loved playing computer games with us children. He would play with us and would always make sure we had fun while doing it.

Dad was a loving, caring, and kind-hearted man who touched the lives of everyone he met. He will be deeply missed, but his legacy will live on through the memories we shared with him.

Rest in peace, Dad. We love you always. Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting the family.



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ISSUE 418 May 15 2023

ART & SOL

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – LOSE THE GPS



By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D. Courtesy photo.

Greetings Mirrorites,

Recently a friend who was trying to find my house for the first time told me not to give her directions, because she would use her GPS. Knowing that this is no substitute for wayfinding information, I stood by my front room window and watched her go flying by my home. Confused and chagrined when she came to an unexpected cul-de-sac and finally had to find me the old-fashioned way, we both concluded with a laugh that GPS is not always your friend.

We have long known that brain function and memory decline during the aging process. It's slow, to be sure, but eventually it sneaks up on us all. In general, the volume and weight of the brain shrinking approximately five percent per decade starts at around age 40, and the rate of loss increases for sedentary people once they reach age 70. For many folks, this results



Photo courtesy of Jean Frederick Fortier

in nothing worse than occasional silly and annoying senior moments of wondering where you are and how you got there. But for others the shrinkage can result in symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia that can make it hard to keep from getting lost. The brain region most at risk during this period of one's life is the hippocampus, and it is one of the first regions of the brain to exhibit damage that is experienced as short-term memory loss and disorientation.

Loss of visuospatial memory as we age is part of the reason that elderly people with dementia seem to get lost so easily in an outdoor environment. Our current reliance on GPS may well accelerate this process by reducing functionality in certain brain areas such as the hippocampus. Researchers are finding a 'use it or lose it' effect from over-reliance on GPS.

The hippocampus is a small organ located within the brain's medial temporal lobe and is responsible for most memory events, both short and long-term. A colleague whose work I very much admire wrote, "We use it to form long-term memories, retrieve old ones, and manage explicit, conscious memory. When repeatedly stimulated pairs of hippocampal neurons and their connections become stronger, more excitable: shazam – those neurons have learned something" ([Sapolsky, 1999](#)). When not used, however, those neurons take a nap. Long term, they tend not to wake up.

The hippocampus loses mass at a rate of four to five percent per decade as part of normal aging. It is possible, however, through lifestyle choices, to increase that loss rate. This is not good, since the hippocampus supports an important aspect of memory called episodic or relational memory. An example would be meeting somebody at a party and trying to remember their name and face, and the hippocampus plays an important role in that. It's also critical in wayfinding.

A 2019 study points out that attention, executive function, memory, visuospatial skills, and mental status all affect driving performance for both younger and older drivers. The team observed that "overall cognitive functioning improved the prediction of driving performance over and above age for speeding, lane deviations, and overall driving performance." In other words, it's how well your brain is functioning, not how old you are, that makes you a

Continued next pg

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE - LOSE THE GPS From previous pg

good or bad driver.

In the same vein, or maybe the same lane, a 2020 study published in the journal *Scientific Reports* explained the two main strategies our brains use when we're figuring out where to go: "One is the spatial memory strategy and involves learning the relative positions of landmarks and serves to form a cognitive map of the environment. This strategy critically relies on the hippocampus, a brain region heavily involved in episodic memory and relational memory," the team writes. "The other strategy is the stimulus-response strategy and involves learning a sequence of motor responses (e.g., turn left) from specific positions (e.g., next corner)."

We only use those cognitive skills when we're not using Global Positioning System (GPS) to navigate. This research team found that greater GPS use since initial

testing (three years prior) was associated with a *significant decline* in hippocampal-dependent spatial memory. They found that those who used GPS more did so because they felt they had an inherently poor sense of direction, whether they actually did or not. This suggests that extensive GPS use leads to a decline in spatial memory rather than the other way around, as well as a belief in dependence upon it continually. This is plainly a negative spiral.

Reliance on GPS does not seem to actually affect sense of direction in any way, but does impact landmark identification and retrieval. People with more lifetime GPS experience use hippocampus-dependent spatial memory strategies to a lesser extent.

After many years of this, the reduced ability for wayfinding outdoors for senior

citizens can be substantial.

We know that egocentric (body-centered) navigation is well preserved during aging, while allocentric (externally-centered) navigation based on accurately forming a cognitive map using distant landmark declines with age. Recent research reveals that serotonergic 5-HT₇ receptors are localized in brain regions associated with allocentric spatial navigation processing. Use of visuo-spatial parts of the brain can reduce neurodegeneration of those areas. And here is a fun and weird factoid...this same receptor is linked to mood management. That much can be surmised by the root word for serotonin embedded in the name. So not only does wayfinding the old fashioned way make you smarter, or at least keep you from premature navigational decline, it can actually make you happier.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

YOU CAN DO ALL THINGS...

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MONTROSE-High school seniors will be “sent off” in a baccalaureate celebration Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. at Grace Community Church. This baccalaureate is a Christian faith-based time designed to honor Montrose High School graduates, as well as graduates from other area schools – Olathe, Peak, homeschool, etc.

All seniors, their friends and families are invited to attend this moving, fun-filled night, according to the Baccalaureate Committee, which is facilitated by Jayna Simpson, Montrose. Seniors should meet in the Grace gym by 6:50 p.m. and wear their caps and gowns. The celebration will include a senior celebration in pictures and video, special words to send off this year's class, refreshments and prize drawings.

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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
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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FESTIVAL CELEBRATING THE UNCOMPAHGRE RIVER WATERSHED

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Ridgway RiverFest volunteers readily admit they donate their time because the festival celebrating the Uncompahgre River is a fun place to hang with friends. Their main reason for volunteering at the annual event is to support the nonprofit Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP), but it doesn't hurt that they get to enjoy live music, river races, and an afternoon full of festive activities. "We enjoy volunteering at RiverFest as a way to meet new people in the Ridgway/Ouray area. Being fairly new to Ridgway, we've not only enjoyed meeting the locals but also giving back to support one of the most important resources in the area, the Uncompahgre River," explained Russell and Vangela Cosby, who volunteered in 2021 and 2022 and have already signed up for this June.

This year, volunteers get a free RiverFest hat instead of the usual shirt. Actually they can choose which they want but hats in two different color combinations were

ordered for the first time (and shirt sizes are limited this year). Fishbone Graphics, a festival sponsor with a production facility in Ridgway, silkscreens the festival logos on the hats. Forty to 50 volunteers are required to produce the free community festival at Rollans Park, scheduled for Saturday, June 24, noon to 5 p.m. Face painting, solar oven cookie baking, rubber ducky capturing, and river race filming are some of the most creative volunteer shifts available. By producing the festival mostly with volunteers, UWP is able to both raise more funds to support watershed preservation activities and keep the event free to festivalgoers. The 15th annual festival will include The Last Spike performing a mixture of original acoustic folk, bluegrass, and Celtic-type music, watershed education, river races including the homemade boat competition called Junk of the Unc, a Ute cultural presentation, and a silent auction. Plus food trucks, a beer and margarita stand, and a snow cone maker sell refreshments.

Vangela said she enjoys working the margarita and beer station because everyone shows up with a smile on their face.

Most volunteers' shifts are three to four hours but a few are shorter like setup and takedown. Other volunteer assignments include watershed education, race and volunteer registration, beer and margarita sales, silent auction monitoring, and photography. Volunteers from 14 to 104 years old are welcome. Each volunteer receives a festival hat and drink ticket as a thank you. People can sign up online at <https://signup.com/go/qeGPzXM>, or send questions to tanya@uncompahgrewatershed.org. More information about UWP is at <https://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/>, and the festival is at <https://ridgwayriverfest.org/>. A few more sponsorships are available until May 31, and those interested can email pamela@uncompahgrewatershed.org.



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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

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

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

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene

Address: 705 South 12th Street

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

Contact Information: Office Phone 970 249-9213, mncfirst@gmail.com, www.montrosenazarenechurch.org

Pastor: Buddy Cook

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

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

disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

Affiliation: Presbyterian

Address: 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO.

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

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

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Denomination affiliation: United Church of Christ

Address: 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

Office hours: By appointment

Contact information:

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: office@montroseucc.org

Website: montroseucc.org

Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd

Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.

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

on life's journey.

Church demographics: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with

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

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

montroseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

email: office@rosemontbaptist.org

Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

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

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

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

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Name of current Senior Pastor: John De-

Sario

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

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

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

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

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org;

website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

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More: Menu, Pictures, Map & Links



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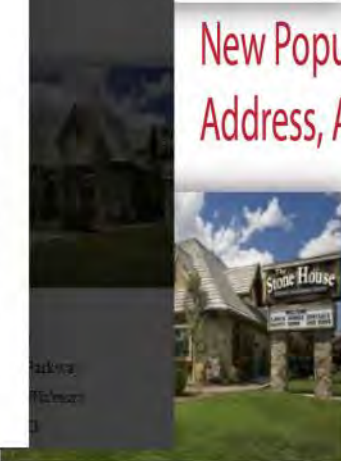
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Montrose, CO

970-252-1119 - 970-240-1590



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Montrose, CO

New Popup: Slide Show
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Business Listing:
Name About
Location Map
Slide Show
Website Link
Menu

Additional Links:
FaceBook, Trip Advisor,
Yelp

Dine Out Montrose has a weekly ad in
The Montrose Mirror, local news with
delivery to over 17,500 email boxes
weekly!

SPEED LEARNING WITH NATURAL RESOURCE EXPERTS

By Anne Janik, *Friends of Youth and Nature*
MONTROSE-It's a bit like speed dating for adults only this event involves quick learning interactions for kids. Springtime environmental education events are ways for elementary students to engage with natural resource experts to learn as much as possible in a short period. Each dedicated specialist has 20-25 minutes to engage elementary students about their area of expertise with hands-on activities and tips about their jobs. Students rotate through eight to nine stations in a day to learn about many topics, such as how forests contribute to healthy watersheds, how various aquatic insects indicate water quality, what kinds of items can be recycled, and much more. Montrose, Grand Junction, and the North Fork Valley all have festivals organized and sponsored by many organizations, partners, and volunteers who work together to provide this opportunity for the youth of these communities.

Presenters, mostly natural resources experts from various agencies, explain aspects of their field that most kids, and even some adults, never think about. As an added bonus, students get insights into various natural resource careers. "These can be defining moments for young minds that may influence their choices for a lifelong passion or a future career path," says Anita Evans of Friends of Youth and Nature, one of the funding contributors to the event.

For the last 30 years, fourth graders from the Uncompahgre Valley have attended the Montrose event organized by the Shavano Conservation District. The Natural Resource Festival (previously known as the Water Festival) draws approximately 450-500 students each year. This May students headed to Baldridge Park for a full day of fun learning activities. "Classes rotate through 9 learning stations, out of 29 featured at the festival, and engage in activities that demonstrate the connections between their lives and the resources they depend on. Activities are focused on all of our natural resources, with an emphasis on water connections in their lives," explains Mendy Stewart, Education Specialist for the Shavano Conservation District, and festival organizer.

"The activities are meant to be 'hands-on', where kids really get in the mix of things," Stewart added. A wide array of resource topics and activities are featured such as: demonstrating how river water is treated before being sent to our faucets, making play-dough watersheds and determining where the rivers and lakes form after a simulated rainstorm, making your own recycled paper, panning for silver while learning

about Colorado's Mining history with the Colorado Department of Reclamation and Mine Safety, practicing moving water through irrigation pipes with the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users, measuring the flow of a nearby stream with a Colorado Water Commissioner and putting their math minds to work figuring the rate of flow in cubic feet per second (cfs). Other activities help kids to learn things like "Leave No Trace" and how to minimize impacts when exploring nature.

The Colorado State Forestry Department sets up an experiment where students predict the amount and quality of rainwater runoff between two watersheds (actually dirt-filled culverts), one with plants and one with bare soil. After predicting the outcome of a rainstorm, the students learn how plant cover works to slow runoff, so it can be absorbed within the watershed. "This is a huge benefit to water quality, catching soil and pollutants before they reach rivers," explains Tanya Banulis, Colorado State forester. Dave Dearstyne, retired Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) soil scientist, focuses students' attention on detecting some of the millions of microorganisms living in our soil. Who would think to look that closely at dirt?

This event involves a lot of planning and behind-the-scenes work such as pre-festival classroom presentations and festival logistics. The festival's successes are attributed to the dedication of Stewart and the supporting host agency, the Shavano Valley Conservation District. Festival supplies, student transportation, and festival planning are made possible through matching funds to the Shavano Conservation District received from the Colorado State Conservation Board. The goal of this program is to help Conservation Districts in Colorado implement conservation projects and educational activities. In addition to the festival, the funds have also made conservation education available to San Miguel, Ouray, and Montrose County students. The activities also include source pollution presentations, 9th grade Mancos Shale Soil Salinity Experiments, and 5th and 6th grade conservation poster contests.

Stewart says these events, "...inspire learning opportunities for Western Slope students who will be part of an outdoor savvy generation. We hope they will be empowered to use what they learn to influence future decisions about land and water uses that benefit our planet now and in the future."

Some kids take time to reflect about what they learned during the festivals; others are



Shavano Conservation District Board President Steve Hale points out various tributaries on an 8ft Colorado River map, teaching 4th graders about all the tributaries and the many water uses along the Colorado River (photo credit: Mendy Stewart).

super excited and cannot stop talking about the day. Parents or relatives can encourage more discussion or help reinforce significant concepts kids learned. Ask your child what learning station impressed them the most? Here are a few questions that will help you start a discussion with your student:

What can you tell me about the Gunnison or Colorado River's journey to the ocean?

What type of water bugs will you find in your favorite fishing spot?

How fast is the river near you flowing this spring?

What are the components of a beehive?

How can you harness solar power? Can you use it to make a fruit smoothie or baked good?

What should you put into your community's recycle bins?

What foods are produced locally and where can you find them?

Friends of Youth and Nature is a non-profit promoting opportunities for youth and families to get outside, experience outdoor activities, and explore nature. Your donations as well as grants received by FOYAN from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable (DNR- Colorado Water Conservation Board) and Forever Our Rivers (Connecting Rivers and Communities) have enabled FOYAN to contribute funding for these festivals. Follow our outdoor news blog and receive monthly tips on connecting your children to nature. Learn more, visit www.friendsofyouthandnature.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR 22-23 SCHOOL YEAR



At left, Honored for achieving Perfect Attendance for 22-23 School Year-Sheldon Frasier, Maya Frasier, James Maunakea, Damaris Mendes, and Stryker Cook.

FOUR HONORED WITH SPECIAL JUNIOR AWARDS:

Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award - Colton Ward
 Colorado School of Mines Medal of Achievement - Dylan Jessop
 CU Boulder Outstanding Junior Award - Rhyann Neary
 University of Rochester Susan B. Anthony - Rachel Robuck
 (The above students could not be present due to AP English Language Testing.)

MHS MAY DIVISION AWARD WINNERS



Division Awards R – L Meadow Harrison, Cooper Ross, Lanae Goodwin, Shiloh Warthen, Sheldon Frasier, Oscar Cisneros, Emily Huffman, Johans Garcia, Elasha Rodriguez-Syddall and not pictured, Ruby Crane. Courtesy photo.

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OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO!



Geoff Ila; seniors Quincy Cooling, David Dominguez, Natalie Hernandez, Tatum Berry and Makayla Beaver; and adult coaches Mary Drakulich and Amy King.

By CB Williams

"You're on your own. And you know what you know.

And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go." – Dr. Seuss

MONTROSE-The final Dr. Seuss book published during his lifetime, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*, is a common gift for today's seniors. It is a fun, yet thought-provoking adventure of You, the protagonist, after leaving town.

Well, today's Montrose High School and Olathe High School seniors could write this book – through the variety of adventures they are off to following this weekend's graduation ceremonies.

Graduation for Montrose High School Red Hawks (formerly Indians) is set for Sunday, May 21 at 3:30 p.m. on the school grounds. Olathe High School will honor their seniors earlier that afternoon. (The OHS website states 12:30, but contact the school to confirm before attending.)

The number of students graduating has fluctuated, with finals not yet complete.

MHS might graduate more than 280, some

teachers estimate.

And where will they go? And what will they do?

How about a jaunt to Cardiff University in Wales, Ireland? Which is where graduate Kate Donohoe is headed. Or the US Merchant Marine Academy? Joseph Simo received an appointment and plans to study marine engineering and aviation.

TJ Saunders will be on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Barranquilla, Colombia, before returning to attend BYU.

Naomi Lee plans to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, double majoring in astronomy and astrophysics and mathematics. Who knows where she can go? Maybe beyond the Moon and Mars! Maybe William Beshoar, who will be studying aeronautical science, will be on a similar track. Grace Davidson is headed to University College in Dublin, Ireland, where she plans to study physics, focusing on astronomy and space science. Who knows where she'll go.

Paola Marquez has chosen to enter the



Natalie Hernandez, right, and Tatum Berry aboard the MHS school bus awaiting the second round State soccer playoff game May 13 in Windsor, Colo.

workforce as a general contractor. Who knows what she can do with that experience.

The list of colleges and universities some of the MHS and OHS students will attend is an acronym heaven: CMU, CSU, OSU, WCU, RMC, NJC, UCCS, OU, UNC, UNH, RC, FLC, UU, UCB, to name just a few.

Well, how can they do all these things that they say? How can they go so far away?

Many of them are going on to "Great Places" because of the scholarships they have worked hard for and earned.

A quick visit to the MHS Red Hawks Facebook page overwhelms one with the number of students receiving scholarships to pursue their dreams, and they are not all listed.

Pulling together the list of scholarship recipients, and schools the students are attending, must be overwhelming for school counselors. But many students have reported in...verified by the foundation or institution presenting the scholarship. Many students have obtained full-ride or multiple scholarships...helping to lessen the high cost of higher education.

There are those students taking a

Continued next pg

OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO! From previous pg

route through pre-med tracks, like Olivia Guseman heading to Cornell University, and Natalie Hernandez, who plans to attend the University of Utah, and scholarships will go a long way to help cover their many years of education.

For instance, Hernandez received the Daniels Fund Scholarship, which she said will cover all of her undergraduate tuition and much of her other expenses. She said she could receive up to \$120,000 in scholarship funds. Her over 4.2-point weighted and 3.95-point unweighted grade point average paid off.

Well, that and other things...

Hernandez said she started preparing for the pre-med track in high school and took a number of biology/biomedical studies courses over the last four years. She heard of the Daniels Fund Scholarship from a recent MHS graduate, Zeke Steenburgen – a previous recipient, and decided to apply. She worked on her leadership skills, and she worked on her faith. This reporter caught up with Hernandez at a Fellowship of Christian Athletes Montrose Huddle in the gym last week.

And why FCA? Well, she's an athlete and has been playing soccer since she was four years old. She is a committed Christian

and believes in fellowship.

"FCA made me a leader from the start," she said. As one of the senior leaders, she has helped run the activities of the lunch-time gatherings.

Montrose Huddle leader Mary Drakulich said everything is student-run.

"They have an activity like basketball – they eat pizza, pray," Drakulich said. (The Black Canyon FCA Facebook page has more information on activities.)

During this last Huddle of the school year, the senior leaders each gave a short, inspirational talk, citing Bible verses and quotes such as "Life is hard...He'll be here for you and with you...don't give up...stay with Jesus...let people know you for your faith...Isaiah 43:2."

Leaders speaking at the Huddle were Tatum Berry, Hernandez, Makayla Beaver, Quincy Cooling and David Dominguez.

Dominguez is heading to Weatherford College in Texas to become a radiology technician, Cooling received the Didrickson-Niles Fund Scholarship to use at the college of his choice, Beaver received the Nick H. Gray Scholarship and will attend Colorado State University, and Berry will receive academic and athletic funds from Wayne State College in Nebraska.

The Nick H. Gray Scholarship is one of many scholarships administered by the Montrose Community Foundation.

MCF executive director Sara Plumhoff said the complete list of recipients, along with which school they are heading to and how much they receive, will be distributed and published [on the mcf.org](https://www.mcf.org) website soon. So far, she said, they have given out more than \$725,000 (this includes the value of 2- and 4-year scholarships.)

All of these FCA leaders are going on to higher education – the vast majority with financial assistance because of good grades and/or athletics. There are many other students following other paths with many successes and hurdles along the way.

Hernandez said with the help of FCA she knows what path she is taking.

"My future is in school," she said, and in staying planted firmly in faith. FCA teaches students to be more than their sport...to go from performing for this world to a Greater purpose.

"You're off to Great Places!

Today is your day!

Your mountain is waiting.

So...get on your way!"

Thank you, Dr. Seuss!



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cedarpointhealth.com

BASIN CLINIC

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

UNCOMPAHGRE MEDICAL CENTER

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

DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

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

RIVER VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS

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

THE PIC PLACE

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

MESA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

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

VFC (VACCINES FOR CHILDREN)

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

340b

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

CITY MARKET SOUTH

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

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

WALGREENS

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

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

CVS (IN TARGET)

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

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

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

STACIE'S APOTHECARY SHOPPE

112 Village Square West Ridgway
(970) 626-7100

Flu	Pneumonia
Shingles	Tdap



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

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: EDUCATION

RIDGWAY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CANYON ISHIKAWA AWARDED NEIL ARMSTRONG MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



Canyon Ishikawa. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Canyon Ishikawa, who will graduate from Ridgway High School on May 26, was awarded the Neil Armstrong Merit

Scholarship this week. The college scholarship is \$2,500 per year for four years, and is one of two scholarships awarded this year from the Neil Armstrong Scholarship Fund.

The scholarship selection committee wrote to Ishikawa, "We hope you realize this scholarship is not so much about the dollar amount, as it is the fact that the committee recognized you as having the qualities and values of An American Hero."

Ishikawa will attend Arizona State University, majoring in computer science. Besides excelling at academics and National Honor Society member, he is a multiple state-championship winning track athlete as well as a member of the basketball, cross country and soccer teams. He interned at Scripps Lab in San Diego, Calif. through Telluride's Pinhead Institute. He is the grandson of Dixie Rinehart, one of eight inventors named on the patent for the Apollo spacesuit.

The Neil Armstrong Scholarship Fund was started at the Telluride Foundation by Carol Armstrong and Mike Armstrong in honor of former foundation board member and NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong.

The fund provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Telluride, Paradox, Nucla, Norwood, Ouray, and Ridgway, pursuing further education in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM).

In his essay, Ishikawa wrote, "I remember every morning on my way to school, walking by a case housing a cast of Neil Armstrong's hand and several models of the Apollo and space shuttle gloves. Life wasn't always so good for my grandpa, who grew up in a tiny cabin without running water or electricity. Through studying hard, serving in the U.S. Air Force, and receiving a solid background in STEM, he uplifted himself, his family, and the entire nation through his contributions to NASA. "This is another reason STEM is so fascinating to me, and one can only dream of having as big of an impact on the world as my grandfather did. Though I may not be able to put a man on the moon, Mars, or whatever the future's accomplishment will be, I'm excited to improve the quality of life, invent, or solve problems in any way possible. Computer science is based on the principle of making things possible or easier than before, and I want to be at

NATHAN PULLIAM NAMED TO THE DEAN'S LIST AT BOB JONES UNIVERSITY

Special to Art & Sol

GREENVILLE, SC -- Nathan Pulliam, a Sophomore Ministry and Leadership major from Montrose, was among approximately 800 Bob Jones University students named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List.

The Dean's List recognizes students who earn a 3.00-3.74 grade point average during the semester.

Located in Greenville, South Carolina, [Bob Jones University](https://www.bju.edu) provides an outstanding regionally accredited Christian liberal arts education purposely designed to inspire a lifelong pursuit of learning, loving and leading.

BJU offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate programs in religion, education, fine arts and communication, arts and science, health professions, and business.

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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

SATURDAY: FREE TRAIN RIDES: Free rides every Saturday through mid-October, 9 am - 3 pm, at the Ridgway Railroad Museum, 200 N. Railroad St, Ridgway.

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

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

GREATER MONTROSE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS – 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

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 15-Monday May 15, 430-630 Citizens' Climate Lobby.org meets at Montrose library meeting rm, Non -partisan, national, environmental, All welcome. info 970-765-9095.

May 16-Special Event Program - "Normandy Heros" by Montrose High School History Teachers and Students. Montrose County Republicans are hosting its monthly Conservative Social Hour. Tuesday May 16, 5:30p-6:15pm Venue: Wild Horse Wine & Whiskey Bar - 439 E. Main St. Montrose.

May 17-*Moab's Ancient Astronomers* is the topic of the Chipeta Archaeological Society presentation on May 17 at 7 pm. Re-scheduled from February, Rory Tyler will present his interpretations about four Basketmaker rock art sites near Moab with astronomical significance. Tyler is a dynamic researcher with 30 years exploring in the Moab area. The public is always invited, no charge. United Methodist Church, 19 S. Park Street, Montrose.

May 19-Montrose County Republican Women Lunch and Meeting- Friday, May 19, Noon-1:30pm at Hampton Inn Montrose. Colorado House District 58 Representative Marc Catlin will give a Legislative Update on the First Regular Session of the 74th General Assembly. Brown bag lunch. and beverages served.

May 19-The Liquor Store located at 1601 Oxbow Drive is holding a local tasting Friday, May 19, from 2 pm to 6 pm. This tasting is a great opportunity to support your local business while getting to try a variety of their stock. Drinks and food will be provided. 10% of sales made during the tasting will benefit the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club. The event is open to anyone 21 years of age and above, so join The Liquor Store for an afternoon of quality community fun!

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 CMC members, \$12 nonmembers More info: 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>

May 22- The City of Montrose is updating its building codes to the 2018 International Code Council's (ICC) building code series. The city's Building Services Department will host an open house on the building code updates on Monday, May 22, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The open house will be held in the Community Room of the Montrose Public Safety Complex at 434 South First Street downtown.

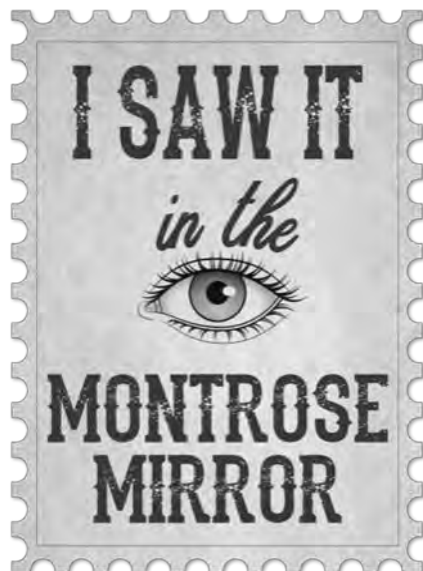
June 3-Cleaning Expo-10am, 1020 S. Townsend Ave. 970-787-2006

June 6-On Monday, June 6-430-630 Citizens' Climate Lobby.org meets at Montrose library meeting rm, Non -partisan, national, environmental, All welcome. info 970-765-9095.

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN

Photo by Deb Reimann

RED MOUNTAIN-Photographer Deb Reimann snapped the photo at right of a dainty Glacier Lily on Red Mountain. "While there aren't any glaciers to be found in this area, there are many wet meadows which is where you will find these harbingers of spring," Reimann said.



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