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the Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 549 Sept. 4, 2023

FEDERAL LAWSUIT ALLEGING LABOR TRAFFICKING AND WAGE THEFT SET FOR SEPT. 25



Alfred A. Araj courtroom.
Courtesy photo.

By Steve Middendorp
Courts Reporter

TELLURIDE-A federal lawsuit filed in February that alleges labor trafficking and wage theft at a Telluride luxury hotel has set a date of Sept. 25 at 11:30 AM for a settlement conference. The lawsuit names the Madeline Hotel, Telluride Resort Partners, Mountain Premier Cleaning, and Adriana Santa Ana as the defendants in the case. The settlement conference will take place in the Alfred A. Araj courtroom in Denver before Judge Michael Hegarty.

The [complaint](#) names plaintiffs Karina Ruiz Alvarez, Karla Gonzalez Velez, Gabriela Moctezuma Castillo, and Amelia Colon Chairez as housekeepers who were hired by Santa Ana and Mountain Premier Cleaning. This is a class action lawsuit in which these four plaintiffs and the lawyers will be representing other housekeepers hired under similar

[Continued pg 15](#)

RED HAWKS FOOTBALL CRUSHES FRUITA-MONUMENT 58-15

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-Friday night proved to be a hot time in the old town as the Montrose Red Hawks football team scored a touchdown on their first possession and dominated Fruita-Monument 58-15 to even their record to 1-1

The Red Hawks' Austin Zimmer took the opening kickoff and raced 70 yards to the Wildcats 25 yard line. The Red Hawks Blake Griffin capped a 4-play drive as he scored from the 5 yard line to set the tone for the evening.

The Red Hawks turned their running game loose as a host of running backs totaled over 400 yards on the ground. Senior Blake Griffin and Sophomore Elijah Womack did the bulk of the scoring for the Red Hawks. The Red Hawk offense controlled the clock as the offense put together four drives of at least 10 plays.

The Montrose offense was very effective and scored on all eight of their possessions. The Red Hawks did not turn the ball over and never had to punt in the contest.

The Red Hawk defense dominated the Wildcats giving up only two touchdowns and 241 yards of total offense. The defensive front seven handled the Fruita-Monument running game and forced the Wildcats to punt five times. The defense also forced the Wildcats to turn the ball over on downs twice.

The Red Hawks, seemingly mindful of the difficult one point loss to Palmer Ridge last week, attempted two point conversions on a majority of their touchdown drives and were successful on most of the attempts.

Next up for the Red Hawks is a home contest featuring the Erie Tigers on Friday, Sept. 8. The kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.



Montrose Red Hawks set to take the field vs Fruita-Monument.

[Dr. Arlyn Macdonald:
Give Peace a Chance!](#)

[Historian Bob Cox: Short
Road Stirs Long Debate!](#)

[Carole Ann McKelvey's Rocky
Mt. Cravings visits Ted's!](#)

[Montrose Red Hawks Sports
Roundup!](#)

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DOCUMENTING, PROTECTING, AND ENJOYING LOCAL ROCK ART

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Colorado Archaeological Society is presenting a hard-hitting program about why our fragile prehistoric rock art is worth protecting, how to enjoy visiting it, and how to help to protect it from harm. Speakers are Steve and Diana Acerson. They are residents of Utah, and active members of the Utah Rock Art Research Association, who have dedicated their time to documenting, protecting, and enjoying local rock art. The public is invited, 7 pm, Sept. 20 at Montrose United Methodist Church, 19 S. Park Street.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY ANNOUNCES LABOR DAY CLOSURES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day. City Hall, the Downtown Visitor Center, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Montrose Pavilion, and Public Works will all close in observance of the holiday.

Police Department offices will be closed, but officers will be on duty and responding to calls.

The Black Canyon Golf Course will be open. The Rusty Putter restaurant, located at the golf course, will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., along with the snack bar.

The city's trash and recycling collection schedule for the holiday week has been modified. For trash routes normally scheduled for Monday, Sept. 4, residences south of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50 will receive trash collection services on Tuesday, Sept. 5. For residences north of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50, trash pickup will occur on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The recycling collection normally scheduled for Monday, Sept. 4, will instead occur on Friday, Sept. 8.

For more information, contact City Hall at 970.240.1400.

For information about the City of Montrose visit CityofMontrose.org.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON NEW PLAN FOR RECREATION MANAGEMENT

Special to the Mirror

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Bureau of Land Management is welcoming public input on a plan to inform recreation management on America's public lands. The new [Blueprint for 21st Century Outdoor Recreation](#) will guide Bureau decisions to proactively meet modern demands for exceptional and unique outdoor experiences, complementing the significant public land investments in President Biden's Investing in America agenda.

"BLM hosted more than 81 million visitors on our public lands last fiscal year – a 40 percent increase since 2012. We are thrilled at this trend, but also recognize that more guests means a need for varied and diverse response strategies," said

BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning. "The Blueprint aims to help BLM meet the growing demand for exceptional recreation experiences on our public lands."

Managing for recreational opportunities is a core tenet of BLM's multiple use mandate and aligns with BLM's mission to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The increasing demand for recreational activities on public lands has provided a critical window of opportunity to advance a transformational shift in recreation management. This Blueprint will help BLM prioritize recreation investment and staffing appropriate for current and future needs.

BLM is seeking input from partners and

the public, including in-person and virtual recreation Blueprint roundtables hosted by the [Foundation for America's Public Lands](#).

Together, BLM and its partners will implement a strategy to guide the agency in providing the resources and experiences that visitors to public lands expect in the 21st century.

The Blueprint is not a formal management plan but rather a strategic document to guide the agency's work. The full text of the Blueprint and associated fact sheet are available on [our Recreation Strategy webpage](#). The Bureau welcomes feedback on how BLM can best implement the Blueprint. To do so, please email blm_recreation_feedback@blm.gov.

All Are Welcome!

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CO Proposition HH Forum **Time For Answers!**

September 14 – 7:00 p.m.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM TRES RIOS FIELD OFFICE LIFTS STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Special to the Mirror

DOLORIS— Stage 1 Fire Prevention Order COS01-23-02 has been rescinded on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Tres Rios Field Office and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument effective 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023. “Recent rains over much of the region have lessened, but not eliminated, the danger from fire, allowing restrictions to be lifted. The public is advised to be cautious with activities that could potentially ignite a fire,” said Southwest District Assistant Fire Management Officer Rusty Stark. Annual Fire Prevention Order COS01-23-01 for the Durango Special Recreation Management Area, which implements fire restrictions within the Durango city limits, La Plata County, Colorado—including BLM lands

in the Grandview, Animas City Mountain, and Skyline areas—will remain in effect until rescinded. “These areas adjacent to City of Durango are ‘Day Use Only,’ and overnight camping and campfires are prohibited to reduce fire risk,” said Derek Padilla, Tres Rios Field Manager. “We encourage the public to respect the land by recreating responsibly using ‘Leave No Trace’ practices and preventing wildfires while enjoying their public lands.” Fire officials remind visitors to practice these principles of outdoor fire safety:

- Clear all flammable material within three feet of campfire rings.
- Make a fire only if you have enough water and a shovel to put it out.
- Never leave a fire unattended and keep fires small and manageable.
- Extinguish fires completely. If it is too hot to

touch, it is too hot to leave.

- Avoid parking or idle vehicles in tall dry grass; the heat from the vehicle can spark a wildfire.
- Secure chains from vehicles or towed trailers so they do not drag and cause a wildfire.
- Fireworks are never allowed on federally managed lands. For more information on fire restrictions, visit <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-information/colorado/southwest-district> or <https://westslopefireinfo.com/>. For the most up-to-date information on wildland fire/prescribed burns in the Southwest District, you can follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BLMMontroseFireUnit> or Twitter https://twitter.com/SWD_Fire.

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AESTHETICS

By Cedar Point Health

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK RECEIVES GOLD-LEVEL RECOGNITION FROM COLORADO GREEN BUSINESS NETWORK

Special to the Mirror

GLENWOOD SPRINGS- Alpine Bank is proud to announce that it has been recognized as a Gold-level member of the Colorado Green Business Network (CGBN). The CGBN is a voluntary program that encour-

ages, supports, and rewards superior environmental performers that go beyond the requirements of environmental regulations and move toward the goal of true, operational sustainability. This is the 16th consecutive year Alpine Bank has been a

Gold-level member of CGBN and its predecessor CDPHE's Environmental Leadership Program.

At Alpine Bank, we are committed to making Colorado a healthier place to live, work, and play. Our goal is to support organizations throughout the state at any level of implementation in increasing the efficiency and sustainability of their operation through assessing opportunities for growth, recognizing success, and providing connections to like-minded businesses throughout the state.

The Colorado Green Business Program's official rating system is divided up into three levels and is a points-based application that rewards efforts in energy, water, waste and purchasing, transportation, and policy. Gold level recognizes organizations who excel at sustainable operations in their sector. They have implemented large scale changes to their organization in order to realize reductions and emphasize sustainability and equity throughout their organization.

"We are thrilled to receive this recognition from the Colorado Green Business Network," said Glen Jammarron, Chairman of Alpine Bank. "We are committed to being a responsible corporate citizen and doing our part to protect the environment. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees."

Check out our GreenBiz tracker profile to learn more about the work we do to make Colorado a healthier place to live, work, and play. Visit <https://search.greenbiztracker.org/business/alpine-bank-glenwood-springs>.

Alpine Bank is proud to be a part of the Colorado Green Business Network and will continue to work towards a more sustainable future for Colorado.



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Saturday, September 9th
1:00 pm

Montrose County Events Center - Meeting Rm #4
1036 N. 7th Street, Montrose



Senate District 5
Senator Perry Will



Senate District 6
Senator Cleave Simpson



House District 58
Rep Marc Catlin

Each will give a
Legislative Update
and discuss their
plans for 2024

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CLUB 20 ANNOUNCES FALL CONFERENCE

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION – Club 20 is excited to announce the return of our *in-person* Fall Conference and Steak Fry. This event has been a staple in western Colorado for decades and will take place Sept. 7th and 8th at the Double Tree Hotel (743 Horizon Drive) in Grand Junction.

The Fall Conference is a great place for members and guests to meet local, state, and federal elected and appointed officials and to hear presentations on the most pressing issues impacting western Colorado.

On Friday evening, Sept. 8, the Club 20 Steak Fry is hosted at Absolute Prestige Ranch, 1351 Q Road, Loma, CO. It is the West slope event of the year – you will not want to miss it!

Thursday, Sept. 7, will feature presenta-

tions on several relevant topics impacting Western Colorado, including:

- Past Executive Directors Panel Discussion: Remembering Club 20
- Colorado Department of Transportation and Club 20 Efforts
- U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper
- What Rural Colorado Should be Seeing Soon and What to Expect in the Future
- Colorado Speaker of the House Julie McCluskie
- How Colorado has Changed Over the Years: State Demography Office
- Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser
- U.S. Congresswoman Lauren Boebert
- What's Next for Club 20?

**** Agenda subject to change ****

"Club 20 has proudly served as the voice of the western slope for the last 70 years. Starting as a coalition that worked on get-

ting rural roads paved, we have only grown exponentially into so much more from there," said Brittany, Club 20 Executive Director. "This year we will pay homage to our humble beginnings and the impact that we have had along the way at our 2023 Fall Conference Event- *Club 20 Through the Ages!* There is no better time than our 70th anniversary celebration to reflect and look forward into the next decade of advocacy on behalf of rural Colorado."

You do not have to be a Club 20 member to attend! The event is open to the public and anyone interested in attending can purchase tickets by visiting www.club20.org or by calling 970-242-3264. Tickets are limited for the Friday evening Steak Fry, so be sure to register soon!

Cedar Creek Cemetery Tour September 9th at 4:00pm

Limited spaces are available. Sign up by calling
970-249-2085 \$10.00 per ticket



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FEDERAL LAWSUIT ALLEGING LABOR TRAFFICKING AND WAGE THEFT SET FOR SEPT. 25 From pg 1

circumstances by MPC. The housekeepers were brought from Mexico on H-2B guest-worker visas, a program that allows certain employers to bring foreign nationals into the United States for non-agricultural jobs.

The plaintiffs allege that they were provided poor work conditions without breaks. They were not paid the minimum requirement for all hours worked including overtime. Paychecks were deducted without the knowledge or approval of the employees. They were not reimbursed for their travel and visa expenses as required by the H-2B visa program.

The employees allegedly were required to stay in employee housing and were not informed that this housing was two hours away from the Madeline Hotel. Each employee had to pay 10-15 dollars per day to cover the travel expenses. Since the distance was so far away, there was no way for the employees to find alternative transportation from their housing to the hotel for work. The suit alleges that employees often had to wait on the premises for four hours before their work shifts began. The plaintiffs and employees were not reimbursed for this time.

Plaintiff Gabriela Moctezuma Castillo spoke about the alleged abuse in a [Feb. 8 press release](#) from Towards Justice. "It was difficult working at the Madeline Hotel," said Castillo. "We had to travel hours for work each day and even had to pay for the daily ride to get to our shifts. I feel like the hotel took advantage of us because they knew we needed the money but they did not do much to make sure we were being paid correctly."

In addition to these allegations, the plaintiffs allege that Adriana Santa Ana threatened employees with termination and deportation in response to complaints about work conditions or not receiving their overtime pay. This involved the confiscation of Ruiz Alvarez's social security card and Santa Ana allegedly held the card even after the separation of employment. The suit states that Alvarez was

unable to freely travel and this constitutes trafficking of a person.

The April 21 response from the lawyers for Madeline Hotel, Telluride Resort Partners, Mountain Premier Cleaning and Adriana Santa Ana states a complete denial of all allegations in the suit. Many of the responses state "Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations." It is stated in the suit that the claims of trafficking and intimidation apply only to Adriana Santa Ana and MPC. The Madeline Hotel allegedly was aware of the under compensation of contracted employees.

According to public property information, Adriana Santa Ana had ownership of six properties in Montrose, CO. On April 24, she transferred four of those properties into the name of Briana Santa Ana. On the same day, Briana Santa Ana purchased a home in Forney, TX. Adriana Santa Ana lives in Telluride and was granted a request to call into court for the hearing on July 24, because the case was in Denver. The request mentioned that the defendant Santa Ana had other hearings on the same date in San Miguel County. Social media posts indicate Santa Ana was vacationing in Mexico and visiting with family in Forney, TX on and after this date.

On June 21, Adriana Santa Ana added attorneys John K. Crisham and Peter Ricciardelli to her defense team. Peter Ricciardelli is a prominent attorney on the western slope for defendants in the 7th Judicial District, despite being publicly censured On April 22, 2022 by a disciplinary judge for unethical handling of a client's funds.

The Madeline Hotel is a luxury hotel in which the cheapest rooms available are more than \$600 per night. Some of the rooms that are bookable on the hotel's website cost more than \$1,000 per night. On the website for the hotel, housekeeping opportunities are listed as starting at \$17 per hour.

[Towards Justice](#) is a non-profit group ded-

icated to the pursuit of economic justice for vulnerable communities. The Executive Director, David Seligman, said "It would be concerning to see attempts to ignore obligations under the wage law and hide behind purported poverty. The Madeline Hotel is responsible for the underpayment of wages.

The Madeline Hotel, we allege, profited from the underpayment of wages. It's really critical that we not allow large, deep-pocketed employers to hide behind the middleman." The middleman in this case is Adriana Santa Ana and her LLC, Mountain Premier Cleaning, who had hired the housekeepers directly to have them work in the Madeline Hotel.

According to Seligman, labor exploitation is more common in tourist areas and Towards Justice has noticed an increase in these kinds of cases on the Western Slope, especially in the mountains.

"The backbone of our tourism industry across the west and in particular in Colorado is labor, and very often immigrant labor," Seligman said. "Sadly, those workers have not been able to achieve the bargaining power that they deserve and they merit in light of their importance to some of our very profitable industries and sectors."

"I think that's particularly a problem in the mountains, especially where workers can't afford a place to live," Seligman continued. "They end up being incredibly reliant on employers for employer provided housing. That is a ton of vulnerability. That can create a structural problem and undermine bargaining power across the board."

The next hearing on this case is Sept. 25. This falls under federal jurisdiction if criminal charges were to take place, because the housekeepers were brought in from Mexico on H-2B visas.

When I reached out to the United States District Attorney for the Colorado district, they declined to comment on whether criminal charges may be possible in this case.

Two Worn Out Old Veterans are bringing their Crafts to the Main Lobby at the Fairgrounds Event Center.

**Elmer Grose and his Cowboy Hero Oil Paintings
& Bill The Flagman with his Wood Crafts**

Saturday September 16th 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday September 17th 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



SORRY – NO CREDIT CARDS

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – BEAUTY AND THE BRAIN



By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.

Greetings Mirrorites!

I recently binged on the TV series ‘Suits’. I found most of the characters quite unlikable. Occasionally I would try to see them as multi-faceted individuals with good and bad qualities. But my efforts to do so were often scuttled by one thing. Was it the dialogue, their haircuts, their suits? No it was actually the artwork displayed in their offices. I found its random color and geometrical nonsense both distracting and angering. I really, really hated it, and it made me want to hate the characters.

I assumed that this was the way most people are affected by ‘modern art’. Turns out that I was wrong. They are affected negatively, to be sure, but they don’t tend to get as riled as I do. Further investigation led me to discover that beauty may not be in the eye of the beholder after all.

Brain scans indicate that aesthetic appeal is not housed in the expected regions of visual cortex. It seems that judgments of beauty involve a local transformation from a feature-based visual representation to a representation of “elemental affect,” computed through information-processing mechanisms that detect deviations from an observer’s *expectations*. Aesthetically appealing interactions with natural landscapes may rely more heavily on comparisons between ongoing stimulation and well-formed representations of the natural world. Researchers have been surprised to find that although subcortical reward structures are involved, not much happens in the default-mode network (DMN), an important cerebral process



Coherent natural fall beauty coming to a mountain range near you. 2022 colors near Rico courtesy of Jim Mimiaga.

associated with the brain benefits of time in pleasing landscapes. I find it quite shocking that perceptions of natural beauty are a bottom-up process, originating in the more primitive parts of the brain and being less higher-level cognitions than once believed.

Some researchers believe that beautiful nature is a form of positive distraction. Positive distraction refers to an element of the environment that produces positive feeling and holds attention effortlessly, much as is the case with soft fascination (talked about in earlier articles). This diverts attention away from negative stimuli and experiences. Nature is effective as a positive distraction because it is stimulating, and evokes interest, and improves mood. Weirdly, in some ways, the human brain finds coherent, pleasant nature scenes more stimulating than ‘modern art.’

We know that realistic depictions of pleasing nature can reduce anxiety and depression, improve mood, and induce relaxation. My own research at the University of Utah confirmed mood improvement and relaxation response. Other studies have confirmed the distraction angle. For instance, a recent study compared physical response to beautiful nature as opposed to scrambled images.

Scrambled images used were edited versions of artworks that had been Photoshopped into chaos.

It was hypothesized that viewing nature artworks after a laboratory stressor would lead to improved stress recovery, as measured by decreased salivary cortisol, fatigue, and drowsiness, while improving mood and increasing pupil size compared to the scrambled condition. They found that the participants subjected to the scrambled images did experience low arousal, negative affect (feeling dull and unhappy) and drowsiness. While viewing scrambled images, average pupil size was similar to when participants viewed a uniform gray screen, and smaller than when viewing landscapes. Nature viewer’s pupils dilated after only 3 seconds and stayed consistently higher than the poor scrambled guys. They reported greater alertness and better mood. So it would seem that two of the seven dwarves, Sleepy and Grumpy, were created by the scrambled condition.

OK, maybe my response to the characters of ‘Suits’ was a result of going into Grumpy mode. Not so odd and shocking after all. So who cares and what good does knowing this do for us?

A group of 200 plus folks watched a slideshow of fifteen photos of natural

Continued next pg

BEAUTY AND THE BRAIN From previous pg

natural scenes/elements. The beauty of the slideshow images was manipulated by presenting either aesthetically attractive nature images (beautiful condition) or destroying the beauty through pixilation of the images. A simple button clicking task was required after the presentation was concluded. The participants who had watched beautiful nature, clicked more buttons, and also reported feeling more motivated to click buttons compared to participants who had watched relatively unappealing pixelated nature images. So it appears that viewing beautiful nature

scenes is both pleasantly stimulating and job performance motivating.

An Australian bunch found similar results. University of Melbourne researchers gave 150 participants a menial task that involved hitting specific keystrokes when certain numbers flashed on a computer screen. After five minutes, the subjects were given a 40-second break, and an image of a rooftop surrounded by tall buildings appeared on their screens. Half the subjects saw a plain concrete roof; the others saw a roof covered with a green, flowering meadow. Both groups then re-

sumed the task. After the break, concentration levels fell by 8% among the people who saw the concrete roof, and their performance faltered. But among those who saw the green roof, concentration levels rose by 6% and performance held steady.

One of the most scenic times of the year in these parts is nearly upon us. So whether you need a distraction from something unpleasant, or want to improve your work performance to impress your boss, get outside daily to gaze upon the stunning visual display that nature graces us with every fall.



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UNITED STATES NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL FOUR CORNERS INDIAN COUNTRY CONFERENCE IN SALT LAKE

Special to the Mirror

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH – United States Attorney, Trina A. Higgins, hosted the 30th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference in downtown Salt Lake City.

The three-day event, which took place at the Grand America, brought more than 200 professionals from the four corner states that are involved in victim services and public safety in tribal communities.

Initiated in 1992, the Four Corners Indian Country Conference was designed to focus on prosecution and victims' issues in Indian Country in the states of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico.

The goal of the conference is to discuss strategies and best practices from federal, state, and tribal criminal justice and social service professionals working with victims in tribal communities and how to improve

victim services and make tribal communities safer.

USAO-Utah

"We were honored to host the Four Corners Indian Country Conference in Utah," said U.S. Attorney Higgins.

"Thank you to the speakers and attendees who traveled from Tribal communities in all four states. We want to especially

thank the Ute Tribe for their cultural presentations that were both educational and inspirational."

Utah is home to eight federally recognized tribes, spread throughout the state.



The 30th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference was held in downtown Salt Lake City. Courtesy photo.

The conference featured speakers, cultural presentations, and a local tribal artist.

For more information visit [30th Annual Indian Country Conference](#)



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Western History with Kate Burke Silverton's 4 NG Railroads and the Red Mountain Mines



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GOLF TOURNAMENT TO SUPPORT TRA LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The TRA Livestock Judging Team is hosting our 2nd annual golf tournament. The funds will be used to send a team to represent the state of Colorado in November at Louisville, KY. Any additional fund will be used for our 2024 travel expenses. Please join us September 16th for our Caddies for Cards at Devil's Thumb in Delta, CO.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COFFEE STAND SUSPENDED FROM CRANE, DROPPED INTO PLACE



The future coffee stand was dropped on-site. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-

According to a company news release, 7 Brew is a drive-thru coffee stand that offers more than 20,000 unique drink combinations, and hopes to make the drive-thru experience as personalized as the coffee they provide. The business is known for its upbeat atmosphere, quality coffee, and speedy drive-thru times.

The future coffee stand was dropped on-site at 1433 Encanto Place, at left. 7 Brew is making its Colorado debut following rapid expansion across the country. Courtesy photos.



Finished 7 Brew stand. Courtesy photo.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS: MONTROSE ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Adult Education Center is celebrating its 50th year of serving the Montrose community and beyond. We are having an open house Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 3 – 7 pm. We'd like anyone who has previously been a part of the program whether as student, staff, volunteer and/or supported us in any way to attend. The community is also invited. Our current location is in the basement of Zion Lutheran Church (701 S. Junction Avenue). Entry is from the back parking lot (off S. 7th Street).



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN JUSTICE

Editor:

The same day he was arrested by the failing Soviet regime, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn wrote this about the USSR: "We know that they are lying, they know that they are lying, they even know that we know they are lying, we also know that they know we know they are lying, but they are still lying." What Solzhenitsyn wrote about the Soviet Union in 1974 could truthfully be written about Biden's America in 2023.

It's not some big mystery. The Biden family, including father "Robert Peters," sold access and took tens of millions of dollars in bribes from corrupt oligarchs in Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and China. In exchange for making him and his family filthy rich, Biden used his political power to reward our enemies at the expense of the strategic interests of this nation. His blatant influence-peddling included the use of pseudonyms ("Robert Peters", "Robin Ware", etc.) and a complex network of shell companies to hide the payments. The Bidens are corrupt, and other than a few individuals who refuse to accept the truth, the vast majority of Americans know it.

The multiple indictments against Trump are a continuation of the deceitful seven-year effort by Democrats to annihilate their chief political opponent. Before Trump's election, Hillary manufactured false claims about Trump conspiring with Russia to steal the 2016 election. When that sham was exposed, they immediately impeached him for asking Ukraine to look into the Biden family's influence-peddling

schemes. It's OK for Biden to commit treason, but not OK for Trump to ask about it. They set aside every House rule and legal process to rush to impeach him again after the January 6th demonstrations. The hypocrisy is beyond belief. The party that is now indicting Trump for the thought crime of questioning the integrity of the highly irregular 2020 election spent years and vast government resources to undo the results of the 2016 election.

Local DA's and the DOJ manufactured "crimes" in four different venues. Crimes like: *Securely storing material he had authority to declassify. (Biden removed material he didn't have authority to declassify and kept it in an unsecured garage). *Asking for an investigation into an election more than half the country believes should have been investigated.

*Instigating an "insurrection" in which no one was armed and none of the protesters could even remotely be charged with anything close to insurrection. The administration, the DOJ, and their media allies pretend to take all this with deadly seriousness even though the entire country, including the perpetrators themselves, know it is a total staged joke and a farcical subversion of justice.

Trump is an obstacle to the Deep State that seeks total power. He has shown how false, how hollow, how corrupt, and how destructive their agenda is. The entire charade is to destroy the Trump '24 campaign, stifle any other conservatives willing to run for President, and terrorize any-

one else willing to resist the Democrat's agenda.

This whole fairy tale is making Trump-hating liberals feel a lot better. They are too blinded to see that the indictments are less an attack against one man than a banana republic-like attempt to enforce group-think on anyone who dares resist federal dictates.

Today, Democrats are blatantly using the criminal justice system to protect Biden and destroy Trump. Tomorrow, you and I will be able to think whatever we want, but we will no longer be able to express those thoughts if they dispute the official narrative.

Democrats think that if they repeat a lie over and over again, it becomes a kind of truth. They are right in that a segment of our population believe the lies simply because they hear them over and over again --- as evidenced by a number of letter writers in our local papers who point to the indictments as proof that Trump is a criminal. What the Left doesn't understand is that a much larger segment of the population can actually think and see through the lies and subterfuge --- despite what we are told again and again.

That segment understands abuse of power and treason when they see it. They see beyond the propaganda and understand that the Department of Justice is no longer interested in justice but is defending corrupt elites that only Trump dares to challenge.

Ed Henrie, Montrose

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

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[1] In order to be reimbursed you must have an existing account or open a new account with Alpine Bank and currently be employed as a teacher with the Montrose or Delta County School Districts. Reimbursement will be made within two weeks of presentation of valid receipts dated between 7/1/2023 – 10/1/2023.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT TRIBUTE TO AVIATION

Special to the Mirror

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

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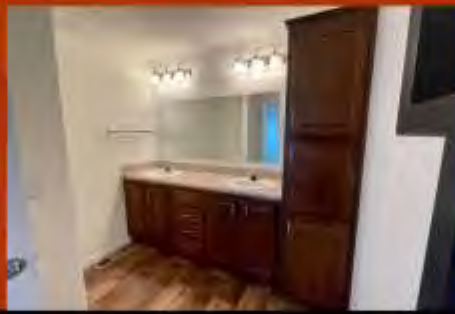
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SHORT ROAD STIRS LONG DEBATE

By Bob Cox

REGIONAL-What started as little more than a trail used by early travelers, became a war of words among town and county officials beginning in 1912.

The Black Mesa Road, now Colorado Highway 92, was first developed in 1912 by officials in Gunnison County in cooperation with Delta County. By May of 1913, the two counties began planning a celebration of the road's completion. The *Gunnison News-Champion* displayed a bold headline in the May 23, 1913 edition:

BLACK MESA ROAD WILL BE READY FOR USE BY JULY 4. The article, in part, declared that the road would be finished, 'before any other route has been fairly begun, and will become the favorite route...' The paper announced that a celebration of the completion of the road would be held on top of Black Mesa on July 4, 1913 for the people from Gunnison and Delta Counties. The emphasis on the road was directed at the owners of automobiles in the two counties. Gunnison County Commissioner W. A. Gillaspay was quoted in both Gunnison and Montrose newspapers as saying that the road would be passable by that time, but not completed.

Meanwhile, The Town of Montrose was advocating for the completion of the road over Blue Mesa, and was openly disappointed in the focus on the Black Mesa Road. Montrose town officials feared that the completion of the Black Mesa Road would effectively route new settlers away from Montrose and direct them into Delta County. The *Austin Journal* editor opined the following:

The Town of Montrose is not all of Montrose County. The people south of Crawford in that county pay taxes and are entitled to road money. That part of Black Mesa Road was built by private subscriptions, mostly by Delta people and the amount received from the state is a small matter compared to the amount received for the Blue Mesa Road. However, the Black Mesa Road is built and will be traveled after the Blue Mesa Road is built. Since Delta County people had to pay bills which Montrose County people ought to have paid, it is natural that Delta feels more kindly toward the Black Mesa Road.

The debate continued for more than ten years. The road was built, but in such a



On a route traveled by the first settlers, the Black Mesa Road was started in 1912. In 1913, the (Gunnison County) commissioners drove over it and said the road was as good as it could be, and a celebration should be held soon. Here in the 1920s, Roy Cotten grades the road at White Point with a team of horses. Ed Bates is the "blade man." Photo courtesy of the Hotchkiss-Crawford Historical Museum.

way as to discourage winter travel. Montrose officials remained concerned that improvements to the road could lead to fewer people traveling to Montrose from the east. Late in 1922, the state highway department released an engineer's report documenting the proposed improvement of the Black Mesa Road. Part of the engineer's report was printed in the December 27, 1922 edition of *The Montrose Daily Press*:

The present road across Black Mesa from Sapinero to the North Fork of the Gunnison River at Hotchkiss is very poorly located and poorly built, and was originally intended to serve the saw mills and the tie cutters on the top of the mesa, and in order to serve these industries, they had to climb to an altitude which makes this road impassable in the late fall and early spring on account of the snow conditions. The most accessible passes and the ones that are open the latest in the fall and the first opened in the spring lie at the head of the route between the eastern and western parts of the state.

The report went on to address the expense of clearing the roads, both over Black Mesa and Blue Mesa, and recommended that the Black Mesa Road be improved by lowering the route to take advantage of the southern facing hills, which

would aid in the earlier opening of the road.

Barely a month after the engineer's report appeared, the friction between Montrose, Delta and Mesa Counties began to heat up once more. On January 29, 1923, the *Montrose Daily Press* printed an editorialized article pointing out that people of Delta and Mesa Counties, particularly the Lions Clubs of those counties, were advocating for a road that would be a detriment to travel to Montrose. In part, the article read:

Quite a bit has been stated of late about the Black Mesa Road proposition. It has been intimated that one reason why the Rainbow Route was to be torn up next summer with a steam shovel was to divert tourist travel over the Black Mesa and once it was diverted that way, the Rainbow Route thru Montrose would suffer.

About the same time the *Delta Independent* voiced their opinion that the Black Mesa Road should be improved. This is part of what the *Independent* printed: *Mr. Vandemoer of the State Highway Department told of how the Black Mesa Road, in his opinion, could be made to serve the people of western Colorado several months more each year. In fact, he said it was shown that Black Mesa and Cochetopa pass were particularly suited to*

SHORT ROAD STIRS LONG DEBATE From previous pg

later travel as well as accessible much earlier than any of the other routes to this part of the state. With the expenditure of about \$175,000 and the building of about 15 miles of road on the Black Mesa this could be accomplished. The Gunnison commissioners, he said, favored the Black Mesa and already the engineers have recommended this route to be taken this fall. As the fall of 1923 began, the attention to the Black Mesa Road once again dominated the headlines in the September issues of the *Delta Independent*. In the September 28, edition, the headline announced: **PRELIMINARY WORK UNDER WAY ON BLACK MESA ROAD.**

The article contained more than 1,000 words and began with a descriptive paragraph: *The people of the Western Slope as well as the people of the Eastern Slope and all other people interested in early spring and late fall travel across the mountains of Colorado, will be pleased to know that at last their efforts to have a road built around the point of Black Mesa and along the rim of Black Canyon are beginning to bear fruit, which fact was evidenced by the presence in Crawford last week of Messrs. A. E. Palen and George F. Helliso. These two gentlemen are in the service of The U. S. Bureau of Public Roads and their business in Crawford last week was to go over the proposed Black Mesa Road for the purpose of selecting camp sites for the surveying crew that moved in on the 11th inst., to begin work. This corps of surveyors consists of 12 men and they will make the survey from Crystal Creek to Currecanti Creek.*

The article ended with the eloquence of a romance novel: *U. S. Bureau of Public Roads and Forest Departments all gather at some point along the road where flows a crystal spring and where the leaves as they are stirred by the mountain breeze sing songs just as they sang in the long ago when the pioneers were coming into this western country, and at this place in the presence of the charm of the golden rod, and the stately Columbine, and all other mountain flowers. Dedicate the road to the memory of those dauntless, fearless, pioneer men and women who discovered for all of us, the Western Slope, and by their willingness to endure the hardships incident to the life of all pioneers, made it possible for all Western Slope citizens to enjoy the blessings of a land where the snow-capped mountains and the lofty pines kiss the sky; where the sun shines a little brighter and the snow is a trifle whiter; land of good health and promise; land of fertile soil; land of our HOME beloved Colorado, the most glorious section of all the world.*

Three years later, the road had been significantly improved and the supporters of the road held a picnic at Corral Gulch. The people of Montrose were still being disparaged due to the perceived lack of support, both monetarily and philosophically. But the road was still not finished.

Two years later, on August 9, 1928, the delay was explained somewhat when the *Surface Creek Champion* displayed the following:

BLACK MESA ROAD UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Another forward step involving the transportation problem of the Western Slope was taken this week when work was started on the building of a new road east and west across Black Mesa. Up until the present time there has been a great deal of contention as to which was the most important of the two road projects under consideration, the Black Mesa Road and the McClure Pass. But now it is a certainty that work on completion of the work on Blue Mesa to a location on Black Mesa and road building was started Tuesday of this week. This is in accordance with an agreement made and signed in Pueblo a number of years ago. At that time the interest centered between Blue Mesa and Black Mesa and after considerable wrangling it was decided to construct the Blue Mesa Road first and then the Black Mesa Road. The State Highway officials are only fulfilling a promise and those who have been opposing the construction of this road should now cast aside their petty jealousies and work for the completion of the project...

Today, a certain amount of irony exists in that a major road construction project on the Blue Mesa route is sending a significant number of travelers and commercial transportation vehicles over the Black Mesa Road (Colorado Highway 92) into the North Fork Valley.

Author's note: Historical research can be daunting. In this case the Hotchkiss-Crawford Historical Museum volunteers were of great help. Visit the museum in Hotchkiss if ever you find yourself in the area.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CAREGIVER SUMMIT AIMS TO EASE 'THE HARDEST JOB' *Free Symposium Set for October 6*

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Every year thousands of individuals have their lives hijacked by the diagnosis of a loved one as a victim of a brain disease like Alzheimer's or Parkinson's. From that moment on, a son, daughter, wife, husband, or other relative becomes a family-caregiver. The mantle is one they wear out of pure love, but it is one of the hardest things they will ever do.

Family caregivers have always been in service, working mostly in isolation and with no instruction manual by which to execute their myriad tasks. Times have changed, thankfully, and organizations such as Region 10 Area Agency on Aging and Caregiver Support Foundation have stepped up to provide support, care for caregivers, so to speak. This year, on Oct. 6 the Family Caregiver Summit will be staged to offer education and emotional support for caregivers in Western Colorado.

This free event will be at the Montrose Pavilion from 1 to 4:30 PM. Caregivers will be in a safe and relaxed atmosphere where they can listen to informative speakers, visit with other caregivers, and interact with vendors who provide resources to help them with their tasks.

The first major trauma that will be experienced by a new caregiver is hearing a doctor deliver the diagnosis of progressive neurological disorder. While the patient's loved ones may have suspected what was happening, that instant is the entrance to a tunnel with no light at the other end.

Dr. Michael Hehmann of Montrose has

diagnosed hundreds of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other brain diseases. Hehmann, a neurology specialist for 35 years, will be one of three speakers interfacing with caregivers at the Summit. He will provide insight into the diagnosis and what the caregiver can expect over time. Hehmann will have some thoughts of value for both rookie caregivers and those who have the abrasions brought on by extended duty as a caregiver.

The doctor will get down to the basics. "I will be doing a deep review of the diagnosis and treatment of progressive neurologic disease and how it affects the brain and the rest of the body," he said. For those new to the neurological disorder scene, Dr. Hehmann will explain the neurologic exam and what is done in your physician's office for exploring how the brain and memory works and the different testing available for dementia and Parkinson's.

With research on diagnosis and treatment continuing on a minute-by-minute basis, Dr. Hehmann said he also will discuss some of the new diagnosis methods for Alzheimer's, as well as what will be available in the future.

"There are new medications and treatments available, and we'll talk about some of those," Hehmann said.

"We will also attempt to review what is now available for testing. For example, we do CAT and MRI scans," he said. "But we will explore newer procedures that are on the forefront especially the treatment of Alzheimer's, using the newer monoclonal antibody treatments against amyloid pep-

tides."

Hehmann said that there are challenges in the medical community in Montrose. "The health system overall has challenges, including the availability of enough providers. That impacts the care available for our families and friends in Western Colorado."

Doctor Hehmann, as well as the other speakers, will be available for questions from the summit attendees after his discourse. Laird Landon, Chair of the Caregivers Support Foundation and Sandy Walker of Region 10's Area Agency on Aging will be the other speakers.

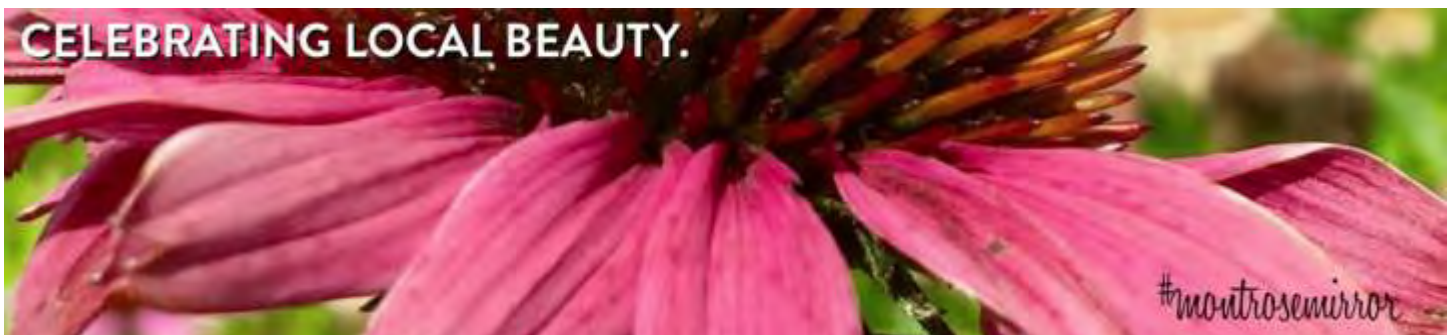
While the Family Caregivers Summit is being staged by the Caregiver Support Foundation and Region 10, it is supported by a number of sponsors who have contributed monies to defray the expenses of the event.

That list includes, Hope West, Volunteers of America, Touch of Care, The Beacon, Four Season's Investment Advisors, US Bank, ElderAdo Financial, Copy Cats, ASEDD, Alpine Bank, Colorow, Cedar Point Health, Montrose Regional Health, Timberline Bank, the David Mize Family, Sinner Family, Ciel Bottomly, In Memory of Ellen Smith, James Jennings Family, Donald Sorenson Family.

For more information and to register for the free event go to www.family-caregiver.org.



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MIRROR IMAGES: SOUTH 3RD STREET PLAZA



At left, the City of Montrose's S. 3rd Street Plaza project nears completion.



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LOCAL SPORTS BY CLIFF DODGE

MONTROSE RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP

Volleyball vs Palisade:

A tall and talented Palisade Bulldogs team invaded the McMillian Fieldhouse on August 29th and handed the Red Hawks their second defeat in the young volleyball season 3-1.

The first match was very close. The Red Hawks led early on but were caught by the Bulldogs 11 to 11. The two teams traded blows down the stretch until the Bulldogs broke an 18-18 tie and closed out the first match 25-20.

The second match mirrored the first with both teams staying close until the Bulldogs led by 8 points at 21 to 13. The Red Hawks fought back and closed to a 2-point margin 24 to 22. The Bulldogs then scored the 25th and final point to lead 2-0.

The Red Hawks turned up the offense in the third match and jumped out to a slim lead and then expanded their advantage at the mid-point in the contest. The home team then pulled ahead and put away the Bulldogs 25 to 18 to cut the lead to 2-1.

The Bulldogs scored the first 2 points in the fourth match and were never headed as they stretched the lead 16-5 midway through the contest. The Red Hawks rally



The Red Hawks prepare to set up a spike into the Palisade defense.

fell short and Palisade won the fourth game by the score of 25-14.

Head Coach Shane Forrest of the Red Hawks said, "We knew it was going to be a really good match. I am proud of our kids, they played hard the whole time. This team had lots of size. They spike a lot from both the middle and the outside.

We blocked well but could not overcome their speed and power."

Forrest continued, "I was very proud of our kids in the fourth match. They did not give up, they hustled, chased balls down into the bleachers and won the match. We just could not stay with them in the fourth and decisive match."



Red Hawks batter Abygayle England prepares to hit an offering from the Palisade pitcher.

Montrose Red Hawks Softball vs Rifle/Palisade

The Rifle Bears paid a visit to Montrose and escaped with two wins as they swept a doubleheader by the scores of 14-8 and 11-10, dropping the Red Hawks season record to 1 win, 3 losses and 1 tie, and 1-1 in league action. The two wins increased the Rifle season record to 4-1 overall and 1-1 in league action.

The Red Hawks jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning of game one. The Bears scored 7 runs in their half of the second inning and were never headed. The visitors added 5 runs in the 5th inning and 2 more in the seventh. The only excitement came in the fifth inning when Andie Blowers and Abby English stroked back-to-back home runs over the left center field fence. The second game of the twin bill started in similar fashion to the first game with the Red Hawks scoring five time in the bottom of the first inning. The Bears then plated 9 runs over the next four innings

and led 11-7 after five innings.

Red Hawks head coach Casey Killins described what occurred in her own words. "We were up 6-1 after the first couple of innings but Rifle snuck back into the game in the middle innings. We made a comeback in the 6th but, one of many good plays by the Rifle team took out our tying runner trying to score from second base, and we ended up losing 11 to 10."

The third game in two days saw the Palisade Bulldogs invade the Montrose softball diamond. The Bulldogs pushed across three runs in the third inning, added four more in the sixth and added a pair of runs in the seventh. The Red Hawks were shut out until the sixth inning when the Red Hawks plated four runs. The home team started a last ditch rally in the seventh but could only manage a single run making the final score Bulldogs 9, Red Hawks 5.

LOCAL SPORTS BY CLIFF DODGE

MONTROSE RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP From previous

Red Hawks Cross Country teams take 3rd and 4th in Pueblo

The Montrose Red Hawks girls' and boys' cross country teams scored very well at the Pueblo Central Pete Felletta Invitational held on Saturday, August 26th, at the Elmwood Cross Country course in Pueblo.

The Red Hawk girls' team took third place in the competition finishing just behind Durango High School and Fountain-Fort

Carson High School.

The Red Hawks were led by senior Kenzie Bush who posted a 4th place time of 20.56 seconds. Bush was followed by Jaiden Bresett, Millie Crane, Georgia Ficco and Naomi McGarry.

The Red Hawks boys' team competed against ten high schools and wound up in fourth position. The Cougars of Coronado High School finished first and were fol-

lowed by Durango High School and University High School in second and third place.

The Red Hawks were led by senior Elijah Echols who placed 7th and posted a time of 17:24.70 seconds. Echols was followed by Phin Howe, Vash Veatch, Deklan Wooden, Jose Chavez, Alex VanAllsburg Graysen Vidmar.

Montrose golfers win the Cobble Creek Tournament

The Montrose Red Hawks hosted a dozen high school golf teams from throughout the western slope last week at the Cobble Creek Golf Club in Montrose and walked off with top honors.

The Red Hawks had three golfers shoot

under par and the team combined for a total of 201 strokes, 21 strokes lower than the Basalt Longhorns who notched a score of 222.

Aspen, Fruita-Monument and Durango all finished in the top five.

Red Hawks coach Steve Skiff was very pleased with the turnout and the results.

Skiff was especially pleased that he was able to have a total of 24 Red Hawk golfers participate in this tournament.

The scores for the Red Hawk varsity team are as follows: senior Noah Richmond – 63; senior Kyden Adams – 69; senior Caleb Caskey – 69; sophomore Brandon Blacker 79; senior Caleb Freeland – 80.

Red Hawks Soccer falls to Glenwood Springs

The Montrose Red Hawks soccer team traveled to Glenwood Springs hoping to rebound from a loss to Durango in the

season's first game. Sadly, the result was the same. The Demons of Glenwood Springs defeated the visitors 6-2 as they scored three goals in the first and second halves of the contest. The Red Hawks

managed a single goal in each of the halves.

The Red Hawks record drops to 0-2 with thirteen games remaining on the schedule.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FISH HARVESTED FROM RIDGWAY RESERVOIR, SAN MIGUEL RIVER ARE SAFE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY— To address concerns of anglers, Colorado Parks and Wildlife recently submitted fish from Ridgway Reservoir and the San Miguel River to be analyzed for metal contaminations. The results showed fish from these bodies of water are safe to eat as long as people follow statewide fish consumption guidelines.

Public concern stemmed from historic mining activity along the Uncompahgre River valley as well as the San Miguel River. CPW aquatic biologist Eric Gardunio heard the longstanding rumors from anglers regarding consumption of fish in these areas and submitted several samples to a state toxicologist with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) as well as CPW's water quality monitoring section.

"One of my responsibilities is to set harvest regulations that are consistent with maintaining quality angling opportunities in our local fisheries," Gardunio said. "Having anglers harvest fish can be a valuable management tool for our agency. It also offers anglers a sustainable source of protein that is healthy to eat. We appreciate our partnership with CDPHE that allows us to ensure that the fisheries where we allow harvest are producing fish that are safe to eat."

CDPHE tested fish tissue for cadmium, copper, zinc and lead. CPW submitted Colorado River cutthroat trout, brown trout and rainbow trout fillets from the San Miguel River. From Ridgway Reservoir, yellow perch, rainbow trout, brown trout and smallmouth bass were sent for testing. "All of the fish collected in Ridgway Reservoir and on the San Miguel River that CDPHE tested for metals showed very low concentrations in the fish tissue or were non-detect," said Ashley Rust, CPW Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Specialist. "The fish are safe to eat, no concerns."


The CDPHE Toxicology and Environmental Epidemiology Office compared the levels of metals found to health-protective screening levels.

"Based on our analysis, we recommend that people eating fish from these water bodies follow statewide fish consumption guidelines for mercury, which provide adequate protection from all heavy metals we have analyzed to date," CDPHE said in a statement. CPW regularly monitors all fisheries based on a multitude of factors, including public concerns. Gardunio said he looks forward to working with local anglers and guides to share the positive news that fish from these water bodies are safe for harvest and consumption. "We appreciate the public's concern over the potential health implications related to eating fish and are excited



An electrofishing crew from CPW surveys the San Miguel River. Courtesy photo.

to announce that the fish from the San Miguel River and Ridgway Reservoir are safe to eat," Gardunio said.


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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

OBSERVING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH: EVERY CORNER, EVERY AREA OF AMERICA IS RICH WITH HISPANICS

Dear Editor,

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came legally from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Some families were here before the United States of America.

Hispanic Heritage Month initially began as a weeklong celebration in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson who, at the time said, "The people of Hispanic descent are the heirs of missionaries, captains, soldiers, and farmers who were motivated by a young spirit of adventure, Christians with a high moral standard, and a desire to settle freely in a free land."

I am proud to be called Hispanic although during the 1960s I preferred Chicano and still do to this day. During my life I have been called many things including some derogatory names for my race but I have been proud and it made me stronger. I am of mixed descent and proud of every ingredient, I am from the golden race. I am a product of legal immigrants five generations ago.

The observation began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988.

The theme for 2023 is "Latinos : Driving prosperity, power, and progress in Ameri-

ca."

I would like to give some facts so you can see why we are so proud .

Hispanics have fought for America in every war and every battle since the Civil War. There is no count of the numbers of Hispanic warriors in the early wars but according to Wikipedia between 400,000 and 500,000 Hispanic Americans served in the armed forces in World War 2.. Hispanics not only served in ground and sea-bound combat units, they also distinguished themselves as fighter pilots and as bombardiers. In 1944, Hispanic aviators were sent to the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Tuskegee, Alabama, to train the famed Tuskegee Airmen of the 99th Fighter Squadron. Countless numbers of mine and my wife's family served in WW2, Korea and Vietnam.

More than 80,000 Hispanic-Americans served with distinction in Vietnam, from the Battle for Hue City to the Siege of Khe Sanh including my hero brother Fred.

More than 85,000 Hispanics have served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Number of Hispanic Americans serving on active duty in the Army increased from 3% in 1985 to 16% in 2019.

Hispanics in activism is another proud legacy. During the Chicano Movement (El Movimiento) of the 1960s and 1970s, Chicanos established a strong political presence and agenda in the United States through the leadership of Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales, Cesar Chavez, and Dolores Huer-

ta. I was an activist during those day and proud to be.

Hispanics as community leaders....teachers..... volunteers. Every corner and area of current America is rich with Hispanics, Including what is referred to as dreamers.

A Dreamer is a person who has lived in the US without official authorization since coming to the country as a minor, brought here by their parents illegally. People of this description who met certain conditions would be eligible for a special immigration status under federal legislation first proposed in 2001. I have encountered Dreamers in daily life as amazing accomplishees in anything they do. Most teachers will tell you that their Dreamers are top students. Dreamers serve in our military service to protect this country. My best friend David Padilla in Olathe is a good man, husband, father, business owner and volunteer. It is my personal opinion that Dreamers should be given a path to citizenship and I would love to help them achieve that.

With earnings of more than \$1 trillion each year and tax contributions of more than \$252 billion, Hispanics not only add significant value to the U.S. economy but they also support and help fund social services and infrastructure that ultimately benefit all Americans.

We will forever work to keep America free and moral.

God bless America

Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

FROM WHERE I SIT: ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Editor:

There are a lot of great things about Montrose and Montrose County. And I think that we all can see many of them. Among the wonders of Montrose are the many parks with large grassy fields, gym sets for the kiddies with views of the most beautiful mountains in the world. Our sheriff and his deputies are superlative. Our citizens are mostly very polite when interacting with the public and our 'dog pound' is high on the 'good guy' list.

But, as with any endeavor there is seldom a shortfall of places, activities and policies that should be improved.

FROM 'WHERE I SIT' here are a few of them:

1. In my retirement I like to dine out frequently. We need a Health Department that CRACKS DOWN on unhealthy, even filthy, conditions at a few of our local restaurants. From what I see in some of the restrooms I would hesitate to visit their kitchens. We need more of a 'department' of health.

2. Businesses donate money for school supplies for our students. Congratulations to those businesses BUT THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE TO! Having been in the military for 20 years my two kids attended public schools in rich and poor states. Never did I have to buy learning materials. Before that, I went to school in Newark N.J. (of all places) and never bought so much as a pencil. I suggest that we reduce the administrative staff and have the

schools pay the bill. That way all kids get the same treatment, well off or poor.

3. Squandering millions on the Rathbone Hotel (right next to the theater). This will use up the parking for the theater, a long-lived business in town and our only theater. The absurdity of this SQUANDERING is that the Rathbone should have been demolished and a multi-storied parking garage built to provide parking for the police station, theater, city offices etc. But apparently no one with a whit of sense even suggested that use of space and now over \$3 million dollars have been flushed into a business that will fail and make citizens and employees visiting city offices walk long distances from parking to office. What a bungle this is already and the hotel is not yet functioning.

NOTE: I guess Bell and Bynum will have to build a large underground garage for this debacle that is underway?

4. We have a noise ordinance in Montrose and if I am not mistaken a pollution ordinance as well. I remember when it was passed several years ago. Neither of them are being enforced. Our 'main drags' are very noisy and often inundated with diesel smoke. A little enforcement with heavy fines collected might be a good idea. Some cars, pickups, semis and motorcycles are the problems. There are chemical and mechanical solutions to the diesel smoke---make the violators use them---they bought the vehicles now let them pay to keep them within the law.

5. The issue of library materials with explicit sexual content is embarrassing. From what I read about the stuff, it is PORN UNDER THE GUISE OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH. No it is PORN and if an adult were caught in possession thereof he'd be jailed for 'kiddie porn'. If parents are so bent on having their kids learn about this 'sexually explicit content' LET THEM TEACH IT TO THEIR OWN KIDS. Libraries and schools are not the places to peddle porn to our children---OR ADULTS FOR THAT MATTER.

6. And finally for today anyway, the papers are full of stuff about our impending water crisis. But I see nothing in those tomes about any conservation effort. All problems/no solutions! Finding and implementing solutions will take time while water flows away from us. Funding and enforcing conservation of this precious life giving fluid are perfect venues for City and County government. Water conservation is the kind of issue that governments are meant to solve. Let us substitute water conservation efforts for the wasting of millions of dollars on Mura projects like Colorado Outdoors, and establishing businesses in direct competition with the businesses already created by our neighbors already here.

As always when questioning the causes of poor streets, wasteful spending of public funds and crony capitalism, FOLLOW THE MONEY!

Bill Bennett, Montrose





THIRD ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Put together your team of up to 8 people for a fun evening of Trivia and competition. There are a limited number of tables available so get your teams together and register quickly. Prizes will be awarded. This is a fundraiser for Altrusa International of Montrose to help support all the wonderful projects we do for our community.

DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

TIME: 5:30pm – 9:00pm

PLACE: Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 S Hillcrest Dr, Montrose

COST: \$25 per person due at registration (includes Dessert/Snack Bar)
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Team Name: _____

#1 Contact ph # _____ (*) Email: (*) _____

Players names:

1 (*) _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____

Please complete one form per team.

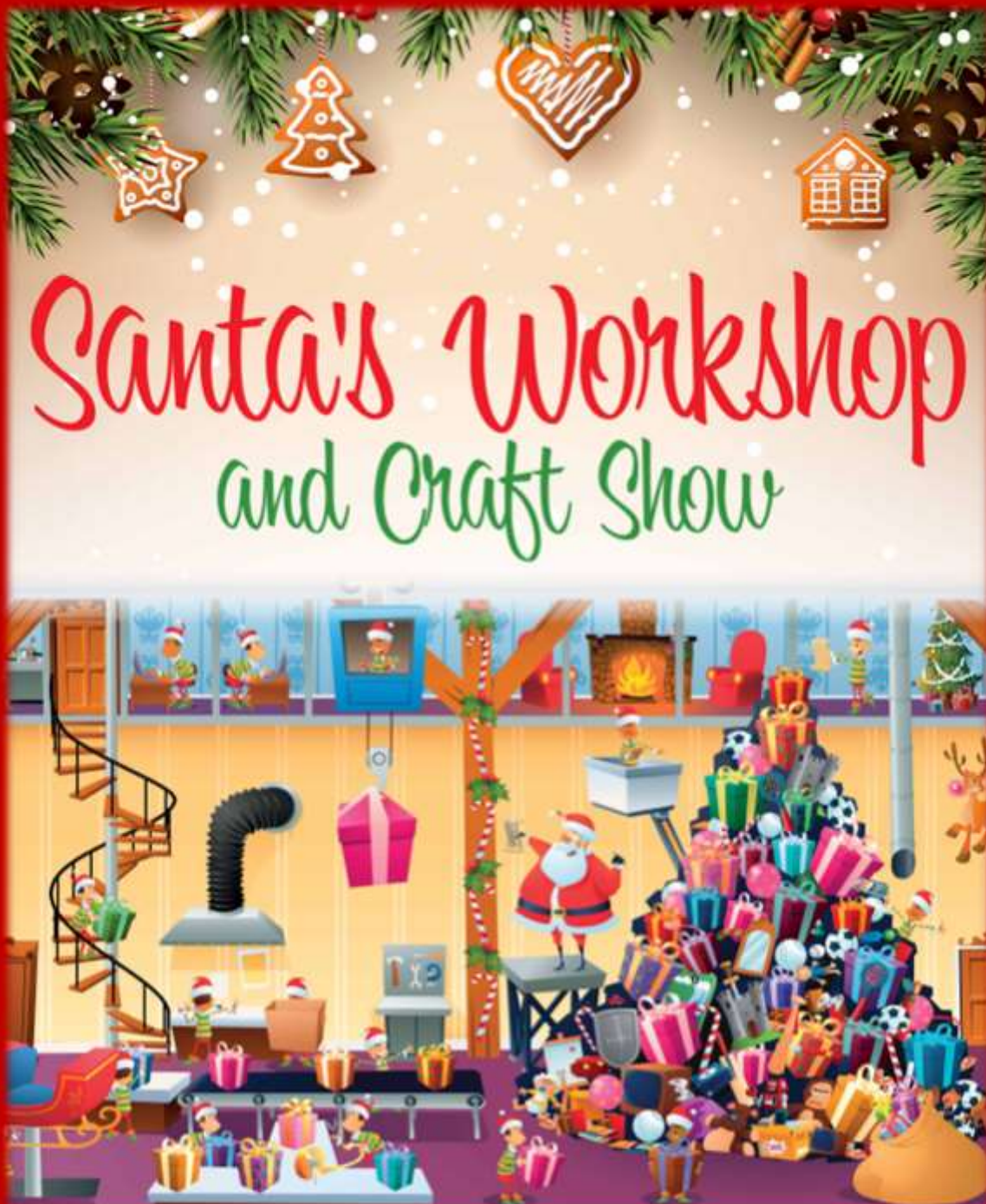
Please be sure to be seated before our start time of 5:30pm.

No outside food or drink will be allowed.

Questions? Please contact Gail at 970-275-0751 or Lori at 970-275-6522

Please make checks out to Altrusa International of Montrose and mail along with the completed application to: Altrusa of Montrose, PO Box 3184, Montrose, CO 81402. Or call one of the contact people above and we can meet to obtain registration form and check(s).

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GMUG TO RELEASE LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN AND FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Special to the Mirror

DELTA— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests have released the draft record of decision for the revised land management plan and final environmental impact statement. This will begin a 60-day objection filing period.

“Releasing the draft record of decision for the revised plan is the culmination of several years effort and wouldn’t be possible without our cooperators, stakeholders and engaged members of the public,” said Chad Stewart, Forest Supervisor for the GMUG National Forests. “Community participation on our public lands management has helped produce an inclusive plan that focuses on forest restoration, resilience and climate adaptation.”

The revised plan details the desired conditions, standards, guidelines and objectives that will provide the foundation for future management activities across the forests for at least the next 15 years. Con-

sistent with the agency’s Wildfire Crisis Strategy, the plan addresses drought, tree mortality and wildfire risk while amplifying forest restoration and resiliency through local and state partnerships. It’s estimated the plan will support 3,900 jobs and provide \$125 million in labor income, add 46,000 acres of recommended wilderness and increase fuel treatment objectives by 60 percent.

GMUG Forest Planner Samantha Staley noted, “The planning team has been working steadily since 2018 to revise this forest plan. After we published the draft plan and received an enormous volume of quality public input, the planning team spent more than a year to thoroughly study and integrate that feedback as much as possible. We believe the plan and preferred alternative reflect the diversity of our communities’ input and interests.”

For draft record of decision, revised plan, environmental impact statement and other documents associated with this release,

including interactive maps, webinar recordings and instructions for how to object or file as an interested person, as well as all past publications and other helpful resources, please visit the planning website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/gmug/forestplan>.

The objection process provides an opportunity for those who have participated in a prior formal public comment period for this plan revision effort to have their unresolved concerns reviewed before the Forest Supervisor issues a final decision. Individuals must have submitted substantive formal comments related to the plan revision during previous comment periods in order to object. Objection or resolution-centered meetings will be announced upon the determination of objection standing and information. The objection process also includes an interested persons format for those interested in how objections are resolved. Interested persons includes any party not named in the objection and individuals who submitted substantive formal comments demonstrating their participation in the planning process. For more information, please see legal notice and the draft Record of Decision.

The GMUG is hosting three public meetings to share information and provide orientation about the plan and the next steps. These are NOT Objection or Resolution meetings. Two virtual webinars and one in person meeting will be held: Virtual via ZOOM, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Mountain time (US and Canada); <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87453959663>, Meeting ID: 874 5395 9663, One tap mobile+12532158782,87453959663# US (Tacoma)+12532050468,87453959663# US

Virtual via ZOOM, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Mountain time (US and Canada) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88515516068>, Meeting ID: 885 1551 6068, One tap mobile+12532050468,88515516068# US, +12532158782,88515516068# US (Tacoma)

In person from 5- 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023, at Montrose County Events



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

San Miguel County Noxious Weed of the Month

Tamarisk aka Salt Cedar grows along river corridors



Tamarisk. Courtesy photo Northern Arizona invasive plants.

Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY--- San Miguel County's Noxious Weed of the Month is the Tamarisk aka salt cedar, which in our county and throughout the American Southwest, is found growing along river corridors.

An introduced species, it was planted in the region to combat the effects of erosion.

This perennial shrub or small tree bears flowers that bloom from April through September and that range in color from pink to white. Its scale-like leaves are often encrusted with salt secretions. The

leaves are similar in appearance to cedar or juniper leaves.

Tamarisk reproduces vigorously both vegetatively and by seed. Each plant produces up to 600,000 seeds.

To say tamarisk has become a scourge in riparian ecosystems is an understatement. Tamarisk is not a water-wise plant as it consumes massive amounts of water daily and in so doing lowers water tables. The plant creates large deposits of salt in the soil and is capable of spreading downstream 12 miles per year. Further, tamarisk degrades the value of wildlife habitat

by out-competing native vegetation. Its severe impact along riparian corridors throughout the U.S. West is troubling.

San Miguel County Vegetation Control & Management urges all county residents to manage any Tamarisk infestations with elimination in mind. Weed control is a community effort!

Please do your part.

For more information about Tamarisk and other noxious weeds in San Miguel County, please contact Julie Kolb, Manager of Vegetation Control and Management at juliek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

ILLINOIS HOUSE BILL 3751 ALLOWS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO BECOME POLICE OFFICERS

Editor;

It's getting almost impossible to keep up with the daily hate America rules, regulations and court decisions that Biden and his Democrat cults are imposing on Americans. Soon, AMERICANS COULD BE ARRESTED BY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS in Illinois !! Yup, Illinois Democrat governor J.B. Pritzker recently signed a bill into law allowing illegal immigrants to become police officers in the state. Illinois House Bill 3751 allows illegal immigrants to become police officers in the state and citizenship will no longer be a requirement to serve as

a police officer in Illinois starting January 1, 2024. House Bill 3751 further states, "An individual who is not a citizen but is legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law is authorized to apply for the position of police officer, subject to all requirements and limitations, OTHER THAN CITIZENSHIP to which OTHER APPLICANTS ARE SUBJECT." What about background checks that all police officers have to pass? That's not mentioned because most of their backgrounds cannot be verified, so they'll just hire them anyway-----terrorists, sex traffickers,

child traffickers, drug cartels, and on down the list.

The law also states that non-U.S. citizens are required to be able to purchase, carry, and possess a firearm legally in order to apply to be a police officer in spite of a federal law prohibiting non-U.S. citizens from serving as police officers and deputies. Also, illegal immigrants under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals will be eligible to apply for a position as a police officer. And with the love affair of the treasonous Democrat Mayorkis/Obama/Biden team alliance toward illegals, we won't know the criminal record of who is carrying a gun when stopped for a traffic violation. Imagine getting arrested by an illegal alien in this Democrat clown world of rabidness! Democrats need to get it figured out, do they want police or do they not? They have caused a horrific migration of American police officers into early retirement and just plain resignations. Of course this was their plan all along and it's right on schedule. Their colors are showing when they prefer illegals to patriotic citizens for police officers. And of course the recourse for "brutality" and "racism" and all the other accusations toward police officers won't be available in the world of illegal immigrant arrests. No, you'll just have to suck it up, keep quiet and save your energy with no Constitutional rights! This is just one of the steps in Democrats' plans for the destruction of our Constitution and America. So what's the next step.....a U.N. police force? Oh yeah, that's not a new question! It's been said before, Americans better wake up and quit voting for Democrats!! They're all connected at every level of government starting with city councils on up.

Everybody who voted for Biden should show their commitment and solidarity for their vote and take illegal immigrants into their homes. No? You brought them here by your vote!

Jerry Bartholome, Montrose

WEST NILE VIRUS PREVENTION

- ✓ Use mosquito repellent
- ✓ Wear long sleeves and pants
- ✓ Stay indoors at dusk and dawn
- ✓ Empty and clean water containers
- ✓ Repair holes in screens

GOT A MOSQUITO BITE? SYMPTOMS

- ✓ Fever
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Muscle Aches
- ✓ Fatigue

**IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS,
SEE YOUR DOCTOR**

FOR MORE INFO VISIT

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/animal-related-diseases/west-nile-virus>





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1815 Otter Pond Cir
MLS: 806583
Price: \$725,000

Features.

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- ✓ 3 Bathrooms
- ✓ Office
- ✓ 2,657 sq. ft.
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Welcome to this exclusive home located in the charming Otter Pond Subdivision, where tranquility and natural beauty abound. This property boasts an exceptional feature, being one of the few homes that borders the picturesque pond. Enjoy the luxury of a private dock and paddleboat, providing you with the opportunity to immerse yourself in the peacefulness of the water and watch ducks gracefully land on its surface. Nestled within the Otter Pond Subdivision, this home offers a prime location, with direct access to the pond. Embrace the scenic landscape and enjoy the soothing sights and sounds of nature right from your backyard.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

QUILT OF VALOR PRESENTED TO JESSICA HUNT



Submitted by Judy Kinyon

MONTROSE-A Quilt of Valor was presented to Miss Jessica Hunt by Sue Palmer of the Montrose district of Quilts of Valor. Miss Hunt is a graduate of Olathe High School. She was accepted to the United States Naval Academy upon graduation. She graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2009 and chose to fly in the E-2 Hawkeye. Miss Hunt was stationed on the USS John C Stennis and deployed twice to the middle east. Miss Hunt served for eight years (twelve if you count her academy time) before leaving the Navy and returning home to Montrose. We thank the ladies who created this beautiful quilt and for Miss Hunt's service to our Nation.

You Don't Have To Do It Alone

Attend the
2023 Family Caregiver Summit
October 6, 1-4:30 pm Montrose Pavilion

Hear great speakers...hang out with other
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connect with new resources

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Saturday, October 21st 9am - 4pm**

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MontroseWomansClub@gmail.com

Applications Available at The Lazy Hound, 309 E Main St, Montrose, CO

970.275.8902

(Monies raised are donated back to LOCAL charities)

LAST WEEK AT MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT



David White captured these images on Wednesday, Aug. 30 at Montrose Regional Airport, where improvements are being made to meet increasing demand. Above, Northern Pacific Airways Boeing 757-200.





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Hidden Lake

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www.TheHiddenLakeCommunity.com



TRA LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM PRESENTS

CADDIES *for* CARDS

An exclusive event held to raise funds for the TRA Livestock Judging Team to aid in travel and contest expenses. This year's STATE CHAMPIONS will be traveling to Louisville, KY for the National Competition.

SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2023 || DEVIL'S THUMB GOLF COURSE || DELTA, CO

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Hole Sponsor, team of four

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Hole Sponsor

MIDWAY MIND TEAM \$250

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One person entry & shared cart
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Kali Fassett 970.749.5592 || Chad Mitchell 970.270.7923 || Brad Fassett 970.759.5430

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

CAROLE ANN (HALE) SCHMALZ ***March 27, 1941 - August 23, 2023***

CAROLE ANN (HALE) SCHMALZ departed this world on August 23, 2023. She was born on March 27, 1941, to Don L. Hale and Erma L. (Bronaugh) Hale. In her mother's words, "She was so cute with lots of dark hair...We were so proud of Carole that we even had 'discussions' about who got to carry her..."

They were a very happy family and soon added a sister, Francie, with whom she would share a room and a full and busy life. Carole was involved in Girl Scouts, band, swimming, plays and Rainbow Girls. As a family they went camping a lot, spent weekends waterskiing in the summer and snowmobiling in the winter. They also frequently traveled to Kansas to see family and Carole was especially close to her cousin Bonnie. She graduated from Montrose High School in 1959.

That same year she met and married Albert Schmalz. She was actually dating his cousin, but Al stole her away! They would go on to have four children: Cindy, Don, Steve and Brian. The family traditions of camping, waterskiing, snowmobiling and enjoying each other's company were always a high priority.

Carole loved to sew and, in fact, continued to make clothing all the way through multiple grandchildren. She also enjoyed many craft projects and almost always had a project going. We all have received many hand-made items over the years. She also gardened and painted oil paintings. She kept an immaculate house as her mother before her. She was close to her mother

and cared for her for many years after the loss of her father in 1990.

During the years of raising her young family, she also worked outside of the home. Most of those years she worked in the Montrose School system libraries as an aide for almost 24 years. She retired in 1997. She loved that work and continued to shush people even at the most recent care home.

Carole has many lifelong friends who will especially mourn her passing. Many of them she grew up with. The friends went often to plays, craft shows, movies, lunches, open houses, and many get togethers. She cherished them all. As couples, they would go out to dinner and then back to the house for cards, dominos and other games. She liked to organize gatherings and celebrations. One of her very favorite things was using her computer to make cards for everyone she knew. And she loved her pets!

She was proud of being a Colorado native and she spent most of her adult life in Montrose in the home she and Al had built. They spent a lot of time making the home into a place they loved. She was especially happy with her screened-in patio. They truly valued family and friends and visited them as much as they could. Camping together was also a favorite activity. Sadly, after over 52 years of marriage, she lost Al to lung cancer in 2012. She would struggle on, but life never would be the same.

Eventually, it became apparent that she

could no longer live on her own. She moved to Colorado Springs in 2020 where her three sons and their families could be near. She adored seeing her great grandchildren and always had the biggest smiles for them. The long goodbye and watching her lose her memories was sometimes hard but there were still many moments of joy. She was especially pleased when her 'second sister' Millie visited her recently. Her family is grateful for the extended time we had with her.

Carole was preceded in death by her beloved parents and her sweetheart Albert. She was blessed in not remembering losing her mother in 2020 at the age of 101. She is survived by her sister Francie (Gary Barnes) and their two girls. Her children grew up strong, independent, and loving people, the product of a wonderful set of parents. Her children are Cindy (Pat Wigley) with three children and four grandchildren, Don (Caroline Coup) with one child and two grandchildren, Steve (Bobbie Hueser) with three children and two grandchildren, and Brian (Alisha Bristol) with four children.



CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

CHARLES ADAM BURCH



CHARLES ADAM BURCH passed, unexpectedly, on August 24, 2023 at the age of 52. Charlie was born in 1971 and raised on a ranch west of Olathe. He

attended the Olathe schools and graduated high school in 1989. From early childhood he enjoyed taking things apart to see

what made them work. This interest afforded him a lifetime of eclectic career moves involving machinery of all makes and sizes. He was naturally a good hand with horses and cattle. His artistic side shone through his carpentry. Refurbishing older homes, or new construction, his work was beautifully done. Charlie was energetic and willing to work. His quick wit and humor made him fun to work with and afforded him lasting friendships wherever he went.

Surviving are five children: Kyle, Christopher and Devin McCaw, Trevor Franks and Carly Lee, also his beloved

grandchildren and stepchildren. Also surviving are his father Ron Burch, sister Loretta Vickers and brothers Ivan Burch and Michael Burch and their families. As well as numerous friends and family members. He is predeceased by his grandparents Leonard and Helen Burch; mother Jackie White; and brother Allen Burch. A celebration of life will be held on September 5, at the Pea Green Community Hall at Banner Road & Hwy 348, west of Olathe. We'll gather at 1pm with a meal at 2pm. Condolences may be mailed in care of: Crippin Funeral Home at 802 E. Main, Montrose 81401.

SAMUEL SILVO DEJULIO *January 13, 1927-August 26, 2023*

Sam was born in the wayside stop of Noelle, Colorado (Placerville). He was raised on Dallas Divide ranch with his five sisters and three brothers. There they built a house and lived many years. After they moved to Montrose, Colorado He became one of Jehovah's Witnesses, being baptized at Orvis Hot springs in Ridgway, Colorado on March 29, 1949 with several of his siblings. He attended the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Montrose, Co.

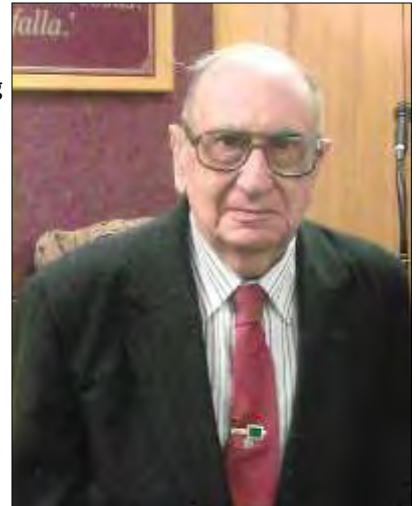
There he met and married Eileen Simmons and shortly thereafter moved to Odessa, Texas. Sam worked for Western Wireline a number of years and retired from there with awards.

Sam lived a lifetime of service to his God Jehovah. He served a prison sentence for conscience objection on Mt Lemon, Az in the 50s. He served as an elder in both Montrose and Caprock congregations where he was Service and Accounts overseer. Interred in Grand View Cemetery, Montrose, Colorado

He has especially been cherished by the Caprock Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses where he attended by zoom right up to his death.

He wanted so much to walk into the New World with them!

We are sure Sam will be there...



CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



ISSUE 434 Sept. 4, 2023

ART & SOL

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

By Dr. Arlyn Macdonald

MONTROSE—Most often we want peace to come to us from the outside world. We want the other person to stop disturbing our peace. We want our family members to stop bickering and leave us alone. We want our young people to stop choosing violence so we can have safe schools and cities. We want the government to pass laws to make our country peaceful. We want all the other countries to stop fighting against each other so we can have a world of peace.

Seldom do we think about the place where real peace begins – within each of us. We are so busy being riled up by what someone else has said or what we believe that they believe that we forget we are not in peace. The first thing that happens in most situations is that we strike out, either with unkind words or physical violence without thinking. We want everyone to believe as we do and follow our rules, our logic, and our actions. Then, we assume the world will be perfect and at peace.

Where is the peace in these kinds of actions? There is no peace.

William Hazlitt said, “Those who are at war with others are not at peace with themselves.” We can’t force other people to be in peace, we can only change ourselves, and become an instrument for peace.

Finding peace within should be our focus, for as the Peace Pilgrim taught, “When

you find peace within yourself, you become the kind of person who can be at peace with others.” How can we find peace within? First, by setting our intention to be a peaceful person. This is the framework for our lives – being a peaceful person.

Being a peaceful person includes stopping the war within yourself. Be mindful of the words you speak to yourself; make them peaceful, uplifting words filled with gratitude. Praise your accomplishments. Forgive yourself for past mistakes. Take a pause to return to peace.

Pausing for peace is a technique anyone can use. When you realize that you are thinking thoughts that are not peaceful, pause for peace, go back to center, and reframe the thoughts to ones of peace. When you feel your emotions getting riled up, pause for peace, ask yourself why you are moving away from peace, take time to discover the way back to peace, and follow it back to your Center of Peace.

When you want to lash out with words or get louder or shout to make your point, pause for peace before you speak. Is there a quieter, kinder, more peaceful way to communicate? How can you say what you want to say without starting an argument? Discussions can be exciting and inspiring. Arguments bring everyone down and often create violence. Pause for peace before you speak. Pausing for peace creates room for resolutions and problem solving.



Peace Pole in Montrose. Photo by B. Switzer.

People love to write letters to the editor, blogs, opinions on social media, and on other platforms that tear down, insult, create turmoil, and make the other person a scapegoat for frustration and blame. The Internet is helpful in so many ways, but it is also used to promote hatred and distrust and separation. None of which is a way to peace. Mahatma Gandhi said, “An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind.”

Someone pointed out recently that when we engage in these kinds of unpeaceful

Continued next pg

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE From previous pg

thoughts and words and actions, we are adding to the hate and distrust of the collective thinking of the world. Did you realize that every thought you have, word you speak, and deed you accomplish, has an effect on the world? Are you adding to the world's problems or are you helping to make the world a better and more peaceful place in which to live?

And what are we teaching our children? Gandhi also said, "If we are to teach real

peace in this world... we shall have to begin with the children." What are we teaching and modeling to our children. Love? Kindness to one another? The way to live in peace? Children are born with peace in their souls and then we shame them into losing it by teaching them about war. How sad for them and how sad for this world and the world to come.

But we can make a difference – NOW. By choosing to pause for peace and to re-

frame our thoughts and words and actions toward peace, we can do our part to help change the world.

The more peace we send out to the world, the more peace we will have. Let's join with all those who stand together for peace.

"All we are saying is give peace a chance."
– John Lennon.

September is Peace Month with the International Day of Peace on September 21st.





NOTHING LIKE TED'S FOR A DINNER OUT IN OUR HOMETOWN

By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE -- My son and I were looking for a tasty bite the other night and of course, Ted's Steakhouse came to mind. I love going to Ted's because they have the tastiest "dirty" martini around. Vodka please, three olives and dirty. Yumm! Now, we weren't TOO hungry, so we decided to order from the appetizer menu. More than enough and always tasty. I ordered two; the Prime Rib Crostini: Toasted garlic-rubbed baguette slices with crumbled Bleu cheese, prime rib, red onion and a drizzle of au jus (\$15), and he got an order of Bruschetta: Toasted baguette slices topped with tomato, basil, garlic and olive oil sprinkled with parmesan cheese (\$10)- We both ordered a bowl of the house soup that night, a lobster bisque.

I ordered the rolled eggplant appetizer and it was so yummy and very filling. Love eggplant! Even though we ordered only appetizers for dinner, the waitress brought us each a small dessert sampler – a Ted's tradition. Not only that, we were seated by none other than Ted himself! There are many more choices here and if you are hungrier than we were then go for it!

Appetizers:

Eggplant Roll-Ups, Thinly sliced eggplant lightly fried, rolled around cream cheese & basil plated with marinara sauce (\$10); Prime Rib Crostini, toasted garlic-rubbed baguette slices with crumbled Bleu cheese, prime rib, red onion and a drizzle of au jus (\$15); Stuffed mushrooms, Italian sausage, spinach and cheese (\$10); Shrimp cocktail, four jumbo shrimp line a chilled glass of cocktail sauce for dipping (\$15); Oysters on the half shell, six raw East Coast oysters served on the half shell (\$15); Oysters Rockefeller, a half-dozen East Coast oysters crowned with a spinach-bread crumb blend, then baked (\$18); Crispy chicken wings, deep-fried seasoned chicken wings, served with hand-crafted bleu cheese dressing for dipping. If you want it spicier ask. (\$14); Bruschetta, toasted baguette slices topped with toma-



to, basil, garlic and olive oil sprinkled with parmesan cheese (\$10); and Cheese quesadilla, a large flour tortilla is stuffed with a blend of mild cheeses and grilled to achieve a melty goodness. Served with fresh Pico de Gallo. (\$10-14)

Dinner Entrees:

Entrées include: potato (baked, mashed, fresh-cut fries, sweet potato fries), rice or pasta; includes vegetables; and your choice of soup or salad. Sirloin: This marinated 8-ounce sirloin is back on the menu due to popular demand! (\$30); A 7-ounce grilled Certified Angus Beef filet (\$46); Rib Eye 13-ounces (\$43); 10-ounces (\$40) 14-ounces (\$43) of hand-carved Certified Angus Beef Prime Rib, served with au-jus and creamy horseradish. (\$40/43); Chicken fried steak, tenderized certified Angus beef steak, lightly seasoned, pan-fried and topped with cream gravy (\$23); BBQ baby back ribs, slow roasted pork ribs brushed with house BBQ sauce then finished on the grill. Half or full rack of ribs. (\$30-35); Tuscan Stuffed Chicken, moist chicken breast is stuffed with Italian sausage, sun-dried tomatoes and cheeses. Roasted and finished with a brandy cream sauce (\$25); Grilled chicken breast, grilled or add blackened seasoning (\$18); Chicken fried chicken, chicken breast, slightly tenderized, hand battered then golden pan-fried and crowned with house gravy (\$22); Chicken (or Shrimp) Alfredo primavera, juicy chicken breast chunks in a classic alfredo sauce with a handful of seasonal veggies, served on al dente pasta. (\$22-28) shrimp is an extra \$6; Walleye, a freshwater fish prepared with a Southern seasoning and pan-fried (\$28); Stuffed salmon, an 8-ounce salmon fillet stuffed with a blend of lump crabmeat, chopped shrimp, cream cheese,

a touch of dill then baked. (\$XX); Salmon Fillet, fillet of salmon is prepared grilled or blackened (\$25); Gulf Shrimp, choice of sautéed in butter and garlic or lightly breaded and deep-fried (\$25); Lobster tail, added by popular demand... 4-ounce cold-water lobster tail. Order 1 or 2! (\$22-36); also there is a choice of adding to any entrée (Add shrimp (chilled, sautéed, or fried for \$4/each; add lobster to any entrée for \$17; or add Oscar ~ lump crab/asparagus/béarnaise to any entrée for \$8.

Lighter Dinner:

Prime Rib Sandwich, the house prime rib atop a toasted bun with rich au jus (\$20); The Burger, a Certified Angus beef patty served on a toasted bun. Add mild cheddar, Swiss cheese, mushrooms or grilled onions: \$.50 each. (\$16); Grilled Chicken sandwich, served on a toasted bun (\$16); Portobello Stir-fry, portabella mushroom and a mix of seasonal veggies all stir-fried together (\$20).

Soup & Salad:

Garden Salad, comes topped with your choice of: (1) sirloin steak; 2) chilled shrimp 3) chicken; or 4) salmon (\$20) or choose a side salad of Caesar or a tossed salad (\$6);

Dressing choices: Bleu cheese, Bleu cheese vinaigrette, Caesar, French, ginger-sesame vinaigrette, honey mustard, Italian, raspberry vinaigrette, ranch or thousand island.

Soup of the Day (\$6)

Dessert:

At Ted's all guests are treated to a diminutive dessert on the house at the end of the meal. Choices vary by day.

Ted's Steakhouse is located at 103 Rose Lane, Montrose, CO 81401. For reservations (suggested) call 970-252-0262.



Mosaic Montrose Alcohol Ink

Thur. Sept 7
5:30-7:30 pm

No experience necessary. Mistakes encouraged.

with Kate Burke

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or soft drink
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Instructor will have a variety of frames for sale at class.



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<https://kathrynrburke.com/product/090723ink/>

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Member of the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains and the 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 Preston Gordon.

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 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. Mission statement: Restoring Hope.

Mission statement: Restoring Hope.

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, in-

form@fpcmontrose.com,

www.fpcmontrose.com

Pastor: Jesse Mabanglo

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

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

Office Hours: Tues-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.

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Denomination: Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)

Address: 2405 Sunnyside Road, Montrose 970-249-4868

Contact: [ststephensmont-](http://ststephensmontrose.com)

rose@yahoo.com

www.ststephensmontrose.com

Rev. Dec. Garrett Agajanian

St. Stephen's is a community of caring Christians rooted in the godly traditions of the past, focused on the challenges of the

present, hopeful for the future, continuing in the Faith once delivered to the saints, using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

Sunday: Holy Communion 10 am.

Fellowship following service.

Children's nursery available (unstaffed).

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Senior Pastor: John DeSario

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) up to retired individuals. During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to Kindergarten, in a kid friendly room called Base Camp. We also have a children's activity during our Monday night adult Bible study. We meet for prayer at the church every Wed. at 6:30.

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?

Local Immunization Providers



Visit www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations for updated information on immunization providers.
Questions? Call (970) 252-5011



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GOLD! AND THE GOLD MINE THAT SAVED THE TOWN OF OURAY



Bachelor Mine. Courtesy photo.



Camp Bird Mine. Courtesy photo.

By Kathryn R. Burke

UNITED STATES-Gold! Just the sound of the word inspired (and still inspires) Gold Fever. Which inevitably led to a...Gold Rush. At a time when the world's money supply was based on gold, the mineral provided economic stimulus far beyond the goldfields, feeding into local and wider economic booms. Gold Rushes helped spur waves of immigration that often led to the permanent settlement of new regions. Activities propelled by gold rushes define significant aspects of the culture of the North American Frontiers. Historians have written extensively about the mass migration, trade, colonization, and environmental history associated with gold rushes.

HISTORIC GOLD RUSHES

While we all know about the digging for gold in the San Juans, and the settlements that followed, we were neither the first nor the last place to attract hordes of hopeful gold hunters.

The first significant gold rush in the United States was near Charlotte, North Carolina in 1799, and it was responsible for setting the gold standard for our currency. A young boy playing in the river discovered a chunk of gold about the size of a shoe that weighed 17 pounds. A few years later, his father, John Reed, developed placer mining, then underground mining on the river and founded Reed's Gold Mine.

Reed, and others also successfully mining for gold, became wealthy and began to use gold as currency. To stabilize the country's economy, President Andrew Jackson authorized the creation of the

U.S. Mint. The Charlotte Mint was the first facility, and the Reed Gold Mine, the first gold mine in the country, became a National Historic Landmark.

Thirty years later, gold was discovered in Georgia, in the southern Appalachian Mountains. It was reported that the boomtown gold camps in the area supported 15,000 miners at its peak. The Philadelphia Mint received \$1,098,900 in gold from Georgia between 1830 and 1837. When the veins petered out around 1840, boomtowns went bust and miners headed west.

Gold was discovered in the Sierra Nevada's in 1848, leading to the California Gold Rush, which lasted until 1855. Miners were followed by waves of settlers, who quickly populated the area. In 1850, California became the 31st state in the union. As more gold was found, and people were willing to brave the often unfriendly and uninhabitable areas of the west, gold hunters headed for British Columbia, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, eastern Oregon, western New Mexico Territory, Arizona, the Rocky Mountains in Colorado, and Alaska, where the last great gold rush, the Klondike Gold Rush took place in 1896-1899. The most successful North American Gold Rush was the Porcupine Gold Rush in Ontario, Canada. Peaking in the 1940s and 1950s, and still active today, gold deposits at that mine are one of the largest in the world.

In Colorado, deposits of gold and silver were discovered in 1860 along the Animas River, when Charles Baker and several other prospectors searched for the pre-

cious metals. May prospectors left during the Civil War and did not return to the area until the early 1870's. The fact that the discoveries were on Ute Indian land, and the San Juans were mostly uninhabitable in winter, did not stop an influx of prospectors. Baker and his party went on to found Baker's Park, now Silverton, in San Juan County. Historians estimate the area's total production, through 1959 when the last mine closed, was between 874,000 and 1 million ounces.

OURAY

Prospectors first arrived in the Ouray area in 1861 and discovered placer gold in the canyon that would later be the site of the town of Ouray. Because of the isolation and ruggedness of the San Juan Mountains, combined with the ever-present danger of conflicts with the Ute tribes, the region developed slowly. The first gold mines were established at the Ouray site in 1875, and the initial settlement and mining district was named "Uncompahgre."

Several gold veins were established in the area with the most notable being the Una and Gertrude discovered in the Imogen Basin by George Barber and William Weston in 1877. At its height the region boasted 30 active mines. Gold fever had attracted thousands of miners, who were followed by families and support businesses.

The Town of Ouray was incorporated in 1876. By the early 1880s, Ouray had established itself as the second most prominent town in the San Juan region, behind Silverton. By 1890, when the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad reached Ouray, the town had over 2,500 residents. Both towns have many historic buildings remaining from the 1880s because they were built of brick and stone, rather than wood, thus avoiding the catastrophic fires that destroyed so many mining towns. Both communities also had volunteer fire departments. (Annual 4th of July contests between the fire departments is still prevalent today.)

Gold came first, then silver, but it was gold that kept the town going. The Bachelor Mine, on Gold Hill in the Paquin Mining

GOLD! AND THE GOLD MINE THAT SAVED THE TOWN OF OURAY *From previous pg*

District (just north of Ouray, above Dexter Creek) was established in 1884 by Charlie Armstrong, a prospector, and George Hurlburt, a surveyor. Their friend, J. Frank Sanders, a speculator, bought in. The three men loved a good time and were known to bet on almost anything—even which raindrop would be the first to make it to the bottom of a windowpane. Sander's gamble paid off when the gold mine also hit a huge silver vein.

For nearly a century, the Bachelor was one of the region's strongest and most reliable producers. During its heyday, ore worth \$200 to \$500 a ton shipped out from the Bachelor Switch, a railroad siding below the mine. A town called Ash sprang up near the main portal. It got its name from the first letters of the last names of the original owners: Armstrong, Sanders, and Hurlburt. Ash is gone now, but the town's remains can still be seen along Red Canyon Creek, now called Dexter Creek.

BOOM TO BUST, THE SILVER PANIC OF 1893

Gold remained the currency basis until the Bland-Alison Act of 1878, which established silver as the standard basis. This was good for Colorado, where silver production through the 1880s remained steady at above 10 million ounces. The state's gold production was only one third as valuable (or less).

But the glut in the silver market caused silver's value to drop 25 percent near the end of the decade. Worried mine owners appealed to Congress for help. The result was the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890, requiring the government to buy 4.5 million ounces of silver each month. This increased the government's silver purchase by 50 percent and was a boon to Colorado and other silver-mining states.

Their request backfired. Colorado's mines were going strong, but the nation was on the brink of economic collapse, partly due to the draining of gold in the US treasury

from the Silver Purchase Act, compounded by years of agricultural depression (partly caused by the McKinley Tariff act that same year, 1890, which drove up prices for farm equipment and decreased prices for agricultural products). Seeking to stimulate the national economy, President Grover Cleveland and Congress repealed the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in October 1893, causing what became known as the Silver Panic of 1893. Overnight, the value of silver dropped by about one-third. The repeal devastated Colorado. Altogether, more than 9,500 jobs dried up in mining towns across the state. The Panic of 1893 produced the worst economic depression in US history to that point. The effects of the economic depression caused by the Panic of 1893 did not fade until 1897.

GOLD SAVED OURAY

Like many prosperous mining cities in Colorado, Ouray hit hard times after the repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act. Several prominent businesses closed, including the Bank of Ouray. Many men were out of work as many of the local silver mines halted production.

But mining for gold continued and Ouray survived largely because of it. Although gold had first been discovered north of Ouray, those veins had mostly dried up. The Yankee Girl Mine, south of town, was one of the earliest gold mines established in Ouray. The mine was very productive producing over \$8 million worth of gold. Meanwhile, large quantities of gold had been discovered in the Paquin Mining District northeast of town. The area became known as the "Gold Belt." (Also the name of an infamous bar and bordello in town.) Thanks to mines like the American Nettie, Bachelor, and Wedge mines, by 1895, Ouray began to recover. Many silver mines in nearby districts had some gold content, helping them operate profitably even when silver prices were low.

It also helped that two of the richest mines in the West were nearby: the Revenue and Camp Bird. These mines employed hundreds of men each and kept Ouray humming as a supply center and rail hub for the mountain operations.

In 1897, Walsh acquired the Una and Gertrude Veins and later established the Camp Bird Mine. It was soon turning out \$5,000 a day (equivalent to \$176,000 in 2022). Wash built a twenty-stamp mill for the mine and donated over \$30,000 for the construction of the new City Hall and Library building. He also built a library in Silverton and bought the Hope Diamond for his daughter, now part of a collection at the Smithsonian. Walsh sold the mine to the Camp Bird Limited in 1902. The Mine had produced over a million ounces of gold by 1916.

By 1900, Ouray's population had been reduced to 2,196 residents. While this figure reflected some of the economic hard times related to the decline in the silver industry, the reduction in population was far less than seen in mining towns of other districts. Gold saved Ouray. Its economy did not depend on silver, so it continued to prosper.

In the 1920s, a new tunnel at the Bachelor mine, financed by investors from Syracuse, N.Y., was driven to access the Bachelor's old workings from below. Dubbed the Syracuse, the Mine was renamed the Bachelor Syracuse. It is that tunnel that is open to mine tour visitors, who can take a tour today 1,500 feet into Gold Mountain.

The Bachelor Syracuse Mine Tour looks and feels like the real thing—because it is the real thing.

Open May 26 through Oct. 10. For more information, or to book a tour, visit the website, <https://bachelorsyracusemine.com/tours/tour-information/> For story with references and footnotes, please visit the author's website, <https://kathrynburke.com/gold/>



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SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

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 Field House on the corner of Colorado Avenue and Rio Grande Avenue at Noon.

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP For anyone who has lost a loved one. Join at any time. Meets every Tuesday from 6:30-8:30pm for 13 weeks beginning Aug. 1st. (Aug. 1 thru Oct. 24) at Rosemont Baptist Church 1598 E. Niagara Rd. Montrose, CO 81401

Register at: RosemontBaptist.org/events/griefshare or call at (970)249-4887

FREE THINKERS meet 1st Sunday of the month for information call 970 417-4183

RIDGWAY FARMERS MARKET at Hartwell Park, May 26-Oct. 13-Fridays from 10am to 2pm. Please note that during the second week of August, the market will be held on Thursday, August 10th not Friday, August 11th due to the Ridgway Rendezvous.

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; 11 am Monday, September 4, 2023; 12 pm and 2 pm Saturday, September 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.

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

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

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. More info call Tom 970 260 8298.

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.)

MONTHLY

Aug 2- Sept 6-Mindful Communication-A six-week class teaching you how to use mindfulness to communicate effectively and peacefully so that we can all be heard even if we think differently. Wednesdays 7-8pm \$100/6 week class. Contact: 719-293-4600 newleafmindfulness.com/group-classes

Sept. 6-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Officer Jason Hewitt of the Montrose city police force sharing the history of Montrose as presented to new officers recruited and hired. Officer Hewitt shares, with pride, the history and development of Montrose in such a way, new officers recruited from other parts of areas are as well versed in the town's history, culture and growth. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available.

Sept. 9-The Community is Invited to attend a **Colorado Legislator Meet and Mingle** Saturday, Sept. 9, 1pm at the Montrose County Events Center - Meeting Rm #4, 1036 N. 7th Street, Montrose. Senators Perry Will- SD5, Cleave Simpson- SD6, HD58 Representative Marc Catlin. Each will give a legislative update and discuss their plans for 2024.

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

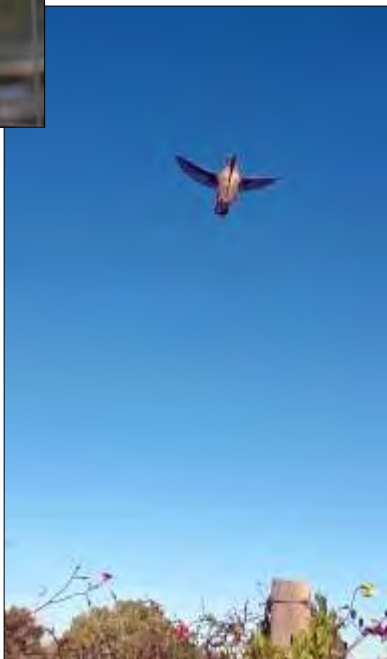
Sept. 20-The Colorado Archaeological Society is presenting a hard-hitting program about why our fragile prehistoric rock art is worth protecting, how to enjoy visiting it, and how to help to protect it from harm. Speakers are Steve and Diana Acerson. They are residents of Utah, and active members of the Utah Rock Art Research Association, who have dedicated their time to documenting, protecting, and enjoying local rock art. The public is invited, 7 pm, Sept. 20 at Montrose United Methodist Church, 19 S. Park Street.

Sept. 20-Montrose Adult Education Center is celebrating its 50th year of serving the Montrose community and beyond. We are having an open house Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 3 – 7 pm. We'd like anyone who has previously been a part of the program whether as student, staff, volunteer and/or supported us in any way to attend. The community is also invited. Our current location is in the basement of Zion Lutheran Church (701 S. Junction Avenue). Entry is from the back parking lot (off S. 7th Street).

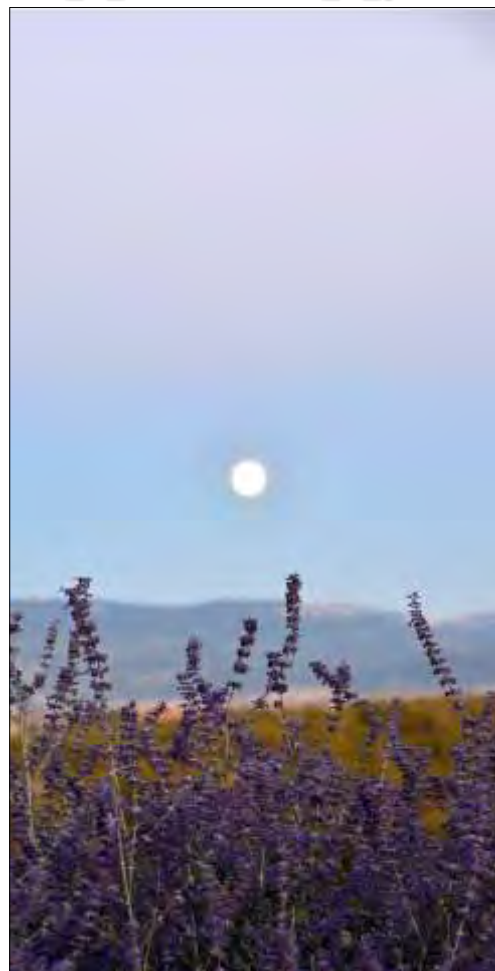
Sept. 21-West Region Wildfire Council's next All Areas Meeting will be on Sept. 21 from 1-3 pm at the Uncompahgre Room, 2505 S Townsend Ave in Montrose (south end of the north / BLM building).



At left, a Hummingbird among the Cardinal Climbers.
"They are amazing and beautiful birds. I miss them after they leave in the fall but happily anticipate their spring return as do so many others," Deb said.



Above, Deb's pups Nugget and Noodle, nose deep in wildflowers near the Bullion King Mine; a Hummingbird in flight. Photos by Deb Reimann.



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