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the Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 551 Sept. 18 2023

HONEY ACRE FARM STAND TO CLOSE SEPT. 22, AS FALL BRINGS PUMPKIN PATCH AND HAUNTED CORN MAZE

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-This has been a great summer for the Honey Acre Farm Produce Stand. With everything from fresh peaches, melons, corn and tomatoes to homemade jams, the small stand at 1520 East Oak Grove Road has drawn appreciative shoppers throughout the season.

A big attraction this year has been the Mirai sweet corn, Jamie English said. "It's been a wonderful crop," she said, "and we had a really good season."

Opening week, they could not pick the corn fast enough. "We were sold out every day by noon," English said. "It has gotten so popular it sells itself."

Customers come not only from Montrose, but from Colorado Springs, Glenwood Springs, and beyond. Some folks from Rifle have come to Montrose five times in recent months for the Mirai, English said. One couple even drives here from Texas every summer; this year they came to pick up 70 dozen ears with a horse trailer in tow. "They freeze it and take it all back to Texas."

[Continued pg 2](#)



A big attraction this year has been the Mirai sweet corn. Courtesy photo.

RED HAWKS CRUSH BULLDOGS 42-0

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-There is nothing like a fast start to set the tone in a high school football game. The Montrose Red Hawks football team traveled to Grand Junction and delivered a knock-out blow in the first fifteen seconds of the contest.

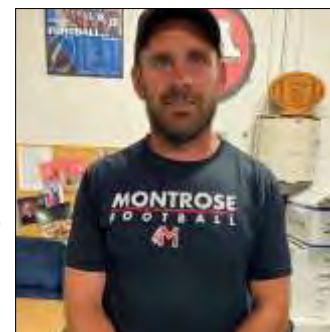
The Red Hawks lost the coin toss and received the opening kickoff. Senior Austin Zimmer fielded the ball at his own 18 yard line and proceeded to bob and weave his way through the Palisade defenders 82 yards for the Red Hawks first touchdown of the game. The Red Hawks led 7-0 just 15 seconds into the contest.

The Palisade offense had extreme difficulty in coping with the Red Hawks defense and punted after three ineffective running plays. The Red Hawks opened up their passing game and after a couple of incomplete passes, quarterback Gage Wareham was intercepted at the 23 yard line thus ending the Red Hawks threat.

The Bulldogs held the football for 8 plays gaining 16 yards before being forced to punt the football back to the Red Hawks who drove 60 yards in 10 plays with quarterback Gage Wareham lugging the rock the final 5 yards for the touchdown. Junior Zack Motley successfully kicked the extra point making the score 14-0 just into the second quarter of action.

The Red Hawk defense rose up once again and forced the Bulldogs to punt. The Red Hawks put together an 11 play drive resulting in an 8 yard touchdown run by Austin Zimmer, his second TD, increasing the score to 21-0 in favor of the Red Hawks.

The Red Hawks defense again forced a three and out by the Bulldogs as the Hawks



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[Re-1j Hears District Safety Team Presentation!](#)

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

[Kate Burke: Lanoue Dubois – the Family and the Winery](#)

FALL BRINGS PUMPKIN PATCH, HAUNTED CORN MAZE From pg 1

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Still, "The cantaloupes are just as delicious," English said. "They melt in your mouth."

Also popular are the homemade jams that Jamie has been making since 2007, with flavors that include strawberry-peach and cherry pie. "It has just gone hog wild," she said. "This year I made 1,000 of each size. We've had an amazingly good summer."

The farm stand will close for the summer on Sept. 22 but the Fall fun has just begun, as Honey Acre Farms welcomes visitors to the farm (61601 Spring Creek Road) for the annual Pumpkin Patch and first annual corn maze, English said. The Pumpkin Patch will be open daily (10am to 6pm) from Sept. 28-Oct. 31.

There will be no admission charge to the pumpkin patch for families, with all pumpkins \$5.

Admission to the corn maze will be free to the under-threes, and \$5 for kids ages 4 to 12. Admission for ages 10 and over will be \$10. The Haunted Corn Maze will run from 6pm to Mid-night, with admission \$15.

"It's going to be so much fun!" English said. "I love wrapping up the season with a pumpkin patch. It's affordable for families. This year we've got a 12-foot grim reaper that talks and laughs.

"I'm really excited!"

Visit the Honey Acre Farm [facebook page](#) or call 970-901-8604 for information.



THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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CORRECTION-

Most recent news brief for Folk Legacy Trio listed the single price ticket at the door as \$20. however the single price ticket at the door is \$25.00.

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INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION ISSUES BOWMAN DECISION

Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-Colorado's Independent Ethics Commission has released its decision on the Bowman Ethics Complaint filed in 2020.

Background-On July 6, 2020, Montrose restaurateur Janece Culver and the Western Slope Advocate (Scott Damman) filed a complaint with the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission concerning actions taken by Dave Bowman, who was then Mayor of Montrose.

The complaint alleged that on July 5, Aug. 2, and Sept. 6 of 2019, "Then Montrose Mayor and current City Councilor Dave Bowman dictated a fee to be paid by Janece Culver's business, Divot's restaurant, during the City of Montrose sponsored Montrose Summer Music Series (MSMS).

"Bowman used his position and power of office for monetary gain. In addition, as Mayor, Bowman dictated payment terms in a

fashion that was considered intimidating by Culver..."

The Commission voted unanimously to deem the complaint as non-frivolous on Aug. 18, 2020. Bowman's response was filed by Attorney Margaret Carey; the respondent was represented at two hearings on the matter by local attorney Brian Kidnay.

Findings: The Commission issued its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on Sept. 11, 2023.

Decision- Read the full text of the IEC decision here. Below are significant findings:

69. Respondent undoubtedly had a personal or private interest in MSMS by virtue of his work for, compensation received from, and directorship of that non-profit.

70. However, even if the Commission were to find that Respondent's interest in MSMS required his recusal on matters involving the Black Canyon Golf Course's concessionaire,

Respondent was absent for the only vote taken by the Montrose City Council—approval of Divot's liquor license at the April 16, 2019, City Council meeting. And there was no evidence presented at hearing that Respondent attempted to influence the votes of other council members at that meeting. 71. Accordingly, Respondent did not violate § 24-18-109(3)(a), C.R.S.

According to the website, the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission -- created by voter initiative in November 2006--hears ethics complaints and is authorized to impose penalties. IEC jurisdiction includes state senators and representatives, local government officials, government employees, and elected office holders. The IEC includes Chair Cole Wist; Vice Chair Sarah Mercer; Commissioner Elizabeth Espinosa Krupa; Commissioner Lora Thomas; and Commissioner Daniel Wolf.

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AESTHETICS

By Cedar Point Health

MONTROSE COMMUNITY DINNERS IS SEEKING A NEW KITCHEN MANAGER/CHEF

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-For more than 40 years, the volunteers of Montrose Community Dinners have been preparing, cooking, and setting the table for community members on Thanksgiving Day. The once-a-year congregate meal is always welcoming and delicious, feeding body and soul for many who attend.

The non-profit's web site shares how it all began, "In 1980, Pastor John DeSanto of the United Presbyterian Church in Montrose, was challenged by a young intern to organize a free Thanksgiving Dinner for "people living alone, or wanting to meet new friends, or people passing through

without a place to go, or people out of work, or people wanting to share their Thanksgiving goodies with others."

This year, Montrose Community Dinners is seeking a new Kitchen Manager/Chef, as longtime volunteer Holly Padilla steps down.

"We are losing our Kitchen Manager," Board of Directors Chair and meal "Prep Dude" Kevin Kuns said. "We need someone to work with her this year, to carry on this tradition."

It's no small job--in 2022, Montrose Community Dinners served 2,500 meals. "It has become quite an event," Kuns said. Someone who is experienced with large



Courtesy photo Montrose Community Dinners.

volume meal preparation and with volunteers would be ideal. Still, "It's not stressful," Kuns said. "We actually really have fun."

The Kitchen Manager is a voting member of the Board of Directors of Montrose Community Dinners, Kuns said, and is responsible for ordering, preparing, and cooking food. The Kitchen Manager is responsible for maintenance of all equipment and supplies used in the preparation of the meal, and coordinates each step in the process of serving meals to the community on Thanksgiving Day.

Other requirements of the volunteer position include attending monthly meetings from August until October, meeting every other week in October, and meeting weekly in November. The week of Thanksgiving, the Kitchen Manager must be available from Saturday through Friday to oversee food preparation, cooking, inventory, and clean-up. The daily schedule can begin as early as 7am and go as late as 2pm. Thanksgiving Day duties start at 6am and continue until all food is served, distributed, and/or stored, and the kitchen has been cleaned.

"Flexibility is a must, as timelines can change from day to day."

To learn more about the Kitchen Manager position please contact Holly Padilla at 970-729-1287 or email hollype@hotmail.com.



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RED HAWKS CRUSH BULLDOGS 42-0

From pg 1

took possession at the Palisade 40 yard line. Junior running back Aiden Grijalva took a hand-off and sprinted 40 yards untouched into the end zone for the Red Hawks fourth touchdown increasing the score to 28-0 at the half.

The second half proved more of the same for the Red Hawks. Senior Blake Griffin scored twice in the third period. He capped a 9 play drive with a 4-yard touchdown scamper. When the Red Hawks scored their fifth touchdown making the score 35-0 the so-called "mercy rule" kicked in allowing the clock to continue to run, shortening the game.

The Bulldogs attempted to convert a fourth down deep in their own territory and turned the ball over to the Red Hawks at the Palisade 15 yard line. Griffin scored his second touchdown as he plowed 15 yard into the end zone for the score increasing the score to 42-0.

The victory improved the Red Hawks overall record to 2-2 while the Bulldogs dropped to 0-4. The 4A rankings will continue to fluctuate given wins, losses and major upsets.

The Lutheran Lions will invade Montrose next Friday evening, Sept. 22 with the kick-off scheduled for 7 p.m.

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RE-1J HEARS DISTRICT SAFETY TEAM PRESENTATION

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education President Sarah Fishing called the regular board meeting of Tuesday, Sept. 12 to order at 6:30pm. Also present were District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, and District D Director Tom West. Board Vice President Eric Kelley was absent.

Fishing led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance; the board voted to approve the meeting agenda.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Montrose High School Senior and Student Body President Jack Flower presented the Student Spotlight in the absence of RE-1J Public Information Officer Matt Jenkins. Flower reviewed recent activities in RE-1J schools, including the recent unveiling of the new Peak Academy mascot, the Peak Pica. MHS Homecoming week is Sept. 18-23. "The week is packed with events," Flower said. The Homecoming Parade will be Friday, Sept. 22 at 3pm on Main Street Parade.

Also, Student council will hold a Trunk or Treat event this year.

RECOGNITION AND DONATIONS

The September 2023 KREX Golden Apple Award was awarded to Johnson Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher Shanda Bray.

DONATIONS

RE-1J has received the following donations:

- The City of Montrose and Montrose Police Department held a school supply drive and provided several boxes of supplies for students.

- Community Options ran a school supply drive at multiple locations in Montrose, Olathe. and Delta and collected several boxes of supplies for students.

- Charities Aid Foundation America (3M) made a donation in the amount of \$2,000 for the Oak Grove Elementary School Farm.

- Olathe High School has Received a \$16,000 grant from the Nathaniel Yip foundation to update their weight room equipment. Their goal for this grant is to increase student involvement in healthy activity and extra-curriculars and to have a weight room with up-to-date safety features.

- Foster Connections held a back-to-school drive and gave backpacks and supplies to more than 65 local students.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

RE-1J Director of Finance Emily Imus presented Quarterly Financial Reports for the 4th quarter of 2022-2023, reviewing funds and investments, and answering questions.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

District C Director Alice Murphy reported on

her recent visits to district schools. "We've had Back to School...exciting to see decorated-up classrooms, and kids with their supplies coming in...thank you to the police department, because at one of the schools they had a table set up with all the supplies, and the kids could kind of pick out what they needed out of what was there...."

"That first day of school was kind of fun...I was at Oak Grove...they were making arches for the kids to go through and cheering for them...the house sorting at Johnson was fun...once you get your little band you get to go down the slide. That was kind of fun, especially at my age..."

"...they're doing wonderful things...it's fun to watch the kids and teachers in the classrooms," Murphy said. "Thank you to Dr. Stephenson and Matt Jenkins and Megan Farley for that Forum Presentation on Threat Assessment and the things that play into that—you guys did an awesome job."

Fishing said that she had heard great things about the house sorting at Johnson from teachers and kids.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Speaking during the time for community input was Lezlee Cox of Montrose Adult Education Center, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. "We offer classes in basic education, secondary education, GED Preparation, and English Language Acquisition to adults," Cox said. "...Our program's mission is to help adults develop the skills needed to function effectively and participate fully in society as citizens, parents, employees and entrepreneurs."

This year there are close to 100 students registered. Cox thanked the district, the schools, and the superintendent for their support. She invited the board to attend the Sept. 20 Open House celebration, during National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week.

25-YEAR STAFF APPRECIATION

Superintendent Carrie Stephenson recognized MHS Teacher Chad Morris for 25 years with the district.

DISTRICT SAFETY TEAM PRESENTATION

The Board of Education heard a report from the District Safety Team, presented by Executive Director of Operations James Pavlich, Threat Assessment Health and Safety Manager Megan Farley, and School Resource Officer Supervisor Sgt. Courtney Jones.

To read the presentation in full click here.

RE-1J SRO's are provided by the Montrose Police and Montrose County Sheriff's Office. So far this year there have been 150 referrals to the District Safety Team. "All of the things that make us safer make us better educa-



Lezlee Cox invited directors to the Sept. 20 Open House at the Montrose Adult Education Center.

tors," Pavlich said.

"We're going to be able to lead the way in school safety," Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said, "...we want to be sure we're wrapping around support."

CONSENT AGENDA

District C Director Alice Murphy asked to pull Consent Agenda Items 5 and 6 for further discussion; the remaining items including personnel report were approved.

Consent Agenda Item 5, "Approve payment to Advanced Network Management in the amount of \$74,966.74 for replacement of equipment in the district (30 percent of cost to replace network switches)," and Item 6, "accept the English Language Proficiency Act (ELPA) funds in the amount of \$141,079.99 and approve related expenditures," were approved following brief discussions with staff.

There are 304 ELPA students, students were tested for language proficiency. Of those, 135 are non-English speaking 144 speak limited English. Twenty students are fluent and in their first year of monitoring, five are in their second year of monitoring)

NEW BUSINESS

The board reviewed revised Board policies on first reading including EF-E1, School Meal Accounts - Edits to update with the addition of Healthy School Meals for All program, and EFC Free and Reduced-Price Food Services - Added legal reference for Health School Meals for All program.

Imus presented the updated enrollment report. With October count nearing, there are 6,034 students in the district. Enrollment is close to the previous year's but remains fluid.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC) REPORT

Updated ECC information is included in the meeting packet.

With no further business the board of education voted to adjourn.




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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CONCERNED? CONSIDER ATTENDING MURA MEETING OF SEPT. 20

Editor:

As noted in a previous letter, our hospital and related facilities are our city's greatest asset. Much has been written to date about how Bill Bell, city council, and MURA determined to bring in two out of state based facilities to directly compete with existing medical infrastructure.

On Wednesday, September 20 at 2PM, the MURA board will consider a request for public funding on one of these facilities in City Council chambers in the Elks building. Anyone with concerns about the dangers these facilities pose for our hospital and medical community should certainly consider attending.

Dee Laird, Montrose

IT'S TIME TO FIND SOME UNITY IN THIS COUNTRY AND MOVE ON

Editor:

I recently read a letter from a person who had some comments about Unify Montrose. I have a different opinion about that organization's goals.

I attended three of the first meetings Harry Gottlieb, the founder of Unify America, held here in May. Harry is a philanthropist who made his fortune by producing a video game. He lives in the Chicago, IL area, as do some of his company's employees. He is using some of the proceeds of his fortune to try to get the politics out of the American conversation, so we can move forward to achieve some needed goals for the good of the country. Montrose was chosen as the "pilot" city.

As I recall there were four areas of concern that some of the citizens of Montrose put forward as items that needed to be addressed. They were housing, child care, youth, and mental health. Child care was chosen by most of the people who were queried as the area of most urgent concern. Fliers were sent to every home. People who were interested were able to apply to be considered for the study. Sixty-four people were to be chosen. The group of these people are to meet for two hours online once per week to work on solutions for the lack of adequate child care in Montrose. They will be paid \$15.00/hour for their time and contributions to solutions.

For some reason, the writer to the Mirror sees this as a threat to our community. I disagree. I'm very tired of the political divisiveness. It's time to find some unity in this country and move on. When President Biden spoke in Alaska yesterday honoring those fallen during the 911 terrorist attack on the twin towers, he honored the late Senator John McCain. President Biden said that McCain always put country "above party, above politics, above his own person."

"This day reminds us we must never lose that sense of national unity".

Raye Highland, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

MINDING OUR OWN BUSINESS

Dear editor,

There was an old saying firmly taught by my parents to *mind your own business*. This adage means to not intrude on what a person does on private time and especially do not gossip. People are hired for the job at hand. Their responsibilities are included in the job description before being hired. Some societal expectations do include a higher standard of behavior for leadership positions, including but not limited to clergy, teachers, and indeed politicians; however, the bottom line is if doing the job, then there should not be the constant scrutiny in personal life.

I, therefore, do not care if Representative Boebert is getting, divorced, being a grandmother at an early age, seen dating in a provocative outfit and even being escorted from the Buell. If I had paid to see this production and it was interrupted, I would be miffed at anyone doing the offending behavior, not just because it was her.

But I am involved that she has agreed to the plan to decimate Title I, end the English Language Learner program, cause classes sizes to rise from additional cuts, and certainly the Social Security proposed elimination. She voted against veteran benefits for those who were exposed to toxic burn pits, as well as strong supporter for Default on America Act that had 22% cuts to veteran benefits. I do care that she states she firmly *backs the blue* but was exceedingly belligerent toward the law enforcement called to escort her from Buell. And I certainly care that during the 117th Congress, she introduced 0 bills and cosponsored only 2 bills to help children while taking 31 actions against the interests of children.

Education, Social Security, Military, Law Enforcement and Children are my concerns. I caution others to stop promoting her desire for sensationalism and look at the issues. Do you know how many bills she presented out of the 900? As an educator, I would have to agree with the most recent political analyst report card of F.

AJ Smith, Montrose





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MONTROSE RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP

RED HAWKS SOFTBALL

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-Last weekend was tournament time for the Red Hawks softball team. They traveled to Berthoud and played four games on Saturday, winning two and losing a pair.

The day started out with a match against the Air Academy Kadets. The Red Hawks led 7-4 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning but were unable to hold the lead as the Kadets scored 4 runs to secure the victory.

Next up for the Red Hawks were the Liberty Lancers from Colorado Springs. Montrose scored in all but one inning piling up twelve runs to outscore the Lancers 12-3. Senior Cailey Sanchez (3 base hits) led the Red Hawk offense while Andie Blowers had two hits including a long home run.

The Red Hawks then faced the Mead Mavericks who scored in almost every inning to defeat Montrose by the score of 9-4. The Red Hawks were held to just three base hits while the Mavericks pounded out a dozen including a run scoring triple. Senior Andie Blowers led the Red Hawk offense with a long home run.

The final tournament game pitted the Red Hawks against the Peak to Peak Puma's from Lafayette, Colorado. The Red Hawks pounded out twelve base hits on their way to a 10-4 victory which evened their tournament record to two wins and two losses. Senior Sadie Corn and Senior Abby England each had doubles to pace the Red Hawk offense.

The Red Hawks returned home and hosted Grand Junction Central High School. Both teams unveiled their heavy lumber with the Warriors winning 14-9. The Red Hawks banged out 20 base hits but could not overcome the Warriors who scored in every inning.

The loss to Central drops the Red Hawks overall record to 4-8 and 1-3 in league action. The Red Hawks depart for Fruita-Monument on Saturday.

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-Tournament time also arrived for the Montrose Red Hawks on Saturday, Sept. 9 as the Red Hawks took the long bus ride to Lewis Palmer High School just to the north of Colorado Springs off of Interstate 25. The Red Hawks played four matches on Saturday and basically broke even, winning two and losing two.

The home-standing Lewis Palmer Rangers provided the initial opposition and defeated the Red Hawks 2-0. Both games were extremely close affairs but the Rangers prevailed. The Rangers record improved to 8-0 by the end of the tournament.

Next up for the Red Hawks were the Cyclones of Pueblo West High School. More close matches but the Cyclones ended up winning both matches and closing out the Red Hawks 2-0.

The next opponent, the Bayfield Wolves, proved to be less of a test than either of the first two opponents. The Red Hawks prevailed 2-0 over the Wolves and then took on the Falcons of La Jara, Colorado. The Red Hawks won this match 2-0.

Heading into the tournament the Red Hawks overall record was 2-2. The results of the tournament moved the overall record to 4-4 and 1-0 in league action.

The Red Hawks returned home and welcomed the Warriors of Grand Junction Central to the fieldhouse on Tuesday evening. The Red Hawks defeated the Warriors 25-12, 25-23 and 25-17 to sweep the match.

The Red Hawks journeyed to Durango on Friday and defeated the Demons in three straight games. The Red Hawks won the matches by the scores of 25-20, 25-20 and 25-17.

The victories moved the Red Hawks overall record to 6-4 and 3-0 in league action. Next week will be very busy for the Red Hawks. The opposition will be a road game at Fruita-Monument and home games vs Grand Junction and Eagle Valley.



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MONTROSE RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP

RED HAWKS CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS 4TH AT TIGER INVITATIONAL

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks boys and girls cross country teams on Saturday, Sept. 9, each placed 4th in crowded fields at the Grand Junction Tigers Invitational at the Connected Lakes State Park cross country course.

The girls' team race was won by Grand Junction Central High School. The Red Hawks finished in 4th place just behind second and third place Delta and Aspen. Paige Kehmeier of Delta captured the individual title, while Red Hawks senior Kenzie Bush finished a strong second, less than one second behind the winning time. Other Red Hawk finishers included sophomore Millie Crane (15th), Jaiden Bresett (16th), Naomi McGarry (29th), Emmy Maxwell (51st) and Annabelle Hawkins (54th).

The boys' team title was won by San Juan High School, followed by Grand Junction, Grand Junction Central and in 4th place the Montrose Red Hawks. The individual title went to Sam Garmany of Grand Junction Central High School.

The Red Hawks Elijah Echols led the Montrose contingent with a solid 5th place finish. Other Red Hawks finishers included Delan Wooden, Vash Veatch, Phin Howe, Jose Chavez, Alex VanAllsburgm, Grayson Vidman, Diego Renteria, Tyler Surles, Jak Pfifer, Zach Quad and Gavin Sulzen.

Next up for the Red Hawks will be a road trip to Gunnison on Saturday.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE, PLEASE TERM-LIMIT TOM WEST

By Ben Alexander

MONTROSE-In the early 1990s I carried a petition to help put a constitutional amendment limiting terms of elected officials on the ballot. The measure essentially limited an office holder to two consecutive terms of office. At the time, incumbents had a huge advantage to be re-elected until they made a decision to retire. The system made it very difficult for challengers offering fresh perspectives to win an election. So, the term limits amendment was intended to force turnover in elected positions and allow voters an opportunity to consider new candidates with new ideas.

Current school board director for District D, Tom West, was elected to that position in 2011 and re-elected in 2015 and term-limited in 2019. In 2021, just two years after being term-limited, he was appointed to fill a vacancy for the two years remaining on the term for that same District D position. At the time I raised an objection that the appointment was a violation of the term-limits amendment. The school board secretary assured me that the appointment was legal and provided email correspondence between the board and an attorney with the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB). The text of that email correspondence is provided below.

From: Laurie Laird

Sent Tuesday, October 5, 2021 12: 37 PM

To: Ben Alexander

Cc: Carrie Stephenson

Subject: Election question

Good morning Ben,

Below is the email exchange with the attorney from the Colorado Association of School Boards

regarding the appointment of a former Board member. Please feel free to contact me at the number

below if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Laurie Laird

Good morning,

We have a board member who will be selling their house and will be moving out of their district. Our

Board president wants to know if we will would appoint or would we add that district to this year's

ballot as a two-year term? We will have his letter for our August 11th board meeting to declare the seat

open, but just not sure about the timing of it all. On a second note, could a former board member who

is two years removed from the seat be appointed to fill? These are the questions our president and superintendent are asking.

Thank you for your guidance and help, Laurie

And the response from Sam Jones-Rogers:

From: Sam Jones-Rogers

Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 2:04 PM

Subject: Re: Election question

Hello Laurie,

Thank you for your email. The vacancy will occur either when the board member becomes a nonresident of the district (i.e., when they change their address) or when the director submits a written

resignation to the board and such resignation has been duly accepted. If either happens before August

2, the board will have to attempt to fill the vacancy through the appointment process; if there are more

than 2 years remaining in the term, the appointee would only serve until the election, but if there are

less than 2 years remaining in the term, the appointee would serve the remainder of the term.

However, if the vacancy occurs after August 2, which would be within 90 days of the November 2

election, one of the following scenarios would apply:

☐ If there are more than 2 years remaining in the term, the board appoints someone

to serve

until the next succeeding election (the November 2023 election)

☐ If there are less than 2 years remaining in the term, the board appoints someone to serve out

the remainder of the term

☐ If the term is expiring this year, the board may choose not to make an appointment because

the vacancy will be filled at the election. A more detailed explanation and examples are provided in our Board Member Vacancy and

Appointment Process Overview (Question 9).

Regarding your second question, yes, a former board member could be appointed to fill a vacancy. The

Office of the Attorney General has concluded that the constitutional term limits apply only to full terms

of office, not partial terms of office that result from interim appointments made to fill a vacancy. Op.

Att'y Gen. No. 2000-2 (February 9, 2000), pp. 10-11. Accordingly, the limit on the number of terms a

school director may serve does not apply to the time served as an appointee; the clock starts once the board member is elected to remain on the board (or, if in this case the former board member is

otherwise already term-limited, they may only serve the partial term from filling the vacancy and would

not be eligible to run to serve a full term for four years). More detailed information on term limits is

available in our Modifying or Eliminating School Board Term Limits FAQ (Questions 2 & 3).

Best,

Sam Jones-Rogers

Director of Legal Services

Colorado Association of School Boards

The text of the constitutional amendment passed in the early 1990s is below.

Continued next pg

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE, PLEASE TERM-LIMIT TOM WEST

From previous pg

Colorado Constitution Article XVIII, Section 11

In order to broaden the opportunities for public service and to assure that elected officials of governments are responsive to the citizens of those governments, no nonjudicial elected official of any county, city and county, city, town, school district, service authority, or any other political subdivision of the State of Colorado, no member of the state board of education, and no elected member of the governing board of a state institution of higher education shall serve more than two consecutive terms in office, except that with respect to terms of office which are two years or shorter in duration, no such elected official shall serve more than three consecutive terms in office. This limitation on the number of terms shall apply to terms of office beginning on or after January 1, 1995. For purposes of this Section 11, terms are considered consecutive unless they are at least four years apart.

The voters of any such political subdivision may lengthen, shorten or eliminate the limitations on terms of office imposed by this Section 11. The voters of the state may lengthen, shorten, or eliminate the limitations on terms of office for the state board of education or the gov-

erning board of a state institution of higher education imposed by this Section 11. The provisions of this Section 11 shall apply to every home rule county, home rule city and county, home rule city and home rule town, notwithstanding any provision of Article XX, or Sections 16 and 17 of Article XIV, of the Colorado Constitution.

While I still believe the appointment undermines the intent of term-limits, it was apparently legal. But then, considering the attorney's statement "(or, if in this case the former board member is otherwise already term-limited, they may only serve the partial term from filling the vacancy and would not be eligible to run to serve a full term for four years)", I expected that Mr. West would not be eligible to run for the full term in 2023. When I raised this issue with the board secretary, I was informed that the two-year appointment to fill the vacancy didn't count as time in the office for term-limit purposes and Mr. West was considered to be out of office for the required four-year window and was eligible to run in 2023.

I discussed this issue with a private attorney and was told this was a very gray area of the law, had not been adjudicated in a court of law and would be difficult to challenge legally. That being the case, I thought it was an issue important enough

to bring to the attention of the public to hopefully preserve the intent of term-limits.

If Mr. West were to be elected in 2023, he could possibly serve an additional eight years making a total of 18 years in the same position out of a total of 20 years. Sometimes, just because it's legal doesn't make it right.

One other concern about the email correspondence between the board secretary and the CASB attorney is the date of the correspondence. The email is dated June 30, 2021 and the board is obviously planning to appoint Mr. West to fill a vacancy that would not be announced to the public until August of 2021. The board then went through a "process" to consider Mr. West and interview another applicant when they had already decided to appoint Mr. West before others were made aware of the pending vacancy.

Term-limits are intended to promote turnover and bring new ideas and perspectives to elected boards. In the 10 years Mr. West served on the board there has been little progress on the improvement of student achievement (CMAS scores) and no encouragement of real public participation at board meetings regarding the governance of our schools. It's time for a change, please term-limit Tom West.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

COLORADO STATE PATROL IS PROUD TO BECOME AN ABLE AGENCY

Editor:

As the Chief of the Colorado State Patrol, I am excited to announce a partnership with the Georgetown University Law Center for Innovations in Community Safety (CICS) to implement the Active Bystander-ship for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Project. Law enforcement officers frequently face high-stress, high-stakes decisions as they fulfill their daily duties to protect lives and property. And, equally true, when examples of police misconduct emerge, we are left bewildered and appalled with the absence of intervention.

The truth is that it is harder to successfully intervene than it may appear in hindsight. And, as uncomfortable as this makes us all feel, there is decades of research identify-

ing inhibitors that people experience that reduces intervention in the conduct of others, including violence, racism and other forms of harm towards others. That being said, law enforcement officers have a duty to act and a responsibility to overcome inhibitors.

Training prepares officers for successful interventions. Active bystandership has proven effective in mitigating mistakes in surgery, pilot errors and sexual assaults on college and university campuses. With the ABLE Project the Patrol will adopt these principles for law enforcement, so that active bystandership can help prevent unnecessary harm in this context as well.

This training considers the real situations faced by law enforcement while believing

it is the responsibility of every officer to act to prevent mistakes, prevent misconduct, and promote their fellow officers' health and wellbeing.

The Colorado State Patrol is proud to become an ABLE agency, and contribute to a legacy of prioritizing community safety and fostering a healthy environment for our troopers to serve.

By the end of September 2023, all sworn staff at the Colorado State Patrol, including top leadership and recruits, will be required to complete the ABLE training and will receive annual refresher training from this point forward.

Sincerely,

Colonel Matthew C. Packard
Chief, Colorado State Patrol

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SEPTEMBER 20 IS NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY



Editor:

September 20 is National Voter Registration Day. Registering to vote is easy, and now is the time. Three ways citizens can register are: on the League of Women Voters' VOTE411.org; at the Secretary of States' site, GOVOTECOLORADO.GOV; or at your County Clerk and Recorder's office or website. The information needed is very simple. Also, do check or change your status, address, or affiliation on file. Your ballot will be mailed to the address on file, and will not be forwarded, so be sure that your address is correct. Ballots will be mailed from Oct. 16 until Oct 20. If you don't your ballot timely, call the Clerk's office.

Remember, you can register any time, even on Election Day, which is on November 7. To register when you vote in person, you will need to bring a form of ID such as those listed on the Secretary of States' website. If you want to receive your ballot by mail, however, your registration form has to be received by the County Clerk by October 30.

Every election is important. The closer the issue is to your doorstep, the more any issue there will affect your daily life. Democracy depends on citizens voting. It is the most American thing you can do! So please register and vote. The League of Women Voters of the Uncompahgre Valley supports informed voting for all citizens, regardless of party affiliation. While we are indeed a political organization, we do not promote any political party or candidate. Find us at www.lwv-us.org. Celebrate National Voter Registration Day with us by exercising your right and duty to protect our democracy with your vote.

Thanks,

Jan Edwards, Voter Service Chair

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FOLK LEGACY TRIO TO PERFORM IN DELTA SEPT. 22

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-The Delta Montrose Community Concert Association is pleased to present the Folk Legacy Trio as the first concert of our 2023-2024 season. The concert is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 22, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Delta Performing Arts Center, 822 Grand Avenue in Delta, CO. Doors open at 6 p.m. Single admission tickets will be available at the door on the night of the performance, \$25 for adults and \$5 for students. For additional information please contact Connie at 970-249-4308 or Bob 970-835-4480 or visit our website at www.deltamontroseconcerts.com.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PRESCRIBED FIRES PLANNED ON CARPENTER RIDGE AND WEST DOLORES RIM

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to conduct prescribed fire treatments this fall in the Tres Rios and Uncompahgre field offices. Firefighters will reintroduce fire to a fire-adapted ecosystem in a controlled manner to protect Ponderosa pine stands, enhance wildlife habitat, restore healthy forests and species diversity, and maintain a fire-resilient landscape.

The Carpenter Ridge project area is located two miles outside of Paradox Valley, CO, between Q13 and R3 roads (Rim Rocker Trail route). Firefighters plan to burn 200 acres of oak brush and pine tree litter. "The Carpenter Ridge treatment will help break down forest litter and add nutrients back into the soil so that native plants can flourish and benefit wildlife," said Fire Management Specialist Cameron Shaugh-

nessy.

The West Dolores Rim project area, locally known as the "East and North Pines," is located seven miles east of Dove Creek. Firefighters will use hand ignitions and Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) on 1,200 acres of pine needle cast and mountain brush leaf litter. "Reintroducing low intensity fire on West Dolores Rim will clear brush and needle cast that can prevent new plant growth, as well as decrease the likelihood of a large severe wildfire," said acting Fire Management Specialist Tyler Corbin. Prescribed fire mimics natural processes under appropriate weather and vegetative conditions, which improves forage for wildlife, increases plant diversity by creating breaks in the understory where native grasses and forbs can thrive, and effectively reduces hazardous vegeta-

tion while enhancing woodland health.

The projects are part of the BLM's ongoing commitment to protect human health and safety while maintaining or enhancing forest and woodland health and functionality.

The BLM obtained smoke permits from the Colorado State Air Pollution Control Division, which identify atmospheric conditions under which the burns can be implemented.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, visit CO Dept of Public Health & Environment - Wood smoke and health. More information on Southwest District prescribed fuel treatments at [InciWeb Southwest District BLM Prescribed Fire](#) and follow our [Facebook-BLM Southwest District](#) or [Twitter-@SWD_Fire](#) pages.

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO STATE PATROL INVESTS IN INTERVENTION TRAINING

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO – The Colorado State Patrol is proud to announce a partnership with the Georgetown University Law Center for Innovations in Community Safety (CICS) to implement the Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) project. The Colorado State Patrol began training sworn members on May 23, 2023, and will have 100% of sworn members trained by the end of September 2023.

Professionals in law enforcement are frequently faced with high-stress, high-stakes decisions as a part of their daily responsibilities. The ABLE Project factors in these job conditions to prepare officers to intervene to prevent misconduct, avoid police mistakes and promote officer health and

wellness by teaching officers how to successfully intervene while promoting those who do intervene. It also authorizes and empowers law enforcement to intervene in another officer's action regardless of his/her rank. "We are very excited to be partnering with ABLE to expand our training on active bystandership," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "Through this program we prioritize our commitment, dedicating an internal resource to coordinating this program and adhering to outside standards. These are all wins for our community members, troopers, and port of entry officers."

Training can make the difference between a successful and unsuccessful intervention by an active bystander. The ABLE Program

was built for sworn officers with tactics and strategies of active bystandership including scenario-based role play and the creation of a department culture that supports intervention.

All sworn staff at the Colorado State Patrol, including top leadership and recruits, will be required to complete the ABLE training and will receive annual refresher training from this point forward.

The ABLE Project builds upon training developed by Dr. Ervin Staub, the Founding Director of the UMass Amherst Psychology of Peace and Violence Program, to help police officers stop unnecessary harmful behavior of fellow officers. For more information on the ABLE Project, visit <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/cics/able>.



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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

CHILD SUPPORT STAFF RAISES \$1,250 FOR KIDS AID MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The staff at the Montrose County Child Support Services office raised \$1,250 for Kids Aid Montrose, an organization that provides backpacks filled with food to food insecure children on the weekends. The funds were raised through a bake sale, donation-based drawing, and Frito pie luncheon. The staff also received donations from local businesses.

"I am so proud of the hard work and dedication of our staff," said Child Support Service Manager Christine Sorenson. "This is our favorite time of year, and they went above and beyond to raise money for this worthy cause." Kids Aid Montrose provides backpacks filled with food to children who are food insecure on the weekends. The backpacks contain healthy snacks and meals that will help children stay nourished until they return to school on Monday.

"We are grateful to the Montrose County

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| She She Boutique | Rib City | Heidi's Deli |
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| Mama Wolfe Creations | Blue Corn Candle Factory | |

Montrose County Child Support Services would like to thank and recognize our sponsors, above, for their partnership in helping our fundraising efforts for Kids Aid Montrose this year.

Child Support Services staff for their generous donation," said Mike Bussing, Execu-

tive Director of Kids Aid Montrose. "This money will help us provide backpacks to even more children in need."

The child support staff chose to give back to the community in honor of Child Support Awareness Month. Child Support Awareness Month is a national observance that promotes the importance of child support in ensuring the financial security of children. "We are committed to helping children in our community," said Sorenson. "We are proud to support Kids Aid Montrose and their work to provide food to food insecure children."

Montrose County Child Support Services would like to thank and recognize our sponsors for their partnership in helping our fundraising efforts for Kids Aid Montrose this year (see table).

The Montrose County Child Support Services office is located at 1845 South Townsend Avenue. For more information, please call (970) 252-5000 or visit <https://www.montrosecounty.net/825/Child-Support-Services>

If you would like to know more about the Kids Aid Montrose program and how you can help, please contact: KidsAid@CommonGroundMontrose.com; 970-209-1155 - Mike Bussing or Kids Aid Montrose, PO Box 96, Montrose, CO 81402-8876.


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

COUNTY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

MONTROSE— Montrose County is seeking public input on the update to its Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan, which is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), identifies hazards that pose a risk to the county and outlines strategies to reduce those risks.

“We need the public’s help to make sure that this plan is as comprehensive and effective as possible,” said Montrose

County Emergency Manager Scott Hawkins. “The plan is a critical tool for helping Montrose County reduce its risk of disasters. We encourage everyone to take a few minutes to review the plan and provide their input.”

The update to the plan will focus on the following hazards: wildfires, drought, floods, and severe winter storms. The public is invited to provide input on the

hazards that they believe should be prioritized in the plan. They can also provide input on specific mitigation strategies that they believe would be effective.

The deadline for submitting feedback is Nov. 15.

The updated Hazard Mitigation Plan is expected to be completed in the spring of 2024. For more information on the plan and to provide feedback, please visit [here](#).

Classic Car Show



Saturday, Sept. 23
9 a.m. — 2 p.m.

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\$15 Entry — Proceeds to
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Hear the success stories and learn more about MAEC's invaluable *benefits* to our community.

We invite all past and present **staff members, volunteers, students, community partners and supporters** to join us as we look back and celebrate 50 years of dedication and success.

What: 50th Anniversary Open House

When: Wednesday, September 20
3pm to 7pm

Where: Zion Lutheran Church Basement
(Current home of MAEC)
701 South Junction Ave.
(back entrance)

Your support matters! Donations to help us continue making a positive impact are greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to MAEC or find us on [PayPal](#).

Meet the future of your watershed!

In 2023, the **Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP)** is celebrating its 10th anniversary as a nonprofit dedicated to preserving and improving the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed. UWP is also developing its next five-year strategic plan, and has organized opportunities for the public to learn about the watershed and contribute to the selection of future projects.



You are invited to four free events.

Please sign up now! (Space is limited.)



Watershed Restoration in the Upper Unc

Friday, September 29, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

A free guided field trip to view and learn about watershed conditions along Camp Bird Road in Ouray County



Water Quality Monitoring in the Upper Unc

Saturday, Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A free guided field trip to view and learn about water quality monitoring around Ouray County



Watershed Restoration in the Ironton Park Area

Saturday, October 7, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A free guided field trip to view and learn about watershed conditions along Highway 550 above Ouray



The Next 10 Years of the Upper Uncompahgre River

Watershed – Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

A free community event at the Ouray Community Center to share UWP's history, goals and plans while gathering input about future projects and activities



More info:

<https://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/events/>

You are also invited to answer a 10-question survey to help UWP understand your relationship with the watershed and our nonprofit. Please fill it out today:
<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/WtzTa6>

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OLATHE MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL TO HOLD LIFT-A-THON

Special to the Mirror

OLATHE-During the 2023-2024 school year, Olathe Middle High School (OMHS) teacher Aaron Wilcox recently applied for a grant from the Nathaniel Yip Foundation, which helps smaller, rural schools remain competitive in activities and athletics with larger schools and school districts. As a result, OMHS was recently awarded \$16,000 that will go toward the purchase of new weight room equipment and facilities improvement. The school will soon invest the award in a larger, long-term project of revamping the weight room with new flooring, new and improved equipment, and renovation to Olathe Middle High School's physical education and training spaces.

Olathe Middle High School will also be doing a Lift-A-Thon to raise money for this initiative. High school PE students and the football team will be going out to seek pledges and donations for this event the last couple weeks of September. The Lift-A-Thon will take place during the first two weeks of October. Coaches and staff will be monitoring students and recording the weight lifted during classes and practices.

OMHS is enlisting our community in supporting our Pirates as they work to do their part in improving our facilities. Donations will also be accepted and can be made to the OMHS PE Department.

Go Pirates!!!



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATES NORTH TERMINAL EXPANSION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ) kicked off Tribute to Aviation weekend with a ribbon cutting of its new north terminal expansion. The expansion adds 25,000 square feet to the terminal and includes a number of improvements for passengers, including a larger baggage claim area, more spacious waiting areas, a bar area, a fireplace, and remarkable views.

"This has been a seven-year journey—from public meetings on the master plan to a ribbon cutting this week, I'm proud of the work that has brought this to fruition," said Lloyd Arnold, Aviation Director at MTJ. "The expansion will greatly improve passenger experience and attract additional airline carriers to Montrose Regional Airport. I want to thank the Montrose County Commissioners and management for their support in making this project possible. I would also like to thank our contractor FCI and the team that has been involved in making this project happen."

"This is an exciting time for the Montrose community," said Roger Rash, Montrose County Commissioner. "The north terminal expansion will improve the customer experience at MTJ and make it a more attractive option for travelers. I am proud of the work that has been done to make this project a reality."

"I remember back when I was a kid and the old MTJ airport—I got on a Frontier turbo-prop plane in '68 or '69. Looking at this airport now—the escalators, elevator, and overall construction—I wouldn't even think we were in Montrose," said Commissioner Keith Caddy. "This is a great facility and something we should all be honored to call a part of Montrose County."

"I am very proud of this facility. Kudos to Lloyd and his staff for keeping the airport operational while under construction," said Commissioner Sue Hansen. "This is a truly remarkable regional transportation hub that makes a huge impact on our local economy."



Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ) kicked off Tribute to Aviation weekend with a ribbon cutting of its new north terminal expansion. Courtesy photo.

The north terminal expansion is the latest in a series of improvements at MTJ in recent years. Several projects have been completed in anticipation of ultimately doubling the size of the terminal. The airport has continued to add additional public parking areas and is working to improve its signage and wayfinding system with a new digital message board and enhanced signage. MTJ is the premiere airport on the Western Slope of Colorado. Though a partnership with the Colorado Flights Alliance, MTJ is proud to offer the most comprehensive direct flight service outside of Denver International Airport. There are direct flights to Denver, Phoenix, Dallas, Houston and several more destinations during ski season as well.

"Montrose Regional Airport is a vital economic engine for our community. It supports jobs and tourism, and it helps to keep our businesses competitive," said Arnold. "The north terminal expansion is a significant investment in our future, and I am confident that it will pay off for Montrose residents for many years to come. As a reminder, the airport is not funded by

property taxes, but rather through passenger ticketing fees, Federal Aviation Administration and state grants, and other funding sources. I want to thank the Montrose County Commissioners and airport management for their support in making this project possible."

The new terminal addition is a major improvement for passengers. It features a larger baggage claim area, more spacious waiting areas, new fireplace and courtyard area, added charging tables, a dedicated bar area, and additional paved parking spaces.

The remodel of the existing terminal has also made it more modern and comfortable for passengers. Two new glass passenger loading bridges will provide the finishing touches on the expansion and will be installed in December. The north expansion will be open for the traveling public shortly after Tribute to Aviation. The south expansion will be open in later October and will feature two new ticketing counters and expanded airline offices.

To learn more about MTJ please visit fly-montrose.com.

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WEEKLY CAR-

SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PROJECT 7 WATER AUTHORITY HOSTS COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Project 7 Water Authority invites the public to learn more about the Regional Water Supply & Resiliency Pro-

gram at a Community Open House on Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 5 p.m. The Regional Water Supply & Resiliency Program will provide approximately 6 mil-

lion gallons of water per day to secure the region's drinking water supply. Today, more than 50,000 people in the municipalities and rural areas of the Uncompahgre River Valley receive drinking water from one treatment plant and one source: the Gunnison River, conveyed through the Gunnison Tunnel.

The existing single-source system makes the regional drinking water system susceptible to significant risks from wildfire, drought, and infrastructure failure. By adding a second treatment facility, located just south of Colona in the US-550 corridor, the Regional Water Supply & Resiliency Program will strengthen the regional drinking water supply for years to come.

Who: Project 7 Water Authority and its member entities:

The City of Montrose, City of Delta, Town of Olathe, Tri-County Water Conservancy District, Chipeta Water District, Menoken Water District

What: Regional Drinking Water Supply & Resiliency Program Community Open House

When: Tuesday, September 26, 2023
5 p.m. – Community Open House begins
7 p.m. – Event concludes

Where: 35679 US-550, Montrose, CO 81403

At the location of the proposed new water treatment plant. Just south of Colona on the west side of the highway. Parking available onsite at the large green barn.

About Project 7 Water Authority

Since 1977, Project 7 Water Authority has supplied high-quality potable drinking water to more than 50,000 people in the Uncompahgre River Valley. Established to address regional water shortages caused by undersized and outdated treatment facilities, Project 7 is unique cooperative effort among seven water entities: City of Montrose, City of Delta, Town of Olathe, Tri-County Water Conservancy District, Chipeta Water District, Menoken Water District, and Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association. Learn more at Project7Water.org or email Project7@Montrose.net.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RECORD OF DECISION AND FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON COLORADO GRAY WOLF 10(J) RULE RELEASED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the availability of the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and draft record of decision to establish an experimental population of gray wolves in Colorado under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act, nearly three weeks ahead of schedule.

Once finalized, this action will provide Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) with increased management flexibility, which is expected to increase the likelihood of overall gray wolf restoration success. The 10(j) rule is now expected to be in place in Colorado more than a month before the statutory deadline of releasing gray wolves by December 31, 2023.

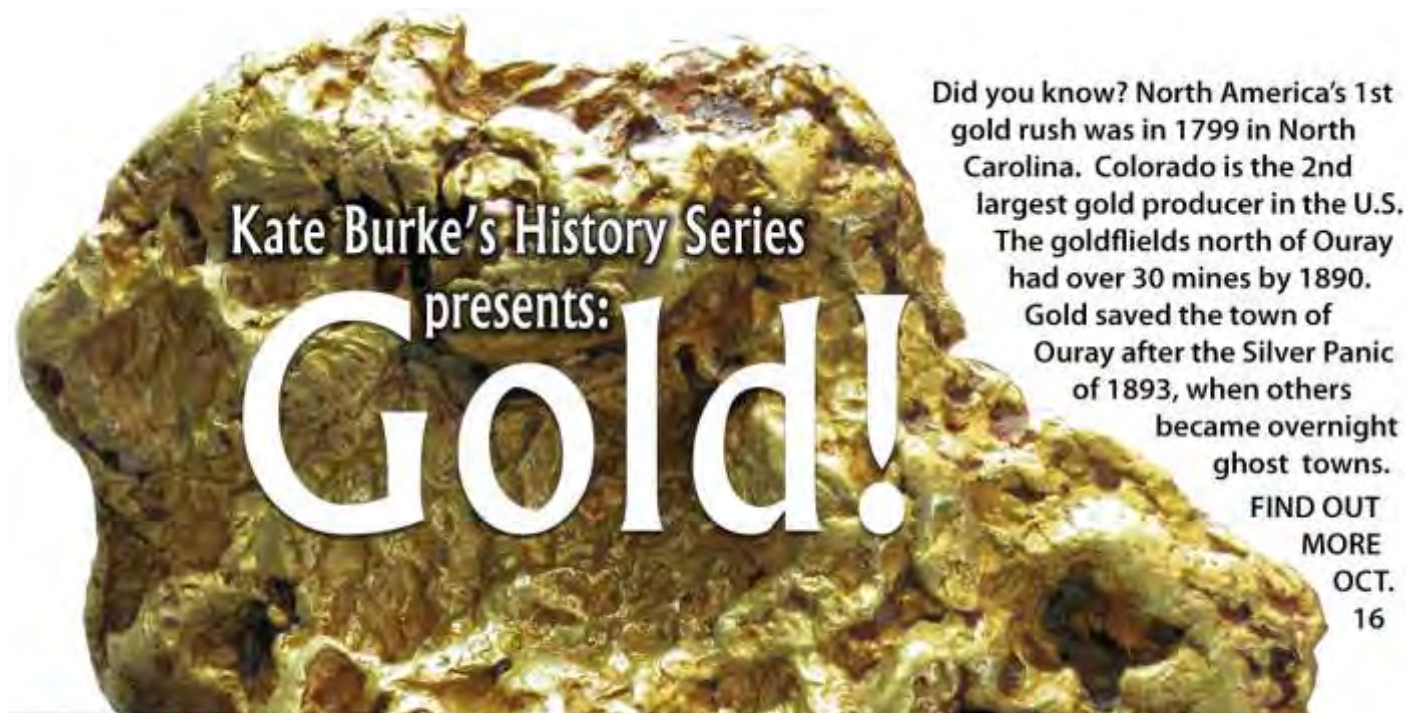
In the EIS, the USFWS selected Alternative 1, which will provide the management flexibility afforded by 10(j) throughout the entirety of the state of Colorado.

"This demonstrates a sincere and effective commitment by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to accomplish this task on a very accelerated timeline," said CPW Director Jeff Davis. "National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) work typically takes 2 - 3 years and it was accomplished in a little over a year-and-a-half. CPW leadership is very thankful to the demonstrated commitment and partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

Timeline and Next Steps

Now that the rule has been published, a 30-day cooling period will occur, followed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's finalization of the rule. It is anticipated that the 10(j) rule will go into effect after an additional 30-day period, well before capture and release operations begin.

There is no public comment period open at this time, as the public comment for this rule has already occurred.



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Montrose Womens Club Monthly Meeting. Public Welcome



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SHAME ON THOSE EVIL REPUBLICANS

Editor:

I am reminded every day how effective the lies and propaganda put out by Democrats and their media allies are in fooling a large portion of the American people. Hearing the same talking point over and over again convinces many that it is a fact --- even though a little research would confirm it to be a total falsehood. Erin Walters (MDP 9/2) wrote about his genuine concern for Lauren Boebert's perceived "support for House GOP plans to cut Social Security" A little research would reveal to Mr. Walters that Social Security is the world's largest Ponzi scheme. Since its inception in 1935, the program has, for every \$1 collected, generated \$3 of promises for which it doesn't expect to have money to pay out. In total, the program expects to leave current voters \$22 trillion short of a planned retirement. The Social Security Trust fund is already on life support, and the end is just around the corner (by 2033). Put another way, the money young people are paying into SS today is being used to pay those already on SS, not to some fund they can draw from when they hope to retire. Medicare is in similar straits.

So given the seriousness of this, the President and Congress are giving this their full attention, right? Nope. Democrats are focusing on destroying the economy, destroying the oil industry, continuing the invasion at our southern border, turning the FBI into the Gestapo, etc. --- at the same time they demonize any Republican who dares attempt SS reform with their "Republicans want to take your Social Security away / throw your grandma off the cliff" refrain. Republicans know shoring up SS will necessarily include payroll tax increases, benefit reduction, and an infusion of trillions of dollars from federal coffers, but they don't have the intestinal fortitude to withstand the inevitable slander coming from Democrats and their media flunkies. So nothing gets done. Sad.

The Colorado propaganda machine is going full bore with "Preparation" HH, which will be on Colorado's ballot in November.

The language in the proposition is intentionally misleading and designed to cause confusion. The liberal media is also doing all it can to mislead the voters. For example, if you read the Colorado Newsline article in the MDP on 9/14, you would have no clue that they are promising property tax relief but delivering a giant tax hike instead. "Preparation" HH is a backdoor tax hike disguised by Democrat lawmakers as a property-tax cut, and assumes Colorado voters are dumb enough to fall for it.

The proposal (real name is Proposition HH) is titled "Property Tax Changes and Revenue Change Measure", with no indication that taxpayers would pay more overall. The Wall Street Journal estimates the cost to taxpayers to be \$21 billion by 2040. Polis and Colorado Democrats have spent years trying to eliminate our state's Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR), which places limits on tax and spending increases and has blocked Democrat lawmakers from blowing out state budgets as they gained legislative control. Proposition HH is just their latest dishonest gambit to eliminate TABOR so they can dramatically increase their bureaucracy --- and your taxes. When Proposition HH fails, they might be forced to make an honest attempt to provide taxpayers relief from skyrocketing property taxes.

Incredibly, the Dem propaganda machine is trying to convince us that "Bidenomics" is working to "get inflation down" --- just like they wanted us to believe inflation was "temporary" and "transitory." No amount of subterfuge can shield the regime from the fact that since Biden took office, Americans have not experienced a single month where overall inflation was not higher than it was before he was elected or that working class Americans have experienced a dramatic drop in their purchasing power. His actions bely his rhetoric --- he has done nothing but sign off on legislation and policies that inevitably increase prices and taxes on all Americans --- especially the middle class. Crude oil prices today versus when Biden was

elected --- up 115%. Unleaded gas --- up 130%. Heating oil --- up 160%. Meanwhile, the media lets Biden get away with his phony claims about reducing the deficit --- pretending Biden is actually governing rather than gaslighting, leaving the U.S. in roughly the same economic state as Argentina.

Biden's entire administration is nothing more than a propaganda machine. *Trump colluded with Russia. *Hunter's laptop was Russian disinformation. *Biden has done more to reduce illegal crossings at the border than anyone else. *The Trump tax cuts cost the government trillions. *Democrats don't support abortion at all stages of pregnancy. *We don't have a two-tiered justice system. *The Afghanistan withdrawal went great. *Climate change science is settled. *There is no evidence of Joe Biden's participation in Hunter's corruption or justification for impeachment. *Media outlets are doing their job defending liberty rather than playing defense for a corrupt president. *Biden, (aka Robert Peters, Robing Ware, etc.) didn't really use pseudonyms or a complex network of shell companies to hide million dollar bribes from our enemies.

This week the media would have you believe that having sex for money is no barrier to getting elected --- if you are a Democrat. The media are defending a Virginia Democrat running for the statehouse who filmed her sex acts online. In a normal world, streaming sex acts for money on the internet for thousands of people (5,700 "followers"), and then supposedly being shocked that those videos were recorded and disseminated, would define you as a liar and too stupid to hold political office. Not so in Biden's world. Her laughable attempts to blame others for her immoral behavior are OK because control of the Virginia legislature is at stake, don't you know. Even though the videos were easily available on the internet, those evil Republicans must have invaded her privacy and "leaked" those tapes. Shame on those evil Republicans.

Ed Henrie, Montrose

The Montrose Community Band

21st annual fall concert

Potpourri

(n. [Fr.] a confused collection; a miscellaneous mixture, a medley, a hotchpotch)

-Webster's unabridged dictionary

September 24th, 3:00 p.m.

Montrose Pavilion

Concert Sponsor

Check out our Website!



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WE NEED TO ACCEPT OTHERS AS THEY ARE

Dear Editor:

I read Jennifer Gregg's letter (in the Mirror) with some dismay. The thesis I read is that both she and the Library Board think it is necessary to not offend others. We live in a world that is full of so many positions, that it is almost impossible to not be offended sometimes. In a realistic world, we each must learn how to handle something offensive. And it is inappropriate to require someone else to modify their behavior to match one's own preferences. My religion does not practice Christmas. But a predominance of those around me, do. So, it is appropriate that I not only accept it, but applaud those who have a belief system that sustains them in their life. I would hope that they would show me the same courtesy. Perhaps the Library, rather than cancelling one religion's happiness, should also celebrate other's faiths. Jennifer is offended by books which do not support her belief system (I make no comment on her beliefs). But there are those for whom that reading is supportive. Perhaps she should understand that her suggesting that the books not be displayed is as offensive to others as she finds the books themselves. We have let our society become very divisive. Perhaps it is time that we accept our differences and learn about the positions with which we differ. We need to accept others as they are, not try to hide the differences or press others into our mold. I am in no way, here, taking a position on what is correct or best. I am only recommending tolerance. After all, if I see Jennifer in her sandals with her beautifully painted toenails, is it appropriate for me to go up to her and tell her that I find painted toenails offensive and that she should not be allowed to wear sandals?

Rick Bleier, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

CITY OF MONTROSE GOVERNMENT – POWER GRAB IN THE WORKS – YOU DON'T COUNT FOLKS!

Plus...More of Your Money to go to New Eateries?

By David White

Here they come again...10 years later. 10 years ago, "the man behind the curtain," City Manager Bill Bell (who holds a tight rein on City Staff & City Council) decided that it was time to update the City Charter (the document that guides City Government since first voted on by qualified electors way back on September 30, 1913). Rather than convene a Citizen Committee to suggest updates and changes to the Charter in conjunction with City Council, the City Attorney & City Management, he brought the process in-house using he and his staff as the tools to work with the City Council to make what they determined were needed updates to the Charter resulting in dozens of changes that, if nothing else, consolidated power in the City Manager's Office and to a lesser extent, the offices of the City Council. Lacking much information, voters still approved these changes in April 2014 as they were presented to the public as just some "housekeeping updates" to the City Charter.

As background, major changes to the City Charter were made in 1967 when the City of Montrose became a "Home Rule Municipality." Home rule is a provision in Article XX of the Colorado Constitution that gives local municipalities the power to make legislation relevant to their areas, exercising control over issues of "local concern" while minimizing state intervention in municipal affairs. There are currently 103 municipalities in the state that have adopted home rule charters, including the City and County of Broomfield and the City and County of Denver. Pitkin and Weld Counties have also adopted home rule charters. Under Colorado law, municipalities may impose sales and use tax separately from the state's tax. The municipalities that elect to self-collect are known as "home rules." (definitions of Home Rule are found through various search engines.)

An elected 21-member committee formed through the Charter Convention that took place on July 18, 1967 was charged with drafting a new City of Montrose Charter to replace the old one primarily to make Montrose a Home Rule Municipality. As was stated in the Prefatory Synopsis of the 1967 Charter, "Two objectives have been uppermost in the minds of the members of the Charter Convention:

FIRST: That the Charter must reserve to the people of Montrose the absolute right and power of self-government under the home rule provisions of the Constitution.

SECOND: That the Charter must ensure the orderly and economical management of the government of Montrose, guided and controlled by the people through their elected representatives..."

Unfortunately, such a statement did not come with the changes to the Charter in 2014 nor does one appear with those proposed to be voted on in 2024 and which are being considered by the City Council in upcoming meetings including their Work Session today, September 18, 2023 ([City Council Work Session • Montrose Public Meetings Portal • CivicClerk](#)).

We learn through the above link that the Mayor, Mayor pro Tem (Vice Mayor) and City Staff have been working on changes to the City Charter for "several months" and that they will be putting forward those changes for you to vote on at the next municipal election in April of 2024. They claim that the changes are necessary due to changes in the law or "best practices."

Quite frankly, a lot of what is going on here is more "progressive" woke political nonsense plus a further removal of power and authority once vested in the citizens of the City of Montrose. Here are some of the proposed changes (there are too many to list in this commentary, so I'm only listing a few):

Elimination of gender-based wording (no

more he/him or she/her). We must make room for a non-binary, genderqueer, transgender or "whatever" future Councilor, City Manager, etc. Really? This is really going too far in my opinion.

Changes to City Council terms of office through new definitions as well as requirements for former Councilors to be re-elected to Council at some future date should they want to run for office again. Removing the word "qualified" from the term "qualified elector" throughout the Charter (what's up with this?)

Recalling a City Councilmember will become more difficult, and you can only attempt a recall of a Councilmember ONCE during their term of office should this pass, and you'll need to get more signatures on a recall petition (25% of that official's vote count when elected vs. 15% as currently written).

Approval of franchise operations (think DMEA, Black Hills Energy, all telecommunications operators – cell phone, land line, and other public service providers, etc.) in the City will no longer be by a vote of the people but will be fully vested in the City Council and their Manager.

Municipal judges will be required to seek the "advice and consent" of the City Council in order to appoint assistant municipal judges (yet the 2014 Charter changes took this same kind of authority to jointly appoint the Police Chief with the City Manager away from the City Council).

The City Manager will no longer need to be a City of Montrose resident (is Mr. Bell moving out into the County?) – strange that this is being added to the list of changes since you'd think that a City Manager should live in the city that he/she manages.

Some normal housekeeping changes are in the mix and don't raise concerns.

Overall, the City Council will most likely move these proposed changes ahead to the ballot box via a resolution, but they WILL NOT be asking the citizens before

Continued next pg

CITY OF MONTROSE POWER GRAB IN THE WORKS

From previous pg

before then what their opinions are on these changes. The only way to force them to once again create a Citizen led Charter Review Committee as was done two decades ago is to flat out vote AGAINST changing the City Charter until your voice is heard. Voting for these changes isn't an ala carte question...it's all or nothing. I vote for "nothing" until our voices can be heard in an open and transparent fashion.

On another subject...more giveaways of tax dollars through the City's "Opportunity Funds" (Kitchen Grant Program) to fund more restaurants in the City are on the table for discussion and most likely approval at an upcoming City Council meeting in two weeks.

David Dragoo (one of the owners of the Colorado Outdoors taxpayer money pit being funded by the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority with your money) has applied for a \$176,283.46 "grant" for a commercial kitchen for a new breakfast/brunch eatery to be located next to the Trattoria di Sofia Italian restaurant (also funded by this program) in the Colorado Outdoors development. It's to be called "Toasty-All Day Eatery." This venture will

be operated by the Horsefly Brewing Co. owners in leased space at Colorado Outdoors.

Eatery 66 out of Ridgway has requested \$110,106 (\$107,697 of this amount has been approved") for a new restaurant to be located at N. Park Ave. and North 1st Street. Their business plan calls for meals to be priced in the \$20 - \$40 range and states that this pricing is "exceptionally fair market value." Maybe so, but how much longer is it going to be before many more restaurants not feeding off the government teat start going bust? With all this taxpayer money going into the corporate welfare funding that is the "kitchen grant" program, soon we'll only have government funded eateries to go to.

As I've said on these pages in the past, restaurants are the worst investment in questionable economic times due to their dependency on people's discretionary spending for survival. If all I have left at the end of the week is \$50, I'm not going to drop it at a restaurant, yet our City Manager and his cronies, think I and others will. That's how out of touch these bureaucrats are, but when you're the City Manager and are pulling down \$200,000+ a year and have a taxpayer provided luxu-


ry SUV to drive and plenty of other ben- nies, what do you care?

Taxpayer funding of parking lots, landscaping, waiving of building permits, tap fees and many other costs that business owners and developers should be paying are going out the door through many corporate welfare programs operated by your "conservative" City government. In the meantime, a moratorium on the sales tax on food that I've requested from the City Council on more than one occasion goes blissfully unanswered. The little guy doesn't matter to them. They buy the lipstick they put on the pig by the truckload!

Montrose! Again...I say wake up to what's going on here. This is NOT sustainable. Get involved and help stop or at least slow down the inevitable train wreck heading our way.

David White, Montrose

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



News, if unreported, has no impact.
It might as well have not happened at all.
Thank you for reading The Montrose Mirror.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

RV PARKS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO LONGTERM HOUSING: WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

By River Van Dyke

As we all have seen over the last few years, our little town of Montrose is growing at an alarming rate, of roughly 300 additional residents added to the population each year. This growth is something that is both celebrated for its contribution to a booming business district as well as bemoaned for increasing property values. Affordable housing is something that is severely lacking for all of these new residents. Should our elected officials be encouraging and allowing growth in the number of RV parks in its place? Many of them form their business plan around transient longterm residents who do not contribute to our economy through state taxes and income taxes.

Montrose is struggling to provide affordable housing to accommodate its growing population. County building codes dictate regulations on dwellings to ensure safe living conditions. It is debatable whether unregulated dwellings like RV's provide an acceptable alternative to affordable housing. It seems that Montrose county government agencies are trying to put Montrose on the map as an RV Park destination and gateway to the mountains.

Currently, there are nine RV Parks in Montrose county, including Black Canyon Estates, Black Canyon KOA, Cedar Creek, Centennial, Hangin' Tree, Ikie's, Meadows of San Juan, Riverbend, and Uncompahgre River RV Park. These parks provide, in total, 534 spaces. Next year, at least one other RV park, Camper's Hub will open south of town providing 103 more spaces, which will then add up to 637 spaces.

Of the nine Recreational Vehicle(RV) parks in Montrose county, all of them allow longterm residents. The percentage of longterm residents for RV Parks in Montrose range from 15% to 100%. Centennial RV Park estimates that about 15% of its residents are longterm. Cedar Creek has 40% full time residents. Meadows of San Juan recently changed their business plan, focusing on marketing to retired people. Uncompahgre River RV Park is similar,

marketing to people over 50 years old, and over winter, all of their guests stay long-term.

Some RV Parks, like Ikie's, Hangin' Tree, and Cedar Creek, highly encourage long-term stays. One even stated that they have people who have stayed as long as 20 years. Assuming that Camper's hub will have 30% longterm residents starting next year, there will be about 223 longterm spaces available. This may seem small, but many RV's house more than one person, and the amount of lost tax revenue when compared with a typical resident adds up to a significant number very quickly. Hangin' Tree and Ikie's solely offer long-term stays. Hangin' Tree and Ikie's websites both have waitlists. Cedar Creek has a waitlist specifically for longterm stays.

It is important that we understand what an RV Park is defined as. According to Montrose County, a Recreational Vehicle (RV) park is defined as "Any lot or parcel of land used or intended to be used for the accommodation of a minimum of ten or more recreational vehicles for transient dwelling purposes. Tent camping sites are also allowed in an RV Park." The word 'transient' isn't defined in the Montrose county code but most other counties and municipalities define it as less than 30 days.

Taxes are an important part of how we pay for the services provided in society. Property taxes help pay for roads, schools and governments; state taxes pay for highways and law enforcement, and car registration fees help pay for staff and services. We should consider whether longterm RV dwellers are contributing enough to our local economy through taxes to offset their use of services. If not, then ultimately they are driving up taxes for established residents.

There is a lodging tax collected from RV Parks that is intended to offset the uses of our roads and amenities by transient people. This is called a transient occupancy tax and falls very short of the amount people usually pay in property taxes. Let's say an

RV owner pays a rate of \$700 per month to rent a space in an RV Park, for a total of \$8,400 per year. Of that, \$147 per year goes to the county. This is much less than most of us pay in property taxes.

The county assessor's office states that the median home valuation of single family homes in Montrose county is \$410,160. The median property taxes in Montrose county is \$1,905 per year. That means the amount of longterm residents, if living in proper dwellings, would pay collectively \$424,815. With the transient occupancy tax, which is similar to property tax, collectively they only pay \$32,781. To compare this group of people with those who live in homes, we can subtract that number and determine that there is \$392,034 per year of lost revenue for the county of Montrose. That is over 2.1 million dollars in 5 years. If Montrose provided more long-term housing rather than providing RV parks to house transient people, it would be a lot more fair to the taxpaying residents of Montrose.

CDOT has begun major work on State highway 550 this year in Montrose county, costing Colorado taxpayers 18.9 million dollars. This highway is heavily used by residents and tourists alike. We don't know how many of these longterm RV Park residents have established residency, which would help pay for our roads.

State income tax is also very important to help pay for highways, and public services such as law enforcement. The more residents in an area, the more people there are to contribute to these essential societal needs like highways. Unfortunately, a high percentage of RV'ers are not contributing due to being remote workers that keep their out of state addresses. A survey conducted by the RV industry association in 2022 found that 54% of all RV'ers were current remote workers. Of ages 25-34, the percentage is even higher at 70%. The new RV Park south of town called Camper's Hub is marketing to individuals that work remotely by providing a niche work space building.

Continued next pg

RV PARKS AS AN ALTERNATIVE *From previous pg*

When someone moves to Colorado, it is required by law to change one's license plate within two months. This is to ensure that residents who use and contribute to the degradation of our roads and other services also contribute income taxes to help pay for them, as well as the registration fees for their vehicles.

An estimation provided by the DMV is that 92 thousand people move to Colorado each year without registering their vehicles. An increase in penalties for expired license plates and tags took effect in March. Under the new regulation, failure to register vehicles in time will result in fines of \$25 per month, and up to \$100. However, there is no way to regulate it fully since many states offer updated tags online and through the mail. It would be as easy as ordering it to the address of a friend or family member and then having that person forward it to them. In fact, many people are ordering RV license plates registered to Montana and South Dakota without ever stepping foot in these states. This is because they collect much lower excise taxes and other fees.

Some other issues with providing opportunities on a large scale for people to live in RV's longterm are air quality, more expensive heating and cooling, and increased fire risk. Older RV's are notorious for having faulty wiring that can cause fires. Montrose county has recently instated a moratorium on new RV parks on agricultural land so that they can assess how to properly regulate them to decrease forest fire danger.

Insulation is another big difference between RV's and official dwellings. This is important for several reasons, including air quality and increased cost to heat and cool. Indoor air quality is greatly dimin-

ished in RVs when compared to those living in homes due to having less insulation. RV parks in areas prone to forest fires or near industry and gas stations are particularly affected.

The R-value measures insulation and its ability to prevent heat flow from one side to the other. Montrose County has a high R-value requirement of insulation in homes, of 13 for the walls and 24 for the ceiling. According to askthervenger.com, there is no code or standard of testing to determine RV insulation R-value ratings, so any stated R-value in reference to RV's is merely part of a sales pitch. Many internet courses claim that most RV's have R-values of 6.5 for the walls and 7 for the ceiling and floor.

R-value regulations exist to help preserve energy. In recent years, the Biden administration has taken many measures to curb energy use to impact climate change. All the while, our county governments are passing more and more permits for energy draining RV parks to provide 'housing' for people moving in from other places.

One thing that people can do to get involved in decisions that impact the local community is to call or email local commissioners and tell them their thoughts about new proposals. Commissioners are elected officials and they make the land use decisions such as those that permit RV Parks. The Montrose County government portal shows public notices that the public can comment on. You can go to <https://co-montrose-co.smartgovcommunity.com/Public/Home> and click on public notices.

RV Parks can be developed in one of two ways. Potential RV Parks have the use by right to develop on commercially zoned land. RV Parks can also be developed on agricultural land but they need to obtain a

special use permit in order to do so. County and municipal commissioners are the officials that are entrusted to make these decisions for us and public comment is welcomed at commission meetings as well as through mail, email, and phone calls. Citizens can voice concerns about proposals to request conditions be added to mitigate any potential impacts.

Troubling new language was recently added to Montrose County Zoning Regulations in 2022 that states "It is the county's policy to accommodate special uses applied for, and conditions and modifications will be offered as a means of mitigating the adverse effects of the use in order to make it possible to approve rather than deny the application."

It is puzzling why this language was approved since it opens up the county to lawsuits if they do not approve requested permits. There is a current lawsuit from developer Matt Miles based on this very premise. This resulted from citizens coming in masse to oppose a large gravel pit proposal. This shows that citizens can certainly still make a difference in shaping land use choices in our community, despite language that makes it sound otherwise. Citizens can also make it known that they do not approve of the newly added language. No matter your opinion, the future of Montrose is up to us. It is important that we all contribute to how we want it to become.

<https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/next/next-with-kyle-clark/colorado-penalties-expired-tags-out-of-state-license-plates/73-286aec9e-1424-4690-975a-48cf25bf5d49>

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MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT TRIBUTE TO AVIATION



Montrose Regional Airport welcomed the public to the 7th Annual Tribute to Aviation Sept. 16-17, allowing an up-close experience with aircraft and a glimpse of updates to the airport terminal.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHO WORKS FOR WHO---WHERE IS THE ALLEGIANCE OF CITY EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS?

Editor:

A lot has been written in the local press concerning the planned medical facility down at Colorado Outdoors. Supposedly surgery, imaging, urgent care and other medical treatments will be performed there.

The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) started by the city council has, under the guise of URBAN RENEWAL spent millions upon millions to clean up an 'urban mess' that did not exist but which the Colorado URBAN RENEWAL law was designed to address. (MONTROSE, THE COUNCIL AND THE MURA BOARD HAVE BEEN AND ARE STILL BEING DUPED). And now in its latest scam MURA has decided to use public subsidies to create a business to compete with a similar public business. Hmmm. A public funded entity to competing with another public entity. This does not make sense to me.

While the MURA lark stinks to begin with, this medical facility with no proven need (with a study for instance) stinks to high heaven. The people of MONTROSE therefore deserve and in fact demand answers to several questions in open public meetings held for that express purpose. Those questions are:

- 1.What is the city council's working relationship with the Colorado Outdoors corporation regarding these medical expansions into our community?
- 2.Has the MURA board/city council received either a private or public briefing(s) concerning these medical projects?
- 3.Were there any concerns expressed by the MURA board or especially individual members of the city council concerning the possible/probable adverse financial impacts or conflicts with existing businesses? If so what were they and what was the resolution?
- 4.MONTROSE both publicly and privately has already spent untold tax dollars to provide superior medical facilities. According to the recent hospital feasibility studies, its' out-patient clinic (under construction) will cover any possible shortfall for the near future. Can the city council ensure that this TAXPAYER funding of these new facilities at Colorado Outdoors will not adversely affect the existing taxpayer funded (and privately funded) existing medical facilities and/or practices?
- 5.Has MURA completed an economic development study to determine the economic impact (possible financial loss) will result to the detriment of Montrose Regional Hospital from duplicate services offered by the MURA effort? And just who will cover the losses of the MURA mess if and when it fails to fulfill MURA's dreams? Does MURA plan on signing any notes or guarantees either for construction or financial losses now or in the future?
- 6.What will be the cost to MRH for indigent and charity financial support as a 501c3? And for the MRH public services such as helicopter support and emergency room operation for starters?
- 7.Where are the corporate headquarters of these new medical operations located? Can it be assumed that any and all profits therefrom will accrue to out-of-Montrose entities?
- 8.What content of public comment has thus far been received by MURA and from whom? Since public monies are involved the public should be privy to what is being said.
- 9.Is there any involvement in these MURA sponsored medical facilities of individuals, partnerships or corporations employed or contracted with MRH within the immediate past ten (10) years and if so, who and in what capacity?

All businesses or private individuals who have even marginal contact with this project should provide a document describing their connection with and the part they are playing in regard to the ENTIRE MURA PROJECT by affidavit to be included in the public record. Sounds fair enough since they are spending public money and possibly incurring public debt with the outside funding source, including ANY receipt of a remuneration or expectation thereof of anything emanating from their contact with MURA.

FOLLOW THE MONEY!

Bill Bennett, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GEAR UP FOR RESPIRATORY SEASON!

An Update on COVID and Vaccines for RSV, Flu, and COVID-19

Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY— With cooler weather, the fall and winter seasons usually mean more respiratory illnesses. Predicting this year's patterns among viruses will remain a challenge as Covid continues to evolve. This summer, new subvariants of the original Covid-19 began spreading across the United States, leading to increases in cases and hospitalizations. The BA.2.86 subvariant, in particular, has a large number of mutations causing increased concern. Scientists are currently studying these variants to determine whether they are more infectious or can cause more severe outcomes and potential impacts headed into the winter. San Miguel County Public Health reminds county residents of best practices for Covid prevention and is providing an update on fall vaccines.

COVID Best Practices

Regardless of the mutation, this is still Covid. Immune systems will still recognize the variant and will still protect a lot of us from severe disease. We also have tools to help protect one another if we are sick:

- If you are sick, test for Covid. Public Health has free Covid tests available for the public and tests can be purchased at most grocery stores and pharmacies.
- Covid tests still work for the new variants.
- Testing early and often is a great approach.
- Wear a mask if you're in public and symptomatic. Even if it's not Covid, masking keeps the community healthier.
- If you test positive for Covid, protocol is largely the same as it has been for the past few years.
- Isolate for at least five days, but ideally 10 days or until you test negative.
- After five days of isolation wear a mask in public settings for the full 10 days.

Fall Vaccines

This fall there are three vaccines that will

be available: flu, Covid, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). There are currently no combined vaccines, which means, if eligible, you might need three shots to protect against the three viruses this fall. Public Health plans to offer all three but do not have all three vaccines available currently. Below is some information to help plan for the fall.

Flu Vaccine

The vaccine covers four strains of seasonal flu (also known as influenza). Selecting vaccine strains is challenging for rapidly changing viruses like flu and Covid, with the vaccine working to match flu strains that recently circulated in Australia. This is a good predictor of the upcoming Northern Hemisphere. This vaccine can reduce severe cases significantly and chances for hospitalization among high-risk populations. Everyone 6 months and older is eligible for a flu vaccine. Public Health will begin offering flu vaccines at the end of September with ongoing clinic dates throughout the fall. Vaccines are available for individuals with and without insurance at no direct cost.

Covid Vaccine

The updated vaccine should be available by late September. The ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) is meeting September 12 to determine who is eligible for a Covid vaccine and why. Covid vaccines are now privatized, meaning clinics are responsible for purchasing the vaccines directly.

Insurance will still cover the cost of Covid vaccines and there are programs locally to provide these vaccines for free for individuals without insurance. Public Health is likely to offer only one type of mRNA vaccine due to cost, storage, and logistics. All Covid vaccines on the market are great and have a very narrow difference in benefits. More information and a clearer timeline on availability will be available

after the September 12 ACIP meeting.

While we are in a wave now, we expect a larger wave in winter. Getting the newer Covid vaccine this fall, broader immune protection is provided. Getting an updated vaccine formula will be more helpful against currently circulating variants. At this point, it is recommended individuals wait for the new formula unless it's their first vaccine or have concerns with the risk for waiting (ex. extensive travel plans or immunocompromised).

RSV Vaccine

The FDA recently approved an RSV vaccine for people ages 60 and older. Data about the vaccine states that it protects against severe illness with 82-86% efficacy. CDC's official recommendation for RSV vaccines is that older adults "may" get the vaccine rather than "should," which changes what insurances cover this vaccine cost.

Currently, Medicaid and Medicare cover the RSV vaccine, but some private health insurance plans do not. Public Health plans to offer the RSV vaccine this fall as well but are working to determine roll out and costs to patients. More information will be provided upon its availability. For those that are eligible and want the vaccine sooner, it is recommended to receive the vaccine from regional pharmacies that have the vaccine on hand already.

"While we are waiting on some key pieces of information, we are excited to make these vaccines available in the fall," said Grace Franklin, Public Health Director. "There will plenty of opportunities to get vaccinated with clinic schedules to be announced."

We look forward to keeping county residents and visitors as healthy as possible in the coming winter months."

Look for more info soon at <https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/737/Immunizations>

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

SANDRA WILLIAMS

February 2, 1942- September 8, 2023

Lifetime resident of the Norwood area, Sandra Marie Williams, passed away on Friday, September 8 at Hope West Ferris Hospice in Grand Junction following an accident at their ranch on Coventry Hill. She and her husband Leonard "Willie" Williams had just celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary on September 6th.

Sandy was a ranch wife and mom in the fullest sense of the word. She and Willie have developed a herd of crossbred beef cattle over the years as well as raised 4 children who brought them much joy.

Sandy was born February 2, 1942, in Telluride, Colorado. Her parents were Boyd and Bertha Oliver. A horse lover all her life, she was San Miguel Basin rodeo queen at age 15, and a competitive barrel racer. She was a graduate of Norwood High School where she played flute in the band and was a majorette and a cheerleader. She married her high school sweetheart the following September.

She is survived by her husband Leonard, her children Keith (Sue), Allen "Doc" (Jackie), Hank (Stephanie) Williams all of Norwood and Cindy (Jann) Gillen of Farmington, New Mexico. Grandchildren Ty (Jayde) Williams, Jeff (Julia) Williams, Harlie (Sterling) Zehnder, Jordan Williams and Joseph, Jacob, Ali and Slade Gillen. Great-grandchildren are Lincoln and Kase Williams. She is survived by siblings Judy Skalla (Dean) of Ridgway and Bert Oliver of Redvale.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Hope West Hospice. 3090 N. 12th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements



VERONICA DECKER



On August 28th Vickie suddenly departed this earth to be with her savior Jesus Christ.

Vickie was raised in Irvine Kentucky and spent her youth between Kentucky, Tennessee and California before ultimately landing in Montrose where she met her loving husband of 25 years, James (Jim) Decker.

She was an avid reader and make up enthusiast who sold Mary Kay for many years. In the past she was a member of the Montrose & Delta Elks, and a past president at the Ridgway Chamber of Commerce. In the later years of her life Vickie most enjoyed caring for her great grandchildren and spending time with her family.

Vickie will be greatly missed by those she left behind. She is survived by her husband Jim. Son Stephen (Stephanie) Daughters Kelly and Jamie (Matt) Grandchildren Jessica (Mike) Clarissa (John), Jake, James, Ben, Jessica, Charity, Tyler and Cassie. The lights of her life, her great grandchildren Addica, Eleanor, Olivia, Logan, River and Hazen.

She was met at the gates by those who proceeded her in death including her daughter De'Nay, her parents Jay and Laverne, and her grandparents Foree and Virginia.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation in Vickie's honor to her favorite charity, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting the family

ISSUE 436 Sept. 18, 2023

ART & SOL

LANOUE DUBOIS – THE FAMILY AND THE WINERY

By Kate Burke

MONTROSE-The LaNoe DuBois Winery, five miles south of downtown Montrose, is owned by Rick LaNoe, Kathy Woods LaNoe, and their son, Lee LaNoe. The name and the location both have interesting historical significance.

The name LaNoe comes from Rick LaNoe's family, who moved to Ouray (from Louisiana) in 1973. Rick's father worked underground at the Idarado Mine on the raise drills. The surname, LaNoe, is French, originating in the coastal region of Normandy. Rick's great-great grandfather, Marie Michel Hypolite LaNoe, had migrated to Louisiana during the French Revolution.

The name DuBois comes from Kathy's family, the Woods. The Woods family have been in the area since the early 1900s, at one time, proprietors of the Cascade Livery Stables in downtown Montrose. They also owned a lot of land south of town and are now the 4th generation of rancher/farmers on the historic Woods Farm in Montrose. This is where the LaNoe DuBois vineyards and winery now stand.

Kathy suggested converting the Woods name to French (DuBois). *Bois* is a French topographical name given to someone who lived or worked in the woods, or who worked as a woodcutter. Which is coincidentally appropriate, since Kathy and Rick's son, Lee, is a master cabinet maker

and woodworker, who did most of the woodwork in the winery's tasting room.

Rick's family, the LaNoes, had been vacationing in Ouray for 12 years, when his parents decided, "Why not just move there?" They did, and Rick wound up graduating high school in the same class as Ouray's former sheriff Dominic Mattivi Jr. Like his father before him, Rick also worked at the Idarado, handing pipe, but he worked above ground in the machine shop.

After college, Rick worked for Chevron Production in the Rangely Oilfield for 29 years. He met his wife, Kathy Woods, in Rangely in 1994. She was studying at flight school to become a pilot.

Kathy's dad, Ralf Woods, was an Army Air Core pilot and trained fighter pilots during World War II. "He was one of five siblings (four boys and one girl), who all served during the war," Kathy said. "And all of them came home safely at the end of the war!"

After the war, and still flying, Ralph built The Woods Short Takeoff Landing Strip (STOL) on a piece of the Woods Farm



Courtesy photo Kate Burke.

across the road from the family's brick house. Today, that little runway is still there, but rocky and covered in weeds; the last plane to land on it was 30-40 years ago.

Ralph, and his wife, Ruby, along with Ralph's parents O.H and Grace Woods, continued to run the farm, buying up more land, until it wound up a 300-acre cattle ranch. They ran cattle up to Owl Creek in the summer, stopping on the way at the Cookie Tree ranch, now under the waters of the Ridgway Dam.

Kathy and her four sisters grew up farming (as well as riding horses and herding cattle). Like so many others who have

Continued next pg

LANOUE DUBOIS – THE FAMILY AND THE WINERY

From previous pg

grown up on family farms, the girls were anxious to leave and experience life “out there.” Which Kathy did after marrying her first husband, whose Army career led them to traveling around the world. Considering that her dad, and all her aunts and uncles had been in the military, it wasn’t surprising when Kathy married an army man. Nor was it surprising that she decided to follow in her dad’s footsteps and become a pilot.

Meanwhile, back on the Wood’s property, Ralf had tired of running cattle, and in 1998, went back to farming and grew alfalfa. Within three years, he’d had enough, and was looking to make another change. Ralf and Ruby decided to think about retiring. Ruby suggested planting a small vineyard on a rocky part of the farm, to test grape varieties to determine if there were high quality wine grapes that might thrive in this climate. Even though he had decided to quit farming, Ralf kept at it for another seven years, finally retiring in 2008, at age 88. He and Ruby decided to give the farm to their daughters.

Rick and Kathy picked up on Ruby’s idea of growing grapes. Rick was an amateur winemaker, and Lee their youngest child, was fascinated with the process of making wine. Lee had been helping clean bottles since he was eight. During their vacation time, the LaNoues had been visiting the farm (and almost always worked: stacking hay, stacking pipe, and laying gated pipe) almost every weekend for several years. In 2008, after Ralph retired, Rick and Kathy began the Main Vineyard during their vacations. They installed a deer fence and drip irrigation system making them the first solar-powered vineyard in the State of Colorado. Rick’s career experience was a great help in engineering the project.

“We had a 5-year plan,” he said, “which stretched into EIGHT years until I retired from Chevron in 2016. That’s when we moved to the farm to live there full time.” Of the Woods sisters, only Kathy contin-

ued farming the land, although Peggy (the oldest) and Terry (the middle sister) built homes and continued living there. LaRel, a school teacher in Alaska, comes back every summer, and will build a home there prior to retiring. Only, Charity, the youngest and living in California, sold her share to developers.

By 2018, the LaNoues were getting overwhelmed with the vineyard and winery plans. Lee, who had been helping out when he could for more than 17 years, was working as a master cabinet worker in Telluride. He left his job and came to work in the vineyard and assisted with final winery designs.

“We did a LOT of research (well, Kathy did a lot of research),” Rick explained, “and for the next 12 years we planted a variety of different types of Vinifera and French-American hybrid grapes.” At that time not much was known about growing wine grapes in the Uncompahgre Valley. They learned that at the 6,000 ft. altitude with a short growing season, extensive testing was needed to determine the right varieties.

“We knew a lot, but definitely needed to know more about winemaking,” Rick said. He and Kathy had visited vineyards and wineries in Italy, Spain, and France, and the California wine country. “But we learned the most from Colorado viticulturalists,” Rick explained. “I knew one of us had to go back to school, and I knew it wasn’t going to be me!”

So, it was Lee who went to Mesa State University to learn Enology (Winemaking) and Viticulture (grapevine growing). Now, officially the winemaker, Lee has found his passion. He understands the art of winemaking and can balance it with the science required to make some award-winning wines. LaNoue DuBois just won an international gold medal this year for their Syrah.

In May, 2020, with three generations living in the big house (Rick & Kathy, Lee, and Lee’s two children). the LaNoue-

Woods family began construction on their winery. That same year, the first harvest and actual winemaking on the production floor took place while the tasting room area was being finished. Efficient and professional winemaking equipment and effective temperature control led to a successful first bottling.

On Mother’s Day, May 9, 2021, LaNoue Dubois Winery opened for tastings and tours, with five estate-grown wines. All of their wines were well received by the wine fans of Montrose, other parts of Colorado, and people from all across the country and the world.

Now it’s time for Rick and Kathy to think about retiring.” We are lucky that we have a son who is so passionate about the wine making,” they said, “and will take over for us. We hope one day Lee’s kids will join him in the family business and continue making great wines, right here in Montrose.”

Well, following in the Woods family tradition, Lee’s daughter, Ophelia, might be a pilot first...she’s thinking spaceships. But with her love of science, Lee predicts she could one day be the winemaker. As for his son Raleigh, who loves dinosaur history, helping dig in and maintain the vineyard, he might just discover some ancient bones...which could lead to a new vintage name.

LaNoue DuBois, a family-run vineyard and winery with a focus on crafting unique, award-winning wines is a culmination of five generations of agricultural past, present, and future. Under Lee’s direction, the community-minded winery offers agritourism tours and a variety of activities, as well as hosting a wine club. Learn more and sample their award-winning wines at LaNoue DuBois Winery, 67289 Trout Road. lanouewines.com.

Kate Burke also conducts art classes at LaNoue DuBois in the Tasting Room. See her class details at kathrynrburke.com/LaNoue

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

Office Hours: By appointment.

Contact Information: (970) 249-2451
[https:// www.allsaintsmontrose.org/](https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/) Rec-
 tor: The Rev Preston Gordon, [don@allsaintsmontrose.org](mailto:pgor-

 don@allsaintsmontrose.org)

Worship Service Times: Sundays 9AM,

Sunday Worship. Wednesdays 11AM, Mid-
 week prayer and communion, Wednes-
 day, Noon, Multi-denominational Commu-
 nity Prayer Hour.

All Saints Anglican Church is an Evangelical
 Anglican Church committed to the minis-
 try of Word, Sacrament, and Spirit. Our
 music is a combination of traditional
 hymns, contemporary, and modern songs.

We invite kids preschool and up to join
 our kids worship time during the 9am Sun-
 day service. We would love to welcome
 you here. Following the service, join us for
 snacks and conversation. On the third Sun-
 day of the month we celebrate a potluck
 meal together.

Vision: We see Jesus Christ restoring
 hope: in us and in our world.

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/](https://celebrationmontrose.org/)

Senior Pastor:
 Pastor Brandon Mathis

Church Description/Mission: Celebration
 Church makes disciples that make disci-
 ples. 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 Sun-
 days

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) Celebra-
 tion Group: Thursdays @ 5:30pm off cam-
 pus location
 Celebrate Recovery: Friday nights @
 6:30pm

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Denomination: Christ Lutheran Montrose
Affiliation: Lutheran Church Missouri Syn-
 od
Address: 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Mont-
 rose, 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 welcom-
 ing environment being comforted and en-
 couraged 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 old-
 er 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 en-
 courage, 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 minis-
 tries.*

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Denomination affiliation: United Church of Christ

Address: 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

Office hours: By appointment

Contact information:

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: office@montroseucc.org

Website: montroseucc.org

Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd

Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.

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

on life's journey.

Church demographics: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with us. (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles)

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

montroseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

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

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

Contact information:

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: www.RosemontBaptist.org

email: office@rosemontbaptist.org

Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

Denomination affiliation: Independent Interfaith

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

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

Home Office – 970-252-0908

Contact information: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908, arlyn@spiritaware.org, www.spiritaware.org

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

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

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

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

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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- Home has a Living Room & Family Room
- Built-in Bench & Linen Closet in Master Bath
- Backs up to Open Space

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THROUGH DEC. 31,
2023**

**901 65.30 ROAD, #1000
MONTROSE, CO 81401**

970-249-0493

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

HOROSHKO HEADLINES AT STORIES & POEMS

Special to Art & Sol

NORWOOD-Talking Gourds Poetry Program and the Lone Cone Library have teamed up for the third session of its new live community sharing series, *Stories & Poems*. Wednesday, Sept. 20th, at 7:30 pm. Artist and editor Sonja Horoshko of Cortez will perform pieces from her second Southwestern anthology of regionally contributed poetry and prose.

"After several years of Covid-wary avoidance of live events, we're happy to offer a sharing circle for storytellers and poets," said Talking Gourds co-director Art Goodtimes. "Poetry may seem intimidating to some, but everyone tells stories."

Horoshko has worked for many years as an artist with shows of her paintings at galleries in the Cortez area and as a journalist with the *Four Corners Free Press*, especially covering affairs on the Navajo Reservation.

Fertile (Fourth Corner Press, 2023) follows on the heels of the first of four planned anthologies. *Wet* was the first volume and focused on water – an essential element of life in southwestern Colorado. *Fertile* focuses on the soil and how humans con-

nect with the earth, especially timely given the recent Indigenous mantra, "Land Back." *Fertile* seeks to bring land back into our minds and actions, to help us learn to live in harmony with the land as Indigenous tribes have tried to do for centuries. About the anthology, Fourth Corner Publisher Rebecca Levy explains, "Fertile is a collective narrative of exceptional southwest contemporary authors examining the complex inspiration and influence of the planet on humans. A diverse group of authors reach into the ground -- surface, mantel, core and exosphere -- to share personal stories, including ones in many first languages beyond English, such as Diné, Nuche, Spanish, Hopi, and Mvskoke." *Stories & Poems* will follow a format similar to the Talking Gourds events that happened in Telluride before the pandemic. There will be a featured storyteller or poet, followed by a Gourd Circle where everyone will be invited to tell a story, perform a poem (an original or a favorite written by someone else), sing a song, read a short section of prose, or simply pass the gourd to the next person.

Stories & Poems is free and open to all



ages, sponsored by private donors and the Fischer Cantor poetry contests.

www.tellurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds.

For more information, text 970-729-0220 or email Art Goodtimes at shroompa@gmail.com



ART by FOUR
Montrose Women's Club
Fall/Holiday Bazaar
Fri. Oct. 20, 9am-6pm
Sat. Oct. 21, 9am-4pm

Friendship Hall,
 Montrose Fairgrounds
 FREE admission
 Kate demonstrating Friday
 Alice demonstrating Saturday

**Annual
Holiday
Crafts & Bazaar**

**FRIDAY, NOV. 3RD
9:30AM TO 6PM**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH
9AM TO 4PM**

**MONTROSE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS
FRIENDSHIP HALL**

FREE ENTRY

**HOURLY
DOOR PRIZES**

For Vendor Information call **Debbie 970.531.2438** or email **montrosefootwear@aol.com**

Ink & Drink at **Paint Wine Glasses** *with Alcohol Ink*



LA NOUE
DUBOIS



Saturday
Sept. 23
1:30 to
3:30 pm

with Kate Burke

No experience necessary. Everything provided.
Includes wine or soft drink. \$45

LaNoue DuBois Winery
67289 Trout Rd., Montrose



DOUBLES DISCOUNT. \$5 OFF

if you pre-register online for two people, same ticket

Register <https://kathrynrburke.com/product/092323wine/>



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

2ND ANNUAL CULTURE FEST SEPT. 23

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-On Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 am - 4 pm, Culture Fest, Ute Indian Museum, 17253 Chipeta Rd. Join us for the 2nd annual Culture Fest featuring informational displays, artisan vendors, ethnic cuisine, kids activities, and performances by community members from the diverse cultures that make up the Montrose community. The event is free and all are welcome. Parking is limited and attendees are encouraged to take the free shuttle from the Target parking lot.

PUBLIC OPINION NEEDED

Critical Community Wildfire and Watershed Protection Plan

Fill out the survey!

Visit www.montrosecounty.net/cwp2 for survey and information

FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES



People and communities are prepared to receive, respond to and recover from wildfire.

SAFE, EFFECTIVE WILDFIRE RESPONSE



All jurisdictions coordinate to implement safe, effective, risk-based management decisions.

RESILIENT LANDSCAPES



Landscapes are resilient to fire, insect, and disease disturbances, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.

POST-FIRE RECOVERY



Preparing communities for inevitable fire effects through pre-fire planning for post-fire response.





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)
The Elk's cash bar will be available

Team Name: _____

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

Players names:

1 (*) _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____

Please complete one form per team.

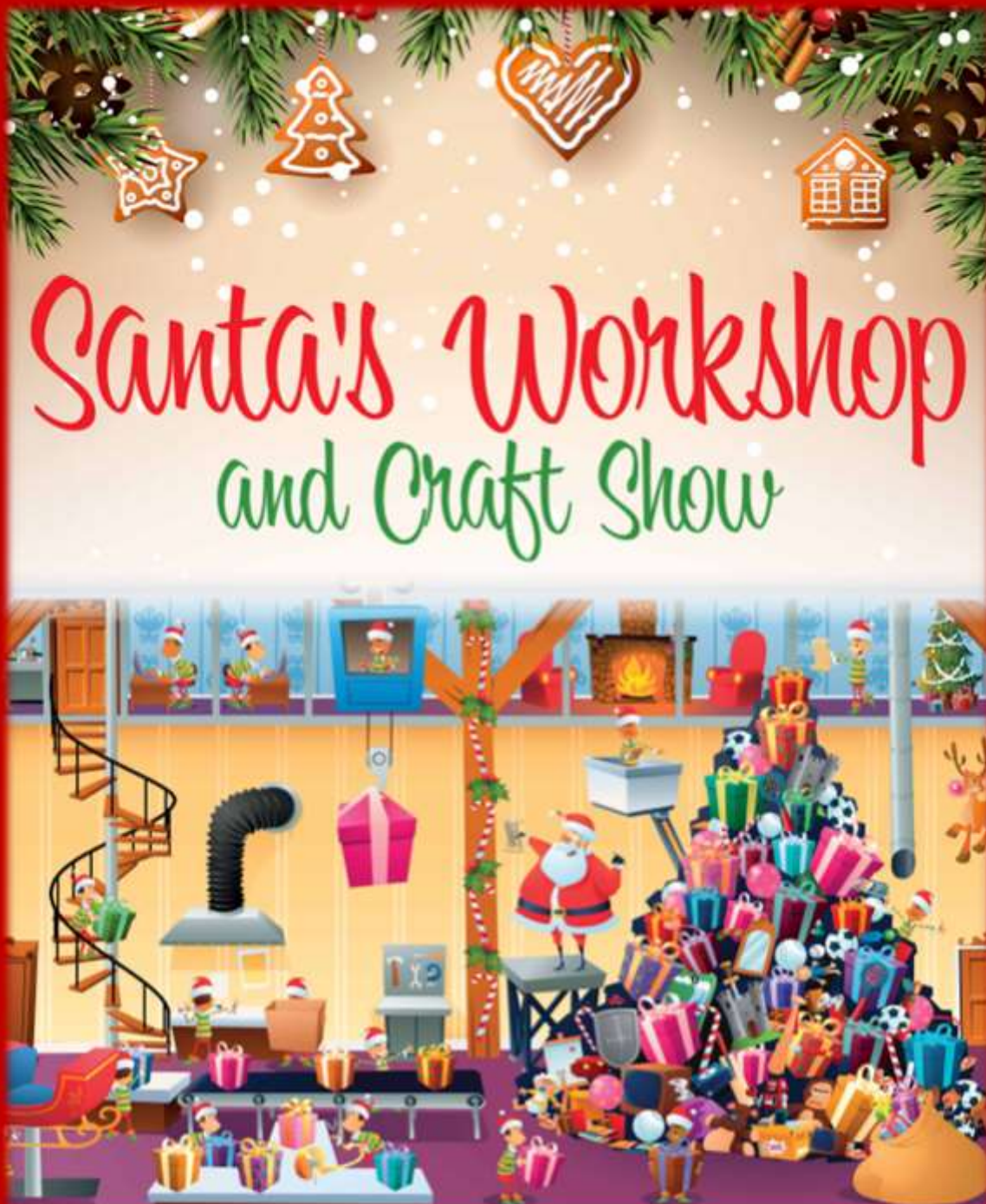
Please be sure to be seated before our start time of 5:30pm.

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).

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD



Santa's Workshop and Craft Show

Friday, Dec. 1st • 9:30am to 6pm
Saturday, Dec. 2nd • 9am to 4pm
Sunday, Dec. 3rd • 11am to 4pm

Montrose County Fairgrounds Friendship Hall

For Vendor Information call

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YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – FALL COLORS



By Dr. Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D

Greetings Mirrorites!

Leaf peeping season is upon us, and viewing the splendor of the hills can do more for our brains than just make us pine for hot apple cider.

Colors are powerful and can affect not only your mood but also your energy level, sleep pattern, blood pressure, and even sexuality. Fall colors can improve our visual memory and increase our arousal level in a good way. We know that physiological arousal is higher when viewing of the color red than it is for green. Other research suggests that the effect of emotion on memory depends on the color, with the color red strongly increasing memory for negative words and the color green strongly increasing memory for positive words. But that is when red is viewed in certain contexts and in large amounts. A mix of warm autumn colors, such as yellow, orange, pink, and red can motivate and energize us. It's the mix that makes viewing fall colors so healthful.

One their own, red and orange colors can be irritating when unrelieved. Almost as bad is 50 shades of gray, which is commonly used in professional settings or formal events, and can be more depressing than black. The color white commonly used in most public spaces and schools can increase stress and decrease concentration. What makes fall colors so pleasing, compelling, and stress reducing is the color palate presented.

"Visual contrast grabs our attention from infancy onward," says Jason Brunt, Ph.D., an assistant professor of psychology at Biola University in California. Brunt's view of autumn is informed by his research interest in cognitive development. He

notes that the classic scene of turning leaves in autumn is rich in visual contrast, with bright red, orange or yellow often juxtaposed with bright green. "Heavy visual contrast, saturation, and brightness are perceived as pleasantly exciting, and all of those properties characterize peak fall season," Brunt says. "There is also a striking temporal contrast. You get green, green, green from spring through summer, and then—bang! You see the first leaf fall, and within a couple of weeks, the trees are ablaze with color."

Our brains interpret this dramatic change as a signal. Brunt likens the experience to listening to a steady hum of background noise and then suddenly hearing a loud boom. When we encounter a unique stimulus, we tend to think it's meaningful—and if the stimulus comes and goes at regular intervals, we attribute even more meaning to it. Such is the case with the yearly blast of autumn color. It kicks us into a kind of novelty viewing and away from monochromatic, ubiquitous, consistent green. But if green is generally preferred by the brain for mood and cognitive function, wouldn't that mean that viewing fall colors is bad for us?

The attention-getting power of brightly hued leaves that change weekly in the landscape does have a beneficial side. An autumn stroll can be an excellent stress reliever, says Michelle Harris, who teaches counseling psychology and expressive arts therapy at William James College in Massachusetts, where leaf peeping is almost as awesome as it is in Montrose. She directs her clients to become more aware of day-to-day changes in colors and patterns as an exercise in artistic observation and mindfulness. "I like to notice how the leaves are changing on the same tree each time I walk past," Harris says. "Are they yellower now? Have some dropped since last time? I find it meditative."

Besides being lovely to look at, autumn leaves evoke associations with past experiences, including events that recurred year after year in childhood. That is for people lucky enough to grow up in a place with seasons (unlike me, growing up in San Diego where nothing ever changed). For most people, these associations are positive: reconnecting with friends at school, sipping hot apple cider, going trick-or-treating, jumping in a pile of freshly



Photo courtesy of Aaron Burden

raked leaves.

Given that our native Gambel oak turn bright maroon in fall, our local visual feasting is truly impressive. Red has the longest wavelength of light on the visible spectrum, meaning it has many differentiable tones, such as that captivating oak maroon. Although in many areas of life it can mean danger or passion, during this season it evokes less intense emotions and instead gives out feelings of coziness, as well as being very motivating.

Orange leaves can fill us with feelings of joy, fun, imagination, and even hidden mischief when it provokes creativity. It is a very positive color and has been linked to improved cognition at home and in the wild. Although commonly considered most folk's least favorite colors, when mingled with other colors it evokes stimulation, vibrancy, and enthusiasm.

The aspens take on a pale yellow tinged with green to offset all of the intense oranges from other deciduous species. And that aspen yellow, well it's known to invoke happiness. Yellow is the most visible wavelength to the human eye and it instills energy, hope, and optimism.

This is part one of a two-part series on the benefits to the brain of fall colors. But don't wait for the next installation to get out there and get those peepers peeping. Those radiant colors are all too short in duration until the gray days of winter are upon us (I know, I know...Winter Is Coming!)

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

20TH ANNUAL OURAY COUNTY RAILROAD DAYS SEPT. 22-24

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-The weekend of September 22 through 24 will provide plenty of opportunities to experience the railroad heritage of the San Juan Mountains as the Ridgway Railroad Museum presents the twentieth annual Ouray County Railroad Days. Visitors will be able to enjoy unlimited free rides from 9 am to 4 pm Saturday and Sunday on Galloping Goose 4, and in the historic Denver and Rio Grande caboose, as well as Rio Grande Southern Motor 1 and RGS Model T track inspection car No. 1. Docents will be on hand both days to provide information about southwestern Colorado's world-famous narrow gauge railroad history. In addition, there will be a guided hike along the Silverton Railroad right-of-way on Red Mountain, from Guston to the Joker Tunnel, including the Corkscrew turntable on Friday, meet at the corkscrew Gulch 4WD trailhead eight miles south of Ouray on US 550 at 9 am, be sure to bring a lunch and dress for the weather. A model railroad open house will be held between 9 am and 1 pm on Saturday at 17 Whitehouse Vista Lane, between Ouray and Ridgway, and there will also be a guided auto tour along the route of the Ouray Branch of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. The auto tour will meet at the museum railyard at 1 pm on Saturday. All Railroad Museum events are free.

BACK TO THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL FIELD TRIP

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Join Chris Miller, Executive Director, with the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado along with Jon Horn, Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Montrose for Back to the Old Spanish Trail Field Trip. FREE Saturday, September 30, 2023, 9 am – NOON.

Horn will share with you the points of interest along the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail (OST) and will share the location of five segments of the Old Spanish Trail. Miller serves on the Old Spanish Trail Board of Directors and is working on several Old Spanish Trail Interpretive Projects located in Western Colorado.

The general location of Historic Fort Uncompahgre is what has been referred to by author (Baker 2008) as the Great Delta topographic gate on the Gunnison River. The topography at the original location allowed easy passage north to the Colorado River and southward into the Uncompahgre Valley until the railroad arrived in

the area in the latter nineteenth century, the area known as Robidoux Bottoms had remained the primary fording place on the Gunnison River along the old path which later became the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail and then the Salt Lake Wagon Road. Juan Rivera, exploring in the summer and fall of 1765 being the first in Western Colorado to travel along the western San Juan Mountains north into the Delta area. Rivera's travels with the assistance of native guides would expose the Spanish to the many trails and topography of our region. These explorations would lay the foundation for individuals like Antione Robidoux to trap furs, host trappers, trade with the Utes prior to the Mexican War in 1846.

During their trips of 1776 Father's Dominguez and Escalante also arrived at the great Delta travel gate though they struck the river a few miles above the Robidoux Bottoms. Even to the present day this travel gateway has been used by

nearly all travelers who wish to pass north and south up the Western Slope of Colorado.

"Nearly all that we know about Robidoux's old trading post comes from accounts left by such travelers. Robidoux clearly sited his enterprise at the most strategic travel gateway in the region." Steven G. Baker, Uncompahgre Valley Ute project, Centuries Research, Inc. Montrose, CO.

The public is invited to attend the Back to the Old Spanish Trail field trip, Saturday, September 30th, 9-12 noon, FREE. Transportation will be provided by the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado.

Please plan to meet at the parking lot located just west of Fort Uncompahgre no later than 9 am and return no later than Noon. We will be using a School Bus; seating is limited to the first 46 folks that sign up.

Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. RSVP is required please call 970 640-7076.

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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.

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.) **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

Sept. 19-Montrose County Republicans invite you to Social Hour Tuesday, September 19th from 5:30-7:30pm Wild Horse Wine & Whiskey Bar in Montrose.

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).

Sept. 22-The Delta Montrose Community Concert Association is pleased to present the Folk Legacy Trio as the first concert of our 2023-2024 season. The concert is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 22, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Delta Performing Arts Center, 822 Grand Avenue in Delta, CO. Doors open at 6 p.m. Single admission tickets will be available at the door on the night of the performance, \$25 for adults and \$5 for students. For additional information please contact Connie at 970-249-4308 or Bob 970-835-4480 or visit our website at www.deltamontroseconcerts.com.

Sept. 22-Ouray County Railroad days guided hike: Along Silverton Railroad route on Red Mountain from Guston to Joker Tunnel. Meet at 9 am at Corkscrew 4WD trailhead, bring lunch and weather gear. Free.

Sept. 23-On Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 am - 4 pm, Culture Fest, Ute Indian Museum, 17253 Chipeta Rd. Join us for the 2nd annual Culture Fest featuring informational displays, artisan vendors, ethnic cuisine, kids activities, and performances by community members from the diverse cultures that make up the Montrose community. The event is free and all are welcome. Parking is limited and attendees are encouraged to take the free shuttle from the Target parking lot.

Sept. 23-OURAY-OURAY COUNTY RAILROAD DAYS 9 am – 4 pm: Celebrate Ouray County's world-famous narrow-gauge history at the Ridgway Railroad Museum with docents on site and free train rides on Galloping Goose 4, D&RG caboose 91/0575, RGS Motor 1 and RGS Model T Inspection Car 1. Model train open house 9 am – 1 pm at 17 Whitehouse Vista Lane north of Ouray. Guided auto tour along the D&RG Ouray Branch route, meet at the museum at 1 pm. All events are free.

Sept. 23- Classic Car Show at All Saints Anglican Church, 2057 S. Townsend, on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Entry fee is \$15 per vehicle. Registration starts at 8.m. Coffee and donuts will be available during registration to car owners and the general public. Lunch will be available for \$10. However anyone entering a car in the show will receive a free lunch ticket. Awards will be given for Best Antique, Best Classic, Best Motorcycle and an Audience Choice Award.

Sept. 24-OURAY COUNTY RAILROAD DAYS 9 am – 4 pm: Celebrate Ouray County's world-famous narrow-gauge history at the Ridgway Railroad Museum with docents on site and free train rides on Galloping Goose 4, D&RG caboose 91/0575. RGS Motor 1 and RGS Model T Inspection Car 1. All events are free.

MIRROR IMAGES: TRIBUTE TO AVIATION 2023



MONTROSE-Aircraft enthusiasts showed up for the 7th Annual Montrose Regional Airport Tribute to Aviation this past weekend. The static display allows visitors to interact and learn more about the aircraft on display. This year, guests also got a glimpse of recent updates to the Airport Terminal.



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