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the Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 553 Oct. 2 2023

"IT SOUNDS LIKE WE GOT A JUDGE PROBLEM"



"We've had a judge in Gunnison who, in a sex assault case, basically was going to let someone who brutally raped a woman out on bond...so she let him out without any conditions, and the victim ended up killing herself because she was so afraid."—DA Seth Ryan. Mirror file photo above.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Chair Sue Hansen welcomed 7th Judicial District Attorney Seth Ryan to the budget work session of Monday, Sept. 25. "Mr. Ryan, would you like to approach the bench?"

Ryan said he didn't know that Delta County officials would be present for the work session as well; he expressed appreciation for the chance to share a request with both counties at once. "I'm glad, it kills two birds with one stone." The District Attorney provided copies of his budget letter to those present, including Montrose BOCC Chair Hansen, Vice Chair Roger Rash, and Commissioner Keith Caddy. Delta County Commissioners Wendell Koontz, Mike Lane, and Don Suppes were present, as were Delta County Sheriff Mark

[Continued pg 32](#)

RE-1J WORK SESSION LOOKS AT NEED, STRATEGIES FOR ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT

"Our kids have gaps—it shows in our data," Superintendent Carrie Stephenson

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education President Sarah Fishing called the regular work session of Tuesday, Sept. 26 to order at 6:30pm, and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. All directors were present including Board Vice President Eric Kelley, District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, District D Director Tom West and District G Director Stephen Bush.

Fishing led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION

The first discussion item was Academic Improvement, with an extensive presentation shared by RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson (the full presentation is included in the work session packet). Stephenson detailed the current state of academic achievement, test results, and the need for improvement. The presentation includes information from the 2023 District Performance Framework. Chronic

[Continued pg 6](#)



The first discussion item at the RE-1J Board of Education work session was Academic Improvement, with an extensive presentation shared by RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson, above (the full presentation is included in the work session packet). Photo by Caitlin Switzer.

["Woman Against Woman," by Montrose Historian Bob Cox!](#)

[Red Hawks Thrash Grand Junction Central Warriors!](#)

[Lauren Hall Ruddell: Your Brain on Nature-Fall Colors Part II!](#)

[Letters to the Editor & Regional News Briefs!](#)

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RE-1J BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS - NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-There are seven members on the Board of Education who determine District policy and how the district operates. Each board member is elected to a four-year term (District A is a two-year term) with each member representing a section of the district. For additional information on Board of Education elections or to find out how to be added to the ballot in future elections, contact the Board of Education secretary at (970) 252-7902.

CANDIDATES

2023 Board of Education Election Candidates
 (click here for candidate bio's)

Notice of Intent

District A:

Neisha Balleck

Erik Westesen

District B

Ted Valerio

District D:

Charli Oswald

Tom West

District F:

Jody Hovde

Dawn Schieldt

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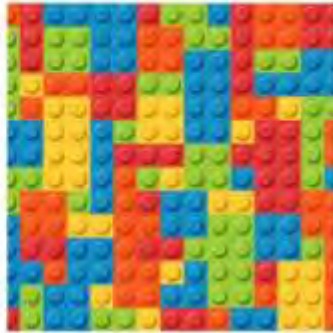
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HWY 133 PAVING TO BEGIN MID WEEK



Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY-Crews are preparing to begin paving the highway at Mile Point 116 towards the end of the week (week of Oct. 2-6). Once the paving is complete, the team will open the roadway up at night followed by single lane intermittent closures in the work zone throughout the day to support the paving operation and while guardrail is installed. The last step to completing the project will be permanent striping. The current traffic alignment, utilizing the shoo fly detour, with alternating traffic and flaggers is in place 24/7 until the paving is complete. Please take it slow through the work zone. Fifteen minute or less delays are expected.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CITY TO HOST BUDGET OPEN HOUSE OCT. 17

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose's 2024 budget open house will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, in the City Council Chambers located at 107 S. Cascade Avenue, starting at 4:30 p.m. View the proposed budget at CityofMontrose.org/Budget. Copies are also available at City Hall (400 East Main Street) from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. All interested citizens are encouraged to give written and verbal comments.




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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT



Deb Reimann took this photo of an American Pika with grass in its mouth. "Can you see him???? These fascinating little creatures live in an alpine environment and spend most of the summer collecting grasses/forbs from meadows and laying them out to dry in 'hay piles' which will serve as their winter food cache to survive until the next summer," Reimann said.



High country fence in Autumn photo is by B. Switzer.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

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MONTROSE COUNTY

Presentation of the 2024 Budget



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RE-1J WORK SESSION LOOKS AT NEED, STRATEGIES FOR ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT From pg 1

absenteeism has decreased since 2022 but persists. The number of overall behavior incidents increased from 2,016 in 2021-2022 to 3,074 in 2022-2023. So far this year there have been 200 behavior incidents. The number of students enrolling in Advanced Placement (AP) classes has also increased from year to year. Schools are moving away from levelled reading materials to decodable readers, and are emphasizing the Science of Reading.

The district's Improvement strategy includes school action plans, a district-wide focus on lesson design, engagement, the safety team, career pathways, the Science of Reading, and instructional walks--which allow educators to see what is happening throughout their building and offer "an

embedded opportunity to help us all get better."

Stephenson said, "...Our kids have gaps—it shows in our data."

RE-1J Executive Director of Curriculum Jessica Beller spoke about promoting attendance through creating engagement, and "igniting a spark for contagious learning." Stephenson spoke about reducing the barriers that make attendance difficult for students and families.

District G Director Stephen Bush suggested reaching out to other schools across the state that have lower rates of absenteeism to find out what they are doing.

"Kids are different now," as schools face increased behavior issues, anger and disengagement. "What teachers do in the

classroom each day saves lives," Stephenson said.

Directors asked questions and discussed strategies for improvement.

Board President Sarah Fishering said, "The community needs to own this to a certain extent...our youngest citizens are not coming into the classroom ready for kindergarten."

In other business, the Board considered the Superintendent Evaluation Tool formulated at the previous work session, heard updates from the District Accountability and Advisory committees, and noted that the next meeting of the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 6:30pm. at the central district office.

All Welcome

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

ONE MILLION COLORADANS LIVE WITH ELEVATED RISK OF WILDFIRE

Special to the Mirror

FORT COLLINS — A new analysis from the Colorado State Forest Service shows that just under half of Colorado's population, about 2.5 million people, lives in the wildland-urban interface. Of these residents, more than 1 million live in areas with moderate to very high risk of wildfire. This analysis considers the wildland-urban interface (WUI) as the area where human development (roads, buildings and neighborhoods) is built close to, or within, natural terrain and flammable vegetation and is at risk of wildfire. New data reveal that the WUI in Colorado consists of about 4.5 million acres, or about 45 times the size of the City of Denver, and contains more than one million buildings.

This summer, the CSFS released an update to the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment (CO-WRA), which provides critical data and analysis about potential impacts of wildfire specific to Colorado. Using data collected at the end of 2022, the updated version of CO-WRA, first released in 2012, helps community leaders, planners and interested residents understand their risk of wildfire.

This is the first major update since 2018; moving forward, the data will be updated every three years. The online mapping tool is part of the [Colorado Forest Atlas](#), and it demonstrates where forest management actions can achieve the greatest impact to reduce wildfire risk.

The CO-WRA analysis focuses on the

neighborhood to community level, and it does not include data about individual building materials or fires spread from structure to structure.

Staff in the Science and Data Division of the CSFS worked with contractor Technosylva to add innovative data analysis to gain as clear and accurate a picture as possible of the conditions across Colorado specific to the state.

Learn more about the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment and explore the latest data with easy-to-use, interactive maps at coloradoforestatlas.org.

Colorado residents can check their own wildfire risk and learn low-cost, practical ways to protect people, pets and property at LiveWildfireReady.org



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CHANGING OF THE LEAVES EXPECTED TO BRING ADDITIONAL MOUNTAIN TRAFFIC

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Colorado Department of Transportation is reminding drivers to plan on additional traffic in the high country, especially over the next few weekends, as people head out to see the fall colors. Mountain roads see increased traffic when the aspens begin turning to red and gold, so drivers and those taking photos outside of their vehicles and walking along roadways need to watch out for each other.

Be a Smart Leaf Peeper - Tips for driving along roads and highways this fall:

- Beware of other vehicles that may be traveling at lower speeds.
- Watch for vehicles pulling off the roadways, and vehicles parked on the roadside.
- Find safe, designated areas to park.
- Drivers be aware of pedestrians! People will be out

of their vehicles, often taking photos.

-Pedestrians should be extremely diligent and watch out for passing vehicles.

Leaf peeping season also is a good time to explore one of Colorado's 26 Scenic and Historic Byways. Leaf peepers are encouraged to visit www.COtrip.org to see where all of the Scenic and Historic Byways are and learn fun facts, estimated drive times, key attractions, route length and more! Plan your route ahead of time by clicking on the Scenic Byways layer on the Layers menu on both COtrip.org and the COtrip Planner App.



These leaf peepers have found a safe place along US 550 and are a good distance from the highway to take photos of the changing fall leaves on Coal Bank Pass. CDOT courtesy photo.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS PROGRAM ON WATER STORAGE AND USE OCT. 4

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Mendy Stewart of the Shavano Conservation District detailing water storage and use as well as the district's involvement in conserving the natural resources of the district and of Montrose County. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available.



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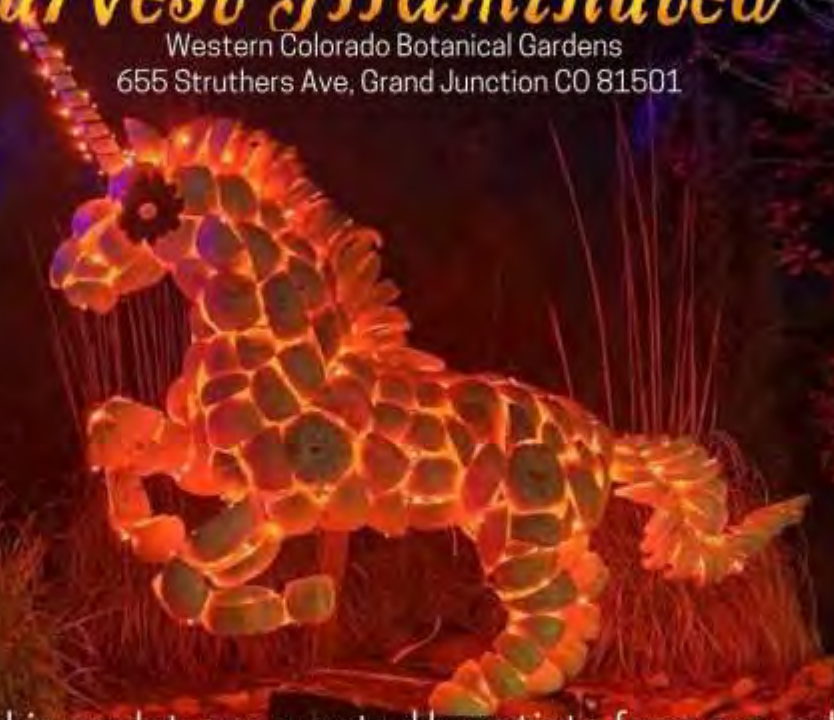
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

STANDING FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MCSO

Editor:

In the last five years our Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard has gone a long way to transform our Sheriff Department into a highly respected and proficient organization.

But... There are outside economic forces at work. Recruiting and retention problems are no longer a local matter. Competitive recruiting is now a national problem. Law enforcement personnel and staff have been leaving the profession in record numbers.

The Montrose Sheriff Department (SO) has not been left out of that equation. Other personnel retention influences include spouses and significant others that no longer can tolerate their personal financial situations and will continue to depart the MCSO due to inflation and other factors as they themselves determine what is in their respective best interest. . Considerably higher signing bonuses, wages and retirement plans are being offered nationally. Montrose must be attractive to retain, and recruit sworn officers. No one can decide better what the Sheriff needs to stay viable than Sheriff Lillard himself. (As a side note, it takes about 6 months of training before a new officer can proficiently take their first solo patrol call).

Good News! We are fortunate in Montrose County to have passed and implemented in 2008 the Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) **that specifically is not a general**

fund tax increase or to be used first , in lieu of , or instead of the county general fund requirements.

Short history update: (The PSST fund does not diminish the requirement for the county to first and totally fund the MCSO from the general fund. The PSST amount implemented in 2008 by ballot vote is .75%

.70% of that amount is designated specifically to the Sheriff office for improving recruiting and retention for additional deputies and staff. The 30% balance of the .75 PSST goes to a separate fund for the Commissioners to provide for the Corner, DA, and other designated funds. The Sheriff PSST fund is a standalone fund).

DID YOU KNOW: Since 2008 to date the Sheriff Department has accrued in round numbers \$53,515,000 in PSST funding . Since 2019 when Sheriff Lillard assumed office, he has accrued to date \$23,247,000 of his designated amount of PSST funds... It is expected that the PSST fund for the Sheriff will be about 8 to 9 million dollars this year. We the people provided this money to only be used by the Sheriff department. Not any electee's agenda, claw back of general fund expenditures or for the use of the county elsewhere.

The county budget public budget hearings are now in process for 2024. The recent "public" presentation of the Sheriff budget request was abruptly cancelled by the county. Go figure!

Sheriff Lillard is the elected official that is 100% responsible for the recruitment, retention, morale, health and welfare of his department personnel. The safety of Montrose County Citizens and their families remain in the balance. . In my opinion, Montrose County is blessed to have Gene Lillard as our Sheriff. **BUT...he can't do it all alone.**

As you know, the Sheriff Department is different from any other county department. They risk their lives every day for us not knowing if at the end of any given shift they are coming home to their families. The Sheriff will always need our support as he stands for the men and women of the Montrose County Sheriff Department in this endeavor. "We" (all citizens) have a solemn duty to stand with him and support him as he does us.

The next County Budget hearing is CURRENTLY scheduled for October 10th to be held at the Road and Bridge conference room, usually starting about 9:00 A.M. Please check the county website or call to confirm the date and time and attend.

In closing , the Sheriff has the money in his PSST account that we the people have provided for him to be successful. It cost the county general fund nothing. Thank you, Sheriff Lillard, for your dedication, support and being there for all of us and **"MOST OF ALL STANDING FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MCSO".**

Jim Anderson, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

HERE WE GO AGAIN: PROP CC HAS RESURRECTED AS PROP HH

Editor:

In 2019, Governor Polis approved Proposition CC that, if passed, would have allowed the state to keep the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) annual refunds. This November two propositions are on the ballot about which we need to be aware. One of them is HH.

TABOR limits the amount of money the state of Colorado can take in and spend. It limits the annual increase for some state revenue to inflation plus the percentage change in state population. Any money collected above this limit is refunded to taxpayers unless the voters allow the state to spend it. [https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado-Proposition-HH_Property_Tax_Changes_and_Revenue_Change_Measure_\(2023\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado-Proposition-HH_Property_Tax_Changes_and_Revenue_Change_Measure_(2023))

Proposition HH sounds really good, especially because our property tax has skyrocketed and HH promises to "reduces the residential property tax assessment rate and subtracts a set amount of money from a property's taxable value before applying the assessment rate." [Ibid.] I believe this is exactly why our legislature has passed this, and Governor Polis has approved it. Just as our administrations have done over the decades, they never seem to have enough money. Just as King Solomon wrote in Proverbs: "The leech has two

daughters. 'Give! Give! They cry.'"

Do not be fooled! This proposition will permanently take away our TABOR refunds, and enlarge the coffers of the State of Colorado. The State will "backfill" the loss of property taxes by giving monies to the local governments (i.e., Montrose County) only through 2032. This means that we will be more dependent on the State. Do you want this?

Under Proposition HH, the State would retain the following amounts that would otherwise be refunded to taxpayers: -\$166.6 million for FY 2023-24; -\$358.6 million for FY 2024-25; and larger amounts in subsequent fiscal years through at least FY 2031-32. [Colorado State Legislature, "SB303 Revised Fiscal Note," Revised May 9, 2023]

Michael Fields, president of Advance Colorado Institute, and leading plaintiff in a lawsuit arguing that Proposition HH violates the state's single-subject rule and contains misleading ballot language, said, "The repeal of the Gallagher Amendment was supposed to make things better, but I opposed it because it would inevitably lead to huge increases in property taxes for Colorado families. That is exactly what we are seeing across the state. The legislature created this problem. They said they would come up with a solution and they didn't. Now, the governor and legislature

want us to give up our TABOR tax refunds for a tiny bit of property tax relief. It's another bad idea. [Wilson, Sara, Colorado Property Tax Ballot Measure Challenged in Court on Constitutional Grounds, *Colorado Newslite*, May 18, 2023]

Mesa County Board of Commissioners: "Borrowing \$20 from taxpayers and then giving back \$10 is not the intent of TABOR. It is alarming that local governments were not consulted on the bill or Prop HH. We believe strongly in local solutions that are designed for local problems. However, under the guise of lowering property tax, this is an underhanded and confusing attempt to work around TABOR. In addition, the proposition itself violates the single subject rule established to protect voters in Colorado." [Press Release, Advanced Colorado, 12 Counties Join Advance Colorado's Lawsuit on SB23-303/ Prop HH, May 24, 2023]

Shouldn't each of us be able to choose how we want to use our TABOR refund? We can apply it to our increased property tax, if we so choose.

If you would like to read about the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), go to [https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado_Taxpayer%27s_Bill_of_Rights_\(TABOR\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado_Taxpayer%27s_Bill_of_Rights_(TABOR))

Leah Vandersluis, Concerned Citizen of Colorado



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THE POLICIES OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION HAVE EXACERBATED INFLATION AND FENTANYL POISONING

Dear Editor,

In a recent edition of the Montrose Daily Press, there were 2 articles that discussed some of the major issues facing us today. The first had to do with how inflation is hurting Coloradans at the grocery store. There was plenty of testimony and details documenting this but no discussion on why this happened or what we can do about it.

What causes grocery prices to go up? Many things, but here are the primary ones: the cost of energy and government spending. The Biden administration has declared war on fossil fuel energy production in the USA no matter what the consequences are. Consider this war from the workers' point of view. The farmer in the fields needs two things that depend on fossil fuels, fertilizer and tractors. Fertilizer

is made from a process that uses fossil fuels, and since there are no battery powered tractors, his costs rise. The distributor delivers the goods via diesel trucks, so his costs rise. In order to stay in business these people have to raise their prices, so the grocery chains have to raise their prices so they can stay in business too.

Then we have the fed. Since the federal government spends more money than it takes in, they print more. When they do that, our currency devalues, making goods and services more expensive thereby adding to inflation. What about the Inflation Reduction Act from last year? It didn't reduce inflation; it made it worse because it didn't address our national debt which has increased by over 1 trillion since then.

The other article in the MDP had to do with Fentanyl and how poisoning from

that drug is causing people under 40 to die in alarming numbers. For comparison, the US military was involved in the Vietnam war for about 8 years and 58K soldiers lost their lives. However, 107K US citizens lost their lives in 2022 alone from Fentanyl poisoning. The vast majority of this substance comes across the southern border where many laws enacted by Congress are not enforced by the Biden administration. This drug is then counterfeited, laced in other pills or created to look like candy.

The policies of the Biden administration have exacerbated inflation and Fentanyl poisoning and President Biden shows no desire to change anything. How can this be fixed? Assuming Congress doesn't act beforehand, we the people will have our say in one short year.

Sean Salaz, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

COUNTY IS BYPASSING FULL PUBLIC SCRUTINY BY NOT HAVING A PUBLIC WORK SESSION SPECIFIC TO THE SHERIFF BUDGET

Editor:

I've been a strong supporter of law enforcement all my life and have always looked forward to the Commissioners public work session when the Sheriff presents his proposed budget. I planned to attend that scheduled work session last Monday when both the Sheriff and District Attorney budgets were to be reviewed. Strangely, the Sheriff's presentation was abruptly cancelled at the last minute.

I became concerned and contacted County staff and learned that one Commissioner and the County Manager had met in private with the Sheriff regarding his budget and was told that "when the Commissioners meet with the Sheriff it will be posted." Following that up I then asked if the Commissioners would reschedule their usual public work session specifically regarding the Sheriff's budget prior to October 10 when the County Manager is scheduled to roll out the entire County

Budget. The answer I got was ominous! I was urged to attend the County Manager's budget presentation on October 10.

For the first time in my memory here, with taxpayer funds for the Sheriff on the line, County Government is denying those very same taxpayers the opportunity to participate in open discussion about the Sheriff's financial needs by not having the usual public work session specifically on the Sheriff budget, prior to the County Manager's presentation October 10. This certainly is a departure from budget protocol of the past and raises many questions regarding county transparency.

I know Sheriff Lillard and his department have the full support of the residents and taxpayers of Montrose County. With inter-agency competition fierce in recruitment and retention, the Sheriff knows best what he needs to maintain the level of needed personnel and support for the Sheriff Department. His deputies put their lives and families' futures on the line for us every

day. As Nikki Haley noted in the recent Republicans debate, "We need to take care of those who take care of us"! We the taxpayers have more than provided ample funds to fully support his needs. Anyone concerned that the county is bypassing full public scrutiny by not having a public work session specific to the Sheriff budget should make their concerns known to the Commissioners by calling the county office at 970-252-4531 and encourage them to schedule a public work session on the Sheriff's budget prior to October 10.

Absent a change of heart by the County regarding such a public work session I would strongly urge Sheriff Department employees and family members, members of MC4FF, The Sheriff Posse members, members of Montrose Patriot Rise, and other supporters of the Montrose County Sheriff department to plan to attend the October 10 County budget presentation.

Dee Laird, Montrose



249 8500 *ANONYMOUS*

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATE ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Big Lou Stark, a local Radio On-Air Talent and Community Advocate, proudly announces their candidacy for the position of Montrose County Commissioner in District 1. With a strong commitment to Water Protection, Economic Growth and Development, Rural Prosperity, Respect for Law Enforcement, and Agricultural Heritage Conservation, Big Lou seeks to bring Consistency, Transparency, and Intelligent Solutions to Montrose County's leadership.

Water Conservation: The importance of our water cannot be understated. Big Lou will support those who defend the County's water and work tirelessly to Keep our Water here.

Fostering Economic Growth and Development:

Mr. Stark's campaign is centered around the idea that economic growth should benefit every corner of Montrose County. As a candidate, they pledge to:

1. **Attract New Businesses:** Big Lou will work to attract new industries and businesses to Montrose County, creating job opportunities for our residents.
2. **Support Local Businesses:** Small businesses are the backbone of our community. Big Lou will advocate for policies that support and nurture local entrepreneurs, ensuring they thrive in a competitive market.
3. **Support Rural Communities:** Big Lou recognizes the importance of Promoting Rural Economic Growth and Development. Montrose County's rural areas deserve equal opportunities for growth and infrastructure.

Agricultural Support and Heritage Conservation: Agriculture is part of our heritage. Big Lou will work to protect and promote farming and ranching while ensuring sustainable practices for future generations.

1. **Preserve Open Spaces:** Big Lou will work to protect our open spaces, ensuring that our agricultural heritage is conserved for generations to come.
 2. **Protect Private Property Rights:** Big Lou firmly believes that Property Rights matter and the less Government involved the better. It is important to appreciate there is a balance of Intelligent Growth, Property Rights, and Heritage Conservation.
- Law Enforcement and Public Safety:** Big Lou appreciates that Law enforcement should be well trained, well equipped, well-funded, and Respected by the community. Big Lou understands the importance of a safe community for all.

"Government is Business. We should have a strong transparent budget, and healthy financials. Responsible Spending and Respect for the people who pay these taxes that fund this community's Government should be top of mind when spending every dime" Big Lou Stark stated, highlighting his desire to maintain professionalism and stay business minded when serving the community and fostering positive growth and prosperity in Montrose County.

Big Lou Stark encourages residents to get involved in this journey for a more prosperous yet affordable Montrose County. Together, we can build a future where every citizen benefits from economic growth, rural development, a safe community, and the preservation of our agricultural heritage.

For more information about Big Lou's campaign, please visit BigLouStark.com or contact him directly at bigloustark@gmail.com

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Montrose LF Cleanup Day



**FREE DAY at the East-End Landfill announced by
Waste Management, in conjunction with Montrose County.
Saturday October 7, 2023 • 8am to 4pm
67999 Landfill Road, Montrose**

Open to Montrose County residents household waste only.
No commercially generated waste. Gates close promptly at 4pm.
VEHICLES ALLOWED: Cars, Pickups (bed and cab level) Trailers.

WHAT YOU CAN BRING FOR FREE

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WHAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT

ELECTRONIC WASTE	NO ELECTRONIC WASTE ON FREE DAY. Electronic waste will be accepted during normal. Landfill operating hours M-S. The cost is \$0.66 per pound. NO ELECTRONIC WASTE ON FREE DAY
MATTRESSES, BOX SPRINGS	NO MATTRESSES, BOX SPRINGS ACCEPTED ON FREE DAY. Mattress/box springs will be accepted during normal landfill operating hours M-S \$11.05 each. NO MATTRESSES/BOX SPRINGS ACCEPTED ON FREE DAY.
TIRES	NO TIRES ON FREE DAY. Tires will be accepted during normal landfill operating hours M-S. Passenger \$5.70, \$11.45. NO TIRES ACCEPTED ON FREE DAY
APPLIANCES	NO APPLIANCES ACCEPTED ON FREE DAY. Appliances will be Accepted during normal landfill operating hours M-S \$11.51 per item; washers, dryers, water heaters and stoves, refrigerated appliances with a certificate of freon removal. NO APPLIANCES ACCEPTED ON FREE DAY.
OUT OF COUNTY WASTE	NO waste of any kind generated from outside of Montrose County
HAZARDOUS WASTE	NO oils, NO liquid paints, NO fluorescent bulbs of any kind, NO cleaning solvents, etc
SPECIAL WASTE	NO special waste such as asbestos or non-friable asbestos shingles, siding, or tiles
BATTERIES	NO batteries of any kind

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COMMERCIAL WASTE	\$63.81 per ton

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MONTROSE RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Cliff Dodge

Volleyball: The Montrose Red Hawks volleyball team, undefeated since returning from the Lewis Palmer Tournament, have run off five consecutive wins in a row and now sport a season record of 8-4 overall, and an unblemished 5-0 record in league action.

The Red Hawks hosted the Grand Junction Tigers at the fieldhouse on Tuesday evening and despite a very slow start came away with a 3-0 victory. The Red Hawks prevailed 25-14, 25-18 and 25-13 to set the stage for a match with the Eagle Valley Devils on Saturday.

The Devils shot out to a 7-1 before Coach Forrest called a time out to settle the Red Hawks down. The locals then ran off a string of their own and led 17-9. The Red Hawks closed out the first match 25-14. The second and third matches were very similar as the Red Hawks took the early lead, then stretched the lead and closed out the match by a 3-0 count.

Coach Shane Forrest commented, "We started off very slowly. I don't know if it was the atmosphere but the Red Hawks righted the ship and the team played really well. I think statistically they had a really strong game offensively serving, they were overall very good. Their big run was at the beginning of the game. We were able to recover from that and control the game and give ourselves an opportunity to capitalize on our big runs."

Coach Forrest then commented on her team. "These kids are a really special team because these kids really love each other and they have really bought into the program with what I am doing and what they are being asked to do. They play well together and really play for each other."

The schedule ahead is littered with good teams and big challenges. "Eagle Valley is our next big hurdle. They are at the top of their league and in the RPI rankings they are just ahead of us so it will be a battle for the top seed. It will be a tough match for us but we are looking forward to the challenge. It's always good to play at



Sophomore Maggie Legg (# 9) spikes the volleyball vs the Grand Junction Tigers. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

home." First serve is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Cross Country: The Montrose Cross Country teams competed in the Delta-Sweitzer Lake Invitational on Saturday, September 22nd and the Red Hawk girls' team finished fourth in a field of thirteen teams.

The event was won by the Grand Junction Central Warriors followed by Fruita-Montrose and Caprock Academy.

Senior Kenzie Bush led the way for the Red Hawks with a 5th place finish as she posted a time of 19:46.90 seconds. The rest of the Montrose runners finished as follows: Sophomore Millie Crane, Sophomore Jaiden Bresett, Senior Olivia Cook, Senior Georgia Ficco, Sophomore Emmy Maxwell, Senior Annabelle Hawkins and Freshman Naomi McGarry.

On the boys' side the Red Hawks placed 9th among a field of 13 high school teams. The Fruita-Monument Wildcats won the team title. The Montrose Red Hawks were led by sophomore Vash Veatch. Other Red Hawks finished in the following order: Sophomore Deklan Wooden, Sophomore Phin Howe, Freshman Diego Renteria, Freshman Grayson Vidmar, Sophomore Tyler Surles, Sophomore Alex VanAllsburg,

Freshman Zach Quad and Sophomore Jakal Pfifer.

Next action for the runners will be matches in Canon City and in Colorado Springs.

Softball: The Montrose Red Hawks softball team has struggled through most of the fall season. Wins have been few and far between. Head coach Casey Killins stepped down from the program and Lilly Westbay has assumed the position as interim head coach according to Athletic Director Bradd Schafer.

The Red Hawks broke a six game losing streak when they defeated Eagle Valley in the second game of a double-header 12-11. On Tuesday the Red Hawks fell to the Fruita-Monument Wildcats by the score of 11-0. The Red Hawks managed only one hit and went down on strikes 13 times. Things went from bad to worse on Thursday when the Red Hawks traveled to Grand Junction and took on the Central Warriors. The game lasted only three innings as the Red Hawks gave up 17 runs in the second inning, making the final score 18-3.

The Red Hawks next action takes place on Saturday as the Basalt Longhorns come to Montrose for a 1:30 p.m. first pitch.



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RED HAWKS THRASH GRAND JUNCTION CENTRAL WARRIORS 43-7



Red Hawks football teams ready to take the field earlier this season. Photo by Cliff Dodge .

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks continued their winning ways on Thursday evening as they traveled to Grand Junction and handed the Warriors a 43-7 whipping. Head coach Brett Mertens described the start of the game.

"We were a little slow coming out of the gate against the Warriors. We went three and out on our first possession and then we settled in and did a nice job of scoring and shutting down their offense. The Warriors started strong. They were slanting and stunting a little bit and they got us a couple of times. Our kids figured it out and settled in and did a good job of

blocking and running and thus controlling the game."

The Red Hawks scored early and often in the first half of the contest. Coach Mertens explained, "Blake Griffin had a good game. He scored three touchdowns for us. Our backs have been running hard. We have four or five kids that we can feed the football to. I thought our offensive line played really well." He continued, "The thing you have to remember is that we had probably six or seven new starters on both sides of the ball. Even though they are good players, they are older, but they have very little experience playing at this level. We have seen a lot of kids grow

up and get better as the season has progressed."

The Red Hawks ground game has a stable of running backs who make the offense hum. Coach Mertens described this part of his offense. "The Red Hawks have several good backs and we used Blake Griffin as a wingback against Central. He runs really tough and from the wingback position he broke off a 40-yard run and then on the very next play he had a really good block. It's good to be able to use his skill set in a variety of ways, which makes it really difficult for opposing defenses because he is not in the same spot every single time."

The non-league part of the Red Hawks schedule is now in the books and Coach Mertens is looking forward to entering league play. "We have four games left, all in our league, and we most definitely want to win our league championship. We take the long bus ride to Falcon on the east side next Friday. We played them last year and know they have a spread offense. They also run out of a number of different formations. They are balanced, running and passing and their quarterback is their best player."

Coach Mertens has seen the growth and development of his team in several ways. "Our team is populated with smart football players. They are all good students, student athletes, and I am definitely proud of that as much as I am of how they play on the field."

The kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m., on Friday, Oct. 6.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

WOMEN'S GIVING CLUB AWARDS \$13,600 TO ACADEMIC BOOSTER CLUB

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Recently a check was presented by the Women's Giving Club to the Academic Booster Club. \$13,600 was determined to be the final amount after all contributions were tallied. The Academic Booster Club was chosen as the receiving non-profit at the Women's Giving Club August 7 meeting. They work with the Montrose School District to provide funds for classroom teachers for special projects. They also support programs that recognize student success.

The next meeting of the Women's Giving Club will be Monday, November 6, at the Bridges. All women are welcome. Everybody donates \$100 then votes to determine the local non-profit that will receive the money for that quarter. It makes for an energetic and rewarding evening. It is a good chance to learn about organizations in our area as well as to meet and interact with other women to affect positive community action.

More information about the Women's Giving Club can be obtained from Phoebe Benziger at 970-209-9598 or phebenator@hotmail.com.



The Academic Booster Club was chosen as the receiving non-profit at the Women's Giving Club August 7 meeting. Courtesy photo.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED ON THE GREATER ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special to the Mirror

LAKEWOOD— The USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region is seeking new members with diverse backgrounds and interests to serve on the Greater Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Committee. Committee members recommend special projects that should be implemented on Forest Service lands with Title II Secure Rural Schools funds. The committee functions under a formal charter in accordance with the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act and is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

The Greater Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Committee is the largest of its kind, representing the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison, Routt, Pike, Roosevelt, San Isabel and White River National Forests in Colorado and the Medicine Bow, Bighorn, and Shoshone National Forests in Wyoming. The committee consists of 15 people who work in collaboration with natural resource managers and community members to help make project decisions that benefit federal lands and local communities. Serving on the committee provides a great opportunity for citizens to have a voice in future management actions across the region. Members volunteer to serve a 4-year term without pay but may be reimbursed for travel expenses. Projects are funded primarily by Title 2, and must improve forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds, or other resources; maintain, de-commission or obliterate roads; improve trails and

other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds. Previous projects have included meadow restoration in wetland areas, wildlife habitat improvements, and the installation of Aquatic Organism Passages to replace undersized culverts. The projects must be located on or provide a direct benefit to National Forest lands. The committee is also responsible for monitoring projects and making recommendations for improvements.

Those who are interested in serving on the committee are invited to submit nominations. Final selections will be vetted and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. Nominees must:


- Be a resident of Colorado or Wyoming; committee members will vote on projects in both states, regardless of their state of residency;
- Provide a cover letter stating why they want to serve on the Greater Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Committee and what they can contribute;
- Provide a resume that shows experience working successfully in a collaborative setting and/or in work related to forest management activities;
- Complete Form AD-755, Advisory Committee or Research and Promotion Background Information. The AD-755 can be obtained at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd674657.pdf
- Identify the interest group they would like to represent and their qualifications to represent that group. Interest groups include:

Category One: Five members who represent energy and mineral development; the commercial timber industry; organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups; developed outdoor recreation; off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation; or federal grazing or other land permits or represent nonindustrial private forest landowners.

Category Two: Five members who represent nationally recognized environmental organizations; regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreational activities; archaeological and historical interests; or nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups, wildlife or hunting organizations, or watershed associations.

Category Three: Five members who are elected state officials; are county or local elected officials; represent Indian tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the Council is organized; are school officials or teachers with knowledge in natural resource management or the natural sciences; or represent the affected public-at-large and/or are employed by a state agency responsible for the management of natural resources, land or water.

Nominations must be received by December 1, 2023. Please email nomination packages to Karley O'Connor at Karley.O'Connor@usda.gov; or mail them to Karley O'Connor at Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests, 2250 South Main Street, Delta, CO 81416. You may also contact Karley O'Connor for assistance with the application process.



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Situated on a spacious 3.665-acre lot, this custom home offers a serene setting with plenty of wildlife, and features a brick and stone facade with wood-trimmed windows, and a thoughtfully designed layout with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, and an office. The living room boasts a cozy fireplace, and there is also a fireplace in the owner's suite, which is a true retreat with double sinks, a soaking tub, and a walk-in shower (all elegantly tiled), and a large walk-in closet to accommodate your storage needs. The bathrooms and kitchen have granite countertops, and the kitchen is equipped with gas stove top, double ovens, a large pantry, beverage cooler, custom cabinetry, and a beautiful island. Adjacent to the kitchen, you'll find a cozy breakfast nook. The formal dining room provides an elegant space for hosting special occasions. The home is filled with natural light, thanks to the large windows and high ceilings. Lovely hardwood flooring throughout most of the home, with carpeting in select areas and tile. There is a covered back patio surrounded by the beauty of nature. An irrigation and sprinkler system is included, keeping your landscaping lush and vibrant. An attached three-car garage and a 24x30 ft detached shop with a 12 ft door and 220V power and insulation covers all your needs. Check out this beautiful home with its spacious lot and convenient location. Schedule a showing today and make this tranquil oasis your own.

MLS #805921



**PRICE
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**LOT 1, U67 TRAIL
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For everyone looking for a view lot and still close to downtown Montrose, the newly expanded airport, medical, and more, this 3.16-acre property is worth the look. There is irrigation with Ouray Ditch Company with enough to water the lot and grow a fantastic crop of hay or grass. The lot fronts the seasonal canal and is on a small cul-de-sac. Beautiful views are to be had here offering a beautiful building site. Tri-County water taps are available. Gas and electric are near the lot. Montrose is growing and beautiful lots are few and far between.

MLS #807953



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"IT SOUNDS LIKE WE'VE GOT A JUDGE PROBLEM" From pg 1

Mark Taylor and County Administrator Robbie LeValley.

Ryan said that he hopes to establish a Paralegal Evidence Technician division tasked with preventing discovery violations in the district attorney's office. "We have 16 attorneys when we are fully staffed, we are down to two right now," he said. "With this position, they will have better access and relationships, and more current information...they will know who to contact to get the information in a fast manner under Rule 16."

Mesa County has eight full-time paralegals, Ryan said, and has for some time. Evidence Technicians are valuable in helping to schedule witnesses, organize exhibits, and assist with day-to-day duties when in trial. "To help us do the best we can in trial," Ryan said.

"Things that destroy our cases the most are discovery violations," he said. "...I anticipate that that will not be the case anymore." The new division will provide a crucial service position in Montrose County Court and Delta County Court, as well as Montrose District Court. The next step will be to get an evidence tech division in Delta District Court, Ryan said.

Delta County Commissioner Don Suppes expressed frustration. "...our census numbers in our jail are pretty much at an all-time low...I've been spending a little time live-streaming court," Suppes said. "...I don't even feel like your DA's are alive in there...it seems to be the running joke, all

the defense team's gotta do is say 'trial,' and we start dropping charges."

Suppes said that commissioners are catching a lot of heat from constituents. "It's reaching a level of frustration that we've got to figure it out...I think an evidence person would surely help, but at some point in time, your assistant D.A.'s have got to grow a little bit of a spine."

Ryan said the Delta Office has been understaffed. Also, "These discovery issues have really kind of eviscerated our county court dockets for about three or four months."

Contributing to the number of violations are agency assists in which some footage may be discarded, and the automation of today's body-worn cameras, he said.

"...since 2021, new body cam legislation has exponentially exploded the amount of evidence we have... we're no longer a small district attorney's office, we're becoming a metropolitan district attorney's office."

Ryan said that Judges are appointed by the governor and remain in their jobs forever unless the community votes not to retain them. "We have some people with extreme political views becoming judges."

He discussed some recent decisions made by local judges, including a Montrose County Court judge "who basically let a woman out on a \$250 cash bond after she shot her daughter in the back."

"We vehemently fought hard to prevent that from happening," Ryan said. "...We've

had a judge in Gunnison who, in a sex assault case, basically was going to let someone who brutally raped a woman out on bond...so she let him out without any conditions, and the victim ended up killing herself because she was so afraid."

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said a local judge give a \$50 fine to a woman who nearly killed Rash's daughter in an accident. The woman had no insurance, Rash said. "My daughter had a 12K medical bill."

One benefit of Pre-Trial services is that it takes that discretion away from the judge, Ryan said. Still, "You are seeing a lot more people getting out pending their trial than you did before pretrial services."

Hansen said the county wants to see more prosecutorial action. Also, "It sounds like we got a judge problem," she said, "Citizens are starting to feel like the criminals have the power...we're letting people out that are making people feel unsafe."

Montrose County Commissioner Keith Caddy said that the evidence tech division might help law enforcement, and community awareness is also needed. "How do we educate the public?"

Delta County Sheriff Mark Taylor said that Delta County will be posting arrest data on social media.

Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard was not present for the budget work session. The next meeting of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners will be Oct. 4 at 9:30am.

SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING



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ANONYMOUS CALL

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RUSSIAN KNAPWEED IS THE SAN MIGUEL COUNTY WEED OF THE MONTH

Special to the Mirror

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY— Invasive species are no joke and when it comes to noxious weeds, San Miguel County is vigilant. However, without public awareness and a concerted effort to eradicate invasive species, it's an uphill battle. This month's noxious Weed of the Month is the Russian knapweed (*Leuzea or Rhaponticum repens*).

Identified by its single, purple thistle-like flowers on the end of each stem and clear, "papery" bracts under the flower head, Russian knapweed has green, alternating basal leaves that are linear at the bottom with smaller, flattened oval shapes toward the top. The plant can grow to about three feet in height. Each plant reproduces via 1,200 nickel-sized seeds each year. Those seeds are viable for about eight years and

spread through wind, animals, rivers and contaminated hay. Peak bud production is June through August. If pulled, the root is black and vigorous. It's a perennial, which means it returns year after year *ad infinitum*.

A vigorous grower, Russian knapweed wreaks havoc on the environment, and once established, requires extensive control efforts. It easily out-competes native vegetation and grasses with roots toxic to favorable species. Highly invasive, it reduces forage and wildlife habitat and leads to declines in native plants and native animals.

Russian knapweed has taken hold in the county, specifically in the Norwood area. It grows in large colonies in areas such as orchards, cultivated fields, pastures and roadsides. Introduced to the United States

in contaminated alfalfa from countries around the Caspian Sea in western Asia, as well as China and Mongolia in the late 19th century, Russian knapweed can be found every-

where in the U.S. save for the Southeast. It is a particular scourge here in the West.

Please help eradicate this species, and report sightings to the San Miguel County Vegetation Manger, Julie Kolb, at 970-327-0399 or juliek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov.



*Russian knap weed.
Courtesy photo.*

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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 Iron-ton 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>

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY WILL HOST FREE TIRE RECYCLING EVENTS OCT. 7

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose County will host a free tire recycling event on Saturday, Oct. 7th, from 8AM to Noon, or until the limit is met. The event will be held at the Montrose County Public Works Facility at 63160 LaSalle Road.

"The majority of our county is made up of publicly managed lands," said Montrose County Commissioner Keith Caddy. "It is very disappointing to visit these beautiful areas and see trash and tires littered in the open space. It negatively impacts grazing operations, hunters, outdoor enthusiasts, and residents recreating on public lands. This event is a great opportunity for residents to dispose of their old tires and help protect the health of our community and our public lands."

The Bureau of Land Management will provide support for the event, as much of the dumping occurs on lands the agency administers. "The BLM is excited to partner with Montrose County and the Forest Service on this event," said BLM Uncompahgre Field Manager Suzanne Copping. "It's vital that we work together to spread the message and reduce illegal dumping on our public lands."

"Illegal dumping of trash—especially tires—on public lands has increased in recent years," said Dana Gardunio, Ouray District Ranger for the U.S. Forest Service. "I am proud to partner with the BLM and

county to help provide this free resource to keep tires off public lands. Illegal dumping of tires poses health and safety risks to the public and spoils the beauty of public lands."

Illegal dumping of trash and scrap tires is a violation of the law, threat to public health, and a drain on public resources—there are several other cost-effective options for disposal. Waste tires are a prime breeding area for mosquitoes which carry West Nile Virus. Moreover, waste tires can leach toxic chemicals that contaminate soil and water and cause harm to the environment. If a scrap tire pile ignites, it can burn for long periods of time and causes negative impacts to the air and landscape. Anyone with information about those responsible for the illegal disposal of tires or trash


is encouraged to report it to their local public land management agency.

Montrose County Road and Bridge is also hosting a simultaneous free tire recycling event in the West End at the County Road and Bridge shop at 27871 DD Road in Nucla. That event will also be Oct. 7 from 8 AM to Noon, or until the tire limit is met.

At the free tire recycling events, residents can bring up to five tires per vehicle per visit. Tires must be clean and brought without rims. Only passenger vehicle, ATV, and light truck tires will be accepted. Tractor tires will not be accepted. The event is open to Montrose County residents only. Commercial tire shops are not eligible to participate.

For more information, please call Montrose County at 970-252-4505.




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- Open to Montrose County residents
- No commercial tire shops
- Questions? Call Montrose County at 970-252-4505

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GAREY MARTINEZ RECEIVES 2023 INTERNATIONAL PEACE AWARD

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Garey Martinez, founder of Shepherd's Hand, was named the 2023 International Peace and Humanitarian Award recipient at the annual Peace Dinner on Sept. 22 by the Western Colorado Friends of the Himalayas. "The Peace Awards have been given to outstanding members of the community since 2008. Each year we recognize those who usually work quietly behind the scenes to bring peace," said Val Burnell, President of the WCFH. Former Peace Award recipients were also recognized.

Martinez was recognized for his continuing humanitarian efforts to help bring peace to the homeless and those in need in our community. Shepherd's Hand was founded by Martinez in 2011 stating, "We need to feed people more than once a day five days a week and help their physical, emotional and spiritual needs." In 2022, Shepherd's Hand provided \$1.5 million in services to those who are hungry and resources to help them become successful. He retired as a Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and has used his business experience to make a difference in his community. He was instrumental in procuring a permanent home for the non-profit organization and continues to serve on its board of directors. Martinez also received a Peace and Humanitarian medal for his peace work.

A Peace and Humanitarian medal was awarded to Lu Anne Tyrrell, for her life-long work in bringing the peace of Colorado landscapes to the world through her art and photographs. She has also served her community as manager of the Main Street program, implementing the popular Main in Motion weekly event. She also works for peace for animals, serving as a board member of the Montrose Animal



Garey Martinez, founder of Shepherd's Hand, center, was named the 2023 International Peace and Humanitarian Award recipient at the annual Peace Dinner on Sept. 22. Courtesy photo.

Protection Agency (MAPA) and as Development Director of Second Chance Humane Society. She is currently the president of the board of directors of the Friends of the Ute Indian Museum.

Marc Catlin, a Montrose native, received a Peace and Humanitarian medal for his continuing work for peace in support of agriculture, agri-business, preserving local water resources and stewardship of the land. Catlin is currently the Colorado House District 58 Representative and is also vice-president of the Colorado River District, a board he has served on for several years. He says, "Our people are the best stewards of the land and environment." Catlin received this award for his work for peace for the agriculture community, the State, and the world.

Education is an important part of peace work.

Sarah Fishing, originally from the U.K., has supported excellence in education in Montrose since 2014. She is currently serving as President of the Montrose

County School Board and recently joined the statewide board as the Region 11 representative. She continues to work for the betterment of education in Colorado sharing a rural perspective. She also serves on the Montrose County Housing Authority Board and is a committee member for the Montrose Women's Giving Club. She received her medal for bringing peace to education, the houseless, and her community.

According to Arlyn Macdonald, organizer of the Week of Unity and Peace, "The Peace Awards and the Peace Dinner are highlights of the week's events. Being able to recognize local people who work for peace in the community is part of the purpose of this annual week of peace. I would also like to recognize the organizers of Culture Fest, the Hispanic Affairs Project and the Ute Indian Museum. Culture Fest is a new addition to the Peace Week events. Culture Fest celebrates the cultures in our community bringing awareness of peace in our diversity."



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DEER LAKES CAMPGROUND CLOSES TEMPORARILY FOR RECONSTRUCTION

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON — The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Gunnison Ranger District, in partnership with the National Forest Foundation (NFF), announce the beginning of a campground rehabilitation project at the Deer Lakes Campground and day-use area utilizing funding through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA).

Deer Lakes Campground will close on Sept. 28 for reconstruction and the closure is expected to last through the summer of 2024. Site modernization includes the installation of new restrooms, picnic tables

and fire rings. Infrastructure improvements will also be made to the roads, walkways and kiosks in the campground and day-use area to enhance public accessibility and enjoyment.

"The Deer Lakes Campground reconstruction marks the beginning of several campground revival projects to address deferred maintenance on the GMUG," Said Julie Jackson, assistant recreation program manager, "As a result of funds awarded through GAOA, these critical projects will enrich the recreational experience for visitors and bring outdated facilities into the 21st century."

The GAOA was enacted in 2020 and is the single largest investment in public lands in U.S. history. GAOA funding provides federal land management agencies with critical resources to address deferred maintenance and improve infrastructure on our public lands. For more information on GAOA funded projects in the Rocky Mountain region, visit [here](#).

For information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the forest website or www.westslopefireinformation.com. Connect with us or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).



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YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – FALL COLORS PART 2



By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.

Greetings Mirrorites!

Fall splendor is in full swing. As a follow up to the prior article on fall colors, I wanted to share some factoids about human preferences for fall colors that is so much geeky fun for me that I just have to pass this on.

Are color preferences stable over time? Do we always respond to them the same way regardless of context? When it comes to the changing seasons in areas with seasons, apparently not would be the correct answer. We humans tend to prefer certain colors at certain times according to *the differential activation hypothesis*, which is a subset of Ecological Valence Theory. Let me explain before your eyes roll back into your head.

Humans do have seasonal variation in color preferences. The basic idea is that people's preference for a color is a function of how strongly they associate that color with various objects or experiences, and how they feel about those objects and experiences. The most popular color, blue, tends to be associated with clean water and clear skies, both of which are positive associations. For a color like brown, experience and context can determine whether you're more likely to think "chocolate" or "poop" — and, correspondingly, how much you'll like the color.

These preferences needed categorization so that further study didn't result in unusable chaos. So researchers Schloss and Palmer (sounds like a rock duo, but they really are the predominant researchers in



This stunning image of Gambel Oaks in fall near Crested Butte was captured by the famed photographer John Felder, who just passed away on August 11th of this year. Thank you, John, for capturing so much of our beautiful state for us to enjoy now and in the future.

this field), formulated Ecological Valence Theory to provide the needed scaffolding. It's pretty simple, really. People generally prefer colors associated with significant everyday objects that tend to evoke positive emotions. For instance...

-Blues and cyans are usually positively associated with clear bright sky or clean water. These associations can naturally have a positive effect on an individual as they are reminded of calming and relaxing experiences.

-Shades of green are generally associated with healthy vegetation; reminding an individual of our natural outdoor environment. These responses can help strengthen our innate connection with nature and evoke a feeling of calm.

-Red is generally associated with fruits such as an apples or berries — again, helping to strengthen a connection with our natural surroundings.

Context and dosage are important here, since we know that certain colors like red can have the opposite effect of evoking pleasant nature (blood, stop signs, etc.) In

just the right amounts, however, humans have a positive emotional valence (an attraction to) these colors. Conversely, certain colors are negatively valenced. Brown, grey, and dark yellow are frequently associated with unpleasant visual experiences involving dying vegetation, rotting food or feces; therefore they tend to provoke a negative emotional response. These dull tones are commonly found within an urban environment which lacks healthy vegetation. Humans do not like seeing these colors in spring or summer, whether in the city or in the country. The differential activation hypothesis specifies that preferences for particular colors tend to change depending on the degree to which entities associated with those colors are active in an observer's mind (Schloss & Palmer, 2017). This hypothesis implies that in calculating an individual's color preferences at a given moment, the mind gives greater weight to color-associated entities that are more relevant to the individual *at that time*. Simple, see?

YOUR BRAIN ON NATURE – FALL COLORS PART 2

From previous pg

The rock duo and other color researchers wanted to test this to see if this was correct. Turns out, it was. The differential activation hypothesis predicted that as fall entities (mountains, trees, gardens) became more autumn looking, people's preferences for colors associated with these autumn entities would increase.

The researchers found that the season influenced color preferences. Participants liked the dark-warm colors strongly associated with fall better during the fall testing session than they had earlier in the year. And they liked light-warm, light-cool, and dark-cool colors less during fall than during the earlier testing sessions as well.

Participants revealed a preference for the brightest red toned colors right at the time of the year when the leaves were actually the brightest yellows, oranges, and reds. These preferences declined as the season wore on, and shifted to a preference for darker colors. The participants preferred the very colors that nature was handing them at that point in time. In a hilarious twist on human nature, the participant's preference for colors changed toward darker and darker, except for right at Thanksgiving, where preferences for bright oranges temporarily increased! All of those Dollar Store decorations seem to be having an effect on our minds over the last few decades. Plainly, the participants were all from the United States, which shows how culture can influence color preferences in addition to nature. These results tended to confirm that people do have *differential* responses to environmental colors, whether naturally or culturally induced.

To my mind, these results go a long way toward supporting the Biophilia Hypothesis, which holds that humans are inherently attracted to living things (Dollar General decorations aside). How convenient for us humans that we tend to prefer the exact

flavor of visual feast that nature happens to be providing. And also very logical. The study I cited above did not test for the benefits of these preferences, but other studies have shown that leaf peeping does have brain benefits. Analysis for the National Trust (Britain) found that more than

eight out of 10 people felt that bright autumn walks made them feel happier, healthier, and calmer.

Whether the fall colors energize you or soothe you, be sure to get out and view them every sunny day that you can, right up until Thanksgiving at least.

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

RURAL REVITALIZATION SUB-GRANT FUNDS GO TO 8 COLORADO COMMUNITIES

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-Colorado Preservation, Inc. is excited to announce that eight Colorado projects have received an award from the National Park Service's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant.

The grants total \$611,315 and will be distributed to support and stimulate historic preservation projects in Colorado's rural historic downtowns. Grant awards ranged from \$18,475 to \$120,000.

"Colorado was one of only 10 states that received funding from the National Park Service's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant in 2022," CPI Executive Director Jennifer Orrigo Charles said. "As Colorado's statewide nonprofit historic preservation organization, CPI is pleased to provide subgrant funds that can support private prop-

erty owners who have significant historic buildings."

AWARDEES

1. State Bank in San Luis for structural repairs
2. Saguache Hotel in Saguache for façade, windows and doors repair
3. Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center in San Luis for roof replacement
4. Granite Hotel in Granite for façade work
5. The Vic in Salida for structural repair
6. Belvidere Theatre in Central City for façade work
7. Hayden Granary in Hayden for roof/facade work
8. Curtis Hardware in Paonia for roof replacement

Eligible properties must be listed on the

National Register or a contributing building within a National Register Historic District. Colorado's rural National Register Historic Districts include but are not limited to, Lake City, Silverton, Meeker, Saguache, Telluride, Ouray, Crested Butte, Trinidad, Monte Vista, Leadville, Victor and Salida. Buildings that are not officially listed on the National Register but are deemed eligible for listing were encouraged to apply if an official listing can be secured by the end of the grant period (2025).

CPI's rural revitalization subgrant program is being supported in part by a Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant from the historic preservation fund administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior

31ST ANNUAL BOSOM BUDDIES WALK/RUN SET FOR OCT. 14

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Saturday, Oct. 14, marks the 31st year that Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Group of Southwestern Colorado will commemorate October as Breast Cancer Awareness month with its annual Walk/Run fundraiser. To register for the 31st Annual Walk/Run on Oct. 14 and for more information on the services offered by Bosom Buddies, visit the website at www.BosomBuddiesSWC.org.

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READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: OUT & ABOUT!



Fall colors by B. Switzer.



Just east of Cedar Cemetery on Miami Road you will find two dead cottonwood trees loaded with crows at sunrise, warming themselves before flight. The observer gets a very creepy feeling of Stephen King and Alfred Hitchcock. Photo by Bob Stollsteimer.

Photobooth 58'



Montrose Recycles helping make Oktoberfest a green event! Pictured L to R are Bonnie Beach, Connie Gabrielli, Janet Chapman, and Nancy Kelso.



Fall foliage by B. Switzer.

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF MURA BOARD WOULD CONFIRM POSITION REGARDING MEDICAL PROJECTS

Dear Editor:

There has been some discussion on these pages that a major medical center is coming to Colorado Outdoors. I have voiced an opinion. On further research, I find that there are two separate businesses that are being discussed. The one that will proceed is Lollipop. That is an extension office of an out of state company who wishes to build a pediatric center here. While we might debate whether MURA should be incentivizing a new business to compete with our current Pediatric Associates, I do not see that this practice will have a great deleterious effect on our overall population.

The other was, per the Montrose Daily Press, "Colorado Outdoors is adding a medical center to its campus. The Colorado Outdoors Medical Center, designed to operate as a regional medical center with access to outpatient care, is a planned 50,000-square-foot facility and is a partnership between several private surgeon groups, a national specialty health care provider, and Colorado Outdoors, and is expected to add additional jobs and advanced care to Montrose. —By Josue Perez, Montrose Daily Press, February 10, 2022, updated March 18, 2023.

That would have been in direct competition with our Regional Medical Center. I have been told that this project has been tabled, and that comment was made at a MURA Board meeting that they will not fund such a project. It would be very helpful if that Board would confirm that position; doing so would calm many of us, the taxpayers.

Rick Bleier, Montrose

The Mirror:

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



www.montrosemirror.com

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ELLA ROSE CHAMPLIN

May 25, 1939-September 26, 2023

ELLA ROSE CHAMPLIN went home to the Lord on the early morning of Tuesday, September 26th at the young age of 84. She was born May 25th, 1939 to Glenn and Ethel becoming the 6th child of the Ross family. Ella Rose's youth was spent riding donkeys and attending school in Sawpit and Telluride; she graduated from Telluride High. During her High School years, she met her lifelong love, Don Champlin, where they spent Sundays riding horseback to exchange love letters. They married May 27, 1957 in Aztec, New Mexico. In 7 years, they had 4 children; Diana, Donna, Glenda Lee and David. They spent the first years of their young marriage in Sawpit, Colorado. They moved to the community of Montrose in 1978. Ella Rose supported her family by being a homemaker and caregiver. She enjoyed hosting family gathers, cooking and large Sunday

dinners. Ella Rose was famous for her hot rolls and cinnamon rolls which she made from scratch. Her home was always filled with wonderful aromas, loving family and laughter. Ella Rose had a great love of her family's photos and changing how she arranged them in her home. Ella Rose and Don celebrated 49 years of marriage before Don passed. They welcomed 8 grandchildren. Diana was blessed with Terry Lee, Timothy, Jessy and Danielle. Donna (Jesse) Heather and Bobby. David (Beth) Sheri and Andrew. They had 12 beautiful great grandchildren. Ella Rose had numerous nieces, nephews, and loved ones who look to Ella Rose as a mother figure, including her bonus daughter Marla. Ella Rose was preceded in death by her father Glenn, mother Ethel, 3 older brothers, 2 older sisters, daughter Glenda Lee, grandson Terry Lee, and husband Don.

Ella Rose is survived by her children Diana, Donna (Jesse), David (Beth), bonus daughter Marla, grandchildren Timothy, Jesse, Danielle, Heather, Bobby, Sheri, Andrew and 12 great grandchildren. Ella Rose's legacy is her love of family. Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting Ella's family.



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

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ALEX PAUL SOKOLIK



ALEX PAUL SOKOLIK author of "One With Nature" passed away September 2023 at the age of 75 at his residence in Norwood CO. He is preceded in death by his parents Paul A. & Julia A. Sokolik and survived by his brother Paul A. (Anne) Sokolik.

Born in Essington PA and raised in Broomall PA. Also resided in New Zealand,



Florida, Nevada and spent the last 18 years living in Colorado. Worked at several Environmental jobs early in his career and later with Land Development and Real Estate Consulting. Graduated from Marple Newtown High School in 1966, earned both BA & Masters Degrees from Penn State in Regional Planning with additional Environmental graduate work at Florida

State.

Conservationist, Outdoorsman and "World Class" Bow Hunter who hunted in 4 Continents. Enjoyed all types of outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and wildlife photography and had many trophies that adorned his residence. Gifted athlete who excelled at numerous sports: basketball, baseball, tennis and archery. He was also a lifetime Penn State and Eagles football fan.

Alex was a very "Unique" individual, always outdoors hunting and fishing, who lived off the land at his Colorado 36 acre ranch. Recently returned from a Venezuela bowhunting trip where he achieved the 4th Pinnacle of Safari Club International. Truly was "One With Nature" and will be missed by all his family and friends.

A private celebration of remembrance for family & friends will be scheduled at a later date in Colorado and/or Pennsylvania and/or Maryland.

Online condolences may be made at www.crippinfuneralhome.com.



the montrose mirror

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

KATHLEEN JOANNE TENNEY (SHERMAN)

October 28, 1946- September 20, 2023

KATHLEEN JOANNE TENNEY (SHERMAN), 76, of Montrose, CO, passed away peacefully on the evening of September 20, 2023, at Valley Manor Care Center under care of Hope West Hospice while dealing with complications of dementia, diabetes, and myeloma cancer.

Kathleen, lovingly known as "Kathy," was born to Frederick Milton Sherman, and Mary Margaret Sherman (Boylan) at Montrose Osteopathic Hospital on October 28, 1946.

During her childhood, her father's employment transferred the family to a variety of places throughout CA, UT, WY, and CO and eventually back to Montrose where she graduated from Montrose High School in 1964. She was the eldest of seven children.

Kathy continued her education by attending Mercy Hospital of Nursing in Denver, CO and started her nursing career by joining the United States Navy as a Nurse Corps Officer in 1968.

During her Navy travels, she met her husband, Donald Lee Tenney from Buckhannon, WV who was also in the Navy, and they were married in Jacksonville, FL on May 11, 1973. They were blessed with three children, Donna Lee, Barbara Marie, and Scott Leslie.

Kathy continued to serve in the Navy for ten years, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Commander before resigning her commission to move back to Colorado to raise her family in 1978.

Throughout the years, Kathy lived in a variety of states such as SC, WV, AZ, NV, and FL, however, most of her years were spent in Montrose, CO and she always called it home.

Kathy enjoyed crocheting and making items for family and friends. She loved watching and supporting her children and grandchildren in their sporting and competitive events and being involved with anything that involved her immediate and extended family. She enjoyed providing supportive/medical care to those in need. She held tight to her Catholic faith and held her beliefs close to her heart. She enjoyed reading romance novels, took great pride in her family's military service, and ALWAYS put others concerns and needs ahead of herself. She was truly a selfless and giving person, and those who knew her could vouch she was truly an angel who walked amongst us.

Kathy is survived by her husband of over 50 years, Donald Lee Tenney of Montrose, CO. She is also survived by her three children, Donna Lee Smith (Tenney) and spouse Alex Smith of Slidell, LA; Barbara Marie Tenney Navarro and spouse Rey Navarro of Montrose, CO; Scott Leslie Tenney and spouse Candice Tenney of Yuma, AZ and stepson Sidney Tenney and spouse Ashley Tenney of Montrose, CO.

She has 14 grandchildren: Scotty and Britany Tenney of Montrose, CO, Alyssa Patrick of Greer, SC, Krieg Patrick of Tucson, AZ, Kortni Patrick of Grapevine, TX, Ashley

and Emily Tenney of Fallon, NV, Dylin Valerio of Fallon, NV, Tristan and Gabe Wallin of Fallon, NV, Hailley Tenney of Grand Junction, CO, Autom and Abbey Tenney of Naturita, CO and Ivy Tenney of Montrose, CO.

Kathy is survived by her six siblings. Rick Sherman and spouse Teresa Sherman of Montrose, CO. Marilyn Dowdy and fiancé William Borkowski of Fargo, ND. Debra Howe and spouse Rich Harger of The Villages, FL. Joan Alexander and spouse Jabar Touama of Ridgway, CO. Barbara Kirk of Pine, CO. James Sherman, and spouse Tectiana of Timnath, CO. She was preceded in death by her mother and father.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Crippin Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, Kathleen's family is requesting that monetary donations be made to HopeWest Hospice in her name (Kathleen Tenney) so that others may be given the same care, dignity, and respect that she was afforded at the end of her life.

<https://www.hopewestco.org/donate/> Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting the family.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

MARY OCHOA-MONTEZ

October 13, 1953-September 21, 2023

MARY OCHOA-MONTEZ, 69, died Thursday, September 21, 2023 at her Montrose home with her husband by her side. Mary was born on October 13, 1953, in Lockhart, TX, to Faustino and Guadalupe Ybarra. She is one of seven siblings. Mary married her high school sweetheart, Mike Ochoa, on August 18, 1973. They were blessed with three children, Marlowe, Michael David, and Marcie. They shared thirty-four years together before Mike lost his battle with Cancer.

Determined to accomplish her dream career of being a nurse, Mary went back to school in her early 40's. She accomplished that dream and graduated from Victoria College with a Nursing degree in 2000. She spent most of her nursing years at St. David's Hospital in Austin, TX.

Mary was blessed to find love again with her second husband, Robert Montez. They were married on September 3, 2011 and shared twelve years together before her passing.

Mary loved fishing, gardening, crocheting and four wheeling through the mountains. Her biggest love of all was being a grandmother. Her grandchildren were her world and she loved to spoil them.

Mary is survived by her children, Marlowe & Jamie Savannah, Michael David & Alexis Ochoa, and Marcie & Rueben Gamez, her grandchildren, Viktor, Celeste, Lily, Xavier, Trey, Zaiden, Aly, Elle, and Penelope, her great grandchildren Nevaeh, Camila, Xoe, Makayla and Manuel, and her four siblings.

She is preceded in death by her first husband Mike, her sister Cynthia, her brother Michael and her parents Faustino and Guadalupe.

Mary had an intoxicating boisterous laugh and a smile that lit up any room. She was loved by everyone. A mom to many, her legacy will live on in all the lives she touched and poured into.

In lieu of flowers, Mary requested dona-



tions to be made to Hope West Hospice center, hopewestCO.org. Crippin Funeral Home of Montrose is assisting the family.

PETER LYNN BECHERL

January 31, 1946 -September 23, 2023

PETER LYNN BECHERL, 77, of Montrose, Colorado, died September 23, 2023 at home following a long illness. Pete was born in Sharon, ND on January 31, 1946 to Theodore and Burnice (Myer) Becherl. He grew up on the family farm near McHenry, ND and graduated from McHenry High School in 1964. He married Louise Quam in 1967. In 1969, he graduated from Valley City State College majoring in mathematics and minoring in chemistry and physics. Pete taught high school math and was principal at McHenry High School for five years. His former students say he was an excellent math teacher. During this time he also took over the family farm. Pete served on the McHenry school board,

McHenry volunteer fire department, Binford elevator board, Paradise Township board and Eddy County water board. He was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in McHenry and served on the church council.

In 2004 Pete and Louise retired from farming and moved to Montrose to be close to their children and grandchildren. He and Louise joined Zion Lutheran Church in Montrose. Pete worked for a cabinet shop and a machine shop and enjoyed spending his time doing woodworking. He loved visiting neighbors and friends and sightseeing around North Dakota. His happiest times were spent with his family.

Pete is survived by his wife of 55 years,

Louise; daughter, Anita and husband Shane Brown of Montrose; son, Brian and wife Angela of Montrose; granddaughters, Shaylla and Mikaylla; step-grandson, Montana; step-granddaughter, Chamisa; great-grandson, Paxton and step-great-grandson, Johnny.

Pete is also survived by three sisters: Lyla Anderson of Spring Valley, IL; Marjorie Jensen of Bismark, ND and Peggy Trosen of Shakopee, MN.

Pete was preceded in death by his parents and a nephew, Preston Jensen.

Crippin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. 970-249-2121

Burial of ashes will be in Bethlehem Cemetery in McHenry, ND at a later date.

ISSUE 438 Oct. 2, 2023

ART & SOL

'WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN'



Effie Ellsler Trade card from the "Actresses and Celebrities" series (N60), issued in 1887 to promote Little Beauties Cigarettes distributed by Allen & Ginter. From Bob Cox Collection.

By Bob Cox

MONTROSE-A quick scan of the history of Montrose and the surrounding area would likely never reveal the name, Euphemia Ellsler, but Euphemia, better known as Effie, played a significant role in early Montrose history, and 'a significant role' in



The interior of the Buddecke and Diehl Opera house. Photo courtesy of the Denver Library Digital Images Collection.

this case can be used literally.

Euphemia Ellsler was born on September 17, 1855 and died at the age of 87 on October 8, 1942. Effie began a career as an actress very early in life, working with her father, John Ellsler. As a result of her many minor roles with her father, Effie's efforts were noted by Steele MacKaye, who ultimately signed her to play the title role in

his play, **Hazel Kirk**. That play opened in New York in early 1880. MacKaye was renowned in the world of stage plays and well known for many inventions, including moving stages and folding theater seats. Anyone that was closely associated with MacKaye tended to share his notoriety. Effie Ellsler was no exception and other playwrights and directors began to notice

Continued next pg

'WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN' From previous pg

her.

Effie's father was evidently less than impressed with his daughter's rise to stardom in the world of stage performances. When, in 1886, she was given the lead role in Frank Harver's play, **Woman Against Woman**, which was even staged in front of President Cleveland and his wife in Washington City, John Ellsler opined to a reporter for the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* that Effie "had not the requisite dramatic force to sustain such a character as Bessie Barton."

The *Kansas City Times*, after the play was staged in Kansas City, obviously disagreed with Mr. Ellsler. In a December 1886 edition they commented on Effie Ellsler's performance in these words: *...the character of Bessie Barton suits Effie Ellsler in one of the best phases of her power.*

The Kansas City performance was followed by a performance in Pueblo, Colorado about one week afterwards. An ad for the DeRemer Opera House in Pueblo promoted the performance: *Miss Ellsler is without doubt the greatest emotional artiste in the world, and in her rendition of 'Woman Against Woman' she has no living rival.*

Meanwhile, in the early months of 1887, two of the men who have since been recognized as a pair of pioneers who literally put the town of Montrose on the map, were busy forming another of many business enterprises. A.E. Buddecke and Charles Diehl are credited as establishing the first retail business in Montrose shortly after the Ute Indians left the area. Both remained prominent in the Montrose area. Buddecke was one of the first Montrose County Commissioners and owned a farm and ranch. Diehl was owner or part owner of several downtown business. So, while the winter was being relatively

mild, they were getting started on building Montrose an opera house. Early the previous year they placed several ads in the *Montrose Enterprise* asking for bids on a projected purchase of 200,000 bricks to be used in the construction.

On November 18, 1887, *The Solid Muldoon*, a newspaper based in Ouray, announced that the building was "enclosed and inside finishing commenced," the announcement indicated that the new building was almost ready to be opened to the public. The follow-up appeared in the December 23rd issue:

The ball to be given by the Knights of Pythias of Montrose at the opening of the new opera house, January 2nd, gives promise of being one of the finest affairs ever given in southwestern Colorado. The music comes from Telluride, and no matter how great the crowd, the huge area of floor will accommodate all. A number of Ourayites will attend. The railroad will place the fare at half rate, round trip.

On December 30, 1887 *The Solid Muldoon* ran the following notice: *The Grand Opening ball at the Montrose Opera House to be given by the Knights of Pythias next Monday evening, January 2d, will be the finest affair of the kind ever given in the southwestern portion of the state. ...Excursions from Gunnison, Grand Junction and all intermediate points will be run to accommodate those who wish to attend...*

The ball was deemed a success and couples from Grand Junction, Gunnison and Ouray joined the Montrose ladies and gentlemen for a night of dancing and promotional talk given by the owners of the new opera house; but the best was yet to come.

In addition to the large dance floor, the opera house also had a big stage with all

the latest curtains and amenities. One estimate shows that, when all the ballroom was filled with chairs, an estimated 250 patrons could view a staged performance. In addition to the auditorium seating there was ample room for an orchestra of impressive size.

The Buddecke - Diehl Opera House was just the sort of venue needed for Effie Ellsler to entertain an audience. Largely because of the raving word-of-mouth reviews from those who attended the January ball, the upcoming performance was covered in several Colorado newspapers, and once again, special trains were arranged to bring people to Montrose for the event. Following the play, newspapers in Ouray, Gunnison and Longmont, along with one in Clear Creek County and another in Washington County, ripped and printed the original article that appeared in the February 24, 1888 edition of the *White Pine Cone* of Gunnison:

The Montrose opera house was opened by Effie Ellsler and company last Monday evening. A large and fashionable audience tested the capacity of the handsome theatre, large delegations coming from Ouray, Grand Junction and other neighboring towns.

Owing to some building problems, the opera house was closed in 1909 and all planned entertainment was cancelled. In June of that year the building was sold to the State of Colorado and was taken over as an armory for the National Guard; it continued to also be used as an opera house and provided a venue for the new silent film presentations.

Elsie Ellsler died on October 8, 1942. In addition to her earlier stage plays, she was very active from 1901 to 1936, having played in at least six Broadway productions and 22 motion pictures.



**Western Colorado
Farm & Ranch Brokers**

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www.SHAFFER.land

Since 1990



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-](mailto:in-

 form@fpcmontrose.com)

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 dentures.

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

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

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

Contact information:

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: www.RosemontBaptist.org

email: office@rosemontbaptist.org

Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

Denomination affiliation: Independent Interfaith

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

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

Home Office – 970-252-0908

Contact information: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908,

arlyn@spiritaware.org,

www.spiritaware.org

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

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

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

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

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Denomination: Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)

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

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

rose@yahoo.com

www.ststephensmontrose.com

Rev. Dec. Garrett Agajanian

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

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

Sunday: Holy Communion 10 am.

Fellowship following service.

Children's nursery available (unstaffed).

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Senior Pastor: John DeSario

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

Summit Church Montrose is a new church plant that preaches the Word of God, reaches the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equips Christians to serve the

Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages!

We have families with children (babies, school aged, recent high school and college graduates) up to retired individuals.

During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to Kindergarten, in a kid friendly room called Base Camp.

We also have a children's activity during our Monday night adult Bible study.

We meet for prayer at the church every Wed. at 6:30.

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org;

website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Local Immunization Providers



Visit www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations for updated information on immunization providers.
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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

FREE 2023 FAMILY CAREGIVER SUMMIT SET FOR OCTOBER 6

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Ask any family caregiver what their most devastating issue is, and they will tell you it is loneliness. When you are providing 24/7 care for a loved one, there is a disconnect with the rest of the world created by the patient's disease leaving the caregiver in an environment resembling solitary confinement.

The goal of the free 2023 Family Caregiver Summit, set for October 6, is to "spring" the prisoner, if only for an afternoon, and provide a connection with other caregivers and folks who can provide guidance and real emotional support.

"The early response to the Region 10 and Family-Caregiver.org website signups has been exciting," says Caregiver Support Foundation Chair, Laird Landon.

"Having a connection to other people besides their patient is something we encourage in all of our groups and video productions. The isolation that caregivers endure is devastating and time away from the job is important. So, we expect a good crowd."

The Family Caregiver Summit was conceived and designed to provide the caregiver a safe and comfortable environment where they can recharge through a gentle connection with their brothers and sisters in arms.

"One of the most common comments from caregivers in our regular groups is that just getting out of the house and talk-

ing to someone who understands what they are going through is virtually lifesaving," says Landon who conducts several in-person and on-line caregiver groups every month.

The 2023 Family Caregiver Summit will be a three-and-a-half-hour event, commencing at 1 PM on Friday, October 6. The agenda includes three key speakers, each covering topics aimed at enhanced understanding of the demon devastating their loved one and what they can do to help without losing their own sanity.

Region 10 Community Living Services Director, Eva Veitch, says the Summit is about all caregivers. "The Summit is about all diseases, as well as those caring for an aging parent."

"I will speak briefly about the caregiver's journey," says Landon. "There will be help for both rookie caregivers and those who have already led the life."

Following Landon's talk, Region 10 Ombudsman Sandy Walker will offer a detailed road map to resources. One of the resources Walker recommends is social contact. Isolation and a poor quality of life can lead to a caregiver not surviving their loved one. "While family caregiving can be rewarding and personally satisfying, it often comes at a significant personal cost to the caregiver." In her presentation at the Family Caregiver Summit, Walker will share details and provide the location of sources, such as the Region 10 system.

Capping the afternoon of information sharing, Dr. Michael Hehmann, a 35-year veteran of Neurological disorder diagnosis and treatment, will do a deep review of the diagnosis and treatment of progressive neurologic disease and how iHT affects the brain and the rest of the body. For those new to the brain disease scene, Hehmann will explain the neurologic exam and what is done in your physician's office when exploring how the brain and memory work and the different testing available for dementia and Parkinson's.

"I am excited to be sharing the dais with Sandy and Dr. Hehmann," Landon says. The speakers will be available to Summit attendees for one-on-one questions and answers. "We know caregivers always have questions and puzzles to workout. We want to provide as much information as we can."

Caregivers are encouraged to bring their loved ones to the Summit if they are ambulatory. The summit environment will be pleasant and safe.

More information is available at Region10.net or at family-caregiver.org. Caregiver may pre-register to attend at either site. Attendees may also register at the door.

The Family Caregiver Summit, which is free to the public, is presented by the Caregiver Support Foundation and Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning, Inc.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

DISNEY + SHOW FILMS AT MUSEUM OF THE MOUNTAIN WEST



Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE-The Museum of the Mountain West was hopping on Sept. 25th, 2023. A Disney + show, *The Wizard of Paws*, was busy filming scenes for their upcoming show here in Montrose and stopped by the Museum of the Mountain West to get some shots. Watch our [Facebook page](#) for the episode. Visit the [museum](#) Mon-Sat 8:30-4:30pm.



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DIY Halloween Wreath

at MOSAIC

Thr., Oct. 5

5:30-7:30 pm

All materials
plus
a drink
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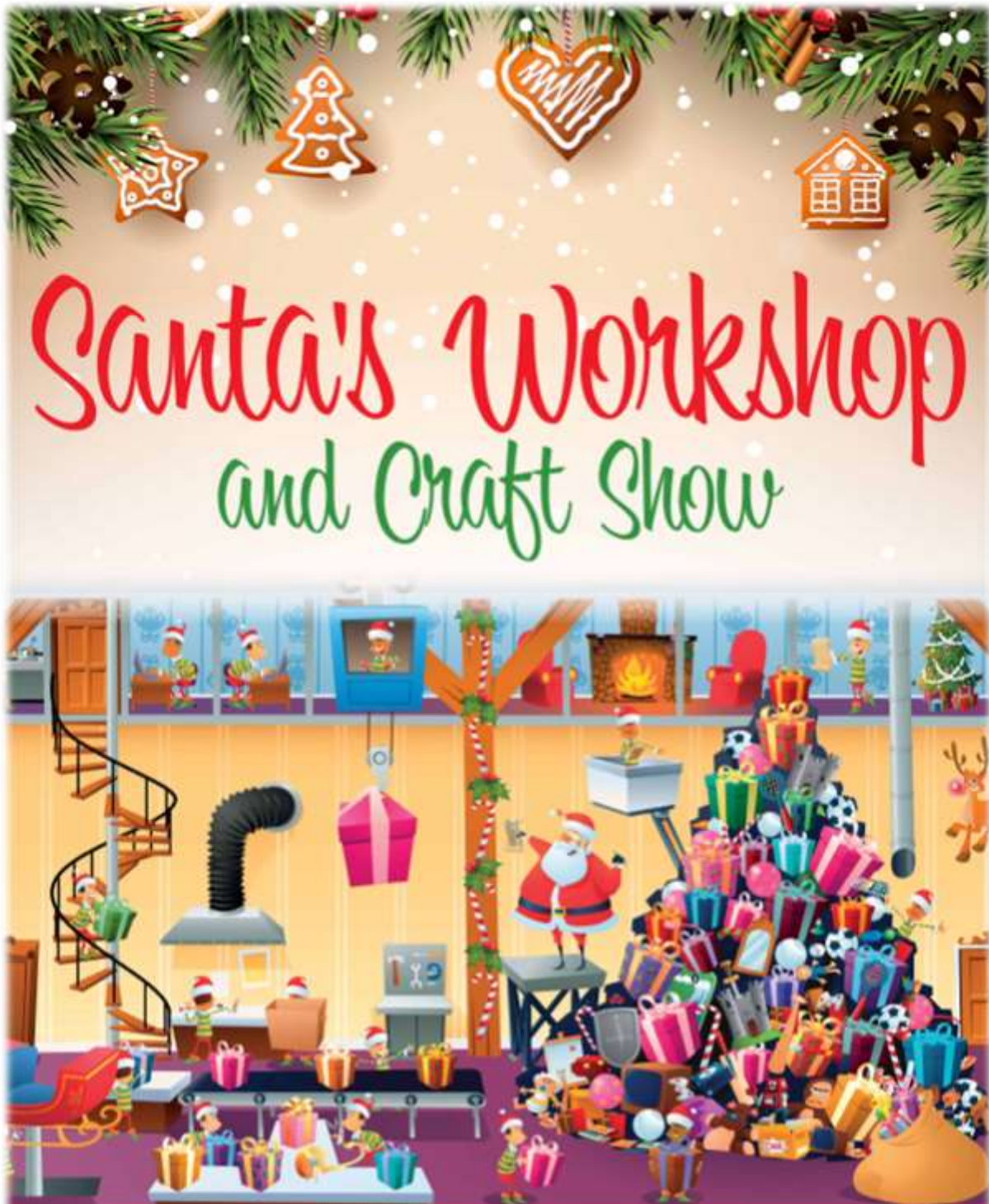
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Sunday, Dec. 3rd • 11am to 4pm

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SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

THE MINDFUL BODY: FINDING PEACE THROUGH PAIN, ILLNESS, AND AGING. Starts Oct 18th for a 6-week series every Wednesday from 5-6pm. \$100. Learn more and sign up at newleafmindfulness.com/group-classes. 719-293-4600.

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.

GRIEF SHARE 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

Oct. 4-Montrose County Historical Society presents program on Water Storage & Use, with Mendy Stewart at 7 pm. Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free.

Oct. 6-2023 Family Caregiver Summit 1-4:30pm at the Montrose Pavilion, Friday, October 6. The agenda includes three key speakers, each covering topics aimed at enhanced understanding of the demon devastating their loved one and what they can do to help without losing their own sanity. More information is available at Region10.net or at family-caregiver.org. Caregiver may pre-register to attend at either site. Attendees may also register at the door. The Family Caregiver Summit, which is free to the public, is presented by the Caregiver Support Foundation and Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning, Inc.

Oct. 14-Saturday, Oct. 14, marks the 31st year that Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Group of Southwestern Colorado. will commemorate October as Breast Cancer Awareness month with its annual Walk/Run fundraiser. To register for the 31st Annual Walk/Run on Oct. 14 and for more information on the services offered by Bosom Buddies, visit the website at www.BosomBuddiesSWC.org.

Oct. 17-The City of Montrose's 2024 budget open house will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, in the City Council Chambers located at 107 S. Cascade Avenue, starting at 4:30 p.m. View the proposed budget at CityofMontrose.org/Budget. Copies are also available at City Hall (400 East Main Street) from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. All interested citizens are encouraged to give written and verbal comments.

Oct. 18-The mindful body: finding peace through pain, illness, and aging. Starts Oct 18th for a 6-week series every Wednesday from 5-6pm. \$100. Learn more and sign up at newleafmindfulness.com/group-classes. 719-293-4600.

Oct. 20-Please join us on Friday, October 20 from 5-8pm for Victory Baptist Church's Annual Fall Family Festival. It will be a great time for all ages, games, candy, chili & hotdogs and good family fun at 2890 North Townsend Avenue.

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: BY DEB REIMANN



Deb Reimann snapped this photo of a beautiful golden fall. "The following Muir quote seemed to fit," she said, "...Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop away from you like the leaves of Autumn."

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