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the Montrose Mirror

© Issue No. 565 Dec. 25, 2023

BOCC APPROVES CONTRACT FOR JAIL ADDITION, RENOVATION, SHERIFF PRESENTS PSST REPORT

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the Montrose Board of County Commissioners gathered for a [regular meeting](#). All commissioners were present.

Sheriff Gene Lillard led all in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, first asking all to "rise and remove cover." Pastor Roland Kassales of Victory Baptist Church delivered the Invocation. "Father, we thank

you for this meeting this morning, I thank you for each person gathered here...I thank you for the work of our commissioners...we're grateful to live in Montrose, we thank you for the beauty of our area. During this Christmas Season we want to remember especially those who are not able to be with us, whether



Montrose County Sheriff's Office courtesy photo from 2023 PSST Report.

[Continued pg 28](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT HOSTS 'HEROES FOR KIDS'

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Heroes for Kids, the annual Christmas shopping spree for underprivileged kids event, was held on Saturday, Dec. 23.

The day began with breakfast at McDonald's followed by the children riding in a caravan of emergency type vehicles with lights and sirens blaring.

The memorable trip ended at Murdoch's, where each child was accompanied throughout the store with public safety personnel assisting them in spending their money to purchase gifts.

The lead escort for the caravan, Montrose County Sheriff Sgt. Taylor said, "I think there were 14 to 15 kids this year. Our Heroes come from a lot of agencies. Montrose County Sheriff's Office, Ouray County Sheriff's Office, Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, Montrose Fire Department, Olathe Fire Department, WESTCO Dispatch, US Forest Service, Montrose Police Department, and the Olathe Police Department. Alpine Bank is also a contributor. They donated new coats to every child."

Sheriff Gene Lillard thanked the community for their generous donations. He said, "But I really must give a shout out to McDonald's and Murdoch's for all their support."



Video still from Heroes for Kids Caravan by Gail Marvel.

[The Season of Light: By Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald](#)

[Twyla Righter: The Benchmark for Good Humans!](#)

[Red Hawks Sports: By Cliff Dodge!](#)

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

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By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-In the aftermath of the Montrose Red Hawks highly successful volleyball season, the awards have been announced and four Red Hawks have been singled out for their outstanding seasons. The team, under the tutelage of head coach Shane Forrest, swept the Southwestern League winning all eight league games. The team qualified for the state tournament as one of the twelve teams to vie for the state championship finishing with an overall record of 17 wins and 11 losses.

The four Red Hawks named to the All-Conference team included Senior Madison Lucero, Senior Logan Matoush, Senior Taygan Rocco and Sophomore Maggie Legg. Two Red Hawks were named to the All-State team. They are Madison Lucero and Taygan Rocco. Both Lucero and Rocco were further honored by being invited to play in the Colorado Coaches of Girls' sports All Star game.

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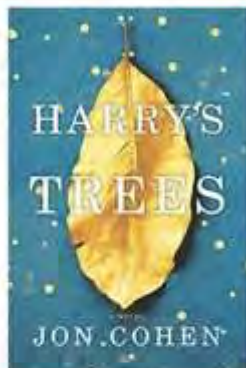
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Looking for a book club?

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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Courtesy photo.

Express pledged to make a financial donation to Food Bank of the Rockies for each and every employee placed during this time. "To give the gift of employment is more than just placing someone in a job, it's about providing an opportunity for people to be productive and to take care of their families," says Nina Anderson, CEO and Owner of the Grand Junction and Montrose offices. "Regardless how small it may seem, it's an opportunity for people to have their dignity."

Nina presented the check to Food Bank's executive director Sue Ellen Rodwick on Dec. 19, 2023. The gift is being matched by the Abram and Ray Kaplan Foundation.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHO ARE 'WE THE PEOPLE?'

Editor:

We The People; I see that statement emblazoned across T-Shirts and hats quite often. You see it on a street sign on Park Ave. When I do see people proudly displaying those words, the first three words of the U S Constitution, I ask myself, who do they mean?

Are they in support of all of us regardless of ethnicity, color, religious affiliation? Or is there something more sinister?

I can't help but think the latter.

I've always viewed myself as an optimist. But lately I find myself being sucked into the darkness of pessimism.

I find it difficult to keep a positive attitude when I see Donald Trump continue to

make divisive statements such as, "migrants are poisoning the blood of the U. S." What's more discouraging is a lot of people believe in that vile train of thought.

My stepfather, a WWII veteran, was the son of immigrants. My mother migrated to this country in 1955, became a citizen in 1963. Even Donald Trump's wife, Melania, is an immigrant. Is he saying their son is poisoned?

Words matter. We The People does not mean we the white people. The preamble to the Constitution talks about forming a Union. It talks about establishing justice and domestic tranquility. And it's a promise of liberty for all.

I can't really get behind any of the front runners for our next president. I would really like to see a viable third option. I don't know if that is doable. But when it comes down to it, I have to ask myself, who is going to support and defend the concept of We The People as outlined in the Constitution. I know in my heart it's not someone who believes immigrants will poison our bloodline or someone that supports dictators like Putin or Kim Jong Un.

Look into your hearts. Look around your neighborhood and the greater community. You just might find who We The People are.

Dave Stockton, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SHOUT OUT TO MONTROSE HOSPITAL STAFF

Editor:

As a registered nurse, who has retired after 42 years, I would like to give a shout out to all the staff my husband (the patient) and I encountered at Montrose's hospital.

I took my husband on the Saturday following Thanksgiving for a complaint of hip pain. The X-rays were negative for fracture. The ER is one of only 1.5% in the U.S.A. who has a physical therapist, Mary Jo, on staff. She outfitted my husband with a walker and taught him how to use it before he was discharged.

The following day, when I returned from church, my husband was non-responsive. The E.M.T.'s who responded to my frantic call, were all competent and compassionate.

My husband was admitted to the hospital for two days to gradually increase his critically low sodium level. The staff were all extremely patient-oriented and caring.

Two people, who stand out, are Emily, C.N.A., and Josh, a medical student from C.U. who was doing his rural rotation at the hospital.

I am looking forward to my left hip total arthroplasty (replacement) scheduled at the hospital in February. I have a lot of confidence that I will receive excellent care.

Raye Highland, Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REGISTRATION STARTS NOW FOR NEXT SESSION OF NEW HORIZONS BAND OF MONTROSE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-REGISTRATION STARTS NOW for NEXT SESSION of New Horizons BAND of MONTROSE — NH Band of Montrose is offered through the Montrose Recreation District 50+ Activities. The next session of the New Horizons Band of Montrose will be January 31 - April 24, 2024.

The Montrose Recreation District 50+ Activities will again offer this 12 week band instrument class. This concert band is an entry point for adults with no prior music experience, along with adults once active in a school music program. No previous musical experience is required. Classes are taught by retired band director/music educator Kim Lundgren. Organized in February 2022, the New Horizons Band of Montrose has 16 band members playing a variety of instruments, and looks

forward to adding more new band members.

There will be an Informational Meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 9:30 am at the Field House in Montrose, 25 Colorado Avenue, 81401. Information shared will include how to obtain a quality and affordable band instrument, rehearsal information, supplies needed, and more.

Classes for the next session be on Wednesday mornings from January 31 - April 24, 2024, Intermediate Band - 9:30 to 10:30 AM, Beginning Band 10:45-11:45 am for those who are new to reading music. Classes are held at the Field House in Montrose, 25 Colorado Avenue, 81401. There is no class on March 27. The fee for 12 classes is \$40, with registration and payment made through the Montrose Recreation District. Information about

registration is in the Fall Recreation District booklet and at the MRD website. Or you may call the Montrose Senior Center at 970-249-7705. Participants will also pay \$10 to the instructor for music and other supplies.

Participants will need to provide their own band instrument and supplies, and can learn to play clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, flute, trombone, or baritone/euphonium.

This concert band program is organized in partnership with the New Horizons International Music Association, founded in 1991 to encourage music making for those 50+. According to NHIMA founder Roy Ernst, "Playing music in groups supports good mental and physical health, besides being an unending source of joy."



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RED HAWK JV WRESTLERS DEFEAT WARRIORS

By Cliff Dodge

GRAND JUNCTION-The Montrose Red Hawks Junior Varsity Wrestling Team travelled north and defeated the Grand Junction Central Warriors JV squad by the score of 31 to 28 on Wednesday evening at the home of the Warriors. The Red Hawks prevailed in seven of the twelve matches. Here are the results of the twelve matches:

- 106** J. Schulte (Cent) over Zach Quaid (Mont) (Fall 4:03)
- 113** Marques Acosta (Mont) over Bradshaw (Cent) Dec.10-9)
- 120** Hunter Hess (Mont) over X. DeJesus (Cent) (Fall 1:51)
- 126** Hunter Hess (Mont) over B. D. Elafuente (Cent) (MD 14-1)
- 126** Kehl Mead (Cent) over Moises Najjar (Mont) (Fall 0:57)
- 132** K. Weaver (Cent) over Lucas Hess (Mont) (MD 13-0)
- 132** Cruz Moncada (Cent) over Lucas Hess (Mont) (Fall 0:55)
- 138** C. Gregory-Clutts (Mont) over Vanalahyne (Cent) (Fall1:36)
- 144** C. Gregory Clutts (Mont) over Taylan Smith (Cent) (Dec 11-6)
- 150** Landon Linville (Mont) over T. Prigmore (Cent) (Dec. 8-3)
- 165** Dylan Ortiz (Cent) over Marshall Metcalf (Mont) (Fall 1:03)
- 215** Anthony Gonzales (Mont) over T. Kemper (Cent) (Fall 1:15)

The next match for the Red Hawk JV's will be after the Christmas break when the team travels to Gunnison to participate in the Gunnison Tournament on Jan. 5.



We wish you and your family a year-end filled with light, joy and happiness.

We thank you for your confidence in our work and hope that our partnership will continue to grow.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

FEEL FREE TO PUBLISH THIS, IF YOU DARE

Dear editor:

(Feel free to publish this, if you dare.)

I'm a bit confused by the inclusion of the letter from Jon Hochschartner, Granby, CT. in today's December 18th, Montrose Mirror.

Connecticut?

I wonder if publishing a letter from Connecticut about substitute meat for readers living in a part of our nation's beef produc-

ing land is done seriously, or as a bit of humorous temptation to have someone like myself reply.

I've been to Connecticut (its been a while, though) and I don't recall seeing too many beef cattle (or chickens, or sheep) hanging out there. My little town of Delta, Colorado is a bit different. Delta has cattle grazing and being fed in numerous areas within Delta's small city limits. That's just in

town.

If you published the letter with tongue in cheek, OK.

If you published the letter to push an agenda, you may want to reconsider your reader's demographics and mores. If you published it to generate a reaction - Success.

Which was it??

Tom Howe, Delta

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RED HAWKS BOYS SWEEP LONGHORN CLASSIC



The Red Hawks hard at work practicing for their next game. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

By Cliff Dodge

BASALT-The Montrose Red Hawks Boys' Basketball Team continued their unbeaten ways as they vanquished all three opponents at the Longhorn Classic in Basalt last weekend. The three wins increased the Red Hawks overall record to 9 wins and 0 losses as the Christmas break halts play until January.

The Red Hawks opened the tournament with a game against the Eagle Valley Devils. The first half was a close-knit affair with the Devils hanging onto a slim lead. The Red Hawks asserted themselves in the third and fourth quarters outscoring the Devils 28 to 14 to seal a 12-point victory 50 to 38. Junior Kaleb Ferguson led all scorers with 15 points and 7 rebounds. Senior Jaxon Kattner added 11 points while junior Brody Cooling chipped in eight points and eight rebounds. Junior Brekin Hutto added six points and five caroms to the Red Hawks total. The team handed out 14 assists, 10 steals and seven blocked shots while turning the basketball over 13 times.

The Red Hawks next took on the Rifle Bears and left nothing to chance as the Montrose team piled up a 28-point victory, 54 to 26. The Red Hawks scored early and often and never looked back, giving the Bears from Rifle no opportunity to fight their way back into the contest. Kaleb Ferguson led all scorers with 16 points. He was followed by Brekin Hutto with 9 points and Jaxon Killen with 8 points. Ferguson led all rebounders with a dozen and Hutto with five. Killen, Katt-

ner, and sophomore C. J. Rocco each added four to the Red Hawks team total. The Red Hawks passed out 12 assists, had 13 steals and only turned the basketball over 11 times.

The Red Hawks final game of the Longhorn Classic was against the Roaring Fork

Rams. The Red Hawks jumped out to a 16-4 lead after one quarter of action, led 30-8 by halftime. Things got no better in the second half as the Red Hawks outscored the Ram 27 to 12 thus ensuring a 33 point victory, 57 to 24. Three Red Hawks hit double figures in the score book. Ferguson pumped in 18 points while junior Cooper Ross tallied 12 and Jaxon Kattner added 11. In all, eight Red Hawks hit the score sheet. The leading rebounder, Kaleb Ferguson, had 7. The Red Hawks passed out 19 assists, came up with eight steals and only turned the basketball over six times.

The Christmas holidays put a halt to the basketball competition until the first of the new year. The Red Hawks will travel to Grand Junction Central and Palisade before taking the court for their first home contest. The Red Hawks will host the Demons of Glenwood Springs on Jan. 16 and then host Eagle Valley on the 20th. Stay tuned.



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RED HAWKS GIRLS TAKE 2 OF 3 AT GLENWOOD TOURNAMENT

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks Girls' Basketball Team continued their winning ways as they took two of three wins at the Glenwood Springs Demon Tournament last weekend. The Red Hawks dispatched both the Rifle Bears and

the Moffat County Bulldogs before running into a tall, talented Kent Denver team. The Red Hawks improved their overall record to 7 and 2 for the season. The Red Hawks were not seriously challenged by the Bears as the Red Hawks jumped out to a 30 to 8 lead at the half

time break. The Red Hawks added 20 points in the second half to win the game 50 to 21. Sophomore Mayce Oberg led all scorers with 18 points and 6 rebounds. Other scorers included sophomore Maggie Legg with 11 points and senior Taygan Rocco with 9. Other rebounders included Rocco and sophomore Lilly Nelson with six rebounds each. The Red Hawks came up with 16 steals while only turning the basketball over four times, a season low.

Next up for the Red Hawks was a contest against the Bulldogs of Moffat County. The Red Hawks continued their hot start by outscoring the Bulldogs 12 to 4 in the initial quarter of the contest. The Red Hawks kept their foot on the gas pedal and won going away 51 to 32. Two sophomores, Mayce Oberg and Maggie Legg, led all scorers with 19 and 14 points respectively. Taygan Rocco added 7 points to the Red Hawks total. Mayce Oberg led all rebounders with a dozen. The Red Hawks handed out six assists and had 17 steals while only turning the basketball over eight times.

The Red Hawks then found themselves up against a tall and talented Kent Denver team. The Red Hawks led by 3 points after one period of play. The Sun Devils then moved out to leads in each of the three remaining periods of the game. The Sun Devils took over the game in the 4th quarter as they outscored the Red Hawks by a 17 to 7 score when made the final score the Kent Denver Sun Devils 52, the Montrose Red Hawks 37. Mayce Oberg led all Red Hawk scorers with 15 points and seven rebounds. Taygan Rocco and Maggie Legg chipped in 7 and 6 points respectively. Senior Haven Johnson came up big on the board as she captured six rebounds. The Red Hawks passed out seven assists and came up with 11 steals while turning the basketball over 17 times.

The long and lonesome road continues after the Christmas break as the Red Hawks travel to Grand Junction Central and Palisade before returning home for their first taste of playing at home. The Red Hawks will host Glenwood Springs and Eagle Valley, Jan. 15 and 20 at the Montrose Fieldhouse.

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RED HAWKS DROP DUAL MEET TO WARRIORS

By Cliff Dodge

GRAND JUNCTION-The Grand Junction Central Warriors hosted their first home dual wrestling meet of the season on Wednesday evening. The event was called "Blackout Night" and fans were urged to wear all black clothing. The matches were held under the spotlight over the mat and the Warriors prevailed over the Red Hawks by the score of 47 to 33.

The Warriors were victorious in 8 of the 14 matches. One oddity in the match was the deduction of one point from the Warriors score for a language violation. The results were as follows:

138 Trevor Ziek (Central) over Lincoln Jones (Mont) (Fall 1:19)

144 Austin Zimmer (Mont) over Jordan Willis (Cent) (Fall 2:40)

150 H. Maynes (Cent) over James Schneider (Mont) (Fall 4:57)

157 A. Vargas (Cent) over Brent Brashers

(Mont) (Fall 1:48)

165 Trevan Anstine (Mont) over Timbur Wolfe (Cent) (Fall 1:22)

175 J. Griffith (Cent) over Jayce England (Mont) (Fall 1:29)

190 Corbin Wallace (Mont) over A. Rosling (Cent) (Fall 0:52)

215 Nick Jennings (Mont) over J. Shackelford (Cent) (Fall 2:36)

285 Z. Knowles (Cent) over Vince Mascia (Mont) (Fall 1:00)

106 Ricky Olmos (mont) over Micha Batis-ta (Cent) (Fall 1:33)

113 J.P.Espinoza (Cent) over Chance Cul-ver (Mont) Fall 2:12)

120 Aadin Gonzales (Mont) over Dom Ortiz (Cent) (Fall 4:30)

126 E. Hernandez (Cent) over Gabe Hardin (Mont) (Fall 4:07)

132 Wm. Dean (Cent) over Holden Putnam (Mont) (Fall 3:43)

The wrestling team will take the Christmas holidays off and will not return until Jan. 5 for the Gunnison Tournament and Jan. 6 for the Tracy Borah duals. Stay tuned.



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

YEAR-END HOURS OF SERVICE FOR BUSINESS FILING

Special to the Mirror

DENVER— In observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays, the Colorado Secretary of State's office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, Friday, Dec. 29 (after 2 p.m.), and Monday, Jan. 1.

Due to yearly maintenance, online services will be unavailable from 11:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31 until noon on Monday,

Jan. 1. Services like filing and searching will be affected. Mergers or other paper documents must be received in the office no later than 1 p.m. on Dec. 29. Please do not wait until late afternoon on Dec. 29 to submit your paper filings as circumstances beyond the Office's control (weather, illness, etc.) may prohibit our ability to process your filing in the timeline you are at-

tempting to achieve. Filings not received during scheduled business hours will be processed the next working business day. Please plan ahead and file earlier by using a delayed effective date and time if necessary for filings that must be effective on Dec. 31. Filing deadlines will not be extended. Email business@coloradosos.gov or call (303) 894-2200 with any questions.



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ALPINE BANK'S JENNIFER HAWLEY AWARDED CRPP® DESIGNATION

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION— Jennifer Hawley, assistant vice president and trust officer at Alpine Bank, was recently awarded the Certified Retirement Plan Professional® (CRPP) designation by Cannon Financial Institute, Inc.

The CRPP® certification is for public and private sector professionals working in retirement plan administration. Holders of the certificate have detailed knowledge of the many types of qualified retirement plans in existence and the different regulations. They also have a thorough understanding of how the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) affects the financial industry.

To qualify for the CRPP® certification, individuals must complete a set of educational courses, pass a final exam, and agree to follow the professional ethics and code of

conduct standards.

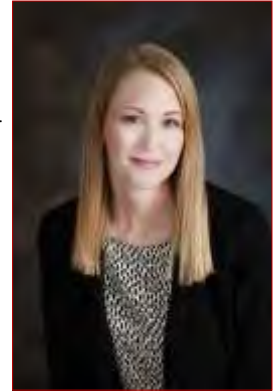
"I'm excited for the opportunity to serve our clients and continue to provide guidance and expertise in the area of financial planning," said Hawley. "Alpine Bank Wealth Management provides excellent service to our clients, and I am committed to maintaining and growing that standard. I also look forward to developing the department and our regional team."

Hawley oversees client portfolio management, trust administration and business development in western Colorado. She brings a combined 15 years of professional experience in human resources, employee benefit administration, retirement planning and financial advising to her role.

She works with each client on their unique financial planning circumstances and is a trusted resource for clients of all ages. Hawley is an alumna of Colorado

Mesa University and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Alpine Bank Wealth Management has \$1.1 billion in assets under management. Its services include investment management, trust management, custodial services, financial lifestyle management, estate management, individual retirement accounts, employee benefit accounts, endowment management for charitable institutions and tax management and reporting.



*Jennifer Hawley.
Courtesy photo.*

Thank you to these local merchants and individuals who greatly contributed to the success of the 2023 Elks Charity Ball. Your support assists our charitable works such as Youth Scholarships and Christmas Baskets. Charlotte Myers, Charity Ball Chairman.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

OFFICES TO CLOSE ON DEC. 25, JAN 1 FOR CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE — City of Montrose offices, including City Hall, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Visitor Center, City Shop, Montrose Pavilion, and Police Department, will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday, as well as on Monday, Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday.

Police Department offices will be closed but officers will be on duty and responding to calls. The Black Canyon Golf Course and Pro Shop will be closed on Dec. 25. The Rusty Putter restaurant located at the golf course will be closed.

Trash and recycling schedules will be adjusted for the two holidays. For residences with Monday, Dec. 25 collection, trash

pickup will instead occur on Tuesday, Dec. 26, and Wednesday, Dec. 27.

Residences North of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will receive collection services on Wednesday, Dec. 27. Residences South of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will receive service on Tuesday, Dec. 26.

For residences with Monday, Jan. 1 collection, trash pickup will instead occur on Tuesday, January 2, and Wednesday, Jan. 3.

Residences North of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will receive collection services on Wednesday, Jan. 3. Residences South of San Juan Avenue and Highway 50 will receive service on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Recycling collection for customers scheduled for pickup on Monday, Dec. 25 will instead receive collection service on Friday, Dec. 29.

Recycling collection for customers scheduled for pickup on Monday, Jan. 1 will instead receive collection service on Friday, Jan. 5.

For more information, contact City Hall at 970.240.1400.

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



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OUTSIDE THE BOX: THE BENCHMARK FOR GOOD HUMANS

By Twyla Righter

Ok - Everyone has their benchmarks for how to define "good people." (Don't ask pastor Karl - he'll tell you we all need Jesus) But - theological caveats aside - how do you or I define the "good people?" Everyone has a different opinion. I've heard repeatedly that if you put your shopping cart in the corral, you're a good person. Just to be a straight shooter - by this metric I have been bad. I am a 100% of the time cart returner at this point in my life - however - when I had newborns I was a low percentage returner. I was terrified to leave a baby alone in a car. Especially if it was cold - or hot - or I had decided that a kidnapper would obviously want to steal my baby because my baby is the most precious baby that has ever existed and if kidnappers exist then they want the best and how on earth could that adorable smoochy face not be the one that all the kidnappers want to kidnap? So - if I'd found a spot near the cart return I was fine - but if it was too far to unload and carry my baby and groceries I was not going to leave the baby in the car. Was I crazy - maybe - did my husband assure me I was crazy - yes. But, no one kidnapped my babies. So who's the crazy one now? (He's also annoyed that I also set boobytraps in my house at night for serial killers - Home alone style. But - that's for another column).

So - if the shopping cart return is your defining characteristic of good you'd not have approved of me as a young mom.

My personal standard for good is that you flash your headlights to warn people about speed traps. Some of you think I'm in the wrong here because you think speed limits are valuable and catching speeders is also important and that punishing them makes the community safer and better. But you are wrong.

Speed limits are for bad drivers - good drivers are capable of driving at a speed they are competent at - and all the traffic laws are there to help less competent drivers - so we are flashing lights to help the superior drivers know they should slow down so as not to deal with the ramifications of the overbearing bureaucratic systemic patriarchy that demands to subdue the competent among us with their tyrannical personality disorders. In my book - you flash your headlights to warn those who drive well that they are heading into tyranny territory. Just another good guy out here supporting the healthy resistance.

But - if this column has not convinced you to abandon any support for my personal ethics - I think you'll have to agree with me on this: The truly good people are the ones with outdoor Christmas lights. Outdoor Christmas decorating is the most generous - least self-serving - most truly kind hearted act. You are making the community feel more sweet and festive and joyful.

It costs so much time and money and requires a day or two of hassle and risk - all so that your fellow community mem-



Twyla Righter. Photo by Jess Pollard.

bers can oooh and ahhh over the pretty sparkling lights as they drive through the cold dark nights this season.

Thank you - to each and every home that has gone to the effort. You are so appreciated and I know you will win no awards - your dependents will never know of your great deeds - but in the cold dark winter of 2023 you brought light and joy and warmth to the little corner of the world that you touch. I am forever grateful.

You are the good guys.

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SAN MIGUEL POWER SENDS OUT \$1 MILLION IN MEMBER DIVIDENDS

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY—At its December 2023 meeting, the Board of Directors of San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) approved the return of \$1 million in Member Dividends to the consumer-members. This move completes the process by which excess revenues get shared back with consumers over time.

In a typical year, SMPA has money left over after paying its expenses. As a not-for-profit cooperative, SMPA allocates the excess revenue, called "margins" to each consumer in proportion to their contributions for that year. These margins are used by the cooperative to finance operations and construction. This helps SMPA balance the need to turn to lenders for funds to maintain and enhance SMPA's existing electric system. When the Board determines the time is right, allocations for a given year or combination of years are repaid to members as "Member Dividends."

This month, many SMPA members are receiving checks in the mail. The dividends represent allocations from the years, 1994 and 1995. The majority of members received dividend checks between \$20 and \$250. Some large power users, including towns, counties, and schools received checks over \$5,000. Members will have a full six-month period in which to deposit their member dividends.

"Giving member dividends back to you is one of the ways we distinguish ourselves from investor-owned, for-profit utilities," said Board President, Rube Felicelli. "It's a commitment that is absolutely foundational for an electric cooperative like SMPA."



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MEGAN SANDOVAL NAMED STATE OF COLORADO CASEWORKER 2023 – A TESTAMENT TO COMMITMENT AND COMPASSION IN CHILD WELFARE

Special to the Mirror

DELTA COUNTY – In a shining tribute to excellence in child welfare, Megan Sandoval, a dedicated Delta County Human Services Child Welfare Caseworker, has been honored with the prestigious title of "Caseworker of the Year for 2023" by the State of Colorado.

Megan's tireless dedication and unwavering commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of children and families have earned her this esteemed recognition.

The acknowledgment coincides with the recent observance of Child Welfare Worker Appreciation Week, held from Sept. 11 to Sept. 15. Megan Sandoval was among nearly 50 exceptional child welfare staff members across the state who were nominated for their outstanding contributions to their communities.

Nominated by Nicole Bennett of Delta County Human Services, Megan's exceptional qualities were highlighted as an embodiment of positivity, empathy, and dedication to her role. Nicole Bennett remarked, "Megan is one of those rare individuals whose positivity and empathy are contagious. Her skill in recognizing and sharing the feelings of others is unparalleled. As one of our frontline intake caseworkers, Megan ensures families interact with our department with respect and understanding. Her commitment to helping families succeed as parents, guardians, and integral community members is truly remarkable."

During a time when the department faced staffing shortages, Megan Sandoval's self-



Megan Sandoval, a dedicated Delta County Human Services Child Welfare Caseworker, has been honored with the prestigious title of "Caseworker of the Year for 2023" by the State of Colorado. Courtesy photo.

lessness and dedication shone through as she volunteered to take on additional cases. Not only did she manage her workload efficiently, but she also extended her support to fellow caseworkers, embodying the spirit of teamwork and collaboration.

"Megan is the epitome of an exemplary employee, displaying an unmatched drive to complete her work with accuracy, maintaining a positive attitude, and fostering an environment where others thrive," added Nicole Bennett.

The State of Colorado Caseworker of the Year award recognizes individuals who exhibit exceptional dedication, professionalism, and innovation in the realm of child

welfare. Megan Sandoval's recognition as the Caseworker of the Year for 2023 stands as a testament to her exceptional service and unwavering commitment to Delta County's children and families.

All nominees during Child Welfare Worker Appreciation Week will receive certificates of appreciation and tokens of gratitude. Megan was recognized by the Delta County Commissioners at the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners meeting held on December 19, 2023.

For more information on Delta County Human Services, please visit <https://www.deltacountyco.gov/7/Human-Services>



BOCC APPROVES CONTRACT FOR JAIL ADDITION From pg 1

serving in the military or traveling during this time, we ask that you give them safety, especially for those who serve during this time in our law enforcement and health care communities...we just ask that you would watch over them as well...we ask for your blessing on the New Year..."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments heard from the public on non-agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the Consent Agenda as written.

MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Commissioners left regular session to reconvene as the Montrose County Board of Health. Public Health Director Jim Austin was present to request approval of the West Central Public Health Partnership's regional [Community Health Assessment and Public Health Improvement Plan](#) for 2024 - 2028. The Board of Health voted to approve, and then returned to regular session as the BOCC.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Montrose Regional Airport Director of Aviation Lloyd Arnold presented for approval [an award](#) of the Invitation for Bids for construction of a Temporary Traffic Signal at US 50 and Airport Access to Morton Electric, Inc. who submitted the [lowest responsive bid](#) in the amount of \$567,729.30. Commissioners voted to approve the award.

Also approved was Montrose Regional Airport's Change Order No. 1, "in reference to the construction of the South Parking Lot. This includes Non-Federal items. For a total credit of \$38,637.07 bringing the total cost of work described from \$1,478,948.28 to \$1,440,311.21."

Facilities Director Jennifer Murray presented for possible approval and authorization a bid award and contract in the amount of \$7,927,925. to FCI Constructors, Inc., for construction of the Montrose County Jail Addition/Renovation Project, as reviewed by Counsel. FCI Constructors, Inc. was the sole responsive bid. The project is anticipated to start on or after Jan. 8, 2024 and be completed by April 30, 2025. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve.

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash thanked staff for working together, "I just want to thank Jennifer and her staff and legal and the sheriff's staff...it has been a long process to get this done."

Hansen opened a public hearing as Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard delivered the [Presentation of the annual Public Safety Sales Tax for 2023](#).

"I have been a peacekeeper for the last 48 years, that's what I do," Lillard said, "and I try to resolve conflicts...I don't like conflicts but when they're in my face, as cops do, we resolve what needs to be done... I have not accused anybody of committing any type of theft at any time during this process. When I took the Oath as sheriff, my intent was to ensure that the Montrose County Sheriff's Office and my staff were provided the best training, the best equipment, the best working environment, and competitive pay for retention and recruitment. By doing this we can in turn provide the citizens of Montrose County the best law enforcement services available and possible."

Lillard said that he inherited a major mess when he took office on Jan 8, 2019. "What I inherited at that time was a major mess...When I walked into the Sheriff's Office, I was shocked to see the interior condition of the building...we had to spend a lot of money in order to get things back to where they needed to be and get cleaned up."

He described ceiling tiles hanging down, with stains. The carpet throughout the building was original carpet from 1997. "The carpet was filthy beyond belief."

The office also had unused space, he said. That space has been refurbished and is now an effective working environment. Heating and cooling problems have been rectified, as have plumbing issues. The Facilities Department has been very helpful, Lillard said. He requested that the Public Safety Sales Tax Resolution 109-2007 be re-written to support the original intended outcomes of the Public Safety Sales Tax initiative. The resolution specifically allocates 70 percent of the Sales Tax proceeds to the Montrose County Sheriff's Office to be used as directed by the Montrose County Sheriff. Funds were not to be

co-mingled with the General Fund. He expressed gratitude for the sales tax.

Lillard reviewed [statistics](#), which show an increase in traffic contacts. "550 is like a racetrack to the South...our traffic contacts have increased substantially from 1417 to 1632..."

Lillard detailed increases in incidents across the board and discussed new hires and positions. The MCSO has partnered with the Montrose Police Department on the Western Slope Law Enforcement Academy and is 100-percent compliant with P.O.S.T. standards. A new substation is being built in Nucla for officers. The department received a \$374K grant for its Drone Air Force, Lillard said. "It comes in very handy...suspects rarely look up."

The Crime Scene Trailer has been refurbished, and the Dive Team has been successful, including retrieval of a drowning victim in Olathe.

The rise of Personal Recognizance Bonds for perpetrators ensures that most arrestees are released before the ink is even dry, Lillard said. "Repeat offenders are released into the community time after time after time. It puts our people in danger...we're beating our heads against a wall," he said. "It's got to be fixed-it goes a lot deeper than we all know..."

A person who threatened to blow up Walmart had been released on a PR bond just days before, he said. "We've got a list of people as long as your arm that are repeat offenders, that's what we deal with."

Also, the MCSO took needy children shopping at Murdoch's for Christmas, he said. Commissioners and Lillard discussed recent comments about use of the PSST tax, with Lillard asking for greater control over the 70 percent allotted to the Sheriff's Office.

"Since I came into office in 2019, Public Safety Sales Tax has brought in...right at \$53M...70 percent of that accounts to \$23M dollars that would supposedly come to the Sheriff's Office for expenditures, for us to use as we see fit..."

Caddy asked whether Lillard has spoken to the finance department about line items; Lillard said that he plans to.

"That would be a great idea," Caddy said,

BOCC APPROVES CONTRACT FOR JAIL ADDITION

From Previous pg

Category	2020	2021	2022	2023
Traffic Contacts (total)	1726	1719	1417	1632
Model Traffic Code Citations	165	200	183	209
DUI	32	50	49	59
Domestic Violence	83	86	65	64
Civil Matters	548	520	487	524
Civil Process	1785	1652	2364	2257
Agency Assist	1710	1670	1865	1769
Warrant Arrests	490	345	407	442
Criminal Mischief	85	77	81	73
Homicide	1	0	1	1
Death Investigation	40	55	50	53
Assault	117	100	99	94
Theft	165	136	178	157
Sex Offense	29	50	58	59
Burglary	30	51	45	48
Criminal Trespass	140	142	196	199
Child Abuse	27	24	9	23
Motor Vehicle Theft	33	48	42	31
VIN Inspections	859	1219	1165	881

Courtesy graphic-MCSO 2023 PSST Report.

"Because that way you have a better idea of where the money's going to because you're the one that's going to be telling 'em where the money needs to go. I think that's a great idea...it's a two-way street."

Equipment can be expensive, but that is the nature of the beast, Lillard said.

"Peoples' lives, you can't put a number on that."

BOCC Vice Chair Roger Rash said that the MCSO does an outstanding job, and that county commissioners have approved every budget put forward by the MCSO.

Lillard said he needs more control of the 70 percent of the PSST that is allotted to the MCSO. "I feel like I don't have any control of it whatsoever."

Commissioners have the discretion to use 30 percent of PSST revenues, he said. Still, PSST funds were used to fund the southern intersection at Grand Avenue in the amount of \$84K. "I didn't think that should have come out of our fund, because a lot of people use it."

Rash said he was hurt by the suggestion that the BOCC had done something "nefarious."

Lillard said, "I never said that word, I can't hardly pronounce nefarious, I did not say that."

Rash said, "If you think that we've done something I would ask you to do a complete forensic audit...if you think that we have done something that is not appropri-

ate with these funds...please do a complete forensic audit and put this to bed forever, because I believe we've done what we needed to do...for people to say things is very hurtful...I trust my staff, I trust my attorney...I hope you can understand where I come from and why I got a little disjointed over this whole conversation. You guys are my friends, you guys are my family, but it is hurtful when people make these comments with no proof...if you believe we have done something wrong, please by all means find an auditor and do an investigation."

Auditors cost a lot of money, Lillard said, "...Once again. That's taxpayers' money, I'm not in favor of that, but once again, we need to get to the bottom of things, we need to see where the money actually goes...It's gone on for a long time..."

Rash said he would like to see an additional deputy in the West End. "It would be very helpful."

The department is working on that, Lillard said.

Rash said that commissioners are in charge of all county budgets. "...It's more than just your budget. We have to balance an entire budget for the entire county and we have to be fiscally responsible...if we lock into a defined contribution plan, that means we have to pay that by contract. We are stuck with it for a long time. Who pays for that when the economy takes a downturn...I think we can find a better way...if you're locked into that you don't have a choice..."

"Our people are willing to do that," Lillard said.

Hansen said that an [FPPA](#) (Fire and Police Pension Association) was not on the table, and that the county will have a conversation about it next year. She said she is confused by the PSST ballot language. She asked where in the ballot it says that funds should not be commingled.

Lillard said his budget report from Finance is labeled Public Safety Sales Tax. There should be a portion labeled General Fund, he said. Also, when the original ballot issue was passed, the City chose not to opt in, he said.

Continued next pg

BOCC APPROVES CONTRACT FOR JAIL ADDITION From Previous pg

Hansen said that funds are kept separate and asked whether Lillard meets regularly with Finance staff; Lillard said he does not. Hansen encouraged him to talk to Finance, and assured Lillard that he does have 100-percent control over his 70 percent of the PSST.

Lillard said that he asked for an Emergency Manager Assistance at a cost of \$11K, using an existing position out of the jail, and was shot down.

Caddy said he thinks communication is lacking between the Sheriff's Department and the Finance Department, and that PSST proceeds go into a fund.

Lillard said that he would prefer that the 70 percent to be directed to the MCSO. He discussed administrative fees that are charged to public safety, including \$14K for a vehicle parked at the airport.

"The money that goes out is just astronomical...there's a lot of questions that arise from that..."

Hansen said, "We've all been here for a number of years, this conversation should have happened long before that, before we opened it up to public comments and scrutiny and people thinking the wrong thing about what all of our intent is..."

Hansen said that the BOCC has done nothing wrong.

"We go by what the law says...we all have to work together...I don't want to see this go any further down that hole..."

Rash, who took office in 2017, said that the previous condition of the jail was the result of a previous board of commissioners. "In Sheriff Dunlap's defense, it was a different time...the PSST funding was not as large, it has steadily increased over time."

Airport Director of Aviation Lloyd Arnold said that the Airport pays for 100-percent of vehicles and administrative fees, as an enterprise fund that does not use county

tax dollars.

"We don't use any tax dollars from the county...There shouldn't really be any expenditures out of other county departments with regard to the airport..."

Lillard said that he had used the airport as an example but could list other departments as well. He said he has never dis-trusted commissioners or Waschbusch.

"It's just that there's just a lot of questions that need to be answered, that we see red flags, that's all."

Hansen said, "I would reject the assertion about red flags, but there may be some things that we disagree on that should or shouldn't be coming out of your 70 percent as opposed to the 30 percent..."

She opened the floor to public comment and urged speakers to be decent to one another.

Jim Anderson spoke, saying that commissioners are his friends and many of his questions were answered that day. The intent of the ballot issue is that 70 percent of the funds belong to the sheriff and should be under his control. The resolution needs to be rewritten with the 70 percent under the Sheriff's control.

"What I listened to today was what I've been asking for years, that the money be put under the control of the sheriff. Responsibilities should be stipulated as well...language has to go in there so no sheriff can misuse or abuse the funds..." The BOCC's portion needs to be fixed as well, he said.

"Merry Christmas, thank you, we remain friends," Anderson said.

He offered to assist with revisions. "Thank you for all the good work you guys have done. Overall, I am going to give you an A plus..." Hansen closed the public hearing.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Commissioners voted to approve the Jacobs-Goodhue Waiver [WV23-003] pro-

posal: TA waiver of the Montrose County Subdivision Regulations, Section 10.3.A: Property lines dividing two or more 35-acre tracts are not permitted as Boundary Line Adjustments. Applicant: Mesa Surveying, PO Box 127, Montrose, CO 81402. Location: Parcels 376715100006 and 376715100007. Zoning: General Agricultural

Consideration and possible approval of the approve the Jacobs-Goodhue Waiver based on the findings of fact listed in paragraph 7 of this report. The waiver does not create an additional parcel.

Surveyor Bill Wiley said the current planning staff is just wonderful to work with.

Commissioners took a two-minute break before returning to session.

Commissioners voted to approve Meaker Brothers Minor Subdivision [MI23-028] proposal to divide one lot from a 67.307 acre parcel at Parcel 376705200024.

The three final Planning & Development items were approved with one vote, following a brief comment by Mark Covington, who praised staff.

"...I just can't say enough good about your staff."

"Thank you," Hansen said, "You can come to the podium anytime." Approved with one vote were:

- The James Smith Minor Subdivision Extension [EXT23-005] proposal to extend the time period to file an approved plat for recording at Parcel 372118400030;

- The Waterfront Way Minor Subdivision Extension [EXT23-006] proposal to extend the time period of an active application at Parcel 376720308004; and

- The Ballantyne Minor Subdivision [EXT23-007] proposal to extend the time period to finish an application at Parcel 376720308003.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Montrose County

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY CORONOR'S OFFICE RELEASES STATEMENT

Montrose County Coroner's Office

MONTROSE--In the evening hours of Dec. 18, the Montrose Police Department was dispatched to a medical emergency. A man was found dead in a residence in the 700

block of South Junction Avenue. The decedent is 46-year-old Robert James Stace of Montrose, Colo. The case is currently under investigation by the Montrose Police Department and the Montrose County

Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation. The cause and manner of death are pending the results of an autopsy.

*Rick Fellabaum, Montrose County Coroner
Montrose County Coroner's Office*

This concludes this press release in its entirety. No additional information is available at this time.

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Una prospectura es un informe de la Administración de Recursos y Servicios de Salud (ARSA) del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS) de EE. UU. como parte de un premio total de \$100,000,000 por Q. El financiado por Estados Unidos no gubernamentales. Las declaraciones pautas contra los autores y no representan la opinión oficial de la HHS, del HHS o del gobierno de EE. UU. ni están necesariamente una aprobación de su parte. Para obtener más información, visite HHS.gov.

STRUCTURE FIRE SHUTS DOWN MAIN STREET IN DELTA

Delta Police Dept, News Release

MONTROSE— At approximately 9:13am ON Dec. 18, Delta County Dispatch received reports of a structure fire at 949 Main Street. Delta Police Department, Delta Volunteer Fire Department, and Delta County Ambulance coordinated on scene to divert traffic and extinguish the fire. Residents of the home evacuated with no reported injuries.

The cause of the fire was determined to be from a failed homemade heating system that utilized used motor oil as a heating source. Delta Volunteer Fire Department extinguished the fire with no further spread to neighboring buildings.

Delta Police Department reopened Main Street at approximately 11:55am when the scene was secure, and no further public safety risks remained.





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WEEKLY CARTOON

by Tim Jones



WINTER Clothing Drive

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE POLICE RELEASE STATEMENT ON RECENT INCIDENT

By Montrose Police

Commander Matt Smith

MONTROSE-"On 12/18/23 at approximately 10 PM officers with the Montrose Police Department were dispatched to a residence in the 700 Block of South Junction Avenue for a medical emergency call

that was later determined to be a homicide. On scene, officers found one adult male party deceased inside a residence. After making sure the crime scene was safe, our officers worked to secure the area around the residence in order for our detectives to begin their investigation. We

learned early in the case that a juvenile male was implicated in the offense, and that this individual had fled the scene on foot before officers' arrival. An immediate search began for the juvenile and continued in earnest throughout the next day. It was apparent during the early stages of this case that the incident was isolated to one residence and family, and there was no indication the general public was in danger.

"As the case unfolded, our detectives were able to make contact with the juvenile male on 12/19/23. This individual ultimately turned himself in voluntarily at the Montrose Police Department the same day at around 3:30 pm. After an interview, the juvenile was arrested for 1st degree murder, as his statements and evidence collected throughout the investigation supported his involvement with the offense. We are still in the process of analyzing some of the evidence collected at the scene, and autopsy reports are pending for the deceased adult male, so we are not releasing information specific to those topics at this time.

"The Montrose Police Department recognizes that incidents like these are extremely disturbing for everyone to hear about. This is a tragedy for the family members of the victim and suspect. As always, we are committed to providing the highest level of public safety service to our community. This was especially true during this case, as our officers' and detectives' quick work and tireless efforts brought such a serious case to a quick but thorough resolution."

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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

DUANE WILSON GARDNER ***July 3, 1934- December 16, 2023***

DUANE WILSON GARDNER passed away peacefully on December 16, 2023, in his home in Montrose, Colorado.

Duane was born to parents Jasper and Doris (Patterson) Gardner on July 3, 1934, in Delta, Colorado and spent his childhood there. He attended Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego and then joined the army where he was trained in communications as he traveled the world.

When he returned to Colorado, he continued his career path as a Central Office Tech for Mountain Bell and married the love of his life, Donna, whom he had first met at church in high school.

Duane was an adventurer to his core. He could tell you anything you'd want to know about the mountain peaks of Colorado, and he was intimately familiar with them as he climbed almost 40 different fourteeners. He and Donna explored Hawaii and Europe together, took three of their grandkids on lengthy US road trips, and drove to Alaska. They camped at Arrowhead and wintered in Arizona where they built up a community of dear friends. Duane hunted, fished, loved to garden and

be outdoors.

He was a member of the Nazarene Church, the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, and a volunteer for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, where he helped monitor and report on the nesting of blue birds for several years. He was a member of the Good Sam's Club, the UTC - Treasure Club, and the Montrose Car Club.

Duane was a sports enthusiast and never missed a Broncos or Rockies game. He and Donna celebrated their 60th anniversary with family in a box at the Rockies stadium. He personally loved to bowl, play softball, golf, and ski.

But more than anything else, Duane's faith in God and love for his family is what set him apart. His sense of humor, charisma and easy manner drew people to him from all walks of life and he will be missed around the world.

Duane is preceded in death by his beloved son Darrell Gardner, parents Jasper and Doris, two brothers Dean and Glen Gardner and in-laws Claude and Helen Witcher.

He is survived by his loving wife Donna, daughter Cindy (Gene Chuchuru) Gardner

of Montrose, Son Larry (Lori) Gardner of Tucson, Arizona, daughters in law Diane (Ken) Gardner Juncker of Evansville, Indiana, and

Christina Chuchuru, as well as grandkids Christa McMahon, Caitlin and Chandler Gardner, Christian, Corbin, and Carter Chuchuru. One sister Robyne (Ken) Showalter, Spokane Washington and numerous cousins and nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held on Wednesday December 27, 2023, at 10 am at The First Church of the Nazarene, 705 S 12th Street with service provided by Reverend Buddy Cook.

Arrangements are being made through Crippin Funeral Home 970-249-2121. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, in Duane's name.



Thank you for reading
THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JERRY MITCHELL GASSIOT

October 17, 1937- December 7, 2023

JERRY MITCHELL GASSIOT, 86, of Montrose Colorado, passed away on December 7th, 2023. He was born on October 17, 1937, in Bollinger Texas to Mr. and Mrs. H.R. Gassiot. Jerry is survived by his loving wife, Mary Kathryn (Kathy) Gassiot and their children: daughter Dawniell M. Gassiot, her daughter Serena K.M. McNamer and Serena's daughter Rylee M. Ford; chosen daughter Chaucey Edwards. Son: Jedediah J. Gassiot, his wife Emma and their daughters Sydney M. Gassiot-Wallace and Shawna M. Gassiot. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Bill, David, and Jo. Jerry had a fulfilling career, starting as a fireman and then transitioning into sales in the steel industry. He concluded his professional journey as the Division Manager for Reliance Steel in Wyoming before retiring in 1998. Jerry and Kathy settled in Montrose, where he often expressed that the valley was his slice of

heaven. In his leisure time, Jerry and Kathy traveled and met so many wonderful people and had wonderful adventures. He pursued various hobbies that brought him joy and fulfillment. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and woodworker. Additionally, he had a deep passion for civil war history and was an enthusiastic reader.

Jerry's private family memorial service will be held at a later date. The caring professionals at Crippin Funeral Home in Montrose, Colorado, are assisting the family with the arrangements. In lieu of flower donations please donate in Jerry's name to Grace Community Church benevolence fund or the National Kidney Foundation.

It is with a heart felt thank you to those who have loved and supported us through many years with grace and caring. A very special thank you to Dr. Michael Brezinsky who through 23 years showed Jerry compassion and wonderful care. Jerry Mitchell



Gassiot will be remembered for his dedication and love of the Lord, friends and his successful career and his many hobbies. May his memory be a source of comfort and strength to all who knew and loved him.

LAURIE WENZEL

Aug. 19, 1964- Nov. 19, 2023



LAURIE WENZEL was born in Montrose, Colorado, on Aug. 19, 1964, to Lloyd and Sharon Wenzel. It was a special birthday present to her dad, as it is his birthday also. Laurie

lost her battle with cancer on Nov. 19. She was 59 years old.

Laurie graduated from Champion Academy

in Loveland, Colorado, and continued her education in several colleges. She graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with a master's degree in nutrition, along with a minor in music education. Laurie was always involved with music, teaching and performing. She directed the Ouray Community Chorus and played flute in the Montrose City band. She provided music for the Hillcrest Congregational church and was always involved with music in her home church, the Montrose Seventh-day Adventist church.

She leaves to mourn her parents, Lloyd

and Sharon Wenzel; a sister, Linda West, of Houston, Texas, and a brother, Dr. Steven Wenzel, of Redlands, California.

She will be missed by her family and her many friends in the community. There will be a musical memorial service at the Montrose Seventh-day Adventist church at 2 p.m. Jan. 6, 2024. The family would like to express our gratitude to Hope West for guiding us through this difficult time and to Valley Manor Care Center for the excellent care that Laurie received there. Crippin Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family.

ISSUE 450 Dec. 25, 2023

ART & SOL

THE SEASON OF LIGHT



Photo by B. Switzer.

By Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald

MONTROSE-In the dark and cold of winter, people all over the world celebrate this time of year, from India to Japan, to the Americas and Europe, and to Africa, the Season of Light is celebrated. Although the traditions may vary, one element is always present – Light.

Light represents hope, joy, peace, and love. In Christian countries, Light is celebrated through the candles and lights of Christmas. Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child, a new light in the world. The Christmas star lights the way for the Magi and shines above the place where the Christ Child was born. The angels brought light to the shepherds in the field. All these lights of Christmas

illuminate homes and warm hearts.

The Christian celebration begins with Advent, a time to light the four candles that signify hope, joy, peace and love, the aspects of Light. One candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas with the Christmas candle is lit on Christmas Eve and all five candles burn brightly together to dispel the darkness of winter. More candles light the night on Christmas Eve as congregations and families go by candlelight to midnight mass or gather in the darkness with lighted candles to sing “Silent Night.”

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, celebrated by our Jewish brothers and sisters, began on Dec. 7th this year. It is an eight-day festival with one candle of the Menorah lit each night. Family and friends gather to pray and celebrate the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem, which was liberated in the 2nd century C.E. Amid the devastation a tiny amount of pure oil was found to relight the Menorah and it stayed lit for eight days – a true miracle of Light.

Our ancient ancestors celebrated the season by igniting bonfires on the hills in the darkness of the Winter Solstice. They prayed with a fervent hope that the sun, the Light of the World, would rise the next morning. Hearth fires were put out to be relighted with embers from the sacred bonfires in the morning. The rising of the

sun again was a sign that everything was right in the world and that life would continue.

For us, the Winter Solstice is a time to reflect on the old year and ready ourselves to be reborn as a better person in the new year. This is the time of making resolutions and commitments to further our spiritual growth, to be kinder and more compassionate. The Winter Solstice also marks the official beginning of winter as the seasons change once again. It reminds us of the importance of balance in our lives. We also need time to be as quiet as the trees and plants slumbering under the snow. It’s time to strengthen our connection to our spiritual Source.

Ending the Season of Lights is Kwanzaa, which begins Dec. 26 and goes through Jan. 1st. Kwanzaa is a new modern, secular festival that celebrates and emphasizes the importance of family, culture, community, and the harvest. It began in 1966 with Dr. Maulana Karenga, and is now celebrated in North America, Canada, and the Caribbean. Seven candles are lit during the week. They represent unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Each member of the family shares how they will practice these principles in the coming year. It’s a time for family and friends to get together and celebrate accomplishments and unity.

Continued next pg

THE SEASON OF LIGHT From previous pg

The many Festivals of Light during this time bring a sense of hope and joy. Families gather around tables laden with traditional foods, stories are told, songs sung, and above all light is everywhere: candles, torches, lamps, strings of colored lights. The Light shines with the love in the eyes of family members, the joy in the eyes of

the children receiving gifts, the glow of our Elders enjoying the present celebrations and remembering past ones.

During this Season of Light, take time to reflect on the common desire of all people in the world to celebrate the Light.

Brighten your home with more light, and say a prayer that Light comes to the dark

places in the world, to the war-torn places, to the hungry places, to the broken land, and to all beings who share this world with us.

Make a commitment that you will do more to bring peace and joy, hope and love to the world to help the Light shine even brighter.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

CELEBRATION CHURCH RETURNS TO TWO SERVICE TIMES

What: Two Services

Where: 2900 Sunnyside Road, Montrose, CO 81401

When: Starting January 7, 2024 9am and 10:45am

Details: Celebration Kids (age birth to 5th grade) programs offered both services. Student (middle & high school) at 9am. Adult D2-Discipleship classes 8am and 10:45am.

Starting Sunday, January 7, 2024 Celebration Church will return to two services. The church has been hosting three services since Easter 2023.

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YOU KNOW IT'S REMINGTON'S FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Remington's
casual dining with a view

MONTROSE — I recently had the great experience of attending a holiday party in the private Remington's "fireplace room." Now, if you get a chance this holiday season to do the same, grab it!

Can't think of a better way to celebrate the season.

I was invited to join the Altrusa Club for their annual Christmas Party. Now Remington's does these events up just right. Buffet meal includes choice of salad/dressing, oven-baked veggies and choice of either a chicken or pork dish and a dessert later. Order your drinks on the side. I decided to enjoy a dirty martini! Perfect! (Only one as I was driving!)

The buffet was truly outstanding, and a fun time was had by the approximately 20 women and 1 male Altrusa Club members. At the conclusion of the meal was a gift exchange, with amazing items up for grabs. Hey, I walked away with a 2-piece set of charcutier cutting boards! Altrusa rules meant you had a chance to grab the gift you wanted! Extremely fun time at Remington's.

Now, if you're just coming here for a private meal, there are great choices. Prices are a little higher than most, but well worth it considering the ambience and the usually perfect gourmet meals.

The Greens & Soups:

Caesar Salad — Romaine lettuce, seasoned croutons, Parmesan crisp, house-made Caesar dressing, 12; House Salad — Mixed greens, tomato medley, red onion, cucumbers, shaved carrots, 9; Cobb Salad — Mixed greens, chicken breast, avocado, hard-boiled egg, crispy bacon, bleu cheese crumbles, red onion, and croutons with dressing of choice, 16; Beet and Arugula Salad — Tossed in lemon basil vinaigrette, goat cheese fritter, and salted pecans, 16; (Add protein to your salad — Chicken 12, Shrimp 16, Ahi 19) Soups include Creamy Crawfish Andouille Étouffée, Cup 7, Bowl 10; Soup of the Day — Made fresh every day, Cup 6, Bowl 8.

The Favorites:

Burrata — Sweet cream mozzarella, baby tomatoes, balsamic reduction, basil pesto, and grilled bread, 12; Classic Crab Cakes

— Lump crab, red pepper, red onion and lemon, seared to a golden brown, served with a cajun remoulade, 17; Fried Brussel Sprouts — Fried with seasonal toppings, 14; Totchos — Jumbo tots smothered with homemade cheese sauce, bacon, fresh jalapenos, green onions, and sour cream, 13; Wings — Seasoned and served plain or with choice of Frank's Hot, spicy Asian or house barbecue sauce, Half order, 10, Full order, 16; Firecracker Shrimp — Rice and corn breaded shrimp fried and tossed in a spicy Asian or curry sauce with house-made pickled slaw, 14; Fish and Chips — Beer battered cod fillets and crispy fries with a hearty cajun remoulade, 18; Crispy Coconut Shrimp — Breaded coconut shrimp served with sweet chili sauce, 12; Frederic's Flatbread — Dressed in gorgonzola, mozzarella, fresh blueberries, arugula, caramelized onions, bacon, and balsamic drizzle, 14; Coriander Shrimp — Four jumbo shrimp crostinis with fresh guacamole and sriracha sour cream, 19.

The Sandwiches:

Bridges Burger — A third-pound beef patty cooked to order, choice of cheese, and lettuce, tomato, and onion on a toasted brioche bun, 15; Remington's Beast Burger — Seven-ounce brisket/pork belly patty with beer cheese curds, garlic aioli, jalapeno bacon, and roasted tomato on a brioche bun, 22; Hot Turkey Sandwich — With smoked gouda, arugula, sriracha mayo, and house-made sweet and hot pickles, on a toasted brioche bun, 15; French Dip — A pile of slow-roasted prime rib, sliced thin, with provolone and red wine au jus on a buttery toasted hoagie roll, 17; Classic Reuben — Pastrami stacked high on toasted marble rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, and 1000 Island dressing, 16. All of these sandwiches come with fries, sweet potato fries, tater tots, or onion rings.

After Five: This is where the fun begins.

The Seafood Ahi Tuna — Six-ounce sesame crusted filet, cooked to order with creamy risotto, sweet teriyaki sauce, and stir-fried veggies, 28; Shrimp an' Grits — Jumbo shrimp, andouille sausage, and sautéed veggies, served in a creamy sauce over Parmesan grits, 26; Classic Shrimp Scampi — Pan-seared shrimp with garlic, lemon, and white wine butter sauce, tossed with angel hair pasta, 26; Seafood of the Day — Ask your server what the catch of the day is; The Beef Prime Rib — (Friday and Saturday only) A ten-ounce cut of roasted prime rib, with garlic mashers, and jumbo asparagus, 42; Rib Eye — Twelve-ounce rib eye steak with compound bacon jam butter, roasted fingerling potatoes, and sautéed broccolini, 44; Petite Filet — Six-ounce filet grilled to your liking, garlic mashers, and Amaretto-glazed carrots, 38;

The Specialties:

Stuffed Pork Chop — Eight-ounce pork chop stuffed with smoked gouda and spinach, oven roasted tomatoes and bacon with a balsamic reduction, asparagus, and fingerling potatoes, 28; Bison Short Ribs — Slow-braised bison short ribs with red wine demi-glace, truffled risotto, and broccolini, 32; Seared Airline Chicken — Eight-ounce chicken breast with a creamy velouté sauce, creamy risotto, and grilled asparagus, 23. All dinners come with salad and warm roll.

Don't forget to ask about dessert!

Remington's is located at 2500 Bridges Dr, Montrose, CO 81401, call (970) 252-1119 for reservations (recommended). Open Tuesday: 11am–9pm; Wednesday: 11am–9pm; Thursday: 11am–9pm; Friday: 11am–9pm, Saturday: 11am–9pm and Sunday: 10am–2pm; closed on Mondays.

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/> Rec-
 tor: The Rev Preston Gordon, [pgor-
 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
 112 Main 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, Mont-
 rose, CO 81401

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: (970) 497-4925

Email: celebrationmontrose@gmail.com

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

Worship Service Times: 9am and 10:45am

Senior Pastor:

Pastor Brandon Mathis

Church Description/Mission: Celebration
 Church makes disciples that make disci-
 ples. Our core values include the Scrip-

ture, discipleship, community, service,
 prayer, love, and unity.

Demographics: Multi-generational

Celebration Kids: (age birth to 5th grade)
 programs offered both services.

Student (middle & high school) at 9am.

Adult -Discipleship classes 8am and
 10:45am.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Denomination: Christ Lutheran Montrose
Affiliation: Lutheran Church Missouri Syn-
 od

Address: 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Mont-
 rose, CO 81401

Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

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

find friendly people gathered in a welcom-
 ing environment being comforted and en-
 couraged by the forgiveness and love of
 Jesus, and sharing that with one another.

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene

Address: 705 South 12th Street

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

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

Pastor: Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church
 of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around
 the world.*

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

Affiliation: Presbyterian

Address: 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose CO.

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

12PM **Contact:** 970-249-4732, in-

form@fpcmontrose.com,

www.fpcmontrose.com

Pastor: Jesse Mabanglo

Worship Service times: 9:30AM,

Student Worship at 6PM. *We strive to en-
 courage, challenge and support one another*

*er through spiritual growth, worship, and
 service in our community, country, and
 world. We also encourage children and
 youth to grow their relationship with Christ
 through our children and student minis-
 tries.*

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Denomination affiliation: United Church of Christ

Address: 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

Office hours: By appointment

Contact information:

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: office@montroseucc.org

Website: montroseucc.org

Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd

Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.

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

on life's journey.

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

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

montroseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

welcome. 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 Giveaway and Wellness Fair. People of all ages are welcome. There are currently no Sunday School or nursery services provided but craft supplies are available for youth.

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Denomination: Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)

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

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

rose@yahoo.com

www.ststephensmontrose.com

Rev. Dec. Garrett Agajanian

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

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

Sunday: Holy Communion 10 am.

Fellowship following service.

Children's nursery available (unstaffed).

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Senior Pastor: John DeSario

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

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

Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages!

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

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

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

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

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org;

website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Local Immunization Providers



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

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SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

MONTROSE ALTRUSA-1st Tuesday of the month Program meeting; 2nd Tuesday of the month committee meeting; 3rd Tuesday of the month Business meeting. Meetings are held at the Field House on the corner of Colorado Avenue and Rio Grande Avenue at Noon.

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

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.)



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At right, a view of the RE-1J Outer Range Campus on Christmas Eve.

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970-399-3570

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970-964-7570

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970-417-4340

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970-249-0433

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970-249-7427

Stone House
970-240-8899

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970-249-0616

Sidelines Sports Bar
970-765-0129

Amelias Hacienda Restaurante
970-249-1881

Delta: Pour Ernie's
970-546-0074

