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# the Montrose Mirror

## ALTRUSA CLUB CELEBRATES 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MONTROSE & THE WORLD



*The local Montrose Altrusa International Club originally established the Altrusa Park on Hillcrest and maintains the garden portion to this day. This park is owned by the City of Montrose and originally was a plot of dirt at the edge of the city limits. Altrusa members continue to maintain the garden by pulling weeds and cleaning up. (photo by Carole McKelvey)*

By Carole Ann McKelvey  
Mirror Staff Writer

MONTROSE – Altrusa International of Montrose celebrated its 49<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 5, 2024. The local club is a member of Altrusa International, a service club started in 1917. The stated purpose of the international club is a belief that everyone is able to make a positive difference to the world around them. Altrusa International states, “We can each volunteer our time, or donate our money, towards worthy causes. Our individual efforts are small, but they matter. We can achieve even more when we bring people together.” For more than 100 years Altrusa Clubs have collected members from varying occupations and lifestyles, all sharing an interest in community service. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was an active New York City Altrusa member.

In Montrose, these members are from a wide range of occupations

**Continued pg 37**

## DMEA BRINGS ELECTRICITY TO NAVAJO NATION HOMES Newly-Elected Ryan Sedgeley calls out JOLT Conference as ‘Propaganda’

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-On July 23, the Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors Regular meeting, held at the Read Service Center, was called to order at 3 p.m.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, determination of a quorum, and approval of the consent agenda (Membership & Meter Report, Minutes from the June 2024).

With Board President Stacia Cannon held up in road construction, Vice President Jock Fleming presided over the first part of the meeting. Steve Metheny was absent, all other board members were present.

### Member Attendance/Introductions

DMEA co-op members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments, which for this meeting were scheduled for 5 p.m. There were no member comments.

**Continued pg 18**



*The July 23, 2024 Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) board meeting was held at the Read Service Center in Delta. With the exception of Director Steve Metheny, who was out of town, all board members were present. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

# UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**Dear Readers:**

We appreciate your letters! We like reading and hearing opinions from all perspectives. We are sharing herewith our updated guidelines: In the past we have had one rule, to be implemented at the editor's discretion. We are now including two more suggested "Rules" for letter writers.

**RULE 1.** The Dead Horse Rule has been in place from the start of the *Mirror*. This is somewhat self-explanatory, but there are times when something has been said so many times it can run afoul of the "Dead Horse Rule," in which case we will inform the writer.

**RULE 2.** While there are always exceptions, a letter can often say what needs to be said in one page or less. Our pages are 8.5 X 11, we use a 10 pt Calibri font; letters that are roughly 800 words fit well within this suggested guideline.

**RULE 3.** Please limit repetitive mud-slinging to avoid bumping up against Rule 1. Also, in the case of those writing to intentionally discredit a public official or candidate for public office, please provide a link to the source of your allegation if possible. Unsourced, unproven allegations are not credible, and could in fact be untruths.

Finally, opinions expressed in letters and commentary are those of the authors themselves, and do not reflect the views of the *Montrose Mirror* or editorial staff.

Thank you,  
Caitlin Switzer,  
Montrose Mirror Editor

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Published every Monday since 2010 in Montrose, Colorado to a readership of over 20,000 residents of Western Colorado.

We encourage contributions and commentary. Submitted content may not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher.

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# GRASSHOPPER UPDATE

### Mirror Staff Report

COLORADO-We know that they're here (See [article in last week's issue, MM595](#)), but WHY? Why are there so many grasshoppers in Colorado this summer? To find out, we spoke with CSU Master Gardener Chuck Weaver, who works with [Colorado State University's Tri River Area Extension office](#) here in Montrose. Grasshoppers hatch from eggs, Weaver said, and population numbers vary according to the weather in late spring.



Photo B. Switzer.

In a rainy spring with an abundance of green foliage, there will be an abundant crop of grasshoppers to go with. In dry conditions, there is less for the hungry insects to eat, and their numbers are not as high.

As the grasshoppers consume local gardens and much of the landscape, it is useful to know that in other parts of the world, grasshoppers themselves are consumed as tasty treats. A 2022 [BBC article](#) touted them as "food of the Future," asking if grasshoppers could ultimately replace meat, while [popular cooking sites](#) feature various recipes for turning these bugs into tasty appetizers.

There is also a cocktail named for the ubiquitous insects; although the "Grasshopper" contains no actual bugs, it can bring a refreshing enjoyment of an otherwise maligned creature. [See Recipe here.](#)



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**Friday, August 2, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**

Montrose Summer Music Series

Free Concert at Rotary Amphitheatre, Cerise Park

We will have a tent set up; food trucks are available.

It is a short walk from the parking lot to the amphitheater; however, parking is limited. Alternatively, catch the free shuttle at Columbine Middle School, Montrose Pavilion, or Montrose Field House. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

“Once an Indian Always an Indian” T-shirts and hoodies can be ordered from Montrose Printing Center

**Saturday, August 3, 2024, 10:00 a.m.** Tour Montrose High School

**Saturday, August 3, 2024, 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

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Payment of \$25/person for dinner can be made through Event Brite on Facebook or by mailing a check payable to: MHS Class of '79 to 15949 5790 Road, Montrose, CO 81403, or preregister and bring cash the night of the dinner

**We hope to see you there!**

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## JOIN US TONIGHT TO HELP GUIDE MONTROSE'S FUTURE

To Montrose Citizens:

Today, Monday, July 29, 5:30pm at the Bluecorn Cafe, 1842 S Townsend Ave, **you** can come and help guide Montrose's future. Unify Montrose's Catalyst Club will meet to explore ideas of what topics we should discuss to help improve life in Montrose. Everyone's voice from Montrose (East end of the County) is equally welcome. No matter what you do in our wonderful County, I hope to see you there.

Rick Bleier, President, Unify Montrose



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## BOCC APPROVES LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENTS, LAUNCHES EXTERNAL SEARCH FOR NEW COUNTY MANAGER

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-In a special meeting on Wednesday, July 24, the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved Consent Agenda items and then entered executive session with the County Attorney. All commissioners were present. BOCC Chair Roger Rash called the meeting to order, Vice Chair Keith Caddy led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments heard from the public.

### COUNTY MANAGER

Interim County Manager Emily Sanchez had no changes to the meeting agenda.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously as written, including three appointments to the Montrose Library Board as well as BOCC approval to begin an external search for a County Manager.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioners entered into a recorded Executive Session with County Attorney Marti Whitmore, to discuss personnel

policy items not related to a specific employee and for legal advice related to TABOR (Taxpayer Bill of Rights).

Joining commissioners in executive session were the county attorney, Interim County Manager Emily Sanchez, Finance Director Cindy Dunlap, Budget Manager Lanny Paulson, Sheriff Gene Lillard, Sheriff's Lieutenant Ty Cox, and Heather Batman.

Following the executive session, the BOCC returned to regular session, and the meeting was adjourned.



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The Board of Directors of Montrose Memorial Hospital, Inc., a Colorado community non-profit corporation, is accepting applications for positions as Directors of that Colorado community non-profit corporation.

Application packets are available for download at [www.montrosehealth.com](http://www.montrosehealth.com), by email request to [BODapplications@montrosehealth.com](mailto:BODapplications@montrosehealth.com), or pick up at the Montrose Regional Health Administration office, located at 800 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Montrose, Colorado, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The deadline for return of completed applications is **Friday**, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the MRH Administration office.

Elections will be held by the Board of Directors at its annual meeting in October.

  
Jack Johnston (Jul 17, 2024 22:34 GMT+1)

Jack Johnston, Chairperson  
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Olathe High School, Olathe  
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**Wed., August 7 - Sat., August 10**

Montrose Pavilion, Montrose  
6:30AM - 9:30AM

*Registration required: No walk-ins on Wednesday, August 7 and Thursday, August 8*

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE COUNTY UPDATES COUNTY MANAGER SEARCH PROCESS; NAMES SANCHEZ INTERIM MANAGER

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—Following public input and

further work session discussion, the Board of County Commissioners approved an


external search for the county manager in accordance with Title 24. The county manager job description is currently posted internally and will be posted externally on July 24. The posting will close on August 14, 2024.

The Board of County Commissioners remains committed to finding a qualified individual to fill the County Manager position. This extended search will allow them to identify the best possible candidate for the role.

Montrose County recently appointed Assistant County Manager Emily Sanchez to Interim County Manager. Sanchez's term as Interim County Manager overlaps with County Manager Jon Waschbusch's departure to ensure a seamless transition.

To view the County Manager job posting, please view the [county's job page](#).


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# NONE HURT AS PICKUP PLOWS INTO BANK ON SOUTH TOWNSEND

*Mirror staff report*

*Photo Debbie Blanchard*

MONTROSE-All bank staff are safe and nobody was hurt, an employee at Vectra Bank told the *Mirror*, after a gray pickup truck plowed through the east wall at Vectra Bank (1200 S Townsend Ave) last Monday.

The driver appeared to survive the incident also, the employee said.

Montrose Police Commander Larry Witte said that the driver was the only person in the vehicle at the time of the crash, which was caused by a minor medical issue.

There were no injuries to anyone. Property damage was incurred to the truck as well as the building, Witte said.

Local business owner Debbie Blanchard said that she arrived at the bank shortly after the accident.

"It was bad," she said. "I am glad no one was hurt. I don't know how that truck ended up there."



**A truck drove through the east wall at Vectra Bank last Monday. Photo by Debbie Blanchard.**

## JULY 25-CITIZEN REPORT & PHOTOS BY DAVID WHITE



**Photos by David White.**

*By David White*

MONTROSE-I was pulling into Home Depot at 8:20PM July 25 and witnessed a guy allegedly stealing this Dodge Ram pickup. He quickly lost control of it and crashed into a tree by Jolley Smiles and took out a DMEA transformer which killed power to Home Depot, Jolley Smiles and I think Chili's. I stopped to help only to have the perp jump out of the truck and then try to break into a BMW parked nearby (see photo). When he couldn't get into the car, he started running only to be tackled by a good Samaritan who held him down until the MPD showed up. It was wild! Like something out of a Fast & Furious movie!

*Editor's Note: Calls to Montrose Police for more information regarding the incident had not been returned by press time.*



# KATHLEEN CURRY FOR HD58



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO STATE PATROL TO CONDUCT SURGE OPERATION

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO – The Colorado State Patrol and assisting agencies, will conduct saturation patrols through the Northwestern area of the state, which includes the counties of Moffat, Routt, and Grand. The primary focus will be on Highway 40 between Craig, Hayden, Milner, and Highway 9 in Grand. This increased enforcement event will occur on Tuesday, July 30th.

State troopers and assisting agencies will be out during the evening commute to locate and apprehend drivers who may be impaired by or otherwise under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of these substances. We will also be increasing enforcement on distracted driving and excessive speed.

If you encounter a suspected impaired driver steer clear, pull over, and contact the Colorado State Patrol by calling \*CSP (\*277), 9-1-1 or 970-249-4392. Be prepared to provide the following information: vehicle description, license plate number, location and direction of travel, driver description, and the driving behavior being demonstrated. All emergency calls can be made to 9-1-1.



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# EXPERIENCED STONEMASON HOPES TO BUILD LOCAL CLIENTELE



Photos courtesy of Baltazar Cervantes, Natural Stone Supply & Design.



By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-As a stonemason, Baltazar Cervantes of Montrose brings 24 years

of professional experience and artistry to his work. Having started out in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Cervantes now hopes to build his clientele here in Montrose, offering skilled masonry and natural stone to enhance any landscape.

From retaining walls to flagstone walk-

ways, natural stone is a beautiful and enduring way to upgrade your surroundings, Cervantes said, adding that he can work with larger stones that require heavy equipment.

He plans to open a full-time retail location here, behind the antique stores outside of Montrose, in 2025. In addition to landscape rock, "We're also going to sell decorative boulders and petrified wood rocks for natural fountains."

To reach Baltazar Cervantes at Natural Stone in Montrose call 505-455-6195 or visit the company online at <https://www.naturalstonesupplyanddesign.com/>.

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE K9 VOODOO TO GET DONATION OF BODY ARMOR

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—Montrose County Sheriff's Office, CO, K9 Voodoo will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Voodoo's vest is sponsored by Don and Misty Fike of Galesburg, IL and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Born to Love-Trained to Serve-Loyal Always". Delivery is expected within eight to ten weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged

K9 officers is U.S. made, custom fitted, and NIJ certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 5,707 vests to K9s in all 50 states at a value of \$6.9 million, made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old and actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies. K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of \$985 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of \$1800.00, weighs an average of 4-5 lb.,

and comes with a five-year warranty. For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org), or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.



**K9 Voodoo MCSO. Courtesy photo.**

## SS4A Grant - Safe Streets and Roads for All

**Public Workshop - August 7, 2024**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Public Works Meeting Room**

**63160 LaSalle Road**

**Montrose**

Montrose County intends to develop a new Safety Action Plan using a data-driven methodology to improve safety and enhance mobility for all roadway users.

Public input is crucial to develop an Implementation Plan.

The Montrose County Safety Action Plan will be a Vision Zero plan and will be led by the county and based on extensive and inclusive community outreach!

Please join us for our second public workshop to learn more and provide input.

A safer Montrose County will promote multi-model mobility and improve its economic prospects.





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## **DMEA CONNECTS ELECTRICITY TO NAVAJO NATION HOMES *From pg 1***

### **Committee Chair Reports:**

**Finance, Audit & Rate Committee (FAR)** – Damon Lockhart, Chair

Lockhart said, "There is no report. We did not meet."

**Engineering, Construction & Energy Services Committee** – Enno Heuscher, Chair.

Heuscher said, "There is no report. The next meeting is in September." There was a brief discussion on what items would appear on the agenda for the meeting.

**Member Relations Committee** – Kevin Williams, Chair.

Williams said, "We have not met. We will meet in August. We need to discuss scholarships."

**Executive Committee** – Stacia Cannon, Chair

Cannon said, "The Executive Committee did not meet. Nothing to report."

**Informational Item (Non-Privileged CEO Report)** – CEO Jack Johnston.

Johnston passed around thank you notes, magazine articles, and highlighted awards recognizing the marketing team. He touched briefly on updating the general information cards, safety, 15,000 customers connected to Elevate, new meters four weeks out, and hydro productivity. DMEA was recently recognized for their Cyber Tech efforts.

Johnston said, "We are above 90 percent in our answer rate [customer service]. We are actively hiring. We are sponsoring events, and we had our groundbreaking today [Garnet Mesa Solar]. Operating margins are trending well. With warm weather, demand is going up. On August 12 we will have the Operation Round-Up social [meeting with both boards]." Johnston stated that "Flattop and North Delta will go live today," however, no context was given.

### **Light Up the Navajo Nation:**

Description of the project and previous year's videos are available online. There are 13,000 families on the reservation who have lived for decades without electricity, i.e. no refrigerators, air conditioning, water from wells, oxygen concentrators.

DMEA 2024 participants shared their experience with the board. Johnston said, "We did four miles and 55 poles. This is a non-profit project. There are 46 power companies from 16 states. This [project] started in 2019 and 850 homes have now

been connected [to electricity]. We turned on the power to one man's house and he said he now planned to buy a blender so he could make chili. We're going to send him a blender!"

Johnston noted it could take decades to finish the project and get power to all the homes on the Navajo Reservation. The slowdown can be partially attributed to the government approving easements. He said, "The US government owns all the land, it's a government reservation."

The board watched a brief video on the project and saw photos of DMEA's contribution (equipment and labor). Heuscher said, "It was an incredible experience. It provides humanitarian aid, and you can't leave there without feeling more patriotic." Heuscher showed photos of a hydropanel (Source Global), which, rather than producing electricity, produces a gallon of water a day without the use of electricity. He said, "Not only do they not have electricity, they have no water. No electricity, no water!"

DMEA employee Wayne said, "It was definitely a humbling experience."

Chief of Staff Amy Taylor said, "I knew they didn't have a lot, but it was very eye-opening to see the degree to which they didn't have a lot. It was a great experience."

The DMEA staff have begun plans for next year's participation, which will include a slot for one board member to attend as a working member of the crew.

**Informational Item (Non-Privileged Legal Report)** – Attorney Sarah Abbott.

Abbott said, "We are working on policies and Bylaws. Bylaws are a pretty big project. We're cleaning up and checking statutes." Any changes to the Bylaws must be presented to the membership for review 30 days before approval by the board. Abbott said, "There are no regulatory matters to report." Abbott reported on attending a national conference.

### **Informational Item Director Reports**

**Western United Electrical Supply (WUES) Report** – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, "We didn't meet. I'll miss their next board meeting."

**Colorado Rural Electric Association (CREA) Report** – Damon Lockhart.

Lockhart said, "I've attended two co-op meetings. We had an easy election, two incumbents, unopposed. There are two

[job] openings for senior staff, Safety Coordinator and Legislative Lobbyist. There will be an executive committee meeting to discuss the openings."

The DMEA board briefly discussed employees within energy related fields who are leaving prominent positions in one organization for opportunities in other organizations.

### **Conferences, Webinars & Meetings**

**JOLT Second Annual Energy Conference on June 27-28, held at the Montrose Pavilion.**

Reports from board members who attended the conference varied. Williams said, "A lot of the topics were on the electrical grid and transmission lines. There was nothing on energy efficiency. The summit was sort of tilted toward centralized energy. Heavy on presentation, not a lot of opportunity for discussion and questions. Overall, an interesting convention."

Newly elected board member Ryan Sedgely said, "Kevin [Williams] is too kind; there was propaganda. Maybe we shouldn't sponsor it next year. There wasn't anything on climate change."

Jacob Gray highlighted some of the information he gleaned from the conference.

Fleming said, "There was some good stuff. They do seem to talk about nuclear [power]. Slow down renewables and looking at nuclear." Fleming noted that even though the topic of nuclear energy is mentioned in energy conferences, it is currently not viable.

Williams said, "Data centers need a lot of power."

Cannon, Gray, and Johnston toured the West Elk Mine. Cannon said, "We went three miles in and 700 feet down." Photos of the tour were not permitted.

Johnston said, "They are our largest consumer [of power]. Overall, it was enlightening."

Cannon reported on several online classes and webinars that she attended.

### **Future Meetings**

Regular meeting Aug. 27, 2024

### **Executive Session**

-Confidential Corporate, Litigation and Regulatory Matters

-Board Policies:

112 – Director Education

– Recall of Directors

-Board Governance Education Discussion – Richard Fagerlin

# DMEA CONNECTS ELECTRICITY TO NAVAJO NATION HOMES From Previous pg

**Executive Session Summary** –Amy Taylor, Chief of Staff  
 In an email Taylor summarized the action taken by the board after exiting the executive session:

“At 7:55 p.m. upon motion from Director Lockhart, seconded by Director Sedgeley, the Board unanimously approved exiting Executive Session.

Upon motion by Director Williams, seconded by Director Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the updates to Board Policy 112 as presented.

Upon motion by Director Fleming, seconded by Director Gray, the Board unanimously approved the updates to Board Policy 113 with one amendment of removing the second sentence of paragraph

2.b.. There were no additional items from the Executive Session to address. Having no further business to conduct, the Board adjourned its Regular Meeting at 7:57 p.m.”

**Background-** During meetings the board hears verbal summary reports of their monthly meetings and activities. Co-op membership has access to some of the written staff reports submitted for board approval, i.e., minutes of the previous meeting, CEO report, and action items (resolutions). Following the meeting members can access packet information through SmartHub, the online service which allows members to manage their DMEA accounts.

**DMEA DIRECTORS**

- Dist. 1 – Ryan Sedgeley, 370-220-6086 [ryan.sedgeley@dmea.com](mailto:ryan.sedgeley@dmea.com)
- Dist. 2 - Steve Metheny, 970-209-6172, [steve.metheny@dmea.com](mailto:steve.metheny@dmea.com)
- Dist. 3 – Jacob Gray, 970-778-9512, [jacob.gray@dmea.com](mailto:jacob.gray@dmea.com)
- Dist. 4 – Emily Sanchez, 970-209-4582, [emily.sanchez@dmea.com](mailto:emily.sanchez@dmea.com)
- Dist. 5 – Kevin Williams, 406-839-1603, [kevin.williams@dmea.com](mailto:kevin.williams@dmea.com)
- Dist. 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071, [damon.lockhart@dmea.com](mailto:damon.lockhart@dmea.com)
- Dist. 7 – Enno Heuscher, 970-270-6523, [enno.heuscher@dmea.com](mailto:enno.heuscher@dmea.com)
- Dist. 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-207-8831, [stacia.cannon@dmea.com](mailto:stacia.cannon@dmea.com)
- Dist. 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-275-1808, [jock.fleming@dmea.com](mailto:jock.fleming@dmea.com)

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## NON-CITIZENS MUST BEWARE OF REGISTERING TO VOTE AND VOTING!!

*Editor:*

This is direct information from the Colorado Secretary of state’s website found at [sos.state.co.us](http://sos.state.co.us)

“We should be unfaithful to ourselves if we should ever lose sight of the danger to our liberties. if anything, partial or extraneous should infect the purity of our free, fair, virtuous, and independent election.”- John Adams

The Colorado Secretary of State’s website says that. “Colorado has noncitizens registered to vote and taking part in state elections.” Admitting the very fact that Colorado elections are no longer pure but, indeed are highly infected. Let that sink in for a minute!

Under the sub-section on their website, titled, “Noncitizens on Colorado’s voting roles: problems and solution’s dated August 16,2012, they admit” Colorado identified 3,903 registered voters whose citizenship status was in question. I wonder how many registered voters’ citizenship status is in question today? With Democrats open border policies and mass voter registration implemented it has to be substan-

tially higher; one would intelligently surmise.

On the website I listed above it says. “Colorado’s failure to take reasonable steps to protect voter rolls hurts legal aliens in the state.” I would have to say it also hurts citizens and can drastically hurt noncitizens. But they never mention those two groups of people.

The Secretary of State’s website also states that “Evidence shows that many noncitizens do not intend to break the law, but instead register to vote because they do not understand what they are doing. But, isn’t that kind of demeaning to the intelligence of foreigners and absolutely a lame excuse for breaking laws? Absolutely!! Plus, everyone knows that excuse would never hold up in a court of law.

The text goes on to say.” They mistakenly believe they may vote or they do not realize they are registered. However, as stated by the Secretary of State.” Even those who unintentionally violate the law face REAL consequences.” “These include felony charges and the possibility of deportation,

which affects a non-citizen’s ability to apply for naturalization, pursue educational opportunities, or legally work.” And “Those who willfully violate the law face SEVERE penalties. “Falsely identifying oneself as a citizen on a government form is a felony that could include the penalty of deportation. And “submitting false information to an election division carries a federal penalty of up to 5 YEARS in PRISON.”

Colorado law states that any person participating in an election where he or she is ineligible to vote is guilty of a class 6 felony. Therefore, noncitizens you **MUST BEWARE** of registering and voting!!

As for the legal residents of Montrose County, it’s obvious that Colorado voter rolls are infected and our vote is not being protected. Therefore, it’s incumbent upon us to start reporting ALL suspicious, unlawful voting activity in order to keep our elections fair, free, and pure.

May God bless America and may God bless all those who are willing to fight to keep it!!

*Kelly Ray, Montrose*

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## TIME TO UNIONIZE MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

*Editor:*

It is long past time the leadership (what little there is of it) in Montrose County be moved aside.

The Montrose County Commissioners fail to recognize and remedy the need to treat the men and women of the MCSO with dignity and respect especially regarding their pay and retirement package. They seem to be treating the Deputies as indentured servants.

PSST funds in the millions (which were voted by the electorate to improve pay, retirement and equipment) have been taken from the PSST and transferred into General Fund expenditures without authorization. There has been no movement on the FPPA retirement plan as requested and needed by the force. Retention of sworn officers in the toilet!

Citizens in support of the Montrose County Sheriff Department know that the rank and file at the MCSO have been misrepre-

sented, sold out and ignored for the last 20 years.

Citizens, Sheriff's deputies and the administration know that there is no positive representation of them at the County level. The rank and file are well aware of what the county has done with their PSST funds and want to know what is to be done to improve their lot by correcting this misappropriation. They see that it is more important to our elected officials and the county administration to play footsie with the BOCC than it is to fix the problem, or even attempt to do so.

They know that the anticipated county tax revenue has climbed by astronomical levels this year. They also know that they have no representation in front of a BOCC that is bent on taking the PSST money that was voted for them. In other words they need 'someone' who will speak for them without needing to 'kiss up' or 'play footsie' with the commissioners.

IT IS TIME, LONG PAST TIME, TO UNIONIZE THE MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

This is necessary because from my observation of the last 20 years of the BOCC/ Sheriff Department relations, the BOCC will never, of their own volition, do what is right for the Sheriff's Officers of their county.

The City of Montrose has used their PSST properly. It is shameful that the BOCC cannot operate on the same high level of equity and fair play for these MOST important employees and their families, the Sheriff's deputies.

The employees have the last word and are leaving regularly with no replacements. With union representation they will be heard. My last word is that I want a strong well manned (and womaned) sheriff's department.

Enough is enough.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose, CO*

## IT SEEMS LIKE THE FIX WILL BE IN ONCE AGAIN

*Editor:*

On July 17 the BOCC met in regular session and appointed Emily Sanchez interim county manager. At that meeting they noted their intention to conduct an "internal" county wide search for a new county manager that would last seven days until July 25. On July 26, I contacted the county with a request to provide me with the names of applicants applying for the position of County Manager, A simple question requiring a simple answer though not so simple when delving into Montrose County interworking and the peoples business.

By mid-afternoon and not having had a prompt response I phoned in a follow-up to my question and was told my request had to go through the legal department. Just before 5PM I received an email and as usual, just like cracking a "JACK IN THE BOX," a legal justification popped up stating that that information was not available because of a Colorado statute. Frustrated, my follow-up question was even simpler – how many applications were received for that position at the close out of application date and time on July 25<sup>th</sup>? Even that simple question failed to get a simple number reply. So much for the highly touted TRANSPARENCY in Montrose County government!

According to the information I received in the video CC has decided to broaden a search for a county manager, no specifications on how broad, with a decision being made on September 4 at the BOCC's meeting. Absent full transparency on the search with public input before a final decision, it certainly seems like the fix will be in once again.

*Dee Laird, Montrose*



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# **PARENTS INFORMATION MEETINGS**

**TUESDAY, JULY 30<sup>TH</sup> 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Montrose Library – Conference Room  
320 S. Second Street, Montrose**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> 2-3 p.m.**

**Montrose Library – Conference Room  
320 S. Second Street, Montrose**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup> 1-2 p.m.**

**Montrose Library – Conference Room  
320 S. Second Street, Montrose**

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**OPEN COMMUNITY MEETINGS - Childcare Provided**

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## 3-DAY CHIP SEAL OPERATIONS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JULY 30 ON US 285

*Special to the Mirror*

SAGUACHE COUNTY — Beginning Tuesday, July 30, the Colorado Department of Transportation will perform surface treatment on a seven mile segment of US Highway 285 (Mile Points 94 to 101).

Motorists traveling between Saguache and the junction of Colorado Highway 17 should plan for additional travel time through Thursday evening. Motorists will encounter full stops, up to 30 minute de-

lays and will be guided by a pilot car through the work zone. CDOT reminds motorists that following posted speeds is necessary to avoid vehicle damage in the chip seal work zone. Additionally, traffic entering the highway from driveways or intersections must wait for a flagger.

All work is weather dependent. Motorists are encouraged to check the most current traffic impacts on [COtrip.org](http://COtrip.org).

Daytime work hours range from 6 a.m. to

6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

-Motorists should plan for 20 to 30 minute delays and should allow for extra travel time

-Expect one-lane alternating traffic guided by flagging personnel and pilot cars

-Motorists entering the highway from a driveway or intersection must wait for a pilot car

-A speed reduction of 40 mph will be enforced through the work zone

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You will love the timeless design of a mid-century home. These homes are renowned for their clean lines, geometric shapes and minimalist aesthetic. Be drawn to the simplicity and elegance of the design, which has stood the test of time and continues to feel fresh and contemporary. Despite the minimalist appearance, this mid-century home offers ample opportunities for customization and personalization.

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MESA COUNTY WOMEN'S NETWORK ANNOUNCES SUMMER EVENING MIXER

*Special to the Mirror*

MESA COUNTY— The Mesa County Women's Network is delighted to announce its upcoming summer evening mixer, scheduled for July 31st from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Highlands Distillery located at 782 24 Road in Grand Junction, CO.

The event will feature appetizers for MCWN members and visitors, while bev-

erages will be available for purchase, allowing attendees to enjoy a selection of fine drinks offered by Highlands Distillery.

About Mesa County Women's Network: Mesa County Women's Network is a dynamic organization dedicated to empowering women in Mesa County through networking, professional development, and community engagement.

Event Details:

Date: July 31, 2024 Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Highlands Distillery, 782 24 Road Grand Junction, CO

Admission: Free for MCWN members, though registration is required; Guests will need to purchase a \$15 ticket at MCWN.US

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DMEA CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING FOR GARNET MESA SOLAR



**Tuesday, July 23, marked the much-anticipated groundbreaking for Garnet Mesa Solar. DMEA Courtesy photo.**

### *Special to the Mirror*

DELTA – Tuesday, July 23, marked the much-anticipated groundbreaking for Garnet Mesa Solar, an 80-megawatt agrivoltaic solar facility located just a few miles southeast of Delta. DMEA, along with Alluvial Power and the Delta County Commissioners, commemorated the occasion, highlighting the benefits of local affordable energy production.

“Our goal is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power, in that order. And Garnet Mesa Solar enhances all of them. It is our hope to bring forth other such initiatives in the future,” stated DMEA CEO, Jack Johnston during his welcome remarks.

Construction of the Garnet Mesa Solar array is expected to be complete by the summer of 2025. Once operational, it will

produce approximately 200,000 megawatt hours of electricity annually: enough energy to power roughly 18,000 average homes. DMEA will receive a portion of the energy produced by the plant, helping the co-op achieve an energy mix comprised of 20% local power.

As one of the largest agrivoltaics facilities in Colorado, Garnet Mesa Solar will simultaneously support local agriculture and energy production. The array will provide more than 200 irrigated acres of grazing land, with plentiful shade provided by the solar panels and another 500 trees. Sperry Livestock Corporation of Delta County will also graze up to 600 sheep on the array grounds.

During remarks, DMEA CEO Jack Johnston noted that the co-op’s efforts to generate local energy began in earnest in 2010 with

the development of five hydroelectric facilities. Shortly thereafter, in 2011, DMEA installed two community solar gardens, which provide energy directly to its members. Most recently, in 2020, DMEA established a power supply partnership with Guzman Energy, bringing new flexibility and opportunities for greater local energy development.

Johnston also recognized the many partner organizations that worked together to bring Garnet Mesa Solar to fruition, including the Delta County Commissioners and staff members, Guzman Energy, and the new long-term owner and operator of Garnet Mesa Solar, Alluvial Power. Alluvial has been working closely with Guzman Energy and DMEA and assumed ownership of the project in June 2024.

“We are excited to invest in Delta County and have a long-term presence here [...] We are really excited to bring reliable, low-cost, long-term energy solutions to DMEA and Guzman,” remarked Brian McCurdy, Alluvial Power Principal. Delta County Commissioner Don Suppes also addressed the crowd, acknowledging the challenges and hard work involved in establishing a successful solar facility that benefits local citizens. “Delta County is excited for this project. We’re excited to partner with Alluvial. We’re excited to have this in our backyard. You know, the whole eat local thing spread pretty hard through this valley a number of years ago, and there are a lot of people who live by that. There’s no reason we can’t produce electricity local too [...] It’s exciting that we can produce that amount of power right here in Delta County,” said Suppes.

Additional information about Garnet Mesa Solar is available at [garnet-mesasolar.com](https://garnet-mesasolar.com).



# Lincoln Reagan Dinner & Auction



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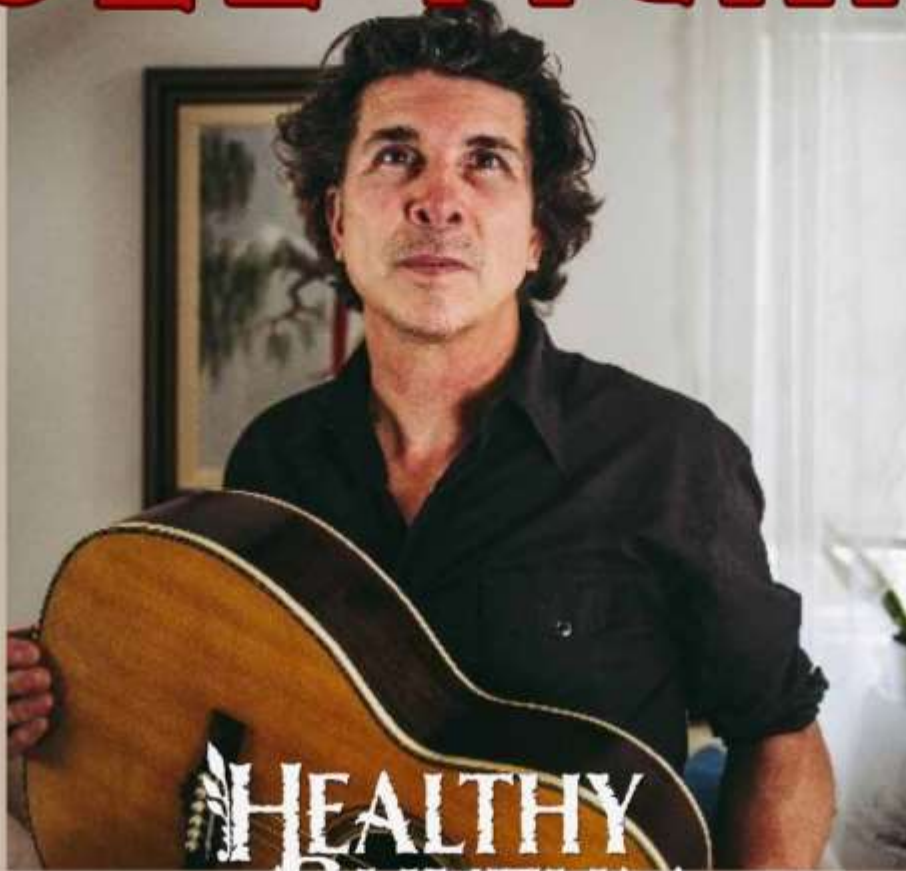
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## DISLIKED BY HER OWN STAFF. HARRIS HAD WORST VP RATING IN HISTORY OF POLLING

*Editor:*

Democrats are total frauds. "No one is above the law," but after the riots in DC last week the people who were arrested for vandalizing public buildings and monuments, burning the US flag, and assaulting police officers had their charges dropped. Assault a police officer while wearing a Palestinian flag and you get released with a request to stay away from Union Station. Walk into the Capitol on January 6th and the FBI will relentlessly hunt you down and throw you in "pretrial detention".

A key Democrat talking point is that they seek to "save democracy," but when they were caught in their years-long lies about Biden's mental deterioration, his corruption, and his "accomplishments," they simply decided election results from their primary would be discarded – disenfranchising 14.4 million voters because their choice was no longer in agreement with the party elite. They nullified their own election. The new "annointed one" is Kamala Harris, who found herself on the presidential ballot without having to secure a single primary vote. (When she actually entered the presidential primary in 2020, she was so unpopular her campaign fizzled before the convention).

Now the Democrat fraud machine has to come up with more lies to re-invent Kamala – just as they attempted to do with Biden. It's actually unimportant whether Biden chose Kamala as his running mate because she is a black woman, but the fraudsters are now even denying that. (Ignore the fact that Biden decided on, or was pressured into, picking a black woman as his running mate. He promised to do it. He bragged about doing it). It's also not important how people perceive her intellectually. (Trump hater and columnist

George Will described her cringeworthy word salads as reminiscent of a student trying to offer a book report on a book she hadn't read). Of importance are her record and her stated positions, which will be much harder for the fraud machine to convincingly lie about.

Suddenly, Kamala is a "pragmatic moderate," and is "the middle-of-the-road moderate wing of the Democrat party"? Her record and stated positions prove otherwise: She praised the persecution of pro-life pregnancy centers. She is on record supporting the bill that would have permitted late-term abortions. As California's AG, Harris targeted a pro-life journalist who exposed Planned Parenthood for trafficking the body parts of aborted babies – tried to throw him in jail. As senator, she voted against protections for babies born alive after botched abortions. She is openly anti-Catholic, including smearing a court nominee for his affiliation with the "extreme" Knights of Columbus. Her voting record caused her to be rated "the most liberal senator."

In fact, her record in the Senate was to the left of Bernie Sanders. She is on the record in favor of defunding police and empowering criminals.

She supported the bailing out of 2020 rioters after their months-long, \$2 billion siege of American cities. She is a gun-grabber. She compared border security to the KKK and knowingly spread the border patrol whipping lie. She wants to strip Americans of their private health insurance. She wants to raise taxes.

Also, Harris suddenly isn't really the "Border Czar" responsible for the open border catastrophe or any of Biden's other "accomplishments"? In fact, she owns a big chunk of American's inflation pain and had a hand in the other Biden-Harris

messes, including foreign policy. But Biden's most egregious disaster has been the border invasion, in which Kamala fully participated. Years of deflections, lies, and excuses led to ten million illegal crossings under Harris' watch, including many violent criminals, gang members, cartel members, and terrorists. Kamala did exactly what was expected of her on the border, which was to shirk her duties and do nothing. Her only action was to note that one of the "root causes" of the border problem was "lack of climate resilience," or something.

I'm not sure how the propaganda machine will spin the fact Kamala had a front-row seat to Biden's physical and mental deterioration and actively participated in the coverup. She routinely issued statements attesting to Joe's fitness for the job. The challenge to show Biden fit for the job pales in comparison to the job of covering up for Kamala being wildly unpopular, or picturing Kamala as remotely fit for even her present job. One of her accomplishments is receiving the worst VP rating in the history of polling. She is even disliked by her own staff – a whopping 92% have left in the last three years, with accusations of a toxic work environment. Remember, though, that the Democrat fraud machine painted Biden as a moderate, agent of normalcy, but, once elected, the people controlling him raced leftward. Biden governed more like Harris campaigned before her bid came to a premature and inglorious end.

The fraud machine will have more difficulty framing Kamala as anything close to "normalcy", but if they were to succeed, they will have what they want --- another puppet totally under their control. Democracy saved.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*







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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## U.S SHOULD INCREASE INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLES, FIGHT BACK AGAINST CHINESE DOMINANCE

*Editor:*

I woke up one morning this week to a dark sky, thinking "Wow, it's cloudy, maybe we'll get some rain!" ... but it wasn't clouds I was seeing, it was the wafting remains of Canadian forests and towns, about 1000 miles away, blotting out the Sun. I couldn't see the mountains in any direction, and I couldn't even see the far side of Montrose from the top of Sunset Mesa on my morning ride. The smoke filled skies have been getting worse over the past decade. For a few years before that, it was haze, and before that, there were blue skies most of the summer. I recall a time when forest fires occurred regularly in Colorado, but didn't dominate the news from early spring through late fall.

Welcome to Climate Change. I-70, the main transportation corridor for the center of the USA, was closed a few years ago, caused by catastrophic forest fires on the mesas above Glenwood Canyon which obliterated the forests for hundreds of square miles. With no more trees, the soil turns to mud when it rains. A subsequent rain brought catastrophic avalanches of mud and rocks that closed off portions of I-70 for weeks. This phenomenon is now common in our state. Take a look at forests throughout Colorado, and how beetle kill is devastating them through a longer pest season, exacerbated by increasing heat and drought. I could give many more examples of how the damaging effects of Climate Change are staring us in the face, both here and around the world. Bottom line? What scientists have been telling us for decades, and what Exxon and the Koch Brothers have been spending hundreds of millions of dollars denying, is that the destructive effects of increasing carbon in the atmosphere will lead to a cascading series of natural disasters that could bring

civilization as we know it to an end. This will happen from mass migration due to rising seas, ever bigger storms swamping coastal cities, and places already hot and dry (Phoenix, Las Vegas, etc.) becoming unlivable. We must keep pressure up on our leaders to do something about this threat to our children's future.

Many Republican "leaders" ask: "What Climate Change?" ... it's a "natural cycle" that we can do nothing about ... and/or, "It's a Chinese hoax!". But ... some 95% of scientists disagree, knowing that climate change is caused by burning fossil fuels (the other 5% are mainly employed by the fossil fuel industry). The Republican solution: open up public lands to more drilling, and eliminate requirements for more fuel efficiency. Short term profit over long term health; leaving the next generation to pay the price. Get rid of all environmental regulations, and let industry deal with it.

But, of course, if we drill for more oil, gas, and coal, we will have to crank up our air conditioners to deal with the increased heat ... and this would just create a doom loop; causing us to burn more fuel, adding even more greenhouse gases, which caused the problem in the first place. The disaster rate will accelerate under that scenario. But there is another way:

The Chinese are presently eating our lunch in the renewable energy sector, just as the Japanese did in the automotive sector in the 70's. Having gone through a hellish amount of air and water pollution up until a decade ago (remember those pictures from Chinese cities?), the Chinese embraced clean energy and electric vehicle adoption. Now they lead the world in these lucrative markets, and are leaving us in the dust as we bicker across a political divide that is killing our country. The skies across China are now noticeably clearer as they move away from coal power and gas-

oline and diesel powered vehicles. As a result of increased manufacturing, solar and other renewable energy sources are rising in efficiency and rapidly dropping in price. Jobs in renewables are rising rapidly, even as fossil fuel jobs are stable or falling. Although solar presently supplies only 4% of electricity in the U.S., this rate is rising rapidly, and prices are falling even faster. Presently, China has 3 times the solar capacity of the U.S., but Biden's IRA is increasing competition, and is bringing back solar and EV manufacturing plants to the U.S. We must double down on this type of investment to fight back against Chinese dominance.

You may want to keep these thoughts in mind as you consider how to spend your precious vote this coming November. Do you want to move our country forward, provide your children with a livable planet, and support fast growing careers in renewable energy and clean technologies; or do you want them to inherit a hot, polluted hellscape, propping up jobs in the fossil fuel industry, which will shrink appreciably in the next couple of decades?

To "drill now, drill everywhere"; ruining, and then selling off our public lands to the highest bidder, returning chaos to government, and continuing the bitter political battles that hobble our ability to accomplish anything: vote "R". But to reclaim the world leadership in the vibrant and growing renewable energy market, which is increasingly being embraced by the rest of the world, while at the same time returning sanity to politics, treating, and be treated by, our allies with respect, standing up for the rule of law and our justice system, removing bullies and lunatics from our political landscape, and embracing a healthy, prosperous future for coming generations: vote "D" !

*David Congour, Montrose*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### GMUG TO HOST PUBLIC SBEADMR AND TAYLOR PARK FIELD TRIPS

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA—The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests will host its annual Public Field Trips for the Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) project and the Taylor Park Vegetation Management Project (Taylor Park) Aug. 8 and Aug. 27. These field trips provide an opportunity for interested individuals to participate in discussions and engage with GMUG staff, adaptive management group members and science teams on topics including the implementation timeline, temporary roads, treatment unit prescriptions and resource concerns relevant to Taylor Park and SBEADMR.

All interested members of the public are invited to attend this year's field trips. The SBEADMR field trip scheduled for Aug. 8. Attendees will tour the Lone Craver timber sale, an active operation, as well as the upcoming East Beaver timber sale, both located on the Norwood Ranger District. Participants need to bring a sack lunch, water and any necessities for a day outdoors. Participants will be able to caravan/ carpool from the Montrose Public Lands Office or the Norwood Ranger District office leaving at 8 a.m. and returning by 4:30 p.m. Please RSVP by Aug. 1 to Carlyn Perovich: [carlyn.perovich@usda.gov](mailto:carlyn.perovich@usda.gov). For questions, please contact David Casey, acting GMUG Timber Program Manager at [david.casey2@usda.gov](mailto:david.casey2@usda.gov).

The Taylor Park field trip, co-hosted with Western Colorado University, will be held Aug. 27. The tour will visit different spots in Taylor Canyon, including Lottis Creek. Participants need to bring a sack lunch, water and any necessities for a day outdoors. Vans will leave Western's University Center parking lot at 9 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. Contact Courtney King, the coordinator of Taylor Park Adaptive Management Group, at [courtney.king@western.edu](mailto:courtney.king@western.edu) for questions and to RSVP by Aug. 12. Both field trips will involve hiking on moderate terrain. Taylor Park vegetation management project information can be found at: [\[park\]\(https://cfri.colostate.edu/projects/sbeadmr/\). SBEADMR vegetation management project information can be found at: <https://cfri.colostate.edu/projects/sbeadmr/>. For information and updates on current fire restrictions, conditions, and](https://www.centerforpubliclands.org/cpl/taylor-</a></p>
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recreation opportunities on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests, visit the [forest website](#). Connect with us on social media ([X \(Twitter\)](#) and [Facebook](#)).

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## ALTRUSA CLUB CELEBRATES 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MONTROSE & THE WORLD *From pg 1*



and lifestyles, including owners of local businesses, community volunteers, former professional women who, now retired, are ready to do service for the community and beyond. Altrusa of Montrose is committed to a better community through hands-on volunteer service. The club has flexible opportunities for service, and leaders say the club appreciates the value of members' time.

The club welcomes women and men from diverse backgrounds and experiences who share common goals and provides many opportunities for leadership development through service. Montrose's on-going projects include supporting community members and veterans, and the club has supported the needy in underserved villages around the world, including in Nepal and Mexico. In a Nepalese village the local club most recently provided funds, along with Western Colorado Friends of the Himalayas, for supplies to help rebuild the village school after a devastating earthquake.

The Montrose community is very aware and supportive of Altrusa's annual Spring Luncheon/Fashion Show fundraiser, which helps raise money for various philanthropic projects. This year the luncheon raised money to fund literacy and other community projects.

One of the club's earliest community projects was helping the City of Montrose establish Altrusa Park, which runs alongside Hillcrest Drive between Niagara and Sunnyside roads. The park, according to a City of Montrose spokesman, was installed in 1986. Part of the park includes a community garden which Altrusa members have maintained by weeding and watering the flowers and plants; recently the city repaired the park watering system to include the garden, said a Montrose Park and Recreation Department spokesman.

In Montrose, the club has recently undertaken a project helping outfit the kitchens of the newly constructed Village on San Juan. The small development going up on San Juan Blvd. in Montrose will provide



***Altrusa members celebrating at the 49<sup>th</sup> Birthday party include from left, Irene Means, Dena Brooks, Carol Watson, Roberta Hoey, Joyce Loss, Dorothy Causey, Beth Meek, Carole Ann McKelvey, Linda Riba, McKenna Reiher (with her new baby boy), Elaine Hale-Jones, Taz Turner, Jennifer Thompson and club president Karen Little. (courtesy photo).***

new housing for homeless (or threatened homeless) seniors and teens who have aged out of the foster care system.

Charter member Dena Brooks is especially proud of the way Altrusa International of Montrose has supported poor villages in Mexico. "We raised money for an expensive 'concrete form' for water purification, and a member and her husband drove the form down to a village where the town used it to make concrete and pebble water filters, so individual homes could have clean running water," Brooks said. "It was a lot of money, and then the town moved the form on to other villages, so they could have clean water also."

Brooks is one of two charter members still active in the Montrose club, which was chartered in 1975. She and Margaret Goodhue helped start the local club, with Brooks as the first president. Brooks and senior club members, Roberta Hoey (23 years) and Dorothy Causey (35 years) recently sat down with this *Mirror* reporter to discuss Altrusa of Montrose's outstanding current and past projects. "In the beginning," said Causey, "there wasn't social media, so club members went door to door on Main Street recruiting new members for the club. To join the international

organization, it meant we needed at least 20 members to start the club, and we started with 37 members."

At the June 2024 Montrose Altrusa meeting celebrating the milestone, Brooks shared stories about one of their early service projects, "Lifeline." The club purchased emergency alarms for local seniors in need of assistance. In the beginning Altrusa members had to go to local seniors' houses and physically help install the equipment; this often meant having to crawl under houses to get to power lines. "Can you imagine?" Brooks said. It was one of the club's early projects. Brooks says, "It finally got to be too much for the club to handle -- almost like a business and not in our charter -- so the project was turned over to the Montrose Hospital. Altrusa of Montrose also hosted community wine and cheese nights at some local motels as fundraisers. The club still holds member social events, as well as membership recruitments. For more information on the local club, you can go to their website at [AltrusaMontrose.org](http://AltrusaMontrose.org) or for more information you may call 970-765-7666 or email [Altrusa.Montrose@gmail.com](mailto:Altrusa.Montrose@gmail.com). (See Part II in the next issue of the *Montrose Mirror*.)

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## SO, THE VOTING MACHINE CONSPIRACY THEORY IS FINALLY LAID TO REST, I HOPE

*Editor:*

With the recount of the HD58 primary. Suckla up by three votes before the recount and up by three votes after the recount. This should end the red herring conspiracy theory about the voting machines switching votes. Each candidate gained one vote due to a difference of two cured ballots. For the past four years the voters have been inundated with wild conspiracy theories about voting machines switching votes. No one has ever proved this but plenty of people have ruined their reputations, ruined themselves financially (Mike Lindell) and Tina Peters will most likely go to jail. All because they tried but could not prove this false conspiracy theory.

During the 2020 election some crooked things did happen but none of them had anything to do with the voting machines. During the 2020 election the democrats engaged in ballot harvesting. Five states


changed their voting process without going through their legislature, as required by law. The FBI engaged in an illegal investigation of Trump. All started by a false FISA report that was initiated by Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. And the pandemic assisted in keeping people from campaigning the way they normally would have.

I will tell you why I do not buy in to most conspiracy theories. A conspiracy is a group of people that get together to do something nefarious. The problem with getting a group of people together to do something illegal is that someone will talk. And the bigger the group the more apt it is to be exposed. People are lousy at keeping secrets. This is why most conspiracies are exposed before the crime ever happens. And with hundreds of thousands maybe, even millions of voting machines in use here in the USA that is that many opportunities for the corruption to be

exposed.

The 2020 stolen election took place in plain sight, because the average voter is not very well informed and does not know when to ask questions or to point something out that our government is doing that should be scrutinized a little more thoroughly. Five states changing their voting process in the middle of a hotly contested presidential election. And that was a bad idea. Colorado changed to the mail in ballots in 2013, an off-election year. This gave them plenty of time to work the bugs out of it. The next election cycle was a mid-term election. And then the 2016 presidential election. By that time Colorado had mail in voting figured out. I was on the canvassing board for two years 2019 and 2020. I tested the machines and I know how they work. That is why I know the voting machine conspiracy is a baseless accusation.

*Ray Langston, Montrose*




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**GAIL MARVEL**  
*Montrose Author & Reporter*

*Where Wallflowers Grow* is available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [wingedpublications.com](https://www.wingedpublications.com).





# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT – MORE OUT OF TOUCH THAN EVER *Spend, Spend & Spend Some More – Decisions are Lacking a Reality Check*



Photo courtesy David White.

By David White

This past week brought to light some interesting decision-making outcomes on the part of local government elected officials and some of their underlings in the bureaucracies of the City and County. Let's start with Montrose County. The current County Manager, Jon Waschbusch, is leaving Montrose County within the next week. Advertising for his replacement began last week. Mr. Waschbusch has been receiving a salary of \$190,000 plus a very nice benefit package. He began his tenure as County Manager in July of 2021 with a salary of \$157,000 and was given an 18% raise between 2021 and 2023. The job posting by the County states that the salary range for a new manager will be between \$160,000 and \$187,000 ([County Manager | Career Opportunities \(ultipro.com\)](#)). Requirements for the job were modified by the County Commissioners, lowering the qualifications necessary to apply for the position. What is interesting is that the average County Manager in Colorado earns approximately \$146,000 (see [Salary: County Manager in Colorado, US 2024 | Glassdoor](#)) per year yet Montrose County (with a population of 44,000 people) is paying substantially more. The usual rea-

sons are given such as the need to compare government salaries with similar government jobs, market adjustments for our part of the state vs. a more urbanized area, etc. Regardless of the arguments, the taxpayers are once again taking a back seat to these decisions by elected officials that are out of touch with reality. And the City of Montrose isn't any better. City Manager Bell is currently being paid \$210,000 per year plus very generous benefits while the average City Manager in Colorado is earning between \$107,562 and \$132,573 ([City Manager Salary in Colorado | Salary.com](#)). The City of Montrose population is approximately 22,000. How can such salaries be justified? The public needs to ask their elected officials this question! Putting the above numbers in perspective, the average salary of a United States governor is \$150,000 in 2024! The highest paid governor is in New York - \$250,000 with the lowest paid in Maine - \$70,000. The Governor of Colorado is only paid \$90,000 per year. ([Governor Salary by State 2024 \(worldpopulationreview.com\)](#)) Something is way off here folks! Adding to the incremental increases in the cost of living in our community are two events that occurred last week that I'd like



Photo courtesy David White.

to share. The first involved our local City managed recycling program. We, as a family, missed one week of having our recycling picked up (out of two per month), leading to an overflowing recycling container. To minimize the chances of having our recyclables dumped on the street, we bagged some of them in a plastic trash bag (which is recyclable) and put the container on the street for pick up. Later in the day, we went to bring the recycle container in and found that it had not been emptied but rather the route driver of the truck picking up the containers stopped his truck, climbed out of it, tagged the container and drove off. The

*Continued next pg*

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT – MORE OUT OF TOUCH THAN EVER

## From previous pg

The stated reason was that you can't bag your recyclable waste, even in a recyclable bag! The time and money wasted in trying to "teach us a lesson" is the brain-child of the Recycle Superintendent, Abel Velarde, a city employee (bureaucrat). All I can say is "what the heck?" You have my address, phone number and email address available to you. A simple text message or email would suffice as opposed to the waste of time and expense of slowing your route driver down. A call to Mr. Velarde didn't do any good. He was cordial but stood by his logic. This is one reason why there are folks out there that don't bother recycling any more.

The second event involved a call to Dan Payne, Parks Superintendent with the City regarding the large blue spruce tree that is located next to the City of Montrose gateway sign on the north side of town on Highway 50 as you come into Montrose. The spruce has grown so large that it is covering up a third of the sign (see photo). I was told that the City is aware of the issue but that because the tree is so healthy, they don't want to trim it back. Instead, they are planning to remove the stone sign and replace it with a new monument style sign once they can budget for it. Personally, I like the sign as it is and

think it would be much cheaper to give the tree a haircut rather than spending a hundred grand or more to tear down and build a new sign. But what the heck, it's only your money, right?

Lastly, I'd like to address the issue of the homeless as well as a number of panhandlers that have taken to various street corners. This past weekend I witnessed a larger number of individuals walking our City streets with bedrolls and backpacks. Some had bicycles. Some had shopping carts with their things in them. Some were dumpster diving (the dumpster at the new Velocity car wash on N. 9<sup>th</sup> and Townsend is particularly attractive for some reason). There is even, by all appearances, a homeless encampment consisting of three (3) old travel trailers parked at the end of Ogden Road past Home Depot down near the Uncompahgre River (see photo). There are more of course with this one being more visible due to its location.

I'd like to know what the City is doing to address this issue. Non-profit organizations are doing their best to assist. Summer is often when our area attracts a larger number of folks struggling to make it in this world. No one likes to see sights like this in their community. The effect on a



Photo courtesy David White.

community is broad. Mental health issues abound. Drug or other dependencies add to the issue. Sanitation and public health are of concern. Perhaps an up-to-date report from the City and law enforcement would be helpful in allowing the public to have some insight into the size of the situation we're dealing with this summer. Have a great week Montrose! Get involved and know what is happening in your community.

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

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## MCSO HAS LOST AN ALARMING NUMBER OF DEPUTIES TO OTHER COMMUNITIES

*Editor:*

During county budget discussions last fall, Sheriff Lillard made our County Manager and the BOCC aware of the troubling public safety fact that he was experiencing unprecedented problems in recruitment and retention of qualified deputies. He requested an additional 4% salary adjustment for 2024 as well as a move to the FPPA retirement program for retention of officers. County Manager Waschbusch recommended denial of those requests despite the concerning facts and the BOCC, in what has turned out to be a mistaken decision.

Since then, our MCSO has lost an alarming number of deputies to other communities including the Montrose City Police department offering a higher salary scale as well as FPPA retirement, as of today, almost seven months later, our MCSO is

experiencing a deficit of 36% of qualified deputies, putting our county and current deputies at an increasing safety risk.

At this time, just to be able to compete for qualified officers, Sheriff Lillard has estimated that he needs a budgetary infusion of approximately \$1.2 million. This does not even address the major problem of retention and slowing the loss of officers to more competitive markets.

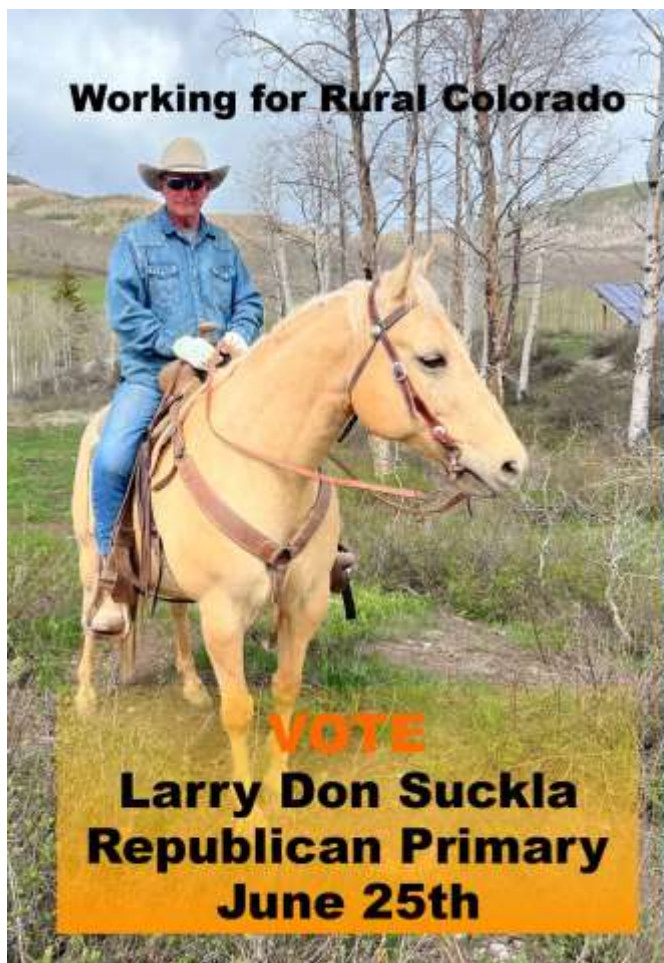
Instead of taking prompt corrective action, the BOCC have certainly been remiss in their duty to assure the highest degree of public safety for Montrose County residents. Considering all of this and absent any immediate corrective action by the BOCC, my greatest fear is that citizens or deputies may be injured or killed due to the inability of our MCSO to respond to unforeseen threats in a timely and safe manner. If, God forbid, that occurs, the

responsibility will fall squarely at the feet of our commissioners who will not be able to explain their inaction.

Considering their callous disregard for our public safety, Citizens of Montrose County concerned about our collective public safety should encourage the commissioners to promptly provide the necessary funding for our Sheriff Department to increase the Sheriff's ability to compete and function at a higher level as well as moving ahead on the FPPA retirement program.

Second guessing Sheriff Lillard's request for this funding is not necessary and puts on full display for all to see the total incompetence of this current board of county commissioners that has aligned itself against any and all persons that disagree with them.

*Dee Laird, Montrose*



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## THE CLOCK IS TICKING; TIME TO RETURN AMERICA TO COMMON SENSE IS RUNNING OUT

*To whom it may concern,*

Thomas Jefferson said "The government you elect is the government you deserve."

With Biden we got worse than we deserve.

In fact, 100 percent of Washington and the media have known for two years that Biden was cognitively compromised, yet they let him (and his handlers) run the most powerful country in the world. An act of insurrection by the handlers.

Then it got worse. They let him run for a second term knowing that a second term would definitely destroy America.

Then it got even worse. They got caught by a simple debate and finally admitted to their lies and cover ups and got him boot-ed out of the race for a second term, creating an angry vindictive lame duck president. Now it gets even worse. They are letting an obviously defunct and angry president who has the nuclear code, and power of executive order, finish six months in the most dangerous job in human history. The current vile depraved corrupt politicians in Washington are leading us into a death trap. When I say Wash-ington I refer to Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. I am not letting Color-ado politicians off the hook, I am a Color-ado voter. These unprincipled reprobates are going to take away our resolve and probably our guns and render us defense-less against the evil in the world.

All common sense and true justice has already been buried in Washington. Watch the fake national tv news and you can't help but see how far off the tracks we are.

This nation was not built on confusion, or evil, or immorality, or hatred, or irrespon-sibility, or corruption, or deep state, or weaponized bureaucracy . This country was built by honest passionate peo-ple. Yet, look where we are today.

If my predictions are correct there is only one thing that can save America, that would be God, but in 1962 the supreme court ruled that prayer in schools was unconstitutional, effectively removing God from schools.

A country that mocks God will not be given his protection.

Joe Biden mocks God and defies his own Catholic religion.

His handlers can deliver us to destruction. A classic case of cutting off your nose to spite your face.

A destroyed society is easily dominated. Stand for something or fall for anything, when good people do nothing, bad people do everything.

When the Communist Chinese or the Communist Russians or the Islamic ex-tremists take control of our country mired in immorality and ignorant politics there will be such a holocaust as we have not seen since Hitler.

Try kneeling to disrespect their flag and

see what happens.

You notice I said when, not if.

The clock is ticking. Most Christians be-lieve we are in the final days of humanity and the chaos when America falls will be just the trigger.

But I'm talking about the clock to return America to common sense is running out. Let's talk about common sense.

I wonder if the people of the United States are going to be able to regain com-mon sense before the next election.

No matter how much you say it...a biolog-ical man won't ever have a baby.

Common sense tells you that no matter how many times the fake news regurgi-tates that the border is secure, it is a dam-nable lie.

There is no such thing as Bigfoot or UFOs...if there was we would have both on display. Common sense folks. Those people have been lying to you since the 1950s.

Think people, think.

Common sense tells me that Polis and the Democrats are going to take two things away from us very soon, guns and Tabor.

I remind you that this is an election year. So I ask American Citizen voters.

What are you going to do about it? Don't vote for the party. Vote your heart. Use common sense.

Demand character and integrity at EVERY level.

*Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose*

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## PLAN FOR BRIEF DELAYS, SLOWER SPEEDS BETWEEN SAGUACHE AND VILLA GROVE

*Special to the Mirror*

SAGUACHE COUNTY — Beginning Tuesday, July 30, the Colorado Department of Transportation will perform surface treatment on a seven mile segment of US Highway 285 (Mile Points 94 to 101). Motorists traveling between Saguache and the junction of Colorado Highway 17 should plan for additional travel time through Thursday evening. Motorists will encounter full stops, up to 30 minute delays and will be guided by a pilot car through the work zone.

CDOT reminds motorists that following posted speeds is necessary to avoid vehicle damage in the chip seal work zone. Additionally, traffic entering the highway from driveways or intersections must wait for a flagger.

All work is weather dependent. Motorists are encouraged to check the most current traffic impacts on [COtrip.org](http://COtrip.org).

### Traffic Impacts

Daytime work hours range from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

Motorists should plan for 20 to 30-minute delays and should allow for extra travel time

Expect one-lane alternating traffic guided by flagging personnel and pilot cars

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE POLICE TO HOST NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUG. 6

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The annual Montrose Police Department National Night Out celebration is all about encouraging communities to get to know each other. Join us outside the Montrose Police Department, and in Centennial Plaza in downtown Montrose on Aug. 6, 2024, 5 pm - 8pm. We'll have free food, a bouncy house, and kids activities. Many of our local partner agencies will be joining us, so there'll also be the opportunity to get to know our local public safety teams better and take a look at their vehicles.

## DELTA POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES 4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— The Delta Police Department is thrilled to announce the fourth annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th at Cleland Park. This event aims to strengthen the bonds between police and community members, fostering a safer and more connected Delta.

National Night Out is a nationwide initiative designed to enhance police-community partnerships and provide an invaluable opportunity for neighbors to get to know each other. By building relationships and strengthening our community ties, we can create a safer and more vibrant Delta.

"We believe that knowing your neighbors and fostering a sense of community is essential in building a safer environment for everyone," said Mindy Brennan, Delta Police Department's Community Policing Coordinator. "National Night Out is a chance for all of us to rediscover our Delta community, meet the officers who serve you, and learn how we can work together to prevent crime." Attendees will have the opportunity to meet officers and deputies with local agencies, take part in family-friendly activities, get an up-close look at emergency vehicles, meet K9 Raico, and learn about a wide range of safety topics.

We invite all residents to join us for this fun and informative event. Together, we can build a stronger, safer, and more connected Delta.

**Event Details:**

- **Date:** August 6th
- **Time:** 5pm – 8pm
- **Location:** Cleland Park

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## DOLORES RIVER CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT:

***Making hasty decisions that have long term consequences is not the way to proceed***

*Editor:*

I had the honor of attending the Club 20 Summer Policy Meetings this week held in Nucla, Colorado. For those not familiar with Club 20, it is a non partisan coalition of individuals, businesses, tribes and local governments representing 22 western counties in Colorado. They have been the Voice of the Western Slope for 70 years.

The meeting was very informative, especially for someone like myself who will be representing Montrose County as the District 1 Commissioner in 2025. The topics for the meeting ranged from protecting our water, ranching, farming and the preservation of our Western Colorado lands.

Perhaps the most interesting speaker was John Whitney, Senator Michael Bennet's Regional Director for the Four Corners Region of Colorado. Director Whitney addressed the members regarding the status of the Proposed Designation of the Dolores River Canyon National Monument. He gave the impression that designation by way of the Antiquities Act was no longer the preferred path for "Protecting" this remote area of our state. Instead, he informed members that an NCA (National Conservation Area) was the option his office would be pursuing. He had explained that his office had been in negotiations with a newly formed, hand-picked "working group" consisting of county commissioners from Montrose and Mesa Counties along with other stakeholders. I say "Hand Picked" because the working group did not include two of the largest land owners whose ranches fell within the

NCA's proposed boundaries. (Larry Don Suckla, Suckla Ranch, Steven Redd, Redd Ranch). It also did not include Roger Rash, Montrose County Commissioner for District 3, who has been an outspoken opponent of the Monument and NCA. The working group also excluded Sean Pond, a 4th generation resident of the Dolores River Valley who has spent the last six months researching the proposed Monument and informing people of this effort that began on the front range long before Western Colorado residents knew about it.

One would think that a legitimate working group that would include stakeholders and lawmakers in the area would have included at least these four representatives in any negotiations. Sadly that was not the case.

What was truly remarkable about Mr. Whitney's presentation was that he thought the NCA could be finalized by October of 2024. When time came for Director Whitney to take questions, I raised my hand, introduced myself, and asked him the following question. "Since 15 years of negotiations between stakeholders in four counties for a proposed NCA failed what makes you think you can put this together in three months? And what is the hurry?" He admitted it was an aggressive goal but he thought he could do it by using prior negotiations to speed things along. I don't think anyone in the room believed that but he seems determined to try with this working group.

It is important to note that Club 20, "The Voice of the Western Slope", strongly op-

poses the Designation of the Dolores Monument. See website.

<https://club20.org/club-20-opposes-proposed-designation-of-the-dolores-river-canyon-national-monument/>

Club 20 could support any alternative to land management that includes the interest of the local communities and stakeholders. This means residents of the area who are impacted by the unintended consequences of the proposed NCA, not environmental activists who are bussed in to give testimony at a public meeting.

Contact your County Commissioners and ask them to slow this process down. Hasty decisions that have long term consequences is not the way to proceed.

Sue Hansen-970-252-4532, Roger Rash-970-252-4531, Kieth Caddy 970-252-4530 Contact Senator Bennet's office.

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/write-to-michael>

Go to Sean Ponds website for more information and updates.

<https://haltthedoloresmonument.com/>

If the Dolores River Canyon needs urgent federal protection then it should be done in a responsible way that does not exclude those who express concerns.

As one of your future Montrose County Commissioners I am dedicated to representing our county and the people who live here with courage and commitment. I will be a private citizen until sworn in in January but will be following the important issues that matter to you.

Scott Mijares

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## PIPE-WELDING SUSPECT FATALLY SHOT BY DEPUTY IN CRESTONE

### CBI News Release

CRESTONE – A pipe-welding suspect was fatally shot by a Saguache County sheriff deputy Thursday afternoon. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is now assisting the Saguache County Sheriff's Office into the investigation of the fatal shooting.

On Thursday July 25, 2024, at approximately 12:00 PM a Saguache County sheriff deputy was driving near the town of Crestone, Colorado to serve papers when he observed a 40-year-old white male walking about a mile from the entrance of the Baca Grande Subdivision. The deputy recognized the man as having an active warrant.

The deputy attempted to talk with the male suspect when the man began attacking the deputy with a 4-foot metal pipe. The deputy pulled out his service weapon and fired twice, hitting the suspect. The deputy immediately began performing life-saving measures but the suspect was pronounced deceased at the scene. The deputy was transported to a local hospital, where he was treated and released for minor injuries.

The identity of the decedent is not being released until his family has been notified. An autopsy is pending.



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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### EDWARD DANIEL "DAN" LANGLEY, JR. *April 6, 1946 — July 19, 2024*



EDWARD DANIEL (DAN) LANGLEY, JR. left this world on 19 July 2024 from his home in Montrose, CO. with his family present. He was preceded in death by his parents: Edward and Elsie Langley, Sisters: Lois McKnight, Ethel Dines, Donna Hites, Doris Langley, Darla Cleer, Kathy Mansfield, his Wife Bonnie Freeland Langley and daughter Stacie (Jeremy) Brown. He is survived by wife Sherry, son Eric (Rebecca) Langley, sister Mary (Goldie) Long, much loved grandchildren: Ashton, Jared, Caleb, Ethan Brown, and Easton and Peyton Langley, great grandson Connor Brown. He will be missed by many nieces and nephews.

Dan grew up in Champion, Ohio. Following high school, he joined the Marines, once a Marine, always a Marine. He served in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart. Following Marine service, he met Bonnie, was married for 39 years, resulting in Stacie and Eric in Southington, Ohio.

Their family vacations and backyard clam bake/barbecues were the source of many happy memories and much fun for Dan and his family. He would always say "And a good time was had by all". Dan retired from General Motors as a tool and die maker after 34 years. He followed General Motors with the Bureau of Reclamation, retiring after five years as a plant mechanic.

Dan and Family moved to Montrose, Colorado in 1999. He seriously loved and enjoyed his family. He was happy to be a good provider, though in later years he wished he had concentrated less on providing and more on his much beloved family and health. His interests included: hunting, traveling, and Corvettes.

There will be no services. Interment will be in Grand Junction Veteran Cemetery. Dan requested any money spent on flowers or traveling, instead be used on your family. Please know Dan cherished knowing you. Thank you for your love.

### LAVON LUCILLE CAMPBELL *June 19, 1926-July 22, 2024*

LAVON LUCILLE CAMPBELL, also known as Blondie, passed away on July 22, 2024, at the age of 98.

She was born to Alexander and Mary Schierman on June 19, 1926, in Stratton, Colorado, and moved with her family to Montrose, Colorado, in 1934 at the age of eight. She graduated from Montrose High School in 1944. Throughout her life, she worked in the banking world as well as in a family construction business, among other positions. Passionate about music and dancing, she gained the nickname "Blondie" from her high school music teacher. Lavon loved playing the Saxophone and Accordion as she continued to play the accordion with a family band at dances in the Montrose area.

Lavon met her husband, Donald E. Campbell "Bud," in high school, and they married in 1947, enjoying 51 years of marriage together. Lavon took pride in her agricultural background and had a hobby of raising sheep well into her 90s, alongside her goat, Evie.

Lavon was actively involved in various

community organizations, including The Montrose Emblem Club where she held several offices, including the position of state president from 1987-88. She also served as a supreme officer for the National Organization. In addition, she was intricately involved with the Golden Circle Senior Board for 20 years, organizing dances and activities at the Montrose Pavilion. Furthermore, she served on the Montrose Suburban Water Board for 30 years and was a part of the bowling association for 40 years.

One of her proudest moments came in 1985 when she was recognized as the FFA mother of the year as her son, Tom Campbell, served as the president of the Montrose FFA chapter. Lavon cherished her involvement with her grandchildren as they participated in 4-H, FFA, Girl Scouts, and sports. She was a mother of two, grandmother of four, great-grandmother of 10, and great-great-grandmother of two, cherishing the time she spent with all of them.

Among some of her other hobbies were

collecting: Precious Moments, Coins, Porcelain Dolls, lamb memorabilia, bluebirds, Christmas decor, and shoes.

Lavon is preceded in death by her parents Alexander

and Mary Scheirman, her one brother Leroy "Buzz" Scheirman, and her husband Donald E. Campbell. She is survived by her daughter: Janet (husband Jerry) Sieverson; son Tom (wife Geriann) Campbell; grandchildren: Tammy, Jamie, Chantel, and Tyler; great-grandchildren: Kelsey, Makayla, Layton, Hailey, Hayden, Gage, Azariah, Addison, Caroline, and Jacklyn; great great-grandchildren: Emma and Luke.

Services will be held at Grace Community Church on July 29th at 11 am, a procession will follow to Grand View Cemetery.

Donations can be made to the Montrose FFA chapter in lieu of flowers.



ISSUE 479 July 29, 2024

# ART & SOL

## KAFM COMMUNITY RADIO ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF BETTY RIES AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### *Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION – KAFM 88.1 and 96.9 Community Radio is pleased to announce that Betty Ries has been appointed to the position of Executive Director, effective July 1, 2024. She replaces Cyrene Jagger who served as Executive Director beginning January 2020.

Betty has most recently served as Technical Director and Operations Manager for KAFM. She joined the station in May of 2016 date in the role of Operations Assistant.

Prior to KAFM, Betty spent twelve years at Westwood One Radio Network as Manager of Broadcast IT, responsible for maintaining the integrity of the broadcast network, maintaining broadcast software that delivered programming to 5,000 satellite receivers, and training operations and IT staff. She also has several years of experience working as an IT consultant, designing and building desktop computing systems. Betty holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature from the University of Colorado – Boulder.

“Betty brings such a wealth of knowledge and experience to the ED role. She has been a critical member of the KAFM team for several years. We are so fortunate to

have someone of Betty’s knowledge and talent ready to step into the Executive Director position as we celebrate our 25-year anniversary.

She brings a deep understanding of the station, established relationships in the community and industry, and a leadership style that will help KAFM continue to grow and serve the Grand Valley,” said Vice President Tami King in making the announcement.

KAFM is a member supported, volunteer-oriented community radio station dedicated to excellence and diversity in musical, cultural, and public service programming. With signal strength of 300 watts KAFM 88.1 and 96.9 draws on the expertise of many volunteers to create a unique blend of music programming —Americana, bluegrass, rock, jazz, and blues—with several additional specialty shows. The station produces a daily community affairs hour Monday thru Friday, featuring information and discussion about area non-profit organizations and community issues. The station also operates the Radio Room, an intimate 75-seat performance and meeting venue in the KAFM facility at 1310 Ute Avenue in Grand Junction. The station began broadcasting in March of



**KAFM Community Radio welcomes new Executive Director Betty Ries. Courtesy photo.**

1999 after nearly seven years of planning and fundraising.

Today, it has over 750 active members, more than 100 local underwriters and nearly 200 volunteers. For more information on the station and its operations, visit [www.kafmradio.org](http://www.kafmradio.org).



# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## MADISON CHISM OF MONTROSE EARNS DEGREE FROM UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

*Special to Art & Sol*

ADELPHI, MD-- Madison Chism of Montrose, earned an Associate of Arts in General Studies from University of Maryland Global Campus in spring 2024.

Chism was one of more than 14,000 students worldwide who earned degrees from UMGC in the 2023-24. Graduates

came from all 50 states, three U.S. territories, and 24 countries.

University of Maryland Global Campus was founded more than 75 years ago specifically to serve the higher education needs of working adults and military servicemembers. Today, UMGC is the largest provider of postsecondary education in

Maryland and continues its global tradition with online and hybrid courses, more than 175 classroom and service locations worldwide, and more than 125 degrees and certificates backed by the reputation of a state university and the University System of Maryland. For more information, visit [umgc.edu](http://umgc.edu)



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970-249-5550



# 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-<br/>
  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](http://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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.montroselutheran.org)

**Email:** [montroselutheran@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com),  
[www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://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](mailto:in-<br/>
  form@fpcmontrose.com),

[www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM,  
*We strive to encourage, challenge and*

*support one another through spiritual  
 growth, worship, and service in our com-  
 munity, country, and world. We also en-  
 courage children and youth to grow their  
 relationship with Christ through our chil-  
 dren and student ministries.*

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

## HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Denomination affiliation:** United Church of Christ

**Address:** 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

**Office hours:** By appointment

**Contact information:**

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: [office@montroseucc.org](mailto:office@montroseucc.org)

Website: [montroseucc.org](http://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](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [mont-](http://montroseumc.org)

[roseumc.org](http://roseumc.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](http://www.RosemontBaptist.org)

email: [office@rosemontbaptist.org](mailto: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 worshippers 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](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org),

[www.spiritaware.org](http://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](mailto:rose@yahoo.com)

[www.ststephensmontrose.com](http://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:**

email:[summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)

website:

[www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://www.summitchurchmontrose.org)

**Senior Pastor:** Interim Pastor.

**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 ag-*

*es! 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 the first Sunday of each month for a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a prayer session at 6:30 p.m.*

## 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](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://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](http://www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations) for updated information on immunization providers.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## REPUBLICAN WOMEN AWARD SECOND SCHOLARSHIP



**Republican Women scholarship winner Keiran Bray with her parents, Zandon and Sara Bray. The Brays operate a cattle ranch in West Montrose County. Courtesy photo.**

By Michael A. Cox

MONTROSE-If you read Keiran Bray’s resume, you could become dizzy, your fingers may go numb, and you might become short of breath. She is a busy young lady. This Nucla High School student, among other things, is a full-time cow hand on her family’s cattle outfit, Bray Ranches, located not far from Norwood in West Montrose County. Yes, she can fix fences and doctor sick cows. Between school, work and volunteering she is a whirlwind of energy and personality.

Keiran recently graduated from Nucla High with high grades, outstanding character references, and six college credits from Adams State College already in hand. Her record was more than enough to impress the Montrose Republican Women’s Club and she now has a \$1500-scholarship to kick start her college life at Doane University in Nebraska, where she’s majoring in Agribusiness with an eye on becoming an ag lobbyist.

She also has been informed that she is the recipient of the prestigious Perry Scholarship, which is offered by Doane to deserv-



**Republican Women scholarship winner Keiran Bray with her parents, Zandon and Sara Bray. The Brays operate a cattle ranch in West Montrose County. Courtesy photo.**

ing first-year students. The award could net Bray \$21,000 for each of her four years, providing she maintains full time student status and keeps her grade point average at 3.0 or higher. She averaged 4.02 in high school.

Each Montrose County scholarship winner is required to have studied the constitution and they must choose a clause, amendment, or concept laid down by the country’s ruling document as their most important. Keiran sees the First Amendment as being especially important to her. In her essay on the First Amendment, Bray cites the right to Freedom of Speech as vitally important.

“The First Amendment serves as the cornerstone of our democratic society,” writes Bray. She says that it was her personal experience where she witnessed, firsthand, the empowerment of individuals through free speech that allowed them to

hold government accountable during the recent attempt to limit public gatherings and protests.

“Whether through attending town hall meetings, participating in demonstrations or writing letters to the town board, the ability to exercise these freedoms has been instrumental in shaping our local discourse and fostering a culture of civic participation,” she wrote.

And don’t even think about going against her, one-on-one, on the hoops court. She starred on the championship Nucla cage squad, and she’ll be part of the GPAC powerhouse Doane Tigers.

The Montrose Republican women also awarded \$1,500 to Ashlee Petranovich, a Montrose High grad, at their regular meeting in June.

The group has been awarding scholarships to local area graduates for the past 11 years.

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## SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### ONGOING-

**TRUE GRIT WALKING TOURS-June and August in Ridgway-**Every Friday 3 pm guided free True Grit walking tour departs the gazebo in Hartwell Park. Arrive 15 minutes early. The one-hour tour covers downtown locations where True Grit was filmed. **July in Ridgway-**Every Friday 3 pm and Monday 10 am. Guided free True Grit walking tours depart the gazebo in Hartwell Park. Arrive 15 minutes early. The one-hour tour covers downtown locations where True Grit was filmed. Call 469.682.9710 to arrange a custom tour for \$10 per person at a time of your choosing.

**HEALING COLLECTIVE OF WESTERN COLORADO-**Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12-1pm the Healing Collective of Western Colorado meets at 220 N Stough Ave. It is open to all wellness providers in the area who would like to collaborate with and learn from other local practitioners.

**MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET (970) 249 0705** Centennial Plaza, 433 S. 1st St. Montrose, CO 81401

[www.valleyfoodpartnership.org](http://www.valleyfoodpartnership.org). Year-Round Farmers Market, Saturdays 9am-1pm (Summer), every other Saturday 10am-1pm (Winter). Accepts SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks.

**MONTROSE CENTER FOR ARTS FIRST FRIDAY-**New Art Exhibit opening with featured artists.4:30 - 7 pm First Friday of every month. 11 S Park Ave., Montrose. Free Admission. For more information: 970-787-9428 or [info@mc4arts.com](mailto:info@mc4arts.com)

**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](http://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](mailto: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 MONTROSE GENEALOGY CENTER** at 700 E. Main St. is now open Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 1-4 p.m. or call for an appointment: 970-240-1755. Free help and resources for your family history research." (The center is sponsored by the non-profit organization, Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society.)

### MONTHLY

**Aug. 1-**The next quarterly meeting of The Women's Giving Club will be on Thursday, Aug.1, at the Bridges Golf and Country Club, 5:30pm.

**Aug. 5-**Nonpartisan, National Citizens' Climate Lobby meets to promote local environmental awareness and a Climate Action Plan, on Monday, Aug. 5 at 5pm at the Montrose Public Safety Complex meeting room, 434 S 1st(Police). All Welcome .Info at 970-765-9095.

**Aug. 8-18-**Mark your calendars for the return of Palisade Peach Days, a more than century-old tradition of celebrating the finest peaches in the Palisade area, Aug. 8-18! The Just Peachy 5k, Peach Days Parade, and Palisade High School Band Car Show will take place on Saturday, Aug. 10. The Palisade Peach Festival will be held the traditional 3rd weekend on Aug. 16 & 17. For a full schedule of events, please visit [palisadepeachfest.com](http://palisadepeachfest.com).

**Aug. 24-**Karaoke at Magic Circle Theatre-Saturday, Aug. 24 -- 7 PM 420 S 12th St, Montrose, CO. 970-249-8738

**Sept. 21-** Lake City hosts the Uncorked Wine and Music Festival.

**Sept. 22-**Karaoke at Magic Circle Theatre Sunday, Sept. 22 -- 7:30 PM 420 S 12th St, Montrose, CO. 970-249-8738

# MIRAI SWEET CORN ARRIVES AT FARMSTAND!



*There were lines as busy workers packed bags of the delicious ultra sweet Mirai corn for early-bird shoppers at the Honey Acre Farm stand off of South Townsend last week. Developed by a local scientist, Mirai continues to grow in popularity worldwide.*

Click on this ad to  
Download your **FREE** copy  
of **Beyond Rock** today!

This Xeriscape Guide is made  
just for Montrose, put together  
by Ginny Price, Retired  
Colorado Master Gardener/  
Small Acreage Assistant.

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The image shows the cover of a guide titled "Xscape: Recommendations for Residential Xeriscape for Montrose, Colorado" by Ginny Price. The cover features a photograph of a well-maintained garden with various plants, including purple flowers and green foliage. The title "Beyond Rock" is written in a large, stylized yellow font. At the bottom, it says "Courtesy of THE MONTROSE MIRROR" and "Your Source for Local Business News and Information".