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the Montrose Mirror

'I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE AS A COUNCIL SUPPORT THIS ISSUE'
--City Councilor Judy Ann Files, on efforts to accommodate unhoused population

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By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present for the regular City Council work session on Tuesday, Sept. 3. Mayor J. David Reed welcomed those in attendance. "...At our work sessions we don't accept public comment, but we certainly welcome the public to attend," Reed said.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on Design of New Public Works Facility

City Manager Bill Bell and Public Works Director Jim Scheid presented an update on design of the new public works facility. A plan for the new facility is included in the agenda packet.

Background-A memo from Scheid to Council summarizes the elements of the discussion. "The City began the design process for the new public works facility following the design authorization that was approved in March of 2024. The design team selected was Blythe Group from Grand Junction. Blythe has partnered

Continued pg 21



Above, Community Development Manager Jace Hochwalt (top right) briefs Montrose City Council on the coalition he has established to explore issues facing unhoused members of the community. Meeting screenshot.

MONTROSE COUNTY MANAGER FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-In a brief but lively [meeting Wednesday, Sept. 4](#), the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) announced finalists for the position of County Manager, and released an RFP for a Part Time Coordinator for the Southwest Colorado Opioid Regional Council.

BOCC Chair Roger Rash opened the meeting, and Commissioner Sue Hansen led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Delivering the invocation was Pastor Garrett Agajianian of St Stephens Anglican Church, "...Lord...We're in turbulent times, in an election season, we pray that your blessing and your hand would be upon our nation as we make critical decisions...bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners...defend our liberties Lord, defend the freedoms that we have...that there may be justice and peace here in our county and our state..."

Continued pg 17



Montrose board of County Commissioners District 3 Candidate Trisha Murray speaks during the regular BOCC meeting of Wednesday, Sept. 4. Screenshot.

[The Barefoot Laureate: Poet Wendy Videlock!](#)

[Red Hawks Sports Roundup by Cliff Dodge!](#)

[Magic Circle Players Present All My Sons!](#)

[Susan Humphreys' Photographs Glow! By Kate Burke](#)

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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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RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP



Red Hawks Soccer prepares to take the pitch. Photo by Cliff Dodge



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Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-A new wholesale rate design, submitted by SMPA's wholesale power provider, Tri-State Generation and Transmission (Tri-State) has been accepted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The wholesale rate is effective Aug. 1, 2024.

"As our wholesale power costs from Tri-State continue to increase, we are working on several strategies to lessen the impact to our membership," said SMPA Chief Executive Officer, Brad Zaporski. "The use of deferred revenue this year, and likely the next, will help SMPA avoid rate shock to our members and still allow us to meet all of our obligations."

The 6.2 % increase does stand as a tangible reminder that the cost of electrical capacity is going up. A non-profit electric cooperative, like SMPA has only two ways to generate revenue to cover expenses, the money can be borrowed or revenue can be recovered through retail electricity rates.

As SMPA looks toward 2025, there is a possibility that the Board may need to consider a rate increase (typically, realized as an increase to the fixed access charge on the monthly electric bill) to help cover the increased wholesale rate from Tri-State. If this need arises, it's also possible that SMPA may be able to use more deferred revenue to soften the impact. The San Miguel Power Board has also been considering a move to a time-based rate system.

SMPA posts updates on this topic in the monthly newsletter, EnergyWise. Also, electric consumers may have an opportunity to ask about it directly. SMPA is, once again, hosting "Power Hours" events throughout the territory. Check www.smpa.com/2024-power-hours to find out when SMPA be visiting your area. Also, SMPA members can provide feedback at comments@smpa.com.



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RED HAWKS SPORTS ROUNDUP *By Cliff Dodge*



Red Hawks JV team pounds Eagle Valley 53-0. Photo by Cliff Dodge.



Red Hawks softball team ready to take the diamond. Photo Cliff Dodge

26-0 after one period of play.

Things got no better as the Red Hawks kept the "pedal to the metal" and

scored 27 additional points the rest of the way to make the final score 53-0 in favor of the home team. The Red Hawks controlled the line of scrimmage on offense and on defense and also dominated special teams.

The Red Hawks are now 2 wins and 0 losses having defeated the Durango Demons 25-12 in their opening foray. Things will get invariably more difficult next Monday when the Red Hawks travel to Fruita-Monument where the Wildcats will provide much stiffer opposition and will be a good test of just how battle-tested this Red Hawk team is.

RED HAWKS SOFTBALL:

Delta Panthers 9, Montrose Red Hawks 3

The Montrose Red Hawks softball team hit the road last weekend and lost a non-league game to the Delta Panthers by the score of 8-3. The home-standing Panthers jumped on the Red Hawks with 4 runs in the bottom of the first inning to set the tone for the afternoon. The Panthers added another pair of runs in the second inning and added 3 additional markers late in the contest. The Red Hawks scored their 3 runs in the top of the sixth inning. Junior Abby Siegel pounded out 3 of the 7 hits the Red Hawks garnered. The Red Hawks stranded eight base runners. Isabelle Mott, a sophomore, pitched the entire game for the Red Hawks giving up 10 base hits while walking 4 and striking out 4. The Grand Junction Tigers invade Montrose on Tuesday at 3 p.m.

RED HAWKS VARSITY SOCCER:

The first week of competition unfolded this past week as the Red Hawks under the tutelage of head coach Cassandra Snyder saw the team win one and lose one.

Rifle 2, Montrose 1

The first opponent, the Rifle Bears, won over the Red Hawks by a 2-1 score. Snyder said, "We played pretty well. It wasn't our best effort. They had a really good game. It was their third game and our first game and it took some time to settle down and play the kind of soccer we know we are capable of. Rifle advanced to the state semi-finals and returns a wealth of experienced players. This was a good test for us and, as I told the boys, I would rather have this wake-up call early in the season rather than late. The lesson learned is that we must bring our A game every time we step on the pitch. Senior Brody Cooling scored the Red Hawk's only goal on an assist from Bowden Vigil."

Montrose 3, Delta 0

The Montrose Red Hawks played host to the Delta Panthers in the second game of the very young soccer season and shut the Panthers out by the score of 3-0. Coach Snyder explained, "Delta was coached to play against us. I know that their coach watched us play at the scrimmages. We have a pretty potent attack to be honest, so when Delta came out playing a 5-main defense and compressed things in the middle in front of their goal, which made

it hard to get open shots on the net, it was a good test for us because lots of teams will defend in the same manner. Chris Gonzalez Muniz scored the first goal and Tommy Montoya-Ornelas scored goals two and three."

Montrose 6, Grand Junction Tigers 3

The Red Hawks, now with one win and one loss, traveled to Grand Junction and took on the Tigers, always a very tough and physical team to contend with. The Red Hawks fell behind in the first half of the contest as the Tigers scored three first half goals compared with two Red Hawk tallies. The Red Hawks clamped on the defense in the second half of play shutting out the Tigers while their offense scored four times to make the final score 6-3 in favor of the Red Hawks. The Red Hawks record now stands at 2-1 with a 1-0 league record. The Red Hawks travel to Fruita-Monument on Wednesday.

RED HAWKS JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL:

Red Hawks 53, Eagle Valley Devils 0

The Montrose Red Hawks Junior Varsity football team, not to be outdone by their varsity brothers, scored early and often as they pasted the Eagle Valley Devils 53-0 at the Montrose stadium. The tone of this match was settled on the Devil's first possession as the first three snaps went over the quarterback's head. The Devils punter shanked his first kick and the Red Hawks scored quickly on a short field. The Red Hawks added 20 additional points to lead

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHY DID CORY JACKSON GET A PROMOTION?

Editor:

I am concerned about Cory Jackson being promoted by former Chief Justice Boatright.

Accepting the position of a judge on a family court comes with a profound responsibility to make informed decisions about vulnerable families, domestic abuse victims and their children, and prevent further harm.

Judges, like anyone in any profession, are not infallible and can make mistakes. However, in family court cases where there are allegations of domestic abuse and the safety of the children is at risk, these errors are not minor misjudgments. **These errors are significant blunders that put children and women at risk of harm and even death.**

Excerpts from Propublica article:

“Christine, backed up by more than a dozen mandatory reporters, two court-appointed custody evaluators and the child himself, alleges the boy’s documented injuries indicate he is being seriously harmed by his father.”

“As a special consultant to Colorado’s child welfare agency, Susan Coykendall had so few concerns about the father that she initially offered to skip writing a report to save the child welfare office the money. Jennie Thomas, the lead child welfare investigator on the case whom Bruce said he knew personally, recommended he pay for a report and use it as evidence that he was a fit parent.”

- Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Brian Boatright appointed D Cory Jackson to serve as chief judge in the 7th Judicial District. Judge Cory Jackson ignored physical and sexual abuse of children

- *“I suspect Christine plans to try to use a custody case to keep their son away from Bruce,” Thomas wrote in a Sept. 21, 2015, email to Coykendall, which was later included in court documents. “It might be smart for him to have something substantiating that she is wrong about him.” Coykendall agreed, and Bruce paid her for the report.*

Judge Corey Jackson in three separate cases denied three mothers the well established right to counsel in delinquency and neglect cases. His decisions were overturned on this issue on appeal three times.

Why was Cory Jackson promoted?

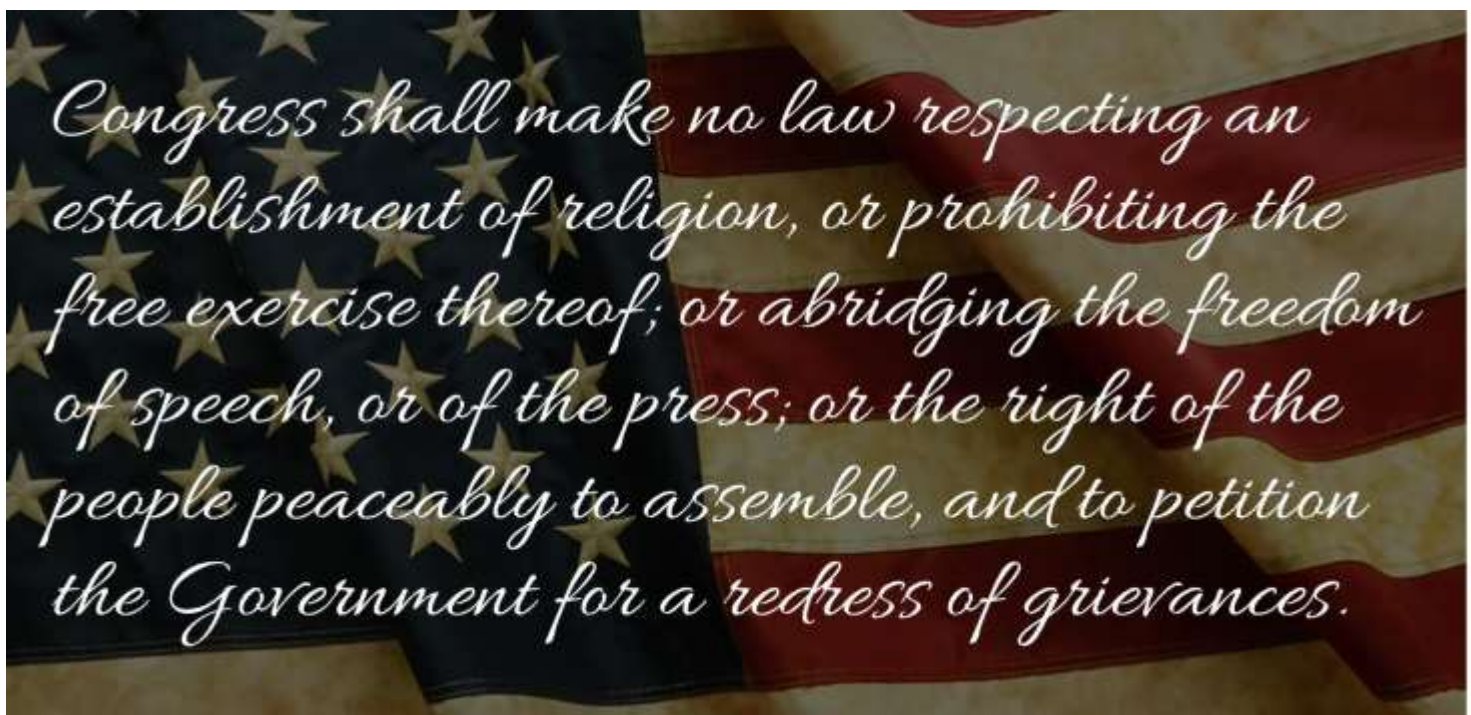
Experts say in every state, family court judges have significant power in custody cases and their decisions are rarely overturned. When an abuse victim raises reasonable concerns about abuse during a custody dispute, it needs to be addressed right there and then. Often it is not, and the messenger is punished by abuser and the court alike. **Yet, these judges go on to receive accolades, awards and even promotions in some cases.**

So, why did Cory Jackson get a promotion? A deep dive into this question is surely warranted.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Nancy Fingerhood, LSW



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WAIT TILL THE NEW BOCC IS ELECTED TO HIRE A COUNTY MANAGER

Editor:

The hiring of a County Manager is arguably one of the most important positions in our county. They manage all of the departments and assist the Board of County Commissioners on how to best deliver the resources of our county to our citizens. There are two important components to this position that must be considered.

1) Is the candidate qualified and capable through their education and experience to manage the job.
 2) Can the candidate work closely with the Board Members to ensure their vision for the county is implemented in a way that will move the county in a positive direction to better meet citizen and community needs. i.e. Does the chemistry between the BOCC and the Manager provide a good fit for all concerned? As an incoming Board member I object to this hiring process and demand that it is halted immediately. Nothing personal against the candidates or anyone under the employment of Montrose County. It is just wrong.

Here are the reasons why.

1) This hire does not include the consent of the new Board of County Commissioners who this employee will be working for. The job description says that the County Manager will need to work closely with the BOCC to ensure the Board's vision is implemented. How is this possible when they are unaware of the new Board's vision?

2) This hire will interfere with a healthy working relationship between the surviving County Commissioner and the new Board Members that could last up to two years. The dissension among three board members could have negative consequences for the county, its employees and its citizens.

3) This hire could cost the taxpayers over \$100,000 if the new Manager is at odds with the two new Board Members. A typical severance package would include at least six months' salary. This could be made longer if the current board wishes to extend their influence on the new Board by increasing the penalty for replacement.

4) This hire is unfair to the new County Manager. It places them in the awkward position of having to balance the needs of the old board (who hires them) against the needs of the new board who they will be working for. All four of these concerns have the potential to cause harm to Montrose County.

1) Board of County Commissioners could harbor dissent and resentment rendering the BOCC ineffective.

2) The county employees and management will suffer from uncertainty as instability at the top due to actions of the old board members.

3) The new County Manager could become the victim of this irresponsible decision. Perhaps leaving a job they like or even moving their family without knowing who they will be working under.

4) The citizens of Montrose County may have monetary damages in the form of a severance package if the new County Manager is not a good fit for the incoming Commissioners.

The County Manager needs to work harmoniously with all three Commissioners, not just one. This is a crisis in the making that can easily be avoided by waiting until the results of the November election when it is clear who is seated on the new BOCC.

Scott Mijares - County Manager Elect, District 1

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MONTROSE COUNTY MANAGER FINALISTS ANNOUNCED From pg 1

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Rash read the rules for public comment and welcomed the first speaker, BOCC District 1 Candidate Scott Mijares, who is running unopposed for the seat after winning the Republican primary election. Mijares asked that he be allowed to speak for four minutes rather than three as he had prepared a statement, however the request was denied.

"We will do three minutes sir," Rash said, "...You are actually using your clock...the clock starts now."

Mijares said, "Despite public outcry you have decided to move forward with the vetting, interviewing, and hiring of a new county manager to manage our county's business. This important position calls for a candidate that is well qualified and works closely with the BOCC to ensure the Board's vision is implemented, and that will move the county in a positive direction to better meet the citizen and community needs. So I ask you, whose vision will this new county manager be implementing? Your vision, or the vision of the new board that the Montrose voters have entrusted with their future?"

"As Montrose County Commissioner Elect, I have been selected by the voters to represent the citizens of our county," Mijares said. "And while I have not yet been officially elected in November, my seat there is inevitable. In an effort to avoid a possible crisis between the BOCC and county management, I feel it is my civic duty to weigh in. I respectfully demand that you suspend all hiring efforts until the election in November when it is clear who will make up the new board...while your input is helpful, you should not have the final word on who serves at the pleasure of the new board of county commissioners..."

Mijares asked that the BOCC convene a

meeting with commissioner candidates, the interim county manager, and themselves, adding that there is plenty of time to work together.

BOCC Chair Roger Rash said, "Your time is up," as Mijares ran out of time allotted to speak.

Mijares attempted to continue; Rash banged his gavel loudly and raised his voice. "Sir! Your time is up!"

Although Juli Mijares, who was present as well, asked to give her three minutes of speaking time to Scott, the request was denied.

Next to speak was BOCC District 3 Candidate Trisha Murray. Murray said that as a candidate she has concerns about the process for hiring a new county manager being pushed forward so quickly.

"Especially with the new board coming on, I want to step back and remind both Keith and Roger of when you guys took office--there was a lot of changing going on with the county, lot of house cleaning...I know it caused a lot of tension with the employees of the county," Murray said. "I feel like pushing this forward again also feels a lot like the event center, when the commissioners prior to you taking office pushed through the event center, and it caused a lot of problems for you guys coming on board...if the shoe were on your feet--how would you feel if the outgoing commissioners were pushing a position that was of the highest importance in the county on the newly-elected officials and not giving them any say as to what was going on..."

After Murray spoke, Mijares asked for additional time to finish his statement; Rash said, "We are moving forward with the meeting."

COUNTY MANAGER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Commissioners voted to approve the Contract Agreement with M-B Companies, Inc., to provide Snow Removal Equipment in the amount not greater than \$1,824,466.

The BOCC voted to authorize the County Attorney to move forward with enforcement action in county court of a zoning violation at 714 Fruit Park Road.

Human Resources Director Leslie Quon announced the County Manager finalists, per the recruitment timeline adopted via consent agenda at the Board Meeting held on July 24, 2024. Finalists include Frank Rodriguez, Mark Tyner, and Matt Smith. A public meet and greet is set for Tuesday, Sept, 10 at 6 pm at the Montrose County Public Works Building at 63160 LaSalle Road.

The final General Business item, a Request for Proposal for a Part Time Coordinator for the Southwest Colorado Opioid Regional Council, was unanimously approved.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT GENERAL BUSINESS

Commissioners voted to approve the Overholt Minor Subdivision [MI24-008] proposal to divide a 38.15-acre parcel into two lots at Parcel 349529300009.

Also approved was the Mountain View South 2 Preliminary Plan [MA24-003] proposal to divide 9.5 acres into eight lots at Parcel 403901203001.

Finally, the River Stone Subdivision Final Plat [MA24-004] proposal to divide 13 lots from 14.46 acres at Parcel 399305217022 was approved. With no executive session and no further business, Commissioners voted to adjourn.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DR. ALEXIS GARZA, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT, GRANTED MEMBERSHIP TO COLORADO STROKE ADVISORY BOARD

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Dr. Alexis Garza, CEO of First Contact Medical Specialists and Medical Director of the Montrose Regional Health Emergency Department, has been granted membership to the Colorado Stroke Advisory Board. The board consists of 18 governor-appointed members with the mission of creating statewide initiatives to improve the quality of care for stroke patients in Colorado.

“I appreciate this honor and this opportunity to serve our state and our population,” said Dr. Garza. “I will serve as an

Emergency Medicine Physician Representative to the Stroke Advisory Board. I look forward to the positive change we can continue to make for the health of Colorado communities.”

In addition to the Colorado Stroke Advisory Board’s mission of creating statewide initiatives for improved stroke care, they dedicate much of their time and resources to stroke awareness and prevention. In Colorado, stroke is currently the 6th leading cause of death. The Board stresses that this doesn’t need to be the case – 90% of strokes can be prevented with a

healthy lifestyle, and fatal incidents can be avoided if the public are aware of stroke symptoms and know how and when to act. The Board also supports the World Stroke Organization, which provides resources for people to learn about strokes, how to prevent them, and how to support those who are in recovery after suffering a stroke.

The Colorado Stroke Advisory Board meets monthly to discuss updates. The public is invited to attend these meetings via Zoom, which generally take place on the third Tuesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will take place on September 23, 2024. To learn more and view information from past meetings, visit the Colorado Stroke Advisory Board website at costroke.org.

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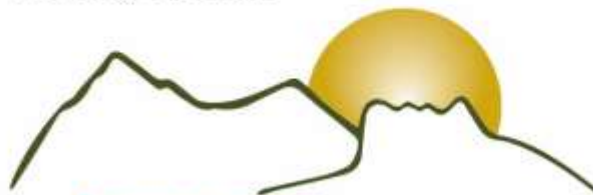
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'I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE AS A COUNCIL SUPPORT THIS ISSUE' From pg 1

with local consultants like Del Monte Consultants and Motley Architecture and Design as well as Stantec Architecture from Denver... The design team has been working closely with City staff to verify the space and needs program, investigate efficiencies and determine the most effective use of the site to create the site plan...The first major milestone in the design process is the site plan..."

Ogden Road Loutsenhizer Bridge Replacement Project Contract Award

Council considered the [Ogden Road Loutsenhizer Bridge Replacement Project Contract Award](#). Council will be asked to approve the expenditure of \$988,964.84 for construction of the Ogden Road Loutsenhizer Canal Culvert Replacement Project, including award of a construction contract to K&D Construction in the amount of \$944,464.84 and a survey and engineering support contract to Del-Mont Consultants in the amount of \$44,500.

Background-A memo from City Engineer Scott Murphy to Council states, "The Loutsenhizer Canal crosses Ogden Road within the City of Montrose through twin five-foot diameter corrugated metal culverts... The roadway is currently approximately 25 feet wide with no shoulder and no headwall or flared ends on the culverts...An existing 12-inch diameter waterline pipeline also spans the canal immediately north of the roadway. The culverts are currently experiencing corrosion and structural deformations that have led to soil loss and erosional failures of the roadway embankment...this erosion is expected to continue to the point that failure and closure of the roadway is possible in the near future... this project was rescheduled to occur this upcoming winter as we do not expect the roadway embankment to last through another full irrigation season without experiencing failure."

"The culvert replacement project is planned to include a single-span precast concrete box culvert, cast-in-place concrete wingwall structures, relocation of the waterline span below ground, extension of a sewer line across the canal to support continued multi-family development towards the east, a reconstructed irrigation diversion, protective railings,

and widening of the bridge to include larger shoulders and pedestrian sidewalks on both sides...the sidewalk will connect to the recently-completed sidewalk extension on the southern side of Ogden Road along the Residences at Dry Cedar Creek...construction of the culvert replacement project was put out for bid on Aug. 1 and bids were publicly received on Aug. 27, 2024 from seven contractors... the highest-rated, best-value contractor was determined to be the low bidder, K&D Construction... this process accounts for the City's local preference policy within the price scoring category... we are also recommending award of an engineering support and survey stakeout contract to the project designer, Del-Mont Consultants. This scope of work is budgeted at \$44,500 on an as-needed, time-and-materials basis."

Leonard Farm Addition

Council considered the [Pallante Addition annexation application](#) and zoning. Planner II William Reis presented the Annexation Schedule and pertinent facts.

Background-A memo from Reis to Council states, "The Leonard Farm Addition is a proposed annexation approximately 71.22 acres in size. The parcel is located south of Ogden Road, near its intersection with Sleeping Bear Road. It is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary, City of Montrose Sewer Service Area, and City of Montrose Water Service Area. Annexation of this property will allow for connection to City utilities. An Annexation Agreement is required."

Possible Amendments to Ordinance 2670 Regarding Unauthorized Camping, Sleeping in Public and Park Hours

Council spent time discussing [proposed Ordinance 2670](#). The ordinance as proposed drew criticism from members of the public at the previous Council meeting. After reviewing Ordinance 2670, Mayor Reed said that there would need to be some further thought, consideration, and discussion. "My recommendation would be that we either move forward with the ordinance as it is presented, or we take some time to discuss mandatory versus discretionary authority in this ordinance."

Public Safety Attorney Matthew Magliaro said that he can bring forward different versions of the same ordinance to a work session. "I would suggest that maybe this is the better course. I can draft something that has a different sentencing provision in it, and we can compare that to what's in the packet now...for the next work session."

Mayor Reed said, "That's a great idea. Do we have a consensus to move forward in that direction?"

Councilor Judy Ann Files said she would like to move forward with the ordinance as it is. Councilor Doug Glaspell agreed with Files, Councilor Ed Ulibarri said that he disagreed.

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank said, "...I'd love to see a little bit more flexibility, just on second offense."

Mayor Reed asked Magliaro to bring an alternative version of the ordinance to the next work session for further discussion, "...and if council feels the way they do now, it's probably likely that we'll move forward with what's before us..."

Frank said that Magliaro's preparation and knowledge was amazing. "I was actually kind of shocked when he had to actually look something up...You're so prepared and you're so well organized on this. And I just want to thank you for your level of expertise and professionalism. I think it's very outstanding. Thank you."

Discussion of City's Role in Accommodating the Unhoused Population

Mayor Reed thanked Magliaro and all of staff for their efforts, and introduced the next topic of conversation, a discussion of the City's role in Accommodating the Unhoused Population.

Mayor Reed prefaced the discussion, "At least speaking for myself, the discussion of Ordinance 2670 has really helped prompt...a discussion of the City's role and responsibility in dealing with the homeless or unhoused situation that we have amongst some of our citizens in the community...I am hopeful this will be a fruitful and productive discussion...what services can the City provide now and going forward in the future to mitigate the homeless situation in our community...yes, there's a lot of good being done by other

'I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE AS A COUNCIL SUPPORT THIS ISSUE' From previous pg

done by other organizations...I'm not sure they have the resources...my inclination is, if not the city then who...perhaps we are the lead agency in addressing this issue going forward..."

Mayor Pro Tem Dave Frank said that Community Development Director Jace Hochwalt has already set up a Homeless Coalition that is meeting with non-profit secular and religious partners.

City Manager Bill said that the City of Montrose's approach in the past has been "arms-length" in providing resources, donating money on an annual basis, and providing a building for winter shelter. In March of 2017 the City put together a homeless forum at the Pavilion, Bell said. Hochwalt said his coalition is in the early stages and is exploratory in nature. "...I see our role as more the facilitator role, more so than say a service provider role,

bringing those providers together, making sure everybody's on the same page."

After further discussion Reed said that the City would move forward in an exploratory phase. Councilor Files suggested bringing Montrose County into the discussion. Ulibarri agreed, noting that if the City approves the ordinance, many of the unhoused people will move to the county. "Somewhere along the line we have to get together with the county and the social services...the sooner, the better..."

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank said that City Manager Bill Bell has a vast knowledge and training, "Relying on your input also is very critical and very important..."

Councilor Files said that Council is now willing and wanting to be involved to support staff efforts with the unhoused. "...I don't know in the past that we've had council support for anything having to do

with this," Files said, "And I would like to say that we as a council support this issue."

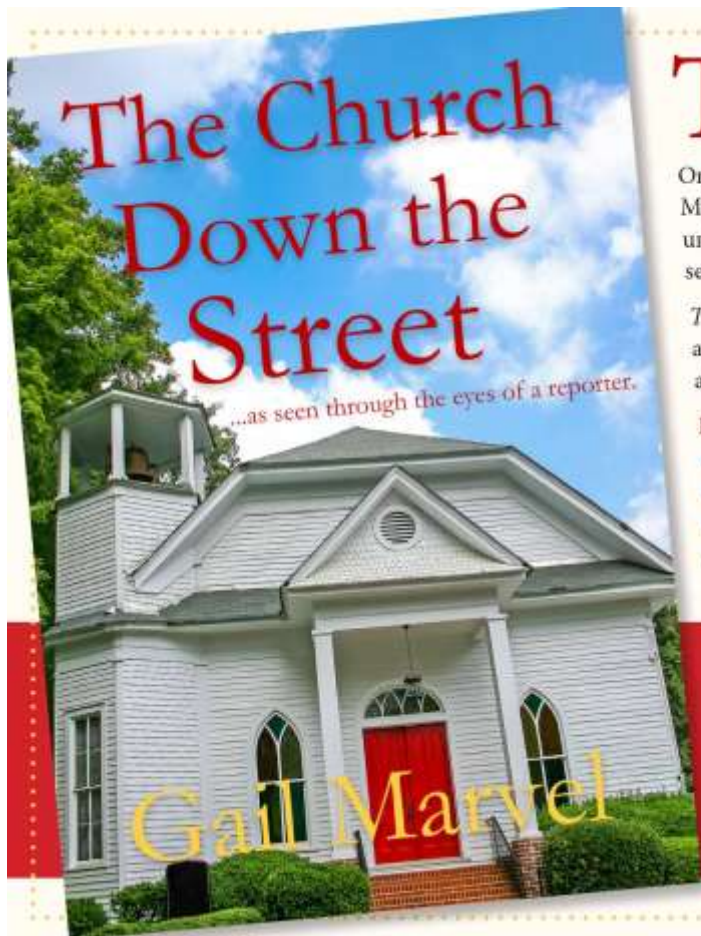
GENERAL CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilor Glaspell said that he and Frank attended the recent Colorado Municipal League meeting in Durango.

Police Chief Blaine Hall said that seven new police officers will be sworn in on Sept. 17, and that on Sept. 11 at 5pm at the Montrose Pavilion there will be a graduation of 11 cadets from the Western Colorado Law Enforcement Academy headed by Officer and Director Courtney Jones. "Courtney always does such a good job," Hall said.

City Manager Bell thanked Council for their support in working on issues involving the unhoused.

With no further discussion the work session was adjourned.



The Church Down the Street, published pre-COVID, peers into the worship services of more than 70 churches, some of which have a weekly attendance of less than 10.

Organized in a topical format (Hospitality, Program & Source Material, Music, Meditations & Invitations, and The Message), the author uses an unbiased approach to allow readers to experience the worship service as seen through the eyes of a reporter.

The Church Down the Street contains anecdotes and stories from the actual worship services and asks thought-provoking questions that allow readers to draw their own conclusions.

Readers will:

- See strengths and weaknesses in the worship service
- Re-evaluate hospitality toward visitors
- Become more aware of source material used in the worship service
- Compare and contrast music presentations and selections
- Discern the value and content of the sermon.

Gail Marvel's book, *The Church Down the Street*, is available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [wingedpublications.com](https://www.wingedpublications.com).

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TONYA MADDOX HONORED FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE; CITY APPROVES LODGING TAX BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS



Tonya Maddox of Our Town Matters was honored by Mayor J. David Reed.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present as were a number of citizens, for the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, Sept. 3. Mayor J. David Reed called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank had no changes to the meeting agenda.

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Reed issued a proclamation in support of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

Jamie Hurst of the Tri County Health Network and of SPARC, the Suicide Prevention Awareness and Recovery Coalition, was present to thank council and accept the proclamation. "...We have everything we need to live meaningful lives here and support each other," Hurst said. "...Hope lives here as well."

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Mayor Reed presented the "You Make a Difference Award" to Tonya Maddox of Our Town Matters for her leadership in business and her community engagement efforts.

Maddox said that she was humbled and honored by the recognition, "...I do want to take advantage of this opportunity to say that we all have an opportunity to make a difference, care about your community—and that means doing something, helping someone, recognizing someone, just saying hi--and truly, truly want to see

a change for good in the community we are so blessed to live in...I'm very honored."

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Mathis spoke about his attempts to build a house in Montrose. "We migrated here after retiring to realize our dream and build a house here. My wife worked in the public service industry, and I was a carpenter. We were both in Unions..."

Mathis said that after hiring a contractor here, it became apparent that the footings were incorrect after basement walls were poured. "...We had ten-inch footings and 13-inch projections which was not code compliant...the building officials say they don't inspect footings and foundations and only get involved when a framing inspection is requested.

"I was in shock," Mathis said, "As I had been in the building trades my entire career and never experienced this before...the county refused to investigate." Mathis said that he sold the non-compliant foundation and was able to get his money back, only to notice later that the same foundation had been purchased by someone else and a house built on it. "How does this happen?"

"...All the contractors that I've dealt with are coming out of Montrose," he said.

Erin Easton spoke, asking City Council to create an off-leash zone for dogs on single track dirt trails in city parks. Dog parks are small and overcrowded, she said. After polling others, Easton has obtained 100 signatures in support of her request. "You would find that there are more people wishing to walk their dogs off leash than those calling in to oppose...I believe that establishing an official off-leash area in which there is enough room for owners to walk and run with their dogs would diminish the amount of overall complaints...those afraid of this could avoid this area of the park, or we could establish a dog tagging system like Boulder does..."

Ron Smith spoke. Smith shared an anecdote about a child putting together a map of the world correctly by looking at a man pictured on the back of the map. Smith reminded Council that he had asked offi-

cial to put together a plan for dealing with the type of societal issues that are presently making headlines on the Front Range. "Honestly, we have a Target Store just like they have a Target store over there...We want to make sure that we have the leadership and the right people here, because if we've got the right people we're going to get our world in Montrose right."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024, regular City Council meeting.

LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVALS

Council approved three new liquor licenses, including:

- a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 1135 E. Main Street for Tacos and Beer LLC, doing business as Tacos and Beer on Main, for consumption on the licensed premises;
- a new Hotel and Restaurant liquor license at 512 E. Main Street for San Juan Tap and Coffee LLC, doing business as San Juan Brews, for consumption on the licensed premises;
- a new Tavern liquor license at 35 N. Cascade Avenue for Corner Taps LLC, doing business as Corner Taps, for consumption on the licensed premises.

RESOLUTION 2024-14

Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-14, submitting to a vote of qualified electors of the City at the coordinated election held on November 5, 2024, a ballot issue concerning the increase of the hotel room tax from .9% to 6%. City Attorney Chris Dowsey provided background information on the history of the initiative, and listed the allocations chosen for the revenue increase.

- 25 percent for right-of-way maintenance;
- 17 percent for childcare services;
- 33 percent for incentives for affordable housing;
- 20 percent for tourism promotion including community events;
- 5 percent for public transit services.

Ron Smith asked about a refund to citizens in the event of excess revenue collection.

Due to TABOR restrictions, any funds

TONYA MADDOX HONORED BY CITY FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE From previous pg

raised over and above \$1.5M during the first year of the increase must be refunded to citizens, City Manager Bill Bell said.

On behalf of the Uncompahgre Valley Alliance and All Points Transit, Kendra Stucki thanked Council for recognizing public transportation as an undeniable need and asset for the growing community.

"We look forward to being a positive force in ensuring our community is educated on this ballot...we've only just begun," Stucki said.

"Thank you for bringing it to our attention," Councilor Judy Ann Files said.

ORDINANCE 2671 - FIRST READING

Council approved the ordinance itself, amending Title 5 Chapter 2 Sections 1 and

5 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, Colorado, increasing the hotel room tax from .9% to 6% and limiting the use of the funds generated to assist in the impact of tourism on the City of Montrose.

ORDINANCE 2673 - FIRST READING

As previously discussed in work session, Council voted to approve Ordinance 2673 on First Reading, repealing Title 6 Chapter 2 Section 3 (6-2-3) only, regarding the limit on dogs and cats.

ORDINANCE 2672 - FIRST READING

Also approved was Ordinance 2672 on First Reading, amending Title 11 Chapter 7 Section 8, regarding the requirements of planned developments.

NORTH RIDGE TOWNHOMES SUBDIVISION PRELIMINARY PLAN

Council voted to approve the North Ridge Townhomes Subdivision Preliminary Plat expressly conditioned upon City staff ensuring that all policies, regulations, ordinance and Municipal Code provisions are met and that the Applicant adequately addresses all of staff's concerns prior to execution of the Final Plat.

STAFF REPORTS/COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no staff reports presented. Mayor Pro Tem David Frank said that he and Councilor Glaspell attended a Colorado Municipal League training session in Grand Junction. "We are always grateful to have these training opportunities available to us."

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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UNDEFEATED RED HAWKS DEFEAT PALISADE 35-14



Junior Elijah Womack scores one of his four touchdowns. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks football team played host to the Palisade Bulldogs on Friday evening at the Montrose stadium and walked away with a 35-14 victory, improving their record to 3 wins and 0 losses.

The Bulldogs took the opening kick-off but were unable to deal with a swarming Red Hawk defense and had to punt. The Red Hawks set the tone of the game on the opening running play as Junior Elijah Womack took a handoff and sprinted 30 yards for the first of many first downs. Womack then finished the six-play drive with a two-yard touchdown run. Red Hawks 7, Palisade 0.

Palisade had no success on their second possession and punted again after three running plays netted only seven yards. The Red Hawks took over at their 33-yard line and the nine-play drive saw Womack score his second touchdown, this time

from three yards out. Red Hawks 14, Palisade 0. The Red Hawks defense continued to confound the Bulldogs offense and forced another 3 and another punt. This resulted in an 11 play, 57-yard Red Hawk drive that featured Aiden Grijalva scoring on a 17-yard scamper. Red Hawks 21, Palisade 0.

The 9 minutes left in the second quarter saw both teams frustrated by stout defenses. The Red Hawks for a Palisade fumble and a recovery by the Red Hawks. A series of mishaps pushed the Red Hawks back from deep in Bulldog territory out to the 35-yard line with time running out in the quarter. Senior Zach Motley then attempted a 45-yard field goal which had the distance but drifted just wide of the right goal post. The score at the half: Red Hawks 21, Palisade 0.

The third quarter was more of the same as the Red Hawks took the second half kick-off and drove 95 yards with Elijah

Womack scoring this third touchdown from six yards out to make the score 28-0. The Bulldogs coughed up the football on their second play from scrimmage and the Red Hawks recovered. This time the home team drove 60 yards in nine plays and Elijah Womack scored his fourth touchdown, this time from one yard out. Red Hawks 35, Palisade 0.

The Red Hawks began substituting freely on both the offensive and the defensive side of the ball. The Bulldogs managed a couple of drives for touchdowns in the fourth quarter. The Bulldogs second touchdown came after a last ditch pass was caught at the one-yard line, and a final touchdown with less than 20 seconds to play.

The Red Hawks have a bye on their schedule next week, so football will resume on Friday, Sept. 20 when the Warriors of Grand Junction Central come calling. The Kick-off is slated for 7 p.m.





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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHAT KIND OF LEADER DO YOU WANT?

Editor:

What kind of leader do you want?

A man who: Consistently cheats on his wives, cheats business partners, cheats on taxes, cheats at golf, cheats his followers out of their hard earned cash, and cheats on elections? A man who claims he will “solve everthing” in his first week in office, but solved almost nothing during his last four years? A billionaire who claims to love and care about the working class, but insults them in private? A man who ALWAYS throws people under the bus when they’ve outlived their usefulness to himself? A man who speaks in “word salad”, and has no idea about how to craft meaningful policies to solve our nation’s problems? A man who doesn’t understand how a tariff works on foreign goods? A bully who insults women regularly, calling them names, in public, such as “horseface, fat pigs, or dogs”? A man who represents the worst possible example of leadership, and adulthood, for our children to emulate? A man who has stated that he will use the power of the U.S. Government to go after his rivals, and has threatened to put on trial those, including decorated generals, who have pointed out his flaws? A man who lied about “bone spurs” as a means to skip military service during the Vietnam War? A man who, on numerous occasions, insulted wounded and killed veterans, calling them “suckers and losers”, and insulted former prisoner of war John McCain? A man who tears down our country, and insults others with juvenile name

calling, in every speech he makes? A man who lies with more self confidence than any man in history ... so many lies that they could fill several books (and have). The *only* time he tells the truth is when he believes that it will make him look good. When have you ever heard Donald Trump admit that he was wrong? Answer: Never! A good leader admits when they were wrong, and tells the hard truths for the good of the country, and not only when they benefit himself.

Some “evangelicals” have made the decision that a “deal with the Devil” (Trump) is worthwhile in order to obtain their goals. Their support for the most immoral man in the political history of the United States has nothing to do with actual Christianity; Trump is the antithesis of everything that Jesus stood for. A deal with the Devil is a strategy that never works out well in the end. Furthermore, they justify this support by projecting all of the proven negative faults, crimes, and degrading behavior of Trump onto both Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, who have served our country for their entire careers; twisting their experience into some dystopian novel of evil that has no basis in reality (for one example of this, recall the recently collapsed Republican attempt to impeach Biden based on a discredited Russian asset, Alexander Smirnov).

By contrast, in the upcoming election, we can choose a leader that has the guts to talk about the REAL problems we face, in complete sentences, and who has held multiple elected positions before running for president. Kamala Harris was elected

District Attorney (twice), California Attorney General (twice), U.S. Senator, and Vice President. During that time, she defended working class folks against the greed of corporations, and prosecuted criminals and those who took advantage of the poor. Contrast this to Trump, whose only office was as a man who attained the presidency based on lies, who actually lost the popular vote both times he ran, and never in his life raised a finger to help anyone but himself.

Kamala Harris is facing a bullhorn of lies, conspiracy theories, and hate unlike any we have seen since the Civil War era; another time when irresponsible journalism was as rampant as it is today, with Fox, Sinclair Media, OAN, Infowars, etc. In addition, Russia and China are adding chum to the shark infested waters of American politics in order to degrade our electoral process, and weaken us as a nation. Sadly, too many cowardly Republicans are feeding off of this chum, and spreading it in their public statements, in order to impress Donald Trump’s followers. Meanwhile, an ever increasing number of courageous Republicans, like Cheney, Kinziger, and most of Trump’s own former staff, are standing up to his bullying, and calling out his traitorous behavior.

The choice is clear in the upcoming election: honest, hard working, intelligent, compassionate leadership; or a morally and intellectually bankrupt golf, business, marriage, and tax cheat, whose messages of hate, and apocalyptic visions, have divided our country more than any other politician in history.

David Congour, Montrose



**Journalism of a
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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE YES ON THE CATS AREN'T TROPHIES BALLOT MEASURE

Editor:

As a lifelong hunter, naturalist, and former game and fish agency bureaucrat, I need to correct circulating mythology about killing cougars and bobcats. Unlike traditional game, predators can't compensate for mortality with fecundity. They self-regulate. They don't require management, which in most of the West means killing. Bobcat trapping is regulated not by science but by fur prices. There's no evidence that killing cougars and bobcats creates more game or decreases depredations of pets and livestock. And there's copious evidence that trophy hunting, in which large cats are selected, skews age structure so that more young, inexperienced animals disperse to human settlements, causing *increased* depredations. Veteran cougar researcher Dr. Mark Elbroch of the group Panthera offers this: "Cougars don't need to be killed. No problem is solved by killing them. And there are hardly any bobcat regulations in any state. No bag limits, no data on how many are out there." From Dr. Rick Hopkins who has studied cougars since 1979: "For years agencies have made such claims [that killing predators creates more game], but when pushed to provide evidence they can't." Cougars cornered by hounds are executed at point-blank range, often after the sedentary hunter has been radioed in by the outfitter. And many outfitters guarantee kills. Trophy hunting and trapping of predators is not management, nor is it fair chase. I urge all Coloradans who cherish native wildlife, including fair-chase hunters, to vote YES on the Cats Aren't Trophies ballot measure which will protect wild felines.

Ted Williams, Grafton, MA

WE EITHER PAY NOW FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION OR MORE LATER FOR THE SAME THING

Editor:

During my tenure on the Montrose RE-1J School Board, I became well aware of the ongoing facility needs throughout our district. Montrose High School is the one student campus that has continued to receive most of the upgrades and repairs. This reality is not going to go away. We either pay now for new construction or more later for the same thing. Failing to approve this ballot question will affect the quality of the education our kids deserve, and the district will also have to continue to pour money into the MHS facility to keep the building safe and operational for our kids. All repairs and additions at MHS before a ballot question is approved will all be destroyed when a new high school is finally built, which seems a wasteful way to spend millions of dollars. Why not put those same dollars into a new facility?

Stan Grigg, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WOMEN'S GIVING CLUB HAS GIVEN A TOTAL OF \$350K TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, NEXT MEETING WILL BE NOV. 7

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The third quarterly meeting of the Women's Giving Club culminated in \$12,500 being given to The Rotary Club's Shoes For Kids Program. They provide a pair of shoes and a package of socks from Famous Footwear to kids just before school starts. Last year 224 children received shoes.

The Women's Giving Club met Thursday, Aug. 1 at The Bridges. Three nominees were drawn and each made five minute presentations to the group. The present-

ers were Angel Tree at Cobble Creek, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and Shoes for Kids. Delphine Jadot spoke about the shoe project.

In May, Partners also received \$12,500. Lisette Riviere reported to the group that Partners is using the money to support their mentoring programs and activities for those youth that remain on the waiting list for partner matches.

The Women's Giving Club meets quarterly. All women in Montrose are very welcome. You do not need an invitation.

Everyone gives \$100 (plus \$10 for room/hostess fee) then votes for the local non-profit who will receive the money. It's a great place to meet other women who gather to enjoy themselves and make a big difference in our community. One drink and appetizers are included. The total given to local organizations by this group is now about \$350,000.

The next meeting is Thursday, Nov. 7 at 5:30 p.m. Contact Phoebe Benziger for more information at 970-209-9598 or phebenator@hotmail.com.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WALZ AND HARRIS DON'T THINK MUCH OF VOTERS

Editor:

Last week I compared the media, including the Montrose Daily Press and the GJ Sentinel, to Pravda, the propaganda arm of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union. Each day our illustrious media confirms that I was not being too harsh in my comparison. Komrad Kamala and her media flunkies just invented their latest hoax about Donald Trump, this time to convince you that he hates our military. On the third anniversary of the 13 service members who were killed during the Biden/Harris disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal, Trump attended a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery at the request of the families. Rather than probe why both Biden and Harris did not visit Arlington to honor the troops who died on their watch, the media felt it was their job to run interference for their Democrat comrades' negligence by making Trump's visit somehow problematic.

The family members' response to the nonexistent controversy says it all. They issued a letter and also released videos harshly condemning Kamala and the media, and explaining their disgust at Harris' attacks. "VP Harris bears responsibility for the deaths of our sons and daughters. ... Despite our multiple requests for a meeting to discuss the loss of our loved ones, Harris has repeatedly ignored us, showing a complete lack of empathy and accountability." "We invited both President Trump & the Biden-Harris administration, & we didn't hear back from the WH. We were happy to welcome Trump. Kamala Harris is an awful human." "The former president and his team conducted themselves with nothing but the utmost respect and dignity for all of our service members." "President Trump has stood by us from day one. He has been compassionate. He has been loving. He has been understanding. ... to be quite honest with you, being very frank, we haven't heard diddly squat from the current administration in three years."

Just when you think Harris and the media cannot be more despicable, they prove you wrong. They are more outraged about

Trump honoring the 13 heroes' memories than they are Biden/Harris' roles in their deaths or their continued neglect of their families. Pay no attention to the fact that during the ceremony returning the bodies to the U.S. three years ago, Biden insulted the gold star families by repeatedly checking his watch and making it all about his own son – and lying about the circumstances of his son's death.

It is crystal clear to any casual observer that Harris' campaign is only being kept afloat by a totally dishonest and cynical media effort. According to the propaganda machine, Komrad Kamala is totally separated from the toxic dumpster fire of the Biden administration. Patently ridiculous headlines like Politico's doozy "Vance tries to tether Harris to Biden during Michigan rally" are the norm. Of course, any reasonable person knows Harris has been "front and center" on the issues that matter most to voters. For example, on the economy, she cast the tie-breaking vote in the Senate to pass both the Inflation Reduction Act and the American Rescue Plan, both of which helped create the runaway inflation that has made Americans poorer. She has had her hands all over the past three plus years of American decline, and outright lies from the press will not make voters forget. Just because she is completely incompetent on issues doesn't mean she wasn't a key player.

Since Kamala was anointed as the Democrat candidate, Trump has completed over 30 interviews, town halls, press conferences, etc. J.D. Vance has completed over 90. Meanwhile, Kamala has done exactly one media "interview" – a scripted, taped, and rehearsed interview with CNN that apparently gave Harris veto power over what went into the "interview" and what didn't. CNN only released 18 minutes of a 41-minute interview, and refused to release the full, unedited video or transcript. That 18 minutes included Walz explaining that his lies about his military service were due to his "grammar not always being correct" --- this coming from a governor who taught English to students in China. Tell that to his abandoned national guard

troops and gold star mothers who have repeatedly labeled Walz a coward.

The "interview" also included Kamala promising to start enforcing immigration laws after ignoring them for four years, and dodging the question about decriminalizing illegal immigration. She did say that her "values have not changed", which is, finally, the truth. Her "values" dictate that she blatantly lie about everything – her policies, her record, and who she is. The only thing she has been truthful about is her economic policies, which support a radical left agenda --- including the largest tax increases in history, price controls, and taxes on unrealized capital gains. A liberal Washington Post columnist admitted that if Harris wants to avoid being called a Communist, she might want to avoid far-left economic policies.

Walz and Harris don't think much of voters, particularly religious voters. Governor Walz signed new teacher licensing rules that will go into effect in July 2025 that target practicing Christians, Jews, and Muslims and effectively ban them from teaching in public (and many private) schools. Minnesota will require teachers to affirm transgenderism, race Marxism, and other culturally sensitive issues that violate their religious beliefs. If they refuse to accept the new regulations, no teaching license. A blatant violation of the First Amendment, but many lives and careers will be destroyed before any case makes its way to the Supreme Court. So much JOY. The Democrat fraud machine is having as difficult a time portraying Walz as that "gawsh, I'm just a folksy moderate guy who don't talk so good," as they are re-imagining Komrad Kamala as something other than the dumb-as-a-rock Marxist extremist that she is. On a lighter side, the geniuses running Kamala's campaign have come up with the slogan "ka MALA," translating the MALA to "Make America Love Again". Unfortunately, Que Mala in Spanish means "How bad, how wrong, or how evil." Mala is also English slang for "a mean, bad, or selfish person." Oops.

Ed Henrie, Montrose

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COUNTY ANNOUNCES COUNTY MANAGER FINALISTS: RODRIGUEZ, TYNER, SMITH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—Following a comprehensive nationwide search, the Montrose County Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the three finalists for the County Manager position: Frank Rodriguez, Mark Tyner, and Matt Smith.

A public meet and greet will be held on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 pm at the Montrose County Public Works Building at 63160 LaSalle Road. This event provides an opportunity for the community to meet the finalists and learn about their vision for Montrose County. The BOCC encourages residents to submit questions for the candidates in advance by emailing pr@montrosecounty.net.

“We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition in county leadership,” added Commissioner Sue Hansen. “This public meet and greet is an opportunity for the community to be involved in the selection process and provide valuable feedback to the board.”

Commissioners Rash and Caddy will be departing office in January as term-limited commissioners. Because the newly seated county manager will also be working with the incoming board, a separate meet and greet with finalists and commissioner candidates is also scheduled.

“We are excited to introduce these highly qualified finalists to the Montrose County community,” said Roger Rash, Board Chair. “The nationwide search yielded a strong pool of 11 qualified applicants and 18 overall applicants. These three finalists have impressive experience in local government and a deep understanding of the issues facing rural communities.”

The finalists are:

Frank Rodriguez: Frank Rodriguez is an accomplished leader with a demonstrated track record of managing complex opera-

tions and fostering strong community relations. He is currently the Chief of Police for the Town of Olathe, Colorado, where he leads a department of sworn officers and administrative staff. Since 2022, Frank has implemented several key initiatives, including reducing drug trafficking, improving community engagement through programs like “Coffee with a COP,” and launching a new field training officer program.

Previously, Frank served as Deputy Commissioner for the North Carolina Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Division and as Chief Deputy for the Moore County Sheriff’s Office, managing state-wide fraud investigations and coordinating efforts with various law enforcement agencies. He has experience in managing teams, overseeing budgets, and leading strategic initiatives.

Frank holds a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Science in Pre-Med/Biology from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He has been recognized for his exemplary service with multiple awards, including five Bronze Star Medals, two with Valor.

Mark Tyner: Mark Tyner is a seasoned local government professional with over 25 years of experience in city and county administration. He has served as a County Administrator for multiple counties in Alabama, including Calhoun, Bibb, Hale, and Pike Counties. In these roles, Mark managed significant operational responsibilities, including budget preparation, financial oversight, and strategic planning. He has experience overseeing large teams, with responsibilities ranging from supervising administrative duties to leading capital improvement projects.

Mark holds a Master of Public Administra-

tion with a concentration in Organization Management from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication with a minor in Political Science. He is an ICMA Credentialed Manager and has served as a past president and board member of the Alabama City/County Management Association.

Matt Smith: Matt Smith is a public administration professional with extensive experience in both law enforcement and county operations. He currently serves as the Fairgrounds and Event Center Director for Montrose County, Colorado, where he provides leadership and strategic direction for all aspects of the Fairgrounds and Event Center’s operations.

Prior to his current position, Matt served in Criminal Justice from 2008 to 2024. Mostly recently, he was the Patrol Commander and subsequently Deputy Chief of Police. He collaborated with various community and regional partners to enhance public safety, coordinated emergency response efforts, and managed department-wide strategic initiatives. His experience encompasses leadership, budget oversight, policy development, and fostering strong relationships with local organizations.

Matt holds a Master of Science in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Walden University and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Police Administration from Colorado State University Global.

The BOCC plans to conduct second interviews with the finalists following the public meet and greet.

The Board expects to make a final decision on the County Manager position in the coming weeks.

To view the finalists’ resumes, please visit the [website](#).

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HUNTING SEASONS START IN COLORADO: HOW HUNTERS AND OUTDOOR RECREATIONISTS CAN PREPARE

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - The 2024 hunting seasons have begun, and hunters are gearing up for exciting adventures. However, hunters aren't the only ones rushing to the outdoors this fall to enjoy everything Colorado has to offer.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wants to remind hunters, hikers, bikers, leaf peepers, wildlife viewers, and OHV users that most of Colorado's outdoors is multi-use and intended to be shared. Hunters and nonhunters should show respect and courtesy to all users engaged in outdoor recreation.

Plan your hunt

Read the "What's New" page in the [Big Game Hunting Brochure](#) or watch the ['What's New' 2024 Colorado Big Game video](#) to get a complete list of game management unit-specific changes for 2024. Find locations to hunt using the [Colorado Hunting Atlas](#). This resource allows you to find public land, save topographic maps, view big game migration corridors and concentration areas, and view OHV trails. Additional licenses are still available. [Licenses Leftover from the draw](#) are available for deer, elk, pronghorn, and bear, and you can purchase [over-the-counter licenses](#) for bear, elk, pronghorn, and whitetail deer. Licenses returned by other hunters ([reissue licenses](#)) are available every Wednesday morning. [Check the CPW website](#) every Tuesday for a preview list of reissue licenses before they go on sale at [cpwshop.com](#).

If you have questions about setting up your accounts, planning your hunts, or purchasing licenses, customer service representatives and hunt planners are available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. MT at 303-297-1192. Hunting resources are available at [cpw.state.co.us/hunting](#).

CPW also encourages hunters and outdoor recreationists to download the free Colorado Trail Explorer (COTREX) mobile



Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) courtesy photo.

app to check active fire alerts before heading out on trails.

Coyotes and gray wolves can look similar from a distance. CPW created a [Coyote or Gray Wolf - How to Spot the Differences Handout](#) to help you spot the differences.

The federal Endangered Species Act and state law protect gray wolves in Colorado. Penalties for illegally killing a gray wolf can vary and can include fines up to \$100,000, jail time, and loss of hunting privileges. Find more wolf educational resources at [cpw.state.co.us/living-wolves](#).

How can nonhunters prepare for hunting season?

The majority of public lands in Colorado are open to multiple types of recreational use. There is no need to limit your outdoor activities in the fall; however, nonhunters should recognize that hunters are on the landscape and take additional precautions.

A general knowledge of hunting season dates and safety tips can help keep you safe.

Big game season dates:

Rifle bear season - Sept. 2-30, 2024

Archery season - Sept. 2-30, 2024

Muzzleloader season - Sept. 14-22, 2024

Rifle seasons

1st season - Oct. 12-16, 2024

2nd season - Oct. 26 to Nov. 3, 2024

3rd season - Nov. 9-15, 2024

4th season - Nov. 20-24, 2024

For safety reasons, big game hunters using a firearm must wear fluorescent orange or pink when in the field (camouflage orange or pink is not allowed). While not required, it is recommended that other recreation users wear bright colors as well, especially during the muzzleloader and rifle seasons.

Please note it is illegal to intentionally interfere with hunters, including causing animals to flee, denying access to public areas, or injecting yourself into the line of fire.

Learn more about outdoor recreation opportunities in Colorado at [cpw.state.co.us](#)



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MCSO ACCEPTING CITIZENS' ACADEMY APPLICATIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The application period is now open for the Montrose County Sheriff's Office Citizens' Academy. The acade-

my starts Wednesday, Oct. 9, and will continue for 13 weeks with a graduation ceremony in January.

"The academy is a great way for residents

to learn more about the way the Montrose County Sheriff's Office helps protect and serve our community," said Sergeant Steve Gustin. "This hands-on experience provides participants knowledge of procedures, policies, and information on supporting agencies including both dispatch and the posse."

The classes will be held for 13 weeks, every Wednesday, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Training will take place at the MCSO—1200 North Grand Avenue—in the conference room.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age to attend. The comprehensive instruction will cover a wide variety of law enforcement issues each week including the following: Sheriff's Posse, Traffic Stops, DUI Investigation, Response to Resistance, Investigations, Crime Scene and Evidence Collection, Less Lethal, Records & Civil Process, Reception, Victim Services, Procurement, Peer Support, Drug Investigations, Recruitment and Hiring, Field Training Program, K9, SWAT, WestCo Dispatch, and Detentions.

Applications are available online or in person at the MCSO (1200 North Grand Ave.) during regular business hours. For more information, please contact Sergeant Gustin at 970-252-4023 or sgustin@montrosecounty.net.

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<https://kathrynburke.com/product/092624M>



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at the Montrose Library

Thr., Sept 19th

CLASS FULL

Next Paint Pet class
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Registration coming soon

<https://kathrynburke.com/product/091924L>

Decorate Wine Glasses



LA NOUE DUBOIS

Sat., Sep. 28
1-3:30 pm

Includes Winery-tour

With Kate Burke
Provided: 2 wine glasses specialty (washable) paints, demo & hands-on help, Snack and complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.



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Wed., Sept. 25
5:30-7:30 pm

Open to Public

with Kate Burke

Fall Watercolor




Includes demos, instructions all materials, coffee or soft drink

4 Hillcrest Plaza Way, off East Main, Montrose

<https://kathrynburke.com/product/092524whafv>

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<https://kathrynburke.com/education>

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COLORADO STATE PATROL: TROOPER TIPS

GET READY - THE SEASONS CHANGE FAST!



Sergeant Patrick Rice Colorado State Patrol Public Affairs. Courtesy photo.

Colorado State Patrol

COLORADO-It's hard to believe that August is in the books. Sometimes we get dizzy trying to keep up. We just thawed out from last winter and now we must prepare for the next one. Kids are back in school, vacation is over and it's time to

settle in for another Colorado winter. But we live here because we love the contrast of the seasons. It's part of what makes Colorado so beautiful and a bragging right for Coloradoans everywhere. I hear many lifelong Coloradoans tell me it's the people moving in from out of state that cause problems on our roads. Those Californians and Texans don't know how to drive, right?!

Well, as a Colorado peace officer with more than two decades under my belt, I'd like to insert an age-old truth bomb right here: When you are pointing your finger at someone else, you have three others pointing right back at you. If we want to wear the badge of "Colorado mountain drivers," we need to do our part to hold the positive image we see ourselves in as true. We need to ensure our car's engines are in good working order for hot and cold weather, as well as our air conditioners and heaters. It's just as important to keep our passengers safe in a climate-controlled vehicle as it is to make sure we don't stall or break down. We need to have ample supplies for any weather condition if we are stranded in traffic behind those less prepared. We need to top off

our windshield fluid with antifreeze windshield fluid and make sure our wipers are in good condition. Most important of all, we need to check our tires and make sure they are properly inflated and have plenty of tread. If your car needs to have chains, cables, or socks make sure they are in the trunk and in good working order. Got all your jack parts? Do you know where that locking lug nut tool is? You'll wish you did when you need to use it.

A big part of being a good Colorado driver is preparation. So, take this as your annual reminder to check your car before you head to the high country, no matter the conditions, because once you're stuck, mountain weather can change very quickly and be treacherous.

Trooper Tips is an article written by Sergeant Patrick Rice and sent each month. Thank you for taking the time to read Trooper Tips and offer it to your audience. Our goal is to bring the community and law enforcement closer together, improving the lives of Coloradoans' and visitors, as well as making our jobs a little safer.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLM RELEASES FINAL RULE GUIDING TRAVEL MANAGEMENT ON PUBLIC LANDS IN THE UNCOMPAGHRE FIELD OFFICE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has finalized a supplementary rule implementing decisions approved in travel management plans for the Dry Creek, Ridgway, and Norwood-Burn Canyon travel management areas in the Uncompahgre Field Office. The rule makes enforceable protections for natural resources and wildlife habitat on BLM-managed public lands in Delta, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties.

“Establishing this supplementary rule has been a long time in coming,” said Uncompahgre Field Manager Dan Ben-Horin.

“The rulemaking enables us to continue providing travel and recreation opportunities on these public lands while ensuring the protection of natural resources and key habitat for wildlife—including mule deer, elk, and Gunnison sage-grouse—that make the Uncompahgre Field Office such an outstanding area.”

The supplementary rule implements decisions in the three travel management plans limiting the use of mechanized (non-motorized) vehicles to designated travel routes, with the following exemptions: During authorized hunting seasons, big game hunters may use mechanized game carts off designated routes when necessary to retrieve big game animals outside of designated wilderness and wilderness study areas.

Mechanized vehicles are permitted to pull off designated routes up to one vehicle-width from the edge of a roadway to accommodate parking, dispersed camping, and general recreation.

In the Dry Creek Travel Management Area, mechanized vehicles are permitted to pull off within 300 feet of a designated route in designated camping areas as indicated by BLM signs or maps.

Decisions in the travel management plans pertaining to off-highway vehicles are en-

forced under existing off-highway vehicle regulations and are not part of this rule. The supplementary rule also makes enforceable seasonal restrictions to protect big game winter habitat, which prohibits all modes of travel within the Ridgway Travel Management Area and mechanized travel within the Norwood-Burn Canyon Travel Management Area from December 1 through April 30, and mechanized travel within big game winter habitat in the Dry Creek Travel Management Area from December 1 through April 15. In addition, the rule implements pet leash restrictions within portions of the Ridgway and Norwood-Burn Canyon travel management areas, as well as the closure of the Ridgway Travel Management Area to overnight use. The [Final Supplementary Rule for Travel Management on Public Lands in Montrose, Delta, San Miguel, and Ouray Counties, CO](#) will publish in the Federal Register on Monday, Sept. 9.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA HEALTH EXPANDS WITH NEW DELTA HEALTH ORTHOPEDICS CLINIC IN DELTA

Special to the Mirror

DELTA— Delta Health is excited to announce an expansion of services with a new Delta Health Orthopedics clinic located at 257 Cottonwood Street in Delta.

The clinic is well known in the community, as it was previously Dr. John Knutson's Delta Orthopedic practice; it will offer comprehensive, individualized, general orthopedic care. This includes joint replacement, breaks, ligament reconstruction, all extremity surgeries, and steroid injections. "We are thrilled to be bringing John and his team into the Delta Health Family," said Jonathan Cohee, Delta

Health Chief Executive Officer. "The exceptional work that they do, and the care that they provide to their patients aligns perfectly with Delta Health's vision to provide compassionate, quality healthcare that our community will trust." Dr. Knutson brings over 35 years of orthopedic experience to Delta Health, as he has been affiliated with Delta Health for many years, making the transition seamless for his current and future patients.

"We are grateful that Dr. Knutson is allowing us to be a part of his legacy of exceptional orthopedic care in Delta County," said Vickie Moore, Vice President of

Ambulatory Services for Delta Health. "We have always been close collaborators and are so excited to be able to bring his clinic into the Delta Health system. Dr. Knutson's practice is an anchor for orthopedic care in the communities he has served; we are thrilled to continue that for our communities." Delta Health Orthopedics is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Fridays. They close for lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. To learn more about Delta Health Orthopedics, please visit deltahealthco.org/orthopedics/ or call 970.399.4200.

TRIPLE YOUR IMPACT IN SEPTEMBER TO HELP END HUNGER

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION— [Food Bank of the Rockies](#) is joining Feeding America's national [Hunger Action Month](#)® campaign, asking for the public's help to nourish communities. Thanks to the generosity of the Abram and Ray Kaplan Foundation, all donations — up to \$25,000 — made to Food Bank of the Rockies now through September 30 will be TRIPLED to ensure more neighbors in need can receive help. This annual month-long campaign brings attention to the reality of food insecurity in the United States and promotes ways for individuals to get involved locally. Food Bank of the Rockies Western Slope Distribution Center distributes enough food across the Western Slope for more than 24,000 meals every day in collaboration with more than 115 Hunger Relief Partners. Currently, the Food Bank is seeing an increase in demand for food at their mobile pantries and partner locations, with [new data showing](#) 1 in 9 people in Colorado experiencing hunger, a 22% increase from the year prior. On the Western Slope, the rate is even greater, at 1 in 8.

"Food insecurity is an urgent issue we are working hard to address with our network of Hunger Relief Partners — and we can't do it alone. During this Hunger Action Month®, we're extending the call to action to each of you. Whether it's through a monetary gift or volunteer hours, every contribution helps answer the challenge of hunger," said Food Bank of the Rockies Western Slope Director, Sue Ellen Rodwick. Feel inspired to act? Here are six ways to nourish your community this Hunger Action Month®:

1. Give financially. Whether you choose to give in honor or memory of someone, through a one-time or monthly gift, or as part of your estate plan, 96 cents of every dollar you donate goes directly into [the programming](#) that brings Food Bank of the Rockies one step closer nourishing everyone in need of food assistance. [Consider donating](#) during Hunger Action Month to triple your impact to help neighbors in need.

2. Raise your voice for people experiencing food insecurity. [Reach out to your senators and representatives](#) and ask

them to say "yes" to policies that will put more food on more tables.

3. Create a Virtual Hunger Action Month® food drive. A [virtual food drive](#) is a great way to ensure your financial gift goes further, because the Food Bank is able to take every dollar donated and use it to buy food at wholesale or lower costs.

4. Volunteer your time. If means are limited and you're unable to donate financially, [volunteering](#) can be a great way to support our efforts. The Food Bank needs individuals and groups to help provide food to people experiencing food insecurity.

5. Give back as a group or family. Participate in the Food Bank's [Corporate Challenge](#) with your coworkers and compete for points through funds, food, and volunteerism. In addition, sign up to volunteer as a family at the Food Bank's [Family Volunteer Night](#) on September 13.

6. Help others find food. Do you know someone in need of food assistance? Please [direct them to our website](#) to find a food distribution near their home or by calling 2-1-1.

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

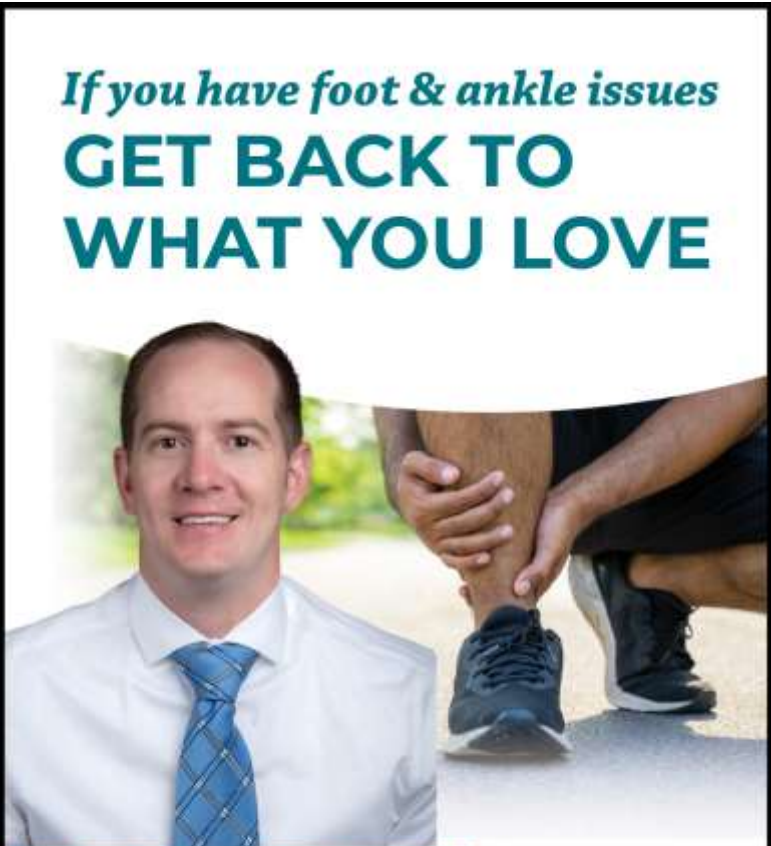
ALL MY SONS PLAYING AT MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-All My Sons is playing at Magic Circle Theatre. This 1947 Tony Award winning, American classic, is based on a true story, and tells the story of two families during WWII, whose lives are intertwined professionally and privately. Joe Keller and Steve Deever, fathers and business men, cause the death of twenty-one American pilots by supplying faulty airplane engine parts to the army. Joe is exonerated, and allows his partner Steve Deever to be the scapegoat. George Deever is convinced of his father's guilt until he visits him in prison, and then exposes the truth that both men are culpable. Chris Keller had believed in his father's innocence, and disowns him as he struggles to comprehend Joe's misguided actions. Directed by Bill Bottomly, Assistant Director John Lange. Tickets at magiccircleplayers.com. Magic Circle Players, 420 S 12th St, Montrose. Box office: 970-249-7838.

Remaining Dates:

- Friday, Sept. 13, 2024 - 07:30 PM MDT
- Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024 - 07:30 PM MDT
- Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024 - 02:00 PM MDT
- Friday, Sept. 20, 2024 - 07:30 PM MDT
- Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024 - 07:30 PM MDT



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HARRIS'S VALUES HAVEN'T CHANGED, ONLY HER COVER-UP LIES

Editor:

For years Harris has repeatedly said that an undocumented immigrant is not a criminal and said she would get rid of the term "illegal alien." She has advocated decriminalizing border crossings, saying, "we will not treat people who are undocumented crossing the border as criminals." and said they should not be deported if they don't commit a crime. But why is she willing to wait for them to kill an American before deportation? As President Trump has said many times, "These people are sick!" Now as president she says she will hire thousands more border agents to crack down on fentanyl and human trafficking. But every time more agents arrived at the border they were put to work doing paper work to process invaders faster. That's what the last border bill was all about that the Democrats were shrieking to pass. There was no money in the Bill to fund border guards to actually block entrances and string more razor wire. It was to sit the guards down at desks and do paper work. Harris told CNN laws should be enforced to deal with illegal border crossers, but yet she hasn't enforced violations of immigration law for the past 3.5 years she has been vice president and "border czar." Her double talking and lies should take first prize at any County fair competition.

Harris is the first Democrat to co-sponsor Bernie Sander's socialist health care plan, which would cost over \$32 TRILLION and raise taxes on the middle-class. The bill would eliminate private health insurance. (sounds like Obama could have his fingers in this again!) She stated eliminating private health insurance would be "the ultimate and great place to be." (Whatever that means!)

As senator, Harris backed the Zero-

Emission Vehicles Act of 2019, She stated that is a "bold plan for transitioning the United States to 100% zero-emission vehicles." Her 2020 presidential plan called for banning internal combustion engine cars by 2035. As vice president she pushed for EPA regulations pushing to make more than two-thirds passenger cars and light trucks sold electric or hybrid by 2032. Their "sickness" seems to be full steam ahead!

While running for president in 2019, Harris declared her support for a national mandatory gun buyback program for up to 10 MILLION "assault" weapons. Problem is these Democrat gun grabbers aren't smart enough to know what the definition of an "assault" weapon is. Any object that can be picked up off the ground by a human hand can be used as an "assault" weapon. And Komrade Walz, the vice presidential candidate doesn't even know what military personnel carry in war even though he struts around like a high school cheer leader making everyone think he is top dog. While ranting about the weapons carried by civilians he said they are the weapons he carried in war. Problem is, for one thing, he cowardly ducked out of a war assignment to Iraq and claimed civilians' weapons are the ones he carried in war that he never was in. But the most glaring aspect about his stupidity is that the military carries fully automatic rifles in war. The ones for civilian use are only semi-automatic. Which means you have to pull the trigger every time you fire a round. Not so with a fully automatic rifle. All that is required is to pull the trigger back and hold it and it will fire until it runs out of ammo. I would hate to fight side by side with that clown. No chance of that though, since he doesn't want to fight for

America, only reap her benefits and usher in Chinese-style Communism.

President Trump started the border wall in 2016 and built over 400 miles. Harris opposed the border wall calling it a "medieval vanity project" She said, "it couldn't be farther from the truth" that terrorists are trying to invade the country and called it the height of irresponsibility and said she wouldn't vote for a wall under any circumstances. So Biden and Harris stopped construction of the wall on day one.

Now that it is a campaign issue Harris suddenly announced she will sign a bipartisan border wall bill! Is it any wonder President Trump says, "these people are sick"? There's more.....now Harris is mocking Trump's announcement to end taxes on tips, Then shortly after guess what? Now Harris is saying the same thing. Then J.D. Vance said he would like to see a child tax credit of \$5,000 per child. Well.....guess what?? Copy cat Harris wants a \$6,000 tax credit! But as senator, Harris voted against Trump's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which doubled the child tax credit. She must be confused from the minute she slides out of bed in the morning!

This has been only a brief outline and examples of the Harris/Walz Komrads switching and dodging and running from their statements of who they really are. My next letter will deal with the extensive, long range ties Walz has with Communist China.

Let's hope President Trump will put their lies and hypocrisy in the trash in the debate Tuesday where they belong. No, Harris's values haven't changed, only her cover-up lies.

Jerry Bartholome, Montrose





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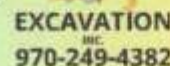
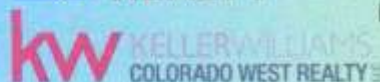
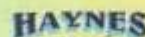
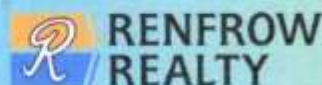
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AGRIWEST LAUNCHES 'BRING A COW TO SCHOOL'

AgriWest Fellow and Rancher Janie VanWinkle Partners with 10 Western Colorado Ranchers to Provide Locally Sourced, High-Quality Beef Served to Students of Mesa County Valley School District 51

Special to the Mirror

MESA COUNTY – What began as an out-of-the-box idea conceived by local rancher Janie VanWinkle in 2019 became a reality on August 22, 2024 when more than 7,000 pounds of high-quality, locally sourced beef was provided and served to the students in School District 51.

VanWinkle has affectionately titled this successful collaboration: Bring a Cow to School and was thrilled to partake in its success as gourmet meatloaf made from the locally sourced beef was served at Grand Junction High School over the lunch hour last week. Locally sourced meatloaf will be in the rotation for School District 51 menus seven times throughout the 2024-25 school year.

“From the onset, this has been a collaboration between the school district and our local ranchers, 10 of whom ended up participating in this year’s program. We all agree that it’s incredibly rewarding to know where your beef is going. But to see the direct benefit it’s providing to local students, now, that’s just amazing.” VanWinkle adds: “And the meatloaf was delicious too.”

VanWinkle is passionate about connecting consumers to high-quality beef and her work as the AgriWest Initiative Fellow allows her to expand her lens and think globally about the sustainability of her industry and that of food producers across western Colorado as the number of small, family-owned and operated farms are declining. According to the Small Business Administration’s [2024 Office of Advocacy Report](#) family farms and small family farms in the United States are decreasing in number: “In 2022, 97.3 percent of farms were family farms, and 88.1 percent were small family farms.... The number of small family farms has declined by 5.5 percent since 2012, while the total number of farms has declined by 5.8 percent.”

“The SBA’s data confirms what we already sensed was true, the number of farms is declining and the majority of

them are family-run,” shared VanWinkle. As VanWinkle considers her work in smaller initiatives like Bring a Cow to School and larger scale efforts such as AgriWest, the word sustainability is top of mind.

“I often talk about success in agriculture using the 3-legged stool metaphor,” explained VanWinkle. “You can’t be successful without considering the economics, the social impact and our environment. In other words, as producers we need to be able to make a profit, feed people and care for the planet or it won’t be a sustainable industry.”

With Western Colorado’s economy heavily reliant on agriculture, AgriWest emerges as a critical and forward-looking tool for the future. Launched in early 2024 as a partnership between the Business Incubator Center, the Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), AgriWest is one of 65 Economic Recovery Corps initiatives across the U.S. Each initiative also has a fellow working to bridge the resource gap between planning and implementation. This initiative aims to boost the capacity of communities in order to help them execute locally driven economic development strategies. Fellows will assist host organizations, such as BIC, to develop and carry out regional economic development plans and projects within the communities they serve.

As the federal fellow for the AgriWest effort locally, Janie VanWinkle recently held its first council meeting. Over 100 producers from the region participated in the meeting voicing their obstacles to sustainability.

“As we move into the next phase of our work with AgriWest, we know that helping our producers remain sustainable, profitable and in operation will be critical. To that end, we believe part of our work will then be focused on business training, business and succession planning, understanding financials and business documents and treating farming as a business,” said

VanWinkle.

Bring a Cow to Work was a simple initiative with big impact. The producers were able realize a profit for the beef they sold to nourish local students; they ensured only the highest quality beef was headed to the schools they served using a rigorous ranking and testing process overseen by an expert veterinarian; and as good stewards of the land, they are ensuring there will be range and pasture for future herds as they think toward a future of food security.

This small-scale initiative aims to mirror the successful impacts of the larger scale, AgriWest, where success looks like a sustainable farming and ranching sector with tools and business acumen to thrive and also inform policy at the national level. AgriWest’s mission is to diversify the agricultural sector, creating employment opportunities and bolstering the local economy.

By seamlessly connecting local farmers and shaping regional economic development strategies, the AgriWest initiative not only preserves but aims to fortify the agricultural sector in western Colorado. Learn more at <https://gjincubator.org/agriwest/>

About the Participating Cattle Ranchers: Only the highest quality of beef was provided to Mesa County Valley School District by Mesa County ranchers whose cattle received a body score from a licensed veterinarian of 5 or greater, which equates to a healthy cow.

The following 10 ranchers participated in the Bring a Cow to School Program: Angelina & Joe Kellighan of Kellighan Farms; BJ & Sarah Russell of Russell Cattle Company; Brian Koetter & Lindsey Weber; Charles & Angie Burenheide of Bar G Ranch; Kim & Debbie Albertson; Chuck Nichols & Vicky Law; Porter Brisco of Regenerative Meats; Brady & Hayley Pearson of Razor Creek Beef; Jeff Snyder; and Howard and Janie VanWinkle of VanWinkle Ranch

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KATHLEEN CURRY FOR HD58



EXPERIENCE MATTERS

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

DO YOUR MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WANT PUBLIC INPUT?

Editor:

Is the BOCC really interested in your public input? Judging from my experience this past week the answer is an emphatic NO. My name is Scott Mijares and I am running unopposed to be your next County Commissioner for District 1. If you think that might mean something to the current BOCC, you're dead wrong. Like many citizens, I took the time to write and rehearse my testimony ahead of the scheduled meeting on September 4th. I tried hard to get my remarks down below the 3 minute mark in accordance with the "Rule" this Board made. The best I could do was 4 minutes. When time came for public comment I raised my hand and moved to the podium. Before beginning I told the Chair, Roger Rash, that my testimony was 4 minutes and respectfully asked for one additional minute to finish my prepared remarks. I was denied that minute by the chair and informed that the clock was ticking.

I then began reciting my pre prepared remarks and was rudely cut off in mid sentence by a loud and angry gavel that the chair used to express his displeasure with me. "Any other citizens wish to speak?" he asked. My wife Juli raised her hand, identified herself, and yielded her time to me so I could finish my testimony. This did not sit well with Commissioner Rash and he denied her of her right to yield her time to me. Before leaving the podium I asked if any of the other County Commissioners objected to this decision by the Chair. SILENCE. I was shocked that Commissioner Hansen did not want to offer her future fellow County Commissioner one extra minute to finish his testimony in a room that had only 2 citizens, 3 political candidates, and a handful of county employees. The entire meeting lasted only 24 minutes.

What did the Commissioners not want to hear? Logical, thoughtful testimony on why the current BOCC should not be making the final decision on who the next County Manager should be on the way out the door. I am strongly opposed to this important hire without the consent of the incoming BOCC. Trisha Murray, County Commissioner Candidate, followed my embarrassing moment with her testimony echoing my opposition and concerns. You can view the whole thing on the counties website.

Link to meeting. Skip to minute 3:25 where I begin my remarks.

https://montrosecounty.granicus.com/player/clip/1829?view_id=2&redirect=true

In my opinion, This is not the way our county should conduct its business. As one of your incoming County Commissioners I will not allow this to continue. Your voices must be heard and that 3 minute rule must be flexible. The disrespect and arrogance I witnessed as an incoming County Commissioner is unacceptable. To Commissioner Hansen - You owe me a sincere apology. If we are to function effectively on behalf of the citizens of Montrose County we must get along and respect each other.

Since I was not able to complete my testimony I have posted it to my website for you to read.

<https://scottm4montrose.com/articles>

I am interested in your thoughts for or against the old BOCC making this hire at the end of their term. Email me scottm4montrose@gmail.com

Thank you

Scott Mijares



249

8500

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see something, say something

GROOVIN' AROUND



THE GLOBE

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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

COLORADO DRIVERS POSE SERIOUS THREATS TO PEDESTRIANS IN DESIGNATED LOW-SPEED ZONES

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO – School zones and construction zones have posted lower speed limits, traffic calming devices, and several high-visibility warning devices for good reasons. Kids' and roadside workers' lives are at risk. Yet, when looking at last year's data from the Colorado State Patrol, troopers alone cited 1,237 people for speeding in construction or school zones, a 12% increase over 2022 (1102 citations).

"Slow Down! Too many Colorado drivers are failing roadside workers and kids," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "No matter the day of week or time, motorists should assume people could be present in these low-speed zones and follow the law because people's lives literally depend on you."

Speeding is a common type of aggressive driving, and it can happen on neighborhood streets as well as busy four-lane highways. According to Colorado State Patrol data, 48 of Colorado's 64 counties had at least one instance of a driver receiving a citation in either a work zone or school zone. The top five counties with the most speeding citations issued by Colorado State Troopers in these low-speed zones in 2023 were:

El Paso County (222)

Larimer County (131)

Adams County (127)

Mesa County (111)

Garfield County (88)

Pedestrians of all ages must also take precautions to ensure their safety.


Cross in designated areas. If designated crosswalks or traffic control personnel are available, this is where pedestrians should cross the road.

Make eye contact. Before crossing a street, try to establish eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you before proceeding.

Stay Alert. Put away distractions such as headphones and smartphones. Focus on your surroundings and be aware of potential hazards.

Stay patient. School zones and construction zones can be congested and noisy. Wait for your turn to cross safely and follow signage and warning devices.

Remember, the key to pedestrian safety in construction and school zones is vigilance, following the rules and guidelines, and always staying alert to your surroundings. Troopers remind drivers to put away distractions and look for mobile and permanent signs that prompt them to slow down or follow shifting lane patterns. Be a responsible driver by practicing patience behind the wheel and always leaving extra space between your vehicle and other motorists, equipment, or people.



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



“Let’s get back to basics. Let’s roll back unnecessary laws, roll back cumbersome governing hurdles that stifle prosperity. Let’s abide by the law, if the law isn’t working, rather than selectively enforcing it, remove it. Likewise, laws cannot be created by those with large populations to only apply to someone else or somewhere else.”

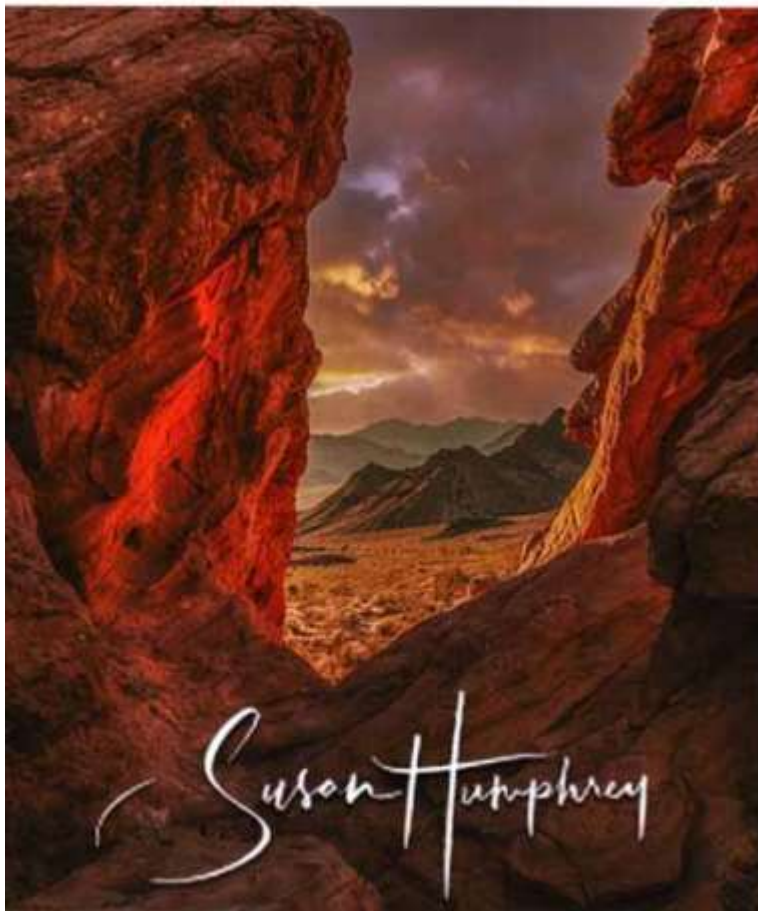
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Republican for
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VOTE November 5th **LARRY DON SUCKLA**
Republican for House Seat 58
for a bright future!
Larry Don has real life experience that
matters most to rural Colorado.

Two Western Women at LaNoue DuBois Artists' Reception, Fri., Sept. 20, 6-8 pm

Susan Humphrey Fine Art Photography & Giovanna Jewelry Designs

Visit with the artists. Enjoy live, acoustic music. Indulge in light refreshments and a cash wine bar. Take home something wonderful to wear, to share, to add to your home decor.



Your host, LaNoue DuBois Winery is part of a multi-generational ranch contemporary to the Sanburg-Humphrey ranch families.



While you are here, please support the artists' charity with a donation to Tri-River Livestock Judging.

LaNoue DuBois Winery, 67289 Trout Rd, Montrose

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD BE PRIMARY CONSIDERATION FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Editor,

The shooting at Apalachee High School in Georgia Wednesday September 4th morning, that killed two students and two teachers has raised the same old conversation.

A conversation we have had since the murders at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999.

A conversation I personally am sick of.

But this time the conversation is going to fall directly to the minds of Montrose Colorado parents whether we want to hear it or not.

There must never be another school shooting and we have the responsibility and duty to prevent this in Montrose with the ongoing effort to build a new high school.

I have seen the amazing proposal literature for the new school and am so excited about the very possibility. Because of the proposed new site layout we have the perfect opportunity to talk about security.

Winston Churchill said that "we shape our buildings, thereafter our buildings shape us", and the famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright agreed.

There is nobody more supportive of a new high school than my family and myself.

I have never approached a problem without offering a solution and that is exactly what I have in mind now.

Please hear me out.

First let me tell you a little bit about our family background in Montrose.

Fran comes from a multi generational family of Montrose School students dating back to the 1920s, more than a hundred years of history at Montrose schools.

Her and her uncles and aunts and brothers and sisters and countless nieces and nephews were all born in Montrose and

all educated here.

Fran and I raised three children here who were all educated in Montrose and we have two grandchildren who graduated Montrose High School and one grandchild currently in Montrose High School.

We can't begin to fathom the stress of a parent hearing that there is an active shooter at the school with deaths and not knowing where their child is.

We actually have lived through the scare of that situation with a grandchild in Central High School and the memory of that heart wrenching day is still fresh in our minds. Thank God it was just a scare for us.

We will remain every day worrying about the two grandkids still in school.

So here in a nutshell is my proposal for heightened security and safety when we build a new high school.

This is our one and only opportunity to get it right.

Unfortunately, what I am about to propose may sound more like a prison yard than a campus.

But I ask...which life is worth blowing this offyour child..?.....or yours ?....or yours ..?

If I am lucky I will eventually have great grandchildren in the new high school and I want them safe.

Apalachee High School in Georgia appeared to have no system of site security and the school at Uvaldi, Texas had very minimal.

As we have seen in the aforementioned two shootings a resource officer in the building did not prevent death. By the time a resource officer can react shots have already been fired .

This is where a local architect is critical. That architect must employ a security design professional.

The Montrose building architect must design a perimeter security system that is as close to impenetrable as possible and built at the same time as the new school building.

Our beautiful students are too precious to wait for another massacre for knee jerk reaction. It is too late then.

I propose a series of "guard stations" all around and all within sight distance of the station before and after. With a difficult to breach fence between them.

Each station can be either manually attended or electronically attended but the important thing is no easily penetrated gaps.

In addition each building entrance should be security scanned for weapons with metal detectors.

Now before you start whining about the cost of such a security system or the feel of a prison yard, I am sorry, but I see no other way and the truth is, I don't give a damn about the added cost if the children are safe.

The security system is much more important than the buildings.

I understand if you don't like my ideas, believe me I do, but please, don't build a new high school without impenetrable security built in.

Please demand security be the first conversation and effort when the push really begins for a new high school building and campus.

I plan to become vocal as the voice of reason and I hope other parents will join in to offer better alternatives.

In the meantime, tell your kids "if you hear something, say something".

God bless Montrose and God bless the students and teachers who have lost their lives to this madness.

Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

VOTE YES TO PROTECT MOUNTAIN LIONS AND BOBCATS FROM NEEDLESS SUFFERING DONE BY TROPHY HUNTING AND TO STOP TRAPPING OUR BOBCATS JUST TO MAKE FUR COATS

Dear editor:

Rural residents of Colorado care about ethics in hunting.

I'm a 64-year-old wildlife advocate who has lived on Deer Mesa just outside of Norwood for the past 36 years. I moved to Colorado from Texas 38 years ago and have longed to see the end of needless suffering of innocent wildlife ever since.

I was employed at the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Ark and Rehabilitation Center on Wilson Mesa in 2004-05 and was caregiver to two mountain lions, two Canada lynxes and a bobcat as well as a host of predators and raptors.

As a rural resident, it makes good sense to vote YES to protect mountain lions and bobcats from needless suffering done by trophy hunting and to stop trapping our bobcats just to make fur coats. I am not alone and other rural Coloradans are on board with this one.

There is not one acceptable reason or justifiable excuse for killing any lion or bobcat that is in nature, in their home, and not causing any trouble to us, or to our animals.

We need to stop killing them for trophies and skinning them to make fur coats in China.

This kind of activity is not even close to resembling deer hunting. We don't chase deer with dogs wearing tracking collars, just so some head-hunter paying an outfitter \$8,000 can walk up and shoot an animal stuck in the trees.

This issue is most closely related to what the citizens did to protect bears from baiting and hounding years ago with a ballot measure. It makes sense to have some measure of ethical standards, and trophy hunting crosses that line.

California stopped this nonsense 50 years ago, and their lion populations are stable, deer thrive, and a mere 15 lions were killed for livestock predation last year, according to state data. Without trophy hunting. Compared to Colorado, and most states that allow trophy hunting, that is extremely low.

Ruthie McCain, Norwood

DECLARE MONTROSE TO BE A NON SANCTUARY CITY OR PUT THIS ISSUE ON A SPECIAL BALLOT

Mayor Reed, Councilman Ulibarri, Councilwoman Files, Councilman Glaspell, Councilman Frank,

I am contacting you to request that the city council in recognition of the growing vulnerability of this city to officially declare Montrose to be a NON SANCTUARY city as Montrose County already has. It is clear that the majority of Montrose taxpayers want this and are communicating this to the city council. Remember that you represent Montrose, not the state, not Denver or big money and influence from Telluride. As illegal immigration is a continually growing problem in Denver, more unvetted Illegals and now the growing specter of organized, armed Venezuelan gangs are moving in and taking over apartment buildings, they are jeopardizing the safety of residents and children. They bring with them drug and sex trafficking. We are already seeing an increase in crime and stress on our hospital and schools. Denver is looking to raise taxes to partially accommodate this and move the problem to outlying areas. Calling illegal immigrants "newcomers" is a straw man argument and the governor's dismissal and denial of the evidence of this growing problem for his political agenda is unacceptable. Why our city council would put our citizens at risk and decline to be proactive in protecting our citizens and businesses is beyond me. With an open door policy you can't possibly believe that we will see a decline in this problem. That's not the reality of what's happening across the country. Even now some mayors and governors are unable to deny the growing evidence and are trying to backpedal. I am asking that you become responsive to your constituents and take a revote, declaring Montrose to be a NON SANCTUARY city or put this issue on a special ballot.

Thank you,

Phil Moomjean, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE NOT WELCOME

Editor:

You may or may not be fully aware of what has occurred here in the county government that has brought us to the point of selecting a new county manager. To fully understand one must go back to what has occurred prior to the selection of candidates and the importance of the two commissioner seats that will be voted on in this upcoming November election and seated in January 2025.

In midsummer the previous County Manager announced his resignation effective August 3. In mid-July the BOCC elevated Assistant County Manager Emily Sanchez to the Interim County Manager position. The Commissioners also considerably reduced the minimum qualifications for County Manager. The BOCC also announced an immediate seven-day internal only county search for a new manager before wisely expanding the posting for the Montrose County Manager to all eligible candidates regardless of race, creed, national origin, and handicap status nationwide.

After extensive inquiries with the county I learned that 18 applications for Montrose

County Manager had been received and I asked for a copy of the resumes of each of the candidates but was refused. I subsequently learned that 11 applications of the total of 18 met the reduced qualifications. On September 4th, I learned that there are three finalists for this position. For all practical purposes Commissioner Elect Scott Mijares has called for the current lame duck board of county commissioners to postpone the selection of the new county commissioner until the new board of county commissioners is seated in January.

This makes sense since they will be working with the selected County Manager for the next four to eight years if all goes well.

It has been announced that a meet and greet session with the public would be held on September 10th at 6 PM. I noted to the interim County Manager that the first Presidential debate rescheduled that night at 7 PM mountain time. I was told that that was the final decision by the commissioners. One might start to wonder what the hell the rush is. NOW GET THIS, to top that off our commissioners

have decreed that any citizen that wants to ask questions of the finalist at that public meeting will have to present written questions in advance that will be cleared by the County Attorney and then the commissioners will pick and choose who gets to ask a question. I know that only certain questions may be asked by the hiring authority before a final offer is made, however general questions by the public to make an intelligent recommendation to the BOCC is not prohibited by any law I know of.

So, once again here the BOCC goes proving that transparency and public comments are not welcome, and we the citizens and taxpayers of Montrose County are only a "Necessary Nuisance" to be heard at election time.

Whoever is selected as the finalist would be wise NOT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT with the current commissioners and wait for all candidates to be fully vetted again and a selection made with the to be seated new county commissioner in January with true and honest transparency by the public.

Dee Laird, Montrose



8500

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**MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS**

see something, say something

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

KEVIN LEE VALENTINE

August 11, 1959 — August 29, 2024



Kevin moved back to Grand Junction with his first wife Cynthia

and children Brandon and Amy. Kevin worked various jobs before entering the oil field. In 1999 he married his second wife Marie Ann Robards. She preceded him in death in 2011. After leaving the oil field he became an over-the-road truck driver.

It was while working as an over-the-road truck driver that he met his wife, Angela McMurdy, from Olathe, through an online dating site. They both knew God orchestrated their meeting. Angela didn't physically travel with him, but they spent hours on the phone each day as he drove his route from California to Kansas hauling containers of meat for shipping overseas. Kevin left truck driving in 2017 and he and Angela were married on July 1, 2017, in Olathe, Colorado. He moved to Olathe where they lived on part of the family farm. Kevin brought his three trucking companions, Miley, a chiweenie, Coco, a min-pin, and Snickers, a chihuahua mix.

They joined Angela's golden retriever, Honey, to make a family of six.

Kevin loved spending time with his wife and dogs and was happiest relaxing at home on the couch by his wife with a lapful of dogs. He also loved riding motorcycles. He started riding when he was in his early teens and in the last few years loved riding the backroads to and from work every day. Kevin also loved to go to the veteran's coffee times at Warrior Resource Center in Montrose, and the American Legion in Delta. He felt especially fortunate that his supervisor at National Coating and Supply in Montrose worked out his schedule so he could go to coffee every Thursday. His conversations with other veterans were a highlight of his week.

Kevin was a member of the American Legion Post #24 in Olathe, the Harley Owner's Group, and a former member of the American Legion Riders Post #24.

Kevin attended the Assembly of God in Olathe every Sunday and hated to miss a Sunday. He loved his church family.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Irene, his wife Marie, and four beloved dogs Miley, Coco, Snickers, and Honey. He is survived by his wife Angela, son Brandon Valentine, daughter Amy Valentine, a grandson Mason, and two recently adopted miniature Schnauzers, Cutie and Icee.

KEVIN LEE VALENTINE passed away unexpectedly at Montrose Regional Health on August 29, 2024, at the age of 65.

Kevin was born August 11, 1959, in Denver, Colorado, to Edward Lewis and Irene Bertha (Nagle) Valentine. Kevin spent his early years in Denver, Colorado. His family moved to Grand Junction in 1971. He attended and graduated from Central High in Grand Junction.

Kevin joined the Navy in 1977 and was a Naval air traffic controller. He served on the USS Midway, at Naval Air Station Key West, and on the USS Forestal. He left the Navy in 1987.

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

ROBERT (BOB) EUGENE MURPHY ***June 17, 1946 – August 30, 2024***

ROBERT (BOB) EUGENE MURPHY was born on June 17, 1946, in Chicago Heights Illinois, to George and Dorothy Murphy. Bob died peacefully at home, in Redvale, Colorado, surrounded by his loving family. Bob is preceded in death, by both of his parents, his wife Mary, some siblings, his grandson in law John Marble, and his grandson, Kyle, that passed away as an infant. To many he was affectionately known as “BlahBlah,” a nickname given by his great-grandson Jeremy who, at a young age, couldn’t pronounce “grandpa,” Bob cherished this name for the past 12 years. Bob was in the Navy, he served in Vietnam as a submarine mechanic. For most of his adult life, he was a diesel mechanic, and a small engine mechanic. He also spent several years in Las Vegas, Nevada as a slot machine mechanic. After retiring 15 years ago, Bob moved to Colorado to be closer to his family. His days were filled with the joy of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who were the light of his life, just as he was theirs. He is deeply missed. His hobbies were being in the yard, mowing the grass, tinkering around the house, reading, and making his famous lasagna for everybody in town.

Bob is survived by his daughter Carol (Sean) Fernandez, of Redvale, Colorado, his son, Robert Eugene Murphy JR, of Reno, Nevada. As well as four granddaughters, Hollie Marble of Redvale, CO, Ashley Fritz, of Colorado Springs, CO, Brittany Fritz of Grand Junction,



LEONA F. SCARBROUGH DAVIS ***August 31, 1938 — August 28, 2024***

LEONA SCARBROUGH DAVIS, born August 31, 1938, and fondly known for her love of saying she was born on the last day of August, passed away on August 28, 2024, just shy of her 86th birthday. Leona was born in Redvale, CO, to Vernon and Marian Houser and attended school in Norwood. On July 11, 1956, she married the love of her life, Thomas M. Scarbrough Jr. Together, they welcomed four children: Cathy (Steve) Smith, Terry (Jim) Jensen, Gary (Janice) Scarbrough, and Gregg Scarbrough, who passed away at birth.

Throughout their life together, Leona and Tom embarked on a journey that took them from Fraser, CO, back to Norwood, then to Rye, CO, and eventually back to Norwood. In their first home, which they lovingly restored and maintained, Leona devoted 35 years to creating a warm and inviting space for her family.

Leona’s incredible work ethic was evident in every facet of her life. She dedicated 31 years to preserving the beauty of Norwood Cemetery and took pride in her various jobs around the Norwood area.

Known for her love of the outdoors, she

and Tom spent countless hours searching for arrowheads and making her yard beautiful. Leona’s commitment to hard work and her joy in life’s simple pleasures were hallmarks of her character.

As a grandmother, Leona’s love was steadfast and profound. She skillfully balanced her affection with a touch of sternness, ensuring her grandchildren knew they were deeply cherished. Leona and Tom also enjoyed a vibrant social life, frequently visiting their favorite café in Norwood for coffee with friends. If their children or grandchildren were in town, they joined in these cherished evening gatherings.

After their children had grown, Leona and Tom embraced the joys of travel, spending winters in Laughlin, Nevada, where they made many special friends. Their life together faced a significant challenge in 2000 when Tom was diagnosed with lung cancer. With the unwavering support of family and friends, they faced this trial with courage and determination, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary before Tom’s passing on November 21,

2006.

In 2015, Leona rekindled a friendship with Les Davis, whom she and Tom had known earlier.

They married on January 5, 2016, and spent the next decade together in Norwood, enjoying time with family, visiting Saw Mill Springs, and watching hummingbirds. During this period, Leona was diagnosed with dementia and Alzheimer’s, and Les, along with the support of family and friends, provided her with devoted care.

Leona is survived by her children, grandchildren, and a host of friends who will remember her as a woman of deep love, unyielding strength, and an enduring passion for life’s simple joys.

Leona is survived by: Les Davis (husband), 3 Children, 8 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, 8 ½ Great, great grandchildren, Les’s children and families.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

GORDON LEROY HICKLE

October 6, 1946-August 26, 2024

Born to Evelyn (Hannaford) and William T. Hickle at Mandan Hospital in Mandan, North Dakota, October 6, 1946, Gordon Leroy Hickle was a man of true western integrity, a man who paid attention to detail, be it saddling a horse or building a fence. He was at the same time a tough, strong, and extraordinarily gentle person. Gordon was born and raised on a farm in rural North Dakota. His first memory was of being outdoors with his dad at a dam on a seasonal spring. They had gone out in the big family truck to build a boat kit. At four years old, Gordon wasn't much help, but his dad was giving him his first lessons in attention to detail.

In true North Dakota fashion he fondly remembered hunkering down to stay warm in the hay wagon his father used to feed the farm animals. As a child and young man, Gordon helped on the family farm, learning how to run, maintain and repair all the farm equipment.

His roots in cowboying also began early and were nurtured regularly when his family made the annual trip to the fair in Minot (100 miles away) and the rodeo in Mandan. Rodeos were a theme in Gordon's life, and a song by Ryan Fritz-- "Family Ranch Rodeo"-- was a favorite because it brought back memories of his mom working to corral four boys on the farm when it came to chore time:

"Get your chores done, it's time to go. All the work's going to wait one more day. Mom says she's not going to tell you again..."

Gordon was educated in a one-room school with students of all ages. He always felt that his one room school, as modest as it was, was advantageous because he learned much from others, both older and younger than he. From those humble educational beginnings, he went on to graduate from high school in the spring of 1964 and to graduate with a degree in mechanical engineering from North Dakota State University in 1968. He remained a devoted NDSU Bison fan until the end.

In the spring of 1968, Gordon got a job offer from Rocketdyne, Canoga Park, Cali-



1972 formed a special "brother" bond with his brother Art when they both found they shared the love of the mountains and love of taking long backpack trips into the mountains. In 1977, brother Don joined the backpacking crew for

ifornia to work on the "moon shot" team. Rocketdyne had 2 teams working on the "moon shot". One team was the "big engine" team that got the space capsule close to the moon. The other team was the "small engine" team that landed the space capsule on the moon. Gordon worked on the small engine team that landed the space capsule. Gordon was always proud of being part of the team that successfully landed the first men on the moon on July 20, 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin. When talking about it, he always described the work he did with Rocketdyne as being "pretty heady" for a farm kid from North Dakota.

Gordon moved to Colorado to work for Dow Chemical and then Rockwell. At Rockwell, Gordon was responsible for maintaining safety with respect to pressurized tanks. He later moved into technical management where he encouraged his direct-report employees to be "their best". Many of his employees considered him a valuable mentor.

Gordon loved his three brothers and in

most trips thereafter. They continued yearly trips for over 20 years, but Gordon's favorite trips were the ones his nephews came on; Jason in 1994 and Colin in 1995. In 1988, Gordon and his brother Art backpacked near Telluride. To get there, Gordon came through Montrose, Colorado and fell in love with the area that would eventually become his home and final resting place.

It was while working at Rockwell that he met Susan in 1982. They knew quickly that each had found their soulmate and they married in the fall of 1983. In 1987, Gordon and Susan bought their first horses together. They became avid riders and began yearly trips to both North Dakota and Wyoming. Gordon dreamed of owning a black horse, and in the fall of 2001 that dream came true. Gordon and Susan adopted two mustangs from the Wyoming BLM that Gordon, with help from Susan, trained to become favorite mounts and sure-footed trail horses. Gordon's mustang was black with a white star on his forehead. Black Star and Gordon were as close as man and horse could ever be.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

GORDON LEROY HICKLE From previous pg

Gordon and Susan's Wyoming rides were with Susan's sister Cindy, who worked for the Forest Service. These rides were yearly for many years. Gordon had very fond memories of all of his Wyoming rides, including the one where everyone greatly underestimated how far it was back to the vehicle and horse trailers via the road where the people and horses were very tired and we were encouraging each other: "Just 1 more mile...just 1 more mile..." He was never so happy to see the truck and horse trailer than on that trip!

Gordon was able to move to Montrose in the Fall of 1998 where he did consulting engineer work for two years. Gordon and Susan had a house built in 1999 in beautiful Bostwick Park just outside of Montrose. It is there, with his beloved wife Su-

san and his dog Koda by his side, and the horses Prairie and Quick close by, that he peacefully passed away after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Gordon was preceded in death by both of his parents. In addition to his wife Susan, he is survived by three brothers, Arthur Hickle [Laura, children Jason Hickle (Michelle Maley), Colin Hickle (Ericka, grandchildren Wyatt, Ellis and Quincy), Adrienne (Hickle) Strickland (Michael, grandchildren Evelyn and Ernie)]; Donald Hickle and William Hickle. Gordon became very close to Susan's family after their marriage, and he is survived by one aunt (Nina Wiker) and two sisters-in-law (Sherrie and Cindy). When traveling to visit family in North Dakota, Gordon's favorite overnight stopping place was Aunt

Nina's home in Douglas, Wyoming where he was always well fed with both dinner and family stories.

Gordon requested no services and wanted to express that he preferred family and friend gatherings when he was alive rather than upon his death. On August 31, 2024, Gordon's faithful buckskin mare, Prairie, accompanied by Susan and the mustang Quick, carried Gordon's ashes to his final resting place beside his dream horse, the beloved black mustang, Black Star. He now rests in eternal peace overlooking the home he and Susan shared below the towering walls of the Black Canyon. Ride on Cowboy. You will be missed.

If you wish to make contributions in remembrance of Gordon, he preferred that you do so to the charity of your choice.

DONNA MARIE SMITH MAROLF

June 28, 1935 – Sept. 1, 2024



Donna passed away at her ranch home in Montrose, CO on Sept 1, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. Donna was born June 28, 1935, to Jack and Mae Smith in Pea Green (Delta) Colorado. She was second of seven children. She married her childhood friend Edwin Marolf on Sept 4, 1955. They ranched in Sanborn Park until summer of 1992 at which time they moved to the "Valley" of Montrose Colorado and continued to ranch until Feb 2016.

Together Ed and Donna had three children. Anita Pepin (Ray), Ernie Marolf (Karyn) and Tom Marolf (Cherrie). They had seven Grandchildren, nine Great Grandchildren and one Great-Great Grandchild. She has two surviving brothers Phil Smith (Angie) and Jim Smith (Colleen), Sister-in-Law Joy Smith (Willis) along with many Nieces and Nephews. Donna was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Edwin Marolf, parents Jack and Mae Smith, brothers Bob Smith and Willis Smith, sisters Anita Smith and Lou McManus.



COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

TRIBUTE TO GORDON L. HICKLE *by Cindy Gradin*

Gordon, my Brother in Law, had two wishes before he passed. One was to ride his horse one last time and the second was to leave this world at his home looking out at his horses and the San Juan Mountains with my sister (his two peas in a pod wife) and his dog by his side. He got the last one and we are so very grateful. A lot of very good people in this world helped to make that happen on short notice. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts. I think he's getting his other wish anytime about now and has saddled up one of his favorite horses that preceded him. A big black, stout horse with a white star on his forehead that came from a wild herd in Wyoming.

Gordon and I had many adventures over the years. Most on horseback. Sometimes as we were getting ready to head out "a horseback" I'd impatiently eye roll and say "come on - hurry up, we got mountains to climb and rivers to cross" as he was double checking the tack, making sure no stones were lodged in the hooves, and the saddle was sitting just right. Jokingly I'd say, "lets ride em like we stole em" and he'd just give me "the look" and continue with his pre-ride check. Gordon taught me a lot. He treated horses and rode a horse like they were the most precious gift from God. And his horses reflected that and returned that to him tenfold.

So many memories of our rides but a few stand out.

We were once riding in thick timber.... The horses knew before we did but we heard the ground start to rumble, and the forest start to shake. In a split second we were right smack in the middle of a big herd of running elk that had been spooked by something. They came thundering all around both sides of us. The horses held steady, but my legs could feel my horse's heart beating fast and heavily under the saddle leather. I think my legs were shaking too if truth be told. I know my heart was pounding. This was a young horse of Gordon's that he'd been working with and it's a testament to his fine horsemanship skills that I wasn't impaled on some elk antler and dragged through the forest. When all was said and done, we



just looked at each other as if to confirm what had just happened...few words passed between us as we rode off in quiet awe of another fine day in the saddle.

Another adventure that we never forgot was a horse trip into the Never Summer Wilderness. Barely a cloud in the sky as we headed out. By early afternoon we had climbed above timberline to a high peak. The fastest moving storm we'd ever experienced descended upon us. No where to go but dig in. The lightning was hitting all around us -- the horses' tails and manes were lifting with static charge -- so was our hair. The thunder and lightning strikes made it impossible to hear each other but we knew to separate and crouch as low as we could to the ground. We also knew that lightning is attracted to water sources and humans and especially horses contain a lot of that; we were sitting ducks. We tried to shoo the horses as far away as we could as we knew if we survived, we could round them up later. No luck. As the rain poured down with deafening lightning hitting the ground near us-- there they stayed with heads hung down near ours. I remember thinking "well I guess we'll all go together," horses, dogs and all of us. Since I'm writing this you can guess we survived that storm, but we never forgot it! I've had a much healthier respect for lightning ever since. (Honestly, I became a bit fearful of it.) Years later I was helping Gordon lay irrigation pipe in the hayfield and heard thunder and saw lightning in the distance. It was probably miles away but due to that day on that Never Summer Peak, I dropped my end of the pipe leaving him standing there holding up his

end with a puzzled look on his face and I ran to the house like a panicked rabbit. I could sort of hear him in the distance..." Cindy, it's not that close - we got pipe to lay!" I didn't care and I didn't come back outside until the storm had moved well into Utah! We all talked about that Never Summer Peak storm for years and how scary it was for all of us.

Gordon taught me how to build a very straight fence line. Measure and double check!! (I know I'm in need of a tune up on that but he was a good teacher so I remember most.) I asked him one cold late November day when I was helping him if all this being so particular and accurate was necessary as the livestock didn't care and the fence would do its job even if it wasn't a perfect line. Again came "the look" ... he said, "once you go crooked - It's just easy to keep going crooked." Many lessons in that simple sentence. That was Gordon...sometimes a man of few words, but when he did speak, it often held so much more.

Gordon's boots are still there where he left them in the mudroom and his cowboy hat lies crown down (as always) on the table. I keep hoping maybe just maybe he can return for a day or two and just step right back into them. Maybe do one more last ride together. I will really miss him. May his new journey and travels find him knee deep in a crop of the best horse hay, a Dave Stamey CD playing on repeat, and the soft nicker of a horse by his side.

My heart goes out to my sister Susan who lost her soul mate.

He loved her dearly and it seems rare anymore to find that kind of love. But this I do know...that kind of love never ever just goes away -- it transcends time and space and will always be there in some form—I suspect quietly riding alongside her on a big black horse.

COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

JOSEPH VERALD MOONEY

May 29, 1947 — August 25, 2024

JOSEPH VERALD MOONEY, age 77, of Montrose, Colorado, passed away on Sunday, August 25, 2024 at his home. Joe was born in Lincoln, Illinois on May 29, 1947 and graduated from Farmington High School, Illinois. He was the son of Verald and Wanda Mooney. Joe is survived by his wife, LaDonna, son and daughter, Darin and Amanda, his two sisters, Shirley and Susan, and two granddaughters, Savannah and Sierra. He was predeceased by his parents, brother, Michael, and sister, Kathryn. Joe had a special appreciation for wildlife, especially eagles and wolves. His ability to connect with animals was truly unique. He was an avid basketball fan, dedicated golfer, and enjoyed riding his bicycle. Joe loved to cook and opened his own restaurant in Phoenix, Arizona. He had a passion for fast cars, airplanes, and rock-n-roll. Joe will forever be remembered as resilient, patient, and kind to all. A memorial service will be held at 2 pm on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at the Oak Ridge Cemetery in Farmington, Illinois.



RICHARD L. HAYES

December 26, 1938 – August 27, 2024



RICHARD L. HAYES, 85, of Montrose, CO passed away on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at his home with his family by his side. Richard was born in Washington, Iowa.

Richard was employed as an Aggregate Superintendent by Granite Construction to build the Ridgway Dam.

Richard is survived by his Wife, Phyllis Hayes; Daughter, Cheryl (Dan) Reed, Son, Jim (Karen) Hayes, Daughter, Shelly (Bob) Miller, and Daughter, Nicole Cruz. Also survived by his Brother, Merle (Debbie) Hayes, Eleven Grandchildren, Fifteen Great-Grandchildren, and numerous Nieces and Nephews. Preceded in death by his Parents, Don and Helen (Hoyle) Hayes, Brother, Don Hayes Jr., Daughter, Cherie Hayes, Great-Granddaughter, Dannika Carlisle, Son-In-Law, Darrell Keene and Son-In-Law, Bob Cruz.

NEOMI COX

December 29, 1932 — September 2, 2024

Olathe resident, Neomi Cox, passed away peacefully on Monday, September 2, 2024, at Delta County Memorial Hospital in Delta, Colorado under the care of Hope West. Neomi was 91 years old.

Memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, September 9, 2024, at Taylor Funeral Service Chapel in Delta, Colorado.

Neomi Cox was born December 29, 1932, to Benjamin and Faye Hall in La Plata, New Mexico. Neomi graduated Salutatorian from Olathe High School in 1950. After high school Neomi obtained certification from Blair Business College.

On January 4, 1953, Neomi married her high school sweetheart, Duain Cox in Olathe, Colorado. To this union four children were born. Neomi and Duain traveled all over the world together, including

Australia/New Zealand, Germany, Europe, Russia, Africa, Mexico, and several trips to Alaska and Hawaii. The couple had the honor of sharing 65 years of love and marriage.

Neomi raised four children and kept books for the family cattle and farming operation on California Mesa. She was a personal banker in Delta retiring after 21 years and served on the board of the Tri County Water Conservancy for over 16 years. She supported local arts and loved attending Magic Circle Players productions. Volunteer work included time at the Memorial County Hospital. She was happiest when spending time outdoors, travelling the world, enjoying the family cabin, and playing Bridge (of which she was an exceptional player). She enjoyed so-

cializing at the Elks with her husband and friends.

Neomi is survived by her son, Russel Cox of Centennial, CO; three daughters, Karen Decker (Paul) of Castle Rock, CO, Sharon Marquez (Steve) of Olathe, CO, and Lori Baker (John) of Olathe, CO; eight grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great great-grandchild.

Neomi was preceded in death by her husband, two sisters, a granddaughter, and a great granddaughter.



ISSUE 485 Sept. 9, 2024

ART & SOL

THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE: HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS



By Wendy Videlock.

By Wendy Videlock
REGIONAL—Years ago when my husband and I were living overseas, we took a trip to the site of one of the old concentration camps in Germany near Weisbaden. It wasn't the kind of trip one gets

excited about, but was one we felt we needed to do.

As our tour-bus approached our grim destination, everybody on the bus became hushed. We didn't know what to expect as we filed out of the bus and into the woods.

We only knew we were there to pay our respects.

I recall the day vividly: it was sunny and all around us the birds were chirping, singing, and tending to their nests. The moment we entered the camp, however, which was marked off by a barbed wire fence, the birds were suddenly absent.

A silence descended. All birdsong was gone. The air was perfectly still.

Afterwards, as we all soberly filed out of the site where those unspeakable atrocities had occurred, the birds began to appear again, their songs and movement filling the air.

Since then, I have never thought of birds the same.

Hawk

The forest is the only place where green is green and blue is blue. Walking the forest I have seen most everything. I've seen a you with yellow eyes and busted wing.

And deep in the forest, no one knew.

The poet, Emily Dickinson tells us that hope is the thing with feathers. I suppose I had always thought this a clever metaphor until that day in the woods in Germany.

Many years later, when the kids were young, we took a family trip to Aspen, where on the side of a large field, the traveling Vietnam War Memorial was being assembled.

Watching the crew and its careful process of finding the right spot in which to build the memorial, a conference of eagles, perhaps a dozen of them, kept careful watch. Occasionally one would take to the sky overhead and scree—lest we forget, it seemed, the gravity of the situation.

The Moving Wall

The Native elders came. They walked the field and found where golden eagles sound, and sky agreed to name this land a sacred ground.

But my experiences aren't unique. I don't know anybody who doesn't have some kind of story about a bird that appeared in their lives — at the windowsill, in their backyards, overhead — at a time when it was most meaningful to them.

As I write this early on a Saturday morning, a crow flies past the window. Any resistance I might have had about writing this particular column dissolves with the sighting of that dark star.

I leave you with a poem that explores birds as everyday messengers and teachers.

Deconstruction

The chickadee is all about truth. The finch is a token. The albatross is always an omen. The kestrel is mental,

the lark is luck, the grouse is dance, the goose is quest. The need for speed is given the peregrine, and the dove's been blessed with the feminine. The quail is word, and culpability. The crane is the dean of poetry. The swift is the means to agility, the waxwing mere civility, the sparrow a nod to working class nobility. The puffin's the brother of laughter, and prayer, the starling the student of Baudelaire. The mockingbird is the sound of redress, the grackle the uncle of excess. The flicker is rhythm, the ostrich is earth, the bluebird a simple symbol of mirth. The oriole is the fresh start. The magpie prince of the dark arts. The swallow is home and protection -- the vulture the priest of purification, the heron a font of self-reflection. The swisher belongs to the faery realm. Resourcefulness is the cactus wren. The pheasant is sex, the chicken is egg, the eagle is free, the canary the bringer of ecstasy. The martin is peace. The stork is release. The swan is the mother of cool discretion. The loon is the watery voice of the moon. The owl's the keeper of secrets, grief and fresh fallen snow, and the crow, the crow has the bones of the ancestral soul.

Wendy Videlock is poet laureate of the Western Slope. Wendy's work appears in *Best American Poetry*, *O Magazine*, *Hudson Review*, *The New York Times* and other venues. Her books are available where books are sold. Reach Wendy

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SUSAN HUMPHREY'S PHOTOGRAPHS GLOW



Looking through. By Susan Humphrey.

By Kathryn R. Burke

MONTROSE-Susan Humphrey photographs western landscapes, lifestyles, and wildlife. Her work is unique because of who she is, how she grew up, and where she's been throughout her life.

Her work glows. When you walk into a room where her photographs are displayed, you know they are hers right away. Light seems to emanate from every picture, filling the room, shining right at you, inviting you into a special place she discovered in her journeys and is now sharing with you. "That's a Susan Humphrey photo!" you say.

So where does the glow come from? How does she make you see it? Was she born with the photographer's eye? How did she learn to "see" this way and transmit her visual experience?

Maybe back on the family ranch. She was raised on the Sanburg Hereford Ranch in Bostwick Park, established in 1907 by her great grandfather and now, permanently protected and preserved as part of the Black Canyon National Park. Growing up, she was immersed in the Western lifestyle and surrounded by a western landscape.

Perhaps from her years in the outfitting business with her husband, Dan, her high

school sweetheart and now husband of 52 years. Their endeavors and adventures provided ample opportunity to study wildlife up close.

Likely in the car, with her husband driving and her camera in her lap. Humphrey traveled the west—Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Utah—as a district coordinator for regional City Market Stores, and experienced parts of the west that differ greatly in geography, typography, heritage, and history.

Definitely after she retired from her corporate job. The Humphreys kept on traveling, exploring more of the west. She was seeing, photographing, absorbing what she saw. For her, it was and still is an emotional as well as a visual experience. She looked, she was awed, and she took pictures. Lots of pictures.

"I saw amazing things," she says, "things I had only imagined, maybe viewed at a great distance, or never knew existed. Like Shiprock in New Mexico. All those edges and sunset colors. Bighorn sheep in Colorado—elusive and difficult to capture with a camera, but so worth the effort when you succeed." (Which she did.) "Or snow-capped mountain ranges, once distant, now we're driving through them. (And



Desert Mesa. By Susan Humphrey

sometimes dangerous to travel in heavy snow, but always beautiful.) Endless hayfields—raised on a ranch, I'd always seen them up close, but our land was bumpier, and those tall mountains were in the far distance. Here, in parts of Wyoming, where it was flat, the fields seemed to stretch into infinity. Everywhere we went, I experienced different colors and textures, different ways the light changed the landscape."

OK, so once back home, how to transfer what she saw through the lens to something that could be printed on canvas or paper, embedded in metal? Working on her pictures, getting them ready to frame and show, she tried experimenting with Adobe Lightroom. (Humphrey teaches classes in this technique.) "I found ways to make my photographs share the feelings and emotions I experienced when I took them. I'd discovered and mastered how to share the glow!"

Today, Humphrey's imminently recognizable photographs hang in galleries around Western Colorado. You can find her at many places, including the Ap-pleshed in Cedaredge, the Ranch History Museum in Ridgway through Oct. 13, Craig Gallery in Palisade, and at the LaNoue DuBois Winery on Trout Road in Montrose, where she shares an artists' reception and fundraiser for Tri-River Area Livestock Judging with Giovanna Designs, "Two Western Women" at LaNou DuBois Winery, Friday, Sept. 20, 6-8 pm.

Kathryn R. Burke is an artist, educator, author, and publisher. Visit her website to see more of Humphrey's and other artists' work. <https://kathrynrburke.com/>

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MAGIC CIRCLE PLAYERS PRESENT 'ALL MY SONS'



MCP Courtesy photo..

By Jonathan Heath
 MONTROSE-Magic Circle Players is proud to present the Tony Award winning classic Arthur Miller play, "All My Sons," which opened on Friday, Sept. 6. "All My Sons" is based on a true story from the early 1940s about an Ohio corporation that supplied defective aircraft parts during World War II, discovered in a congressional investigation. Miller expanded on this story, creating an intimate portrait of a family in conflict over secrets and lies, and a mother who refuses to let go of her long lost son. The story takes place shortly after the war, on the porch steps of the Keller home. Joe Keller (played by Tim Price), owner of a business that supplied defective aircraft parts, has been exonerated of all charges related to a plane that crashed during the war. Kate Keller (played by Kathryn Murdoch) grapples with the disappearance of her son while



"All My Sons," MCP Courtesy Photo.

serving in the military, and the ominous sign of a tree that has blown down in a storm. Her other son Chris (played by Everett Gregory) wishes to marry Ann Deever (played by Wendy Bodwell), but she is the daughter of Joe's former business partner Steve, who is serving time in prison due to the faulty parts. As the story unfolds, secrets will be revealed and lives will be changed forever. One of Miller's most successful and most revived plays, Magic Circle Players will provide a captivating and memorable interpretation of this classic drama. Theatre

lovers won't want to miss the magic of watching this classic drama on stage. Directed by Bill Bottomly and assistant director John Lange, "All My Sons" opened at Magic Circle Theatre, 420 S 12th Street in Montrose on Friday, Sept. 6 and continues for three weekends through Saturday, Sept. 21. There are two Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. on September 8 and September 15. Tickets are available at magiccircleplayers.com or at the box office Tuesdays, 2-5 p.m and prior to shows. Call for 970-249-7838 for tickets or for more information.

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SUNDAY | SEPT 8 & 15 @ 2PM

This Tony Award winning, American classic is rated PG -13 for thematic elements.

ALL MY SONS is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramalists.com)

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 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
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 day of the month we celebrate a potluck
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Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

CELEBRATION CHURCH

Denomination: Southern Baptist Church
 (SBC – Southern Baptist Convention)

Address: 2900 Sunnyside Road, Mont-
 rose, CO 81401

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: (970) 497-4925

Email: celebrationmontrose@gmail.com

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

Worship Service Times: 9am and 10:45am

Senior Pastor:

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

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

Demographics: Multi-generational

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

Student (middle & high school) at 9am.

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

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

COVENANT HEBRAIC FELLOWSHIP

Denomination affiliation. No affiliation

Address Office hours N/A

Contact: 720-951-9941,
office@ccfmontrose.net,
www.ccfmontrose.net

Name of current Senior Pastor. Led by
 elders

Worship service times. Noon on Saturdays
 (Potluck on 1st, 3rd and 5th shabbats)
 Covenant is a Hebraic roots community
 that studies the Torah as well as the rest of

Scripture. We learn about the Hebrew
 roots of the language and believe that the
 Lord's feasts are for today. We are pre-
 dominantly made up of older folks, but
 have some young blood, too.

Sunday School and childcare: None

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene

Address: 705 South 12th Street

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

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

Pastor: Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM
Mission Statement: *Montrose First Church
 of the Nazarene exists to make Christlike*

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around
 the world.*

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

Affiliation: Presbyterian

Address: 1840 E Niagara Rd. Montrose
 CO. 81401 **Office Hours:** M-Thu 9AM -
 12PM

Contact: 970-249-4732, [in-
 form@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:in-

 form@fpcmontrose.com),
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
 Website: montroseucc.org
Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd
Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.
 Hillcrest Congregational UCC is a welcoming, open and affirming church, open to all no matter who you are or where you are

on life's journey.
 Church demographics: HCUCC welcomes all ages to worship with us. (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles)
 We offer inter-generational worship with a children's "prayer-ground" and activity packets. A cry room is also available.

MONTROSE MISSION OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Affiliation: Orthodox
Meets: 2057 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO

81401 and Cimarron Creek Clubhouse.
Worship Services: The Montrose Mission of the Orthodox Church meets every Saturday night at 7 PM at All Saints Anglican

Church for Vespers, and we currently meet only on the third Sunday of each month for Divine Liturgy in Montrose at 9:30 AM at the Cimarron Creek clubhouse.

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, [\[roseumc.org\]\(http://roseumc.org\)
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](http://mont-</p>
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Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with or without children, from diapers to dentures.
 Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come discover hope, joy, peace, purpose.

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist
Address: 1598 E. Niagara Road, Montrose, CO 81401
Office Hours: Tues-Thurs, 9am-4pm
Contact information:
 Phone: 970.249.4887
 website: www.RosemontBaptist.org
 email: office@rosemontbaptist.org
Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson
Worship Service Times: Our engaging and relevant Sunday Worship Service is at

10:45 AM. We also have Bible Study for All Ages Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. We provide a professionally-staffed nursery throughout both.
 Rosemont Baptist's desire is to passionately bring people face-to-face with the life-changing power of Jesus Christ.
 We are a multigenerational church from different walks of life who love Jesus, love each other, and love our community. Everyone comes dressed in whatever is comfortable. We love meeting new people no

matter what stage of life they are in.
Children's services: We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be 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,
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: [\[rose@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:rose@yahoo.com\)
\[www.ststephensmontrose.com\]\(http://www.ststephensmontrose.com\)
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](http://ststephensmont-</p>
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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
Senior Pastor: Interim Pastor

Worship service times: Sunday Worship is at 9 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and snacks.
Beginning Sept. 8 we will have a family Bible study, "Who's in Charge?" following fellowship from 10:45-11:30 a.m. All family members are welcome.
During the Sunday sermon we offer teaching for children ages birth to kindergarten, in a kid-friendly room called Base

Camp.
We have communion on the first Sunday of each month and meet later in the day for a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a prayer session at 6:30 p.m.
Please visit <https://www.summitchurchmontrose.org/events> for more information.
Summit Church welcomes people of all ages!

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist
Address: 2890 N Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm
Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org; website: vbcmontrose.org
Current Pastor: Roland Kassales
Worship Service Times: Sunday School at 9:30am, Sunday AM Service at 10:30am, Sunday PM Service at 6pm, Wednesday Night Service at 6:30pm (all services include childcare)

Victory Baptist Church exists to exalt God, edify saints, and evangelize the lost. Demographics: Victory Baptist serves everyone with age-appropriate classes, groups, and activities. Families with children make up the majority of VBC with young adults, singles, middle-aged couples, and seniors comprising the rest.

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:
Name of church
Denomination affiliation
Address Office hours
Contact information (phone number, email address, website)
Name of current Senior Pastor
Worship service times

Please give a one sentence description of your church and its mission in the Montrose community.
Brief description of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles).
Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Local Immunization Providers

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



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose is accepting applications for vacancies on the Historic Preservation Commission. Successful appointees will serve three-year terms expiring on October 16, 2027. Applications are due by 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25. The city encourages community members with prior experience or an interest in historic preservation to apply.

The Historic Preservation Commission serves as the evaluative body for historic properties in the City of Montrose, providing recommendations to the City Council on historic property designations, assisting with public education regarding municipal history and historic preservation, and reviewing best practices for designation standards and preservation efforts throughout the community.

Historic Preservation Commissioners are appointed by the City Council. At least 60% of the Commission's members are residents of the city, and at least 40% of them are professionals or individuals with extensive expertise in a preservation-related discipline, including but not limited to history, architecture, landscape architecture, American studies, American civilization, cultural geography, cultural anthropology, planning, or archaeology.

To learn more about the Commission, please visit www.cityofmontrose.org/History.

Applications are available at City Hall, 400 E. Main Street, at www.CityofMontrose.org/History, or by calling the City Clerk's Office at 970.240.1430.

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

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SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

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. 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

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

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

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

MONTROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets 1st Wednesday of the month @ Montrose Events Center, 1036 No 7th Street 7 pm (970) 249-2085 www.montrosehistory.org

MONTROSE AREA WOODTURNERS Montrose Area Woodturners meet second Saturdays 9 am. Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. For location and information contact: Al Head 970-209-0981 or aheadaviation@outlook.com

NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP-Breastfeeding Support Group on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. An infant scale will also be available to check your baby's weight. Breastfeeding Support Group (Bring your questions and your family!) Montrose County Event Center (1036 North 7th Street Room 3) 10am - 12pm. Questions? Please call 970-252-5015.

BINGO EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY at 7pm at the American Legion Post 24 Olathe doors open at 5:30. Sunday Bingo will start at 1:30pm. More info call Tom 970 260 8298.

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

MONTHLY

Sept. 6-21-All My Sons at Magic Circle Theatre. Directed by Bill Bottomly, Assistant Director John Lange. Tickets at magiccircleplayers.com. Magic Circle Players, 420 S 12th St, Montrose. Box office: 970-249-7838. *Remaining Dates:*

Friday, Sept. 13- 7:30 PM MDT

Saturday, Sept. 14 - 07:30 PM MDT

Sunday, Sept. 15 - 02:00 PM MDT

Friday, Sept. 20 - 07:30 PM MDT

Saturday, Sept. 21 - 07:30 PM MDT

Sept. 18--Do you have an interest in the history of brewing alcoholic beverages? Please join us as Dan Elsner presents the Archaeology of Ancient Brews. Sept. 18 at 7pm at the United Methodist Church 19 S Park Street Montrose. Free sampling of historic brews after the presentation.

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

Sept. 21-Uncompahgre Pow-Wow | Montrose, CO Ute Indian Museum | Sept. 21, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Join the Ute Indian Museum for its first Uncompahgre Pow-Wow! Hosted by the Western Slope Native American Resource Center and the Ute Indian Museum, the event offers visitors a chance to enter a dance contest, enjoy local food, and more. Over \$14,000 in prizes will be awarded with drawings for up to \$4,500 in prizes for all dancers who do not win first, second, or third in each of the dancing categories. Parking at the museum is limited but a free shuttle will run every 15 minutes from the Target parking lot from 10:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

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

Sept. 29-Sunday, Sept 29, 3 p.m. - Fall Concert **Groovin' Around the Globe** : Montrose Community Band **Free Concert** at the Montrose Pavilion. Pack your bags and join us for an afternoon of music inspired by far way places.

READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT: DEB REIMANN



Community of Sunflowers, by Deb Reimann.

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