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© Issue No. 611 Nov. 11, 2024



# the Montrose Mirror

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## CITY APPROVES INCREASED FUNDING FOR REGION 10

By Caitlin Switzer  
MONTROSE-All councilors were present for the regular Montrose City Council meeting of Tuesday, Nov. 5; also present was Youth City Councilor Jordyn Simo.

Mayor J. David Reed called the meeting to order. All joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Pro Tem David Frank had no changes to the meeting agenda.

### PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH

Youth Councilor Jordyn Simo assisted with presentation of the [proclamation](#) in support of Hospice and Palliative Care month. The Proclamation was accepted by Kelly Thompson of Hope West.

### YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE AWARD

Simo assisted with the presentation of the 'You Make a Difference Award' to Sue and Mike Bussing, for their work with Kids Aid in Montrose.



Youth City Councilor Jordyn Simo assisted Mayor J. David Reed with the presentation of the 'You Make a Difference Award' to Sue and Mike Bussing. Meeting screenshot.

**Continued pg 36**

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## MURA BOARD IMPLEMENTS NEW SPREADSHEET FOR PROJECTS

### MURA BOARD IMPLEMENTS NEW SPREADSHEET FOR PROJECTS



The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) Board met on Nov. 6. Presiding over her second board meeting, President Allison Howe (center) is the Special Districts Representative. Photo by Gail Marvel

By Gail Marvel  
MONTROSE-For the Nov. 6 Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) meeting, Board President Allison Howe called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and called roll. Except for Councilman Ed Ulibarri, all board members were present.

### Call for Public Comment

Instructions for Public Comment include, "Please be aware that neither the MURA Board nor staff are expected to respond or engage in discussion or debate." Call for Public comment is limited to non-agenda items and speakers have a three-minute time limit.

There was no public comment.

### Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the June 26 meeting were approved as amended with

**Continued pg 20**



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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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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE BOTANIC GARDEN OF LIGHTS BEGINS DEC. 14

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Volunteers at the Montrose Botanic Gardens have started decorating for December's Garden of Lights, but some of the trees are just too tall for amateurs to tackle safely. The Gardens decided to enlist the help of **Aspen Tree Service** - SAVATREE and their crew of skilled workers who have strung 300 to 400 feet of large red lights on each of three larger trees. As a result, the Gardens are glowing!!! Thanks Mark, Brandon, Cassie, Rahiem, Danny and Marie! Come and see ALL the lights, horses and Santa at the Garden of Lights starting December 14. More details at [www.montrosegardens.org/garden-of-lights](http://www.montrosegardens.org/garden-of-lights)



## Inner Covers Book Club

Saturday, November 16, 10-11:30 AM  
Montrose Center for Arts

Do you love art? Join us for a special book club collaboration at the Montrose Center for Arts, an every-other-month book club focused on art and artists! No registration necessary, no art experience necessary, all participants welcome! Email Amy at [adickinson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:adickinson@montroselibrary.org) for more info.



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# RED HAWKS SOCCER ELIMINATED IN 4A QUARTER-FINALS BATTLE MOUNTAIN HUSKIES 4, MONTROSE RED HAWKS 0

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Montrose Red Hawks soccer season ended last Wednesday as the Huskies of Battle Mountain came to Montrose and defeated the Red Hawks 4-0 in the quarter finals of the Colorado High School Activities Association state playoffs and moved closer to crowning a state champion.

The Huskies turned loose a dominating offense and a smothering defense to end the Red Hawks season. The Huskies scored 3 times in the first half and added a 4<sup>th</sup> marker in the second stanza, thus ending the Red Hawks season, a successful season with 10 wins, 6 losses and 1 tie. This is the second season in a row that the Red Hawks have qualified for post-season play.

The Red Hawks will graduate eight seniors: Brody Cooling, Gabe Dominguez, Osmar Encarnacion, Aiden Erives, Bowden Vigil, Chris Gonzalez Muniz, Marek Jaramillo and Tommy Montoya-Ornelas.

The Red Hawks future looks bright as a dozen underclassman will return in addition to the entire Junior Varsity that will be looking to earn a spot on the varsity roster.

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## VETERANS AND MILITARY GET FREE ENTRY INTO COLORADO STATE PARKS ON NOV. 11

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER — As a thank you to U.S. military members, Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers veterans, active-duty military and the National

Guard free entry into Colorado state parks on Nov. 11, 2024.

Veterans and military members, residents and non-residents, can visit any Colorado state

park for free by showing [proof of military service](#). Vehicles displaying a Colorado Disabled Veteran or Purple Heart license plate receive free entry to all state parks year-round.

The free day pass provides a chance to experience Colorado's world-class state parks and the diverse wildlife and landscapes they showcase. Whether you're a nature lover, an outdoor adventurer, or just looking for a peaceful retreat, there's something for everyone at Colorado state parks.

Find a Colorado state park map and discover the activities available at each park using the online [State Park Finder](#) ([cpw.state.co.us/state-parks](http://cpw.state.co.us/state-parks)).

All other state park fees remain in effect, including camping reservations, boat and off-highway vehicle registrations, and hunting and fishing licenses.

CPW offers additional military benefits for outdoor activities to active-duty military, veterans and disabled veterans. These programs include free admission to state parks in August, free small game and fishing licenses for qualified disabled veterans, and a specialty [Columbine Pass](#) that reduces park entrance fees for disabled Colorado residents.

CPW offices and call centers will be closed on Nov. 11 to observe the state holiday. Call parks ahead of your visit to confirm if Visitor Centers are open.

Join us in keeping Colorado, Colorado. Get a \$29 Keep Colorado Wild Pass with your next vehicle registration and support our state parks, search and rescue teams and avalanche safety programs. Learn more at [cpw.info/keepcoloradowild](http://cpw.info/keepcoloradowild).

Colorado residents with any applicable fee-exempt military license plates, Colorado Disabled Veterans or Purple Heart license plates may access Colorado state parks for free; if you renew your vehicle registration online, stay opted in and get the Keep Colorado Wild Pass at no cost.

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# 4A FOOTBALL PLAYOFF PICTURE CLEARS

By Cliff Dodge

MONTRÖSE-The Montrose Red Hawks football team took advantage of their bye week to rest and refresh and get ready for the 4A playoffs as 23 other teams also begin their journey to vie for the coveted state championship to be awarded in early December. Only three of eight playoff games were completed with five additional games slated for Sunday, Nov. 10. Similar playoffs are scheduled on Sunday as the volleyball tournament continues.

The lower portion of the CHSAA 4A bracket saw Monarch defeat Bear Creek 28-7, and Golden handle Riverdale Ridge 17-14. This sets up a quarterfinal game between Monarch and Mesa Ridge, and Golden at Pueblo West.

The Montrose Red Hawks watched as the Frederick Golden Eagles defeated the Northfield Nighthawks 32-14, setting up a quarterfinal game vs the Red Hawks at Montrose Stadium with kick-off scheduled for 1 P.M. on Saturday, Nov. 16. The Golden Eagles come in sporting an 8-3 record.

The fourth game to complete the lower half of the bracket will pit Air Academy and Heritage with the winner traveling to Durango next week.

Other games set for Sunday, Nov. 10 are: Doherty vs Loveland with the winner to face number one ranked Dakota Ridge; Grand Junction vs Longmont with the winner to face Ponderosa; Rampart vs Grand Junction Central with winner to take on Palmer Ridge; and Vista Ridge vs Highlands Ranch with the winner facing Broomfield.

The 4A tournament is very difficult as both sides of the bracket are filled with outstanding teams. Interestingly enough, the lower half of the bracket has Mesa Ridge, Pueblo West and Durango, all teams the Red Hawks defeated during the regular season. Can the Red Hawks repeat their initial success? This tournament will tell the story.

Stay tuned.

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## I WANTED TO REPRESENT ALL THE PEOPLE, NOT A POLITICAL PARTY

*Editor:*

I cannot begin to explain how GRATEFUL I am for all the support I received throughout this campaign. I met and spoke with a multitude of people that I honestly believe wanted to see change within our Government and were excited to learn they now had another choice.

I decided to run for office because I was, and still am, angry about the state of our Government. I am angry that politics in our country are no longer about what **"We, the People"** want – it's all about "Winning" for the Party. And so rather than just sitting back and watching with no voice, I decided to stand up and try to make things better for the People of our community. I truly wanted to LISTEN to what the People had to say, REPRESENT the needs of the People, and be ACCOUNTABLE to the People. I wanted to represent ALL the People... not a political party.

I would like to thank my opponent Rick Dunlap for running a clean campaign - It is no secret that there was enough mud slinging in the local Republican caucus during the primary election to last our County a lifetime, and I am very grateful that same ugliness did not present itself during our race. I worked with Rick when he held the office of Sheriff, before he went into retirement, and my hope is that as County Commissioner, he can step up and be the voice of the People that they are wanting and needing, without bringing party politics or favoritism to his office.

In closing, and as an Unaffiliated voter, my hope is that my having the courage to run for a public office will at least plant a seed that will encourage others to stand up and represent "We, the People," and not just a political party, in the future.

*With Much Gratitude -*

*Trisha Murray, Montrose*



## RIVER LANDING SURGERY CENTER

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**Thursday, November 14**

**4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## PLEASE HONOR THE MEMORY AND THE SERVICE OF THIS BRAVE FAMILY

### Editor:

On this Veterans Day, November 11, 2024, I want to honor an incredibly unique patriotic Montrose pioneer family by telling their story.

The following heroes of WW2 were all uncles of Francine Romero Stollsteimer, who grew up in Montrose around her uncles and enjoyed each unique, and different personality. Their sister Sharon Dymond lives in Olathe. Fran was born and raised in Montrose and still lives here after raising her family.

Please join me in recognizing the Romero family of Montrose as possibly the most patriotic family ever to live in Montrose. Henry and Mary Romero both came to Montrose before 1900. Henry from New Mexico and Mary Magdalene Kane from Missouri by covered wagon. They were married in Montrose on June 26, 1917. The blessed marriage had 5 boys and 2 girls, all born and raised in Montrose, and all of the boys played football for the Montrose Indians and went on to serve our country in the various branches of the United States military and all served in wartime.

The hero Romero family members are listed below:

Henry J. Romero, was named after his father. Born April 7, 1918 at Montrose, Colorado. Henry enlisted in the U.S. Navy on November 13, 1942 at Montrose, Colorado. Henry served during World War 2 in the European theater until the war ended on September 2, 1945 and then he was honorably discharged days later on September 28, 1945. Henry came back to Col-

orado and worked for the railroad in the 1950s and for the Pueblo steel mill in the 1960s. Henry died on October 2, 1996 at Montrose, Colorado. Henry is buried at Grand View Cemetery, Montrose, Colorado next to his brothers.

Lee Edward Romero, named after his uncle Ed Romero. Born March 29, 1922 at Montrose, Colorado. Lee enlisted in the U.S. Army December 13, 1942 at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sargent Lee Romero served in WW2 as an 82nd Airborne Paratrooper in the European theater. In October 1944 the war department notified his parents in Montrose that Lee had been shot through the throat but he recovered and continued to serve until his honorable discharge on January 18, 1946. Lee helped me coach little league baseball for the recreation district. Lee died April 10, 1996 at Montrose, Colorado. Lee is buried at Grand View Cemetery, Montrose, Colorado next to his brothers.

Melvin David Romero was born August 5, 1926 at Montrose, Colorado. Melvin enlisted in the U.S. Navy in August of 1944 and served during World War 2 in the Pacific. Melvin obtained the rank of Ensign in June of 1957. Melvin served in Korea during the duration of that war getting a 6 week rest and recuperation before going back. Finally, Melvin served during the Vietnam war in the South China Sea before retiring in June of 1967.

Fortunately the United States still has the presence of Melvin Romero as he lives a good healthy life at 98 years young in Evansville, Indiana.

Donald Joe Romero, named after his

grandfather Joe Camillo Romero. Born March 13, 1929, Montrose, Colorado. Lied about his age to enlist March 30, 1944 at Denver, Colorado.

Don served as a Sergeant in the US Marine Corps and served in World War 2. Don was aboard a carrier escort ship when it was hit by a kamikaze plane. Don was honorably discharged after the war in 1948 but was activated again for the war in Korea and the war in Vietnam. Don died June 28, 1989 at Montrose, Colorado and is buried at Grand View Cemetery, Montrose, Colorado next to his brothers.

Robert Eugene Romero...born February 2, 1936 at Montrose, Colorado.

Robert served in the National Guard until he joined the Army on November 2, 1955 and was honorably discharged in 1958. Robert then enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1958 and served out a career before retiring in 1978. He was a Gunners Mate and served on a destroyer ship in the South China Sea during the Vietnam war where he ran into his brother Melvin who was aboard a destroyer ship. Robert was a longtime active member of the local American Legion. Robert died November 29, 2021 at Montrose, Colorado and is buried at Grand View Cemetery, Montrose, Colorado next to his brothers.

The Romero boys also had an amazing hero nephew Kenneth (Butch) Romero who served in Vietnam and was killed in a mining accident in 1969 and is buried at Valley Lawn Cemetery. Butch was Fran's brother.

Please honor the memory and the service of this brave family.

*Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### LOCUST ROAD CLOSED BEGINNING NOV. 11 FOR CULVERT REPLACEMENT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—Montrose County is announcing a temporary road closure beginning Nov. 11 to Locust Road east of 6650 Road at the Loutsenhizer Canal for a culvert replacement. The closure is expected to last up to three weeks depending on conditions. Motorists are asked to use an alternate route.

For more information, please contact: Montrose County Public Works Project Manager Richard Rivera at [rrivera@montrosecounty.net](mailto:rrivera@montrosecounty.net) or 970-252-7009.



## CEDAREdge FAMILY MEDICINE

# OPEN HOUSE

## November 12, 2024

**12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**

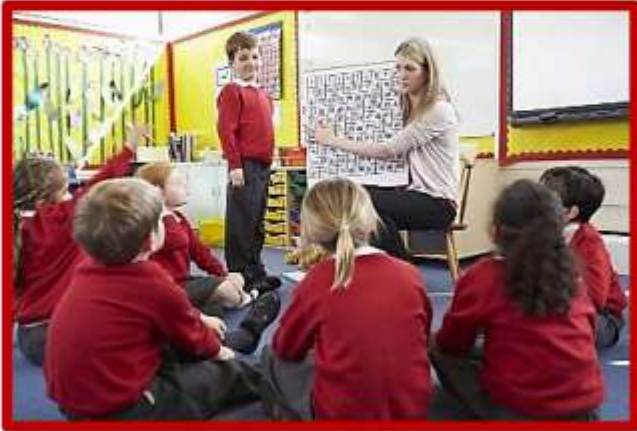
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**Speaking in support of MCA is encouraged.**



**Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m. - 930 Colorado Avenue**

**All Are Welcome...Children Included!**

**[www.montroseclassical.org](http://www.montroseclassical.org)**

# RED HAWKS VOLLEYBALL QUALIFIES FOR STATE TOURNAMENT



Red Hawks battle Pueblo East at the net. Photos by Cliff Dodge.

The state qualifying Red Hawks Volleyball Team.

By Cliff Dodge

The Montrose Red Hawks volleyball team hosted the Region 5 qualifying tournament that will send the winning team to Denver to compete in the 12 team state championships. Not only did the Red Hawks host the qualifier, they won the qualifier eliminating the Grand Junction Tigers and the Pueblo East Eagles on Sunday afternoon at the Fieldhouse. The Red Hawks put together a season record of 15-8 and were 8-2 in league action

and had little difficulty in dispatching the Tigers (12-11) and the Eagles (19-4) to earn a spot in the championship playdown at the Denver Coliseum. The Grand Junction Tigers were the first test for the Red Hawks. The home team jumped out to a 12-0 lead before the Tigers could score their first point. The Red Hawks had streaks of 12 and 9 points in cruising to a 25-8 win in the first game. The Red Hawks won the next two games by scores of 25-20 and 25-14.

The Pueblo East Eagles with an outstanding record were next. Much the same outlook saw the Red Hawks dispatch the Eagles 25-16, 25-12 and 25-16 to claim the District 5 title and qualify for the state tournament in Denver. The other eleven regional qualifiers will advance along with the Red Hawk to the big dance. The final 12 teams will play a double elimination tournament to decide the state champion volleyball team.

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**the montrose mirror**



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## ATTEND SIXTH ANNUAL WEST SLOPE WATER SUMMIT ON NOV. 14

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Join Montrose County, the Colorado River District, and UVWUA for the sixth annual West Slope Water Summit on Nov. 14 from 8:30am to 2pm at the Montrose County Event Center (1036 North 7th Street). Doors open at 8 a.m. The West Slope Water Summit is free, open to the public, and includes lunch—registration is required. A livestream will also be available at [westslopewatersummit.com](http://westslopewatersummit.com) Lunch is provided with an RSVP. Attendees can [register online](#) or call 970-964-8701. Local water information and resources are available [here](#).



### *Giving Thanks*

## **CIVIC AWARDS 2024**

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### **Montrose Republican Women**

**Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>  
Noon - Montrose Hampton Inn**  
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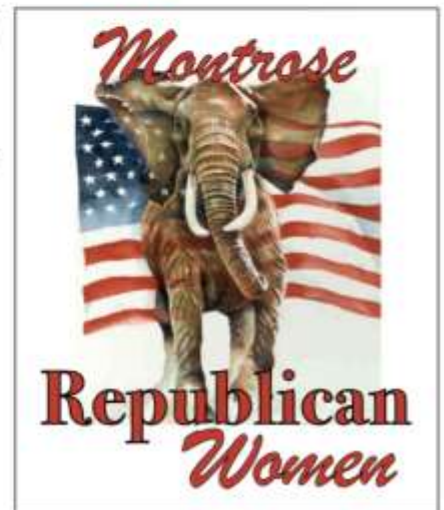
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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### TIME TO PUT THE HATE, BIGOTRY, AND MISOGYNY ASIDE

*Editor:*

Kudos to Ann Beck for organizing the local Women's March!! It was well attended with a diverse crowd including people from Grand Junction, Ridgway and Telluride.

Sadly for Montrose it was an ugly display from some hecklers. There were dangerously speeding vehicles and no shortage of hand gestures. A few of these stand out however, including an SUV of several young people, all fired up, fingers in the air, filth from their mouths and a decal symbol of a cross on their back window.

Also, a few pickup trucks "rolling coal" (dumping black smoke).

Additionally, I looked with pity, upon two different young female teens who flipped

me off as they passed by as rear seat passengers.

They and presumptively their families, aren't aware that it is us "Woke" women who fought for their adult women's right to vote, have their own credit card, own their own home, run a marathon, be an astronaut, obtain contraception without their husband's approval and eventually, obtain contraception as a single person. Indeed, our society would look quite different at this moment without "Woke" women.

I don't necessarily expect these young women or men to be knowledgeable of this information, at this young point in their lives, but I do expect them to be respectful.

Obviously, this is not what they are learning at home.

Time to put the hate, bigotry, and misogyny aside. I understand for some, this is the very fabric of their being. What is unacceptable is the lack of respect. This has got to change and will perhaps take accountability for one's actions. Colorado has a law that penalizes coal rollers. They can be reported to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment by calling 303-692-3211 or via email at [cdphe.smokeline@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe.smokeline@state.co.us). It can also be considered an act of aggression towards a cyclist, pedestrian or motorist and can be reported to the Colorado Aggressive Driver Hotline by dialing \*277.

*Gayle Frazzetta, MD, FAAFP, CCD*



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## ***MURA BOARD IMPLEMENTS NEW SPREADSHEET FOR PROJECTS*** From pg 1

clarification on page six, "...commercial, not residential will be taxed."

**TIF Expenditure Update and Financial Review** - City Engineer Scott Murphy gave the board a new and improved spreadsheet, which provides more details to the board.

Councilman Dave Frank said, "I like the visual spreadsheet appearance."

The City of Montrose has borrowed money from the Water Fund which they then loaned to MURA through Promissory Notes. MURA expenditures to date, including interest, total \$16,436,158.

**Greenline Development Agreement Review and Approval of Incentives** – Rob Mackenzie.

Executive Director/City Manager Bill opened the discussion, "This was approved at the last meeting. The agreement includes the dollar amount for incentives and the construction timeline. The development agreement is in the packet. It's a two-sided agreement. What the developer is going to do, the timeline, the overall objectives of the project. This is mixed-use, residential and retail. The expectations are laid out in the agreement."

City Business Development Person Anthony Russo noted that he is still working with the developer on some aspects.

Developer Rob Mackenzie attended the meeting virtually. Mackenzie said, "Once we hit the go button it will be four or five months. We're waiting for rates to come down and costs to come down. That's what our equity partners are waiting for. Things are moving in our direction. We should start within a year. We feel good about the market at this location."

Speaking to Mackenzie, Brad Hughes said, "When the building permits are pulled. [Will this be] at the same time for the residential and the retail?"

Mackenzie said, "We are going to pull one single permit." It was clarified that the projects, the commercial and the residen-

tial, would be built at the same time.

Frank said, "On page 13 [of the agreement] this is for \$1.3M for site improvements."

Murphy said, "Right now you have \$1.6M in available funding."

The development agreement was approved unanimously.

### **Incentives Funding Formula Discussion**

**Background:** Since its creation, MURA has not used a specific formula in determining the dollar amount of incentives they approve, but rather they have opted for flexibility. However, with no formula, decisions on incentive requests have the potential to be arbitrary.

Bell said, "For the last few months we've talked this through with staff and Brad [Montrose County Assessor]. Brad has a spreadsheet, and we will be using it for these incentives moving forward, after today. This will give us the big picture, and not treat every project differently as it comes through the door. Part of our recommendation is to put this in the Board Manual so we will all be on the same page." Bell noted that Greenline Development and the second hotel incentives are grandfathered in and are not subject to the new formula, which is based on a percentage of the TIF Revenue.

In explaining the formula, Hughes applied it to the last seven projects. In some cases, the site improvement incentives were more generous than they should have been (Basecamp Apartments), and in other cases incentives were less than what could have been awarded.

Hughes said, "Looking at the seven projects, there was about a half a million dollars [difference]. The methodology changes [with the new formula], but the allocation is about the same. [Using the new formula] developers can come in and know what they are eligible for. We don't have to argue back and forth. Properties that generate a lot of sales tax will be eligible for more incentives."

In a previous meeting Bell stated that the need for affordable housing, which brings in minimal revenue, was driven by the community through city council. Frank said, "Residential [property] is a loss-leader. Is there flexibility in the residential properties?"

Bell said, "We were all in on the multi-family [project], because we [the community] needed multi-family rental properties. We don't give incentives to high-end residential [townhouses], but mixed use [retail and residential] makes sense. After Basecamp [apartments] we are done doing full residential properties. I want to give kudos to Brad. It helps having him on the board."

### **Future meeting:**

January 22, 2024; at Noon in City Council Chambers.

Agenda item: Review and approve the Incentives Funding Formula.

**Background: The Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (MURA) was formed in late 2016 by a resolution of the Montrose City Council. Generally speaking, the MURA Board oversees the Colorado Outdoors Urban Renewal Area and administers the Tax Increment Financing (TIF), the funding mechanism to finance public infrastructure in the MURA. The property, which covers 158 acres along the river corridor between the Justice Center on the north and West Main on the South, is being developed by the Dragoo's Mayfly Outdoors. The Dragoo Developers are son David Dragoo and father Doug Dragoo.**

**The 10-member MURA board is made up of Montrose City Council (five members), City Manager Bill Bell (Executive Director), Brad Hughes (Montrose County), Jim Haugsness (At-Large Representative), Steve Bush (Montrose School District) and Allison Howe (Special Districts Representative). The six-member city constituency hold the controlling interest and actions of the MURA Board.**



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## NEW LEADERSHIP AT 7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' OFFICE



**7th Judicial District Attorney Anna Cooling.**  
Courtesy photo.

By Steve Middendorp

MONTROSE-Seth Ryan has officially left his position as the 7th Judicial District Attorney after citing mental health and unique challenges as part of his reason for resignation. Attorney Anna Cooling was interviewed and chosen by a panel to replace Ryan and will begin her new role in mid-January 2025. In the meantime, Assistant District Attorney Jessica Waggoner will take on that role after being appointed by Governor Jared Polis.

Both Waggoner and Cooling took the time to speak with the *Montrose Mirror* about the current transition and what the 7th Judicial District DA's office will look like with Cooling taking on the role of top prosecutor. In an interview with *Montrose Mirror* last year, Seth Ryan spoke about the challenges with finding qualified attorneys who are willing to work in a mostly rural district while the district's case load continues to soar.

Waggoner said, "I do think that under our current pay scale, caseload, and cost of living in some of our counties, that finding enough qualified attorneys has been difficult in this area. I think this state, and the whole country, is feeling the weight of the financial hardships and workforce. I am responding to every application and doing

interviews as fast as they come in. I think it is important to find the right people for the position, not just anyone that applies."

Cooling said that it is an honor for her to be chosen for this role and expressed that becoming a district attorney has been a career goal for her after she became enamored by criminal law while attending law school. Cooling served as a Deputy DA in Montrose over a decade ago before she had to leave the position while fighting her diagnosed breast cancer. The cancer has been in remission and she has been working in her private practice, which will be shutting down as she transitions to the new role.

"It is no secret that that office is in trouble," Cooling said. "We should have 16.5 attorneys in the office and we have seven. There's a lot of work to do there. My first course of action has been to meet with law enforcement. I met with a group of county commissioners. My next step is to reach out to community members. I think there may be a lack of understanding about what a district attorney does and how that office operates. And without education within our communities, it is a tough sell."

"My two concentrations as I move into this role are victims of crimes and recidivism," Cooling said. "I truly believe that the focus needs to be, at this point in time, to concentrate on our community members who are victims of crimes. The individuals who appear to keep coming forward before the judges, it's a bit of a revolving door."

There are Facebook groups and citizens that have expressed serious concerns regarding the judicial system in the 7th district. Most of the complaints stem from a lack of justice, which includes grievances against the police, judges, and the DA's office. Cooling acknowledged that there is likely a lack of trust in the District Attorney's office, which is something she hopes to change. She said the process won't happen overnight and she is asking the community for patience, grace, and the belief that the system can change.

Cooling also stressed that much of the community has a misunderstanding about

how the justice system works and what the job of the district attorney really is.

"I think people believe that district attorneys plead the cases and just go on to the next case," Cooling said. "Pleading cases is a necessity of the system. I have one deputy district attorney that has 600 cases. We have two judges that handle criminal dockets. If every person pleaded not guilty, our entire system would implode. There's speedy trial requirements. There's personnel issues. If everyone wanted a trial, there's no way it could happen. The system would absolutely collapse. Plea bargains have to happen to keep our system moving forward."

She added that plea bargains are absolutely necessary even when the DA's office has enough attorneys to handle the caseload. "It's my responsibility to prosecute cases effectively, to make plea bargains that make sense that hold people accountable, to keep our community safe, to keep our police officers safe, and to stay within the realm of the law," Cooling explained.

In last year's discussion with the *Montrose Mirror*, Seth Ryan said personal recognizance bonds are more frequently issued to suspects than in the past. "Right now, that is the future of where bonds are heading," Ryan said. "It can be frustrating to people who desire... It's a change in our system based on a lot of things going on in the social justice movement. More people are getting out on personal recognizance bonds than in the past when the primary way to get people to come to court was through a bail bondsman."

Cooling explained, "In a bond argument, the standard is not reasonable doubt, the standard is safety, history, and community ties. All of those things play into a judge's decision. I believe a lot of people forget that judges are making decisions and they're the decision makers about bonds. It's an obligation and my obligation to argue why somebody should not be bonded or why there should be a cash bond or why there should not be a PR bond or why there should be strict conditions to bond. That's my responsibility and that's the responsibility of all the DA's in the office. Ultimately it is not our decision."

# NEW LEADERSHIP AT 7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' OFFICE

## From previous pg

There is an independent judicial review board proposal being considered for this week's election, which many hope will bring more accountability for judges within the 7th district and around the state. Cooling said she thinks there needs to be a better system for judge accountability and education for the community when they don't know the names of the judges that show up on the election ballot for retention, but she is not sure whether this ballot proposal is the solution.

"Not only was I on the judicial performance commission, I was on the judicial selection commission," Cooling said. "That was a big role I played over the last eight years. I think there's accountability as far as the judicial performance commission. There are surveys that people fill out. Those mean a lot to the commission. Unfortunately, I think when people look at the ballots, people just don't know."

In terms of her solution to reduce recidivism, she said the first step is figuring out why it is happening, which is different for each individual repeat offender. Cooling stressed her commitment to engaging

with the police, county commissioners, and members of the community to rebuild trust as she embarks on a mission to strengthen the 7th Judicial District DA's office. She said she foresees that this process will take a minimum of two years because there is a lot of work to do.

Cooling responded to the concerns about mental health that pertain to this job. "I think that's a concern for every single person who does this kind of work," Cooling said. "It's hard work to not take home with you. You can't discuss it with your family. You can't discuss these things with your friends. We need training and support. Collective members of the society to help process the heaviness that we feel. It is heavy. There is not a way, I believe, that you don't take this work home with you and wake up in the middle of the night and worry about a case. In particular, I'm worried about going to trial."

Cooling added that she is committed to training and providing support to her deputy DA's, which is something she didn't receive when she worked as a Montrose County deputy DA more than a decade

ago. She wants to focus on educating the public about the responsibilities of the office while also hearing concerns from members of the community.

"I do believe podcasts and interviews and public forums are the way to start," Cooling said. "I welcome ideas to make those kinds of things happen. Those public forums, those community members that feel the information is important, and welcoming those to speak on behalf of the DAs office."

When asked if she would consider an open "town-hall" style forum where community members can ask her questions directly, she said that was a great idea.

"I'm aware from my past experiences as a deputy attorney that some of the same things I was experiencing are still happening," Cooling said. "But just to ask for grace and patience and belief that the system will change, and trust from our community members - which I don't think they have right now - to allow for me to make the changes that need to be made in order for them to trust our system again."



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# COUNCIL REVIEWS CONTRACT AWARD FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT



All Councilors and Executive Staff were present for the regular Montrose City Council work session on Monday, Nov. 4.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All Councilors and executive staff were present for the regular City of Montrose work session on Monday, Nov. 4.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Council spent time discussing a contract award for improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Utilities Director David Bries was present to answer questions and speak about the project.

**Background-** A memo from Bries to Council states, "The wastewater treatment plant was originally constructed in 1984 and several of the major components at the wastewater treatment plant are near the end of their useful life, as well as updates to environmental regulations requiring the treatment plant to meet additional and more stringent effluent limitations. The proposed project will 1) replace the existing brush aerators, that are no longer supported by the manufacturer and replacement parts are no longer available, 2) replace the existing Ultraviolet Disinfection system, 3) replace the aging screw pumps, 4) install an additional anaerobic zone to improve the removal of phosphorus from the wastewater to meet regulations, and 5) may include other equipment replacement as identified during the design process."

"A Request for Qualifications for a Design-Build team was developed and issued on August 5th, 2024. Three Design-Build teams submitted qualifications and all three were requested to develop a Design-Build proposal. Two proposals were received and presented by the Design-Build teams on October 3rd. Staff reviewed the proposals based on an Interactive Session, Q&A and the Fee Proposal. Based on the proposals and the presentation by the teams, Staff recommends a contract with the Burns & McDonnell/Moltz Construction team for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project.

"The first phase of the project would be to develop the design requirements so that actual construction costs can be developed with the Design-Build team at a proposed cost of \$1,238,255. The proposed plan is to include consideration of a contract award on the November 19, 2024 City Council meeting agenda.

"...\$150,000 is included in the 2024 projected end of year budget and \$3 Million for the design phase of the project is included in the 2025 Sewer Fund budget. The proposed plan is to develop plans and finalize costs for completing the project and issue bonds or loans to fund the construction beginning in 2026."

Councilor Judy Ann Files said that Council is aware of the project's impact on the budget, and has planned ahead for the funding.

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank asked whether the improvements could be funded through the general fund, but the answer was no. "So, we don't have the opportunity or the option to fund this using general fund dollars to help fund this, which is one of the reasons it's being built into the budget the way that it's being built in," Frank said.

Councilor Ed Ulibarri expressed support, "We should take care of the aging infrastructure in our community as one of our priorities...In the future as Montrose grows we're going to need more infrastructure, and I think it's important that we try and keep up on it."

Frank said that the Candyland Holiday Season is coming up and that staff has done an amazing job putting together fun events. The annual Montrose Bucks Sale is coming up as well, he said.

Councilor Judy Ann Files said that this year's Halloween activities were amazing. She suggested closing East Main to traffic next year.

Business owners were really happy with the event on Main Street, Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler said. She praised Michelle Wingfield of the City's Community Development team for organizing the trick or treat activity.

Community Development Director Jace Hochwalt said that there would be an Open House regarding the land use code update on Nov. 4.

Message board signs and a press release with a map will go out to let people know about the upcoming Ogden Road closure, City Engineer Scott Murphy said. Necessary utility work will be done while the canal is shut off. The closure will continue through February.

Police Chief Blaine Hall reported on the [2024 Third Quarter Crime Statistics](#). Councilors discussed concerns about pedestrian safety at the crosswalk on West Main Street. People aren't stopping for pedestrians, and some people aren't using the little flashing safety lights, Ulibarri said.

"...There should be an effort made to at least remind people to use those things..." Hall said that it may be time for police to focus on crosswalk safety again.

Public Works Director Jim Scheid gave an update on construction at the new City Hall. The project should be largely complete by the Parade of Lights, he said. Councilor Ulibarri asked for clearer information on how to enter the new City Hall. "...It's kind of like a little maze...how does one of our residents get in there..."

Mayor Pro Tem Frank said he expects to encounter a minotaur while entering the building.

Scheid said that the worst is over. "We're trying to work through it, we know it's confusing...I hope it's getting better."

# **COUNCIL REVIEWS CONTRACT AWARD FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT *From previous pg***

Public access is from the front of the building.

Scheid also presented an update on fall leaf collection.

City Manager Bill Bell said there would be a ribbon cutting for the Magic Circle Theatre on Nov. 6.

Frank said a time capsule was found during the County Courthouse construction, and there would be an opening ceremony at 1pm on Nov. 7.

With no further business, Mayor J. David Reed adjourned the work session.

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

Following the Work Session, Council entered into an executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e), and the following additional details were provided for identification purposes: potential negotiations with Project 7.

## **CHANGING NEEDS?**

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## WE NEED A CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOL IN MONTROSE COUNTY

*Editor:*

Many already know that Montrose Classical Academy (MCA) has applied to the School Board to establish a classical curriculum charter school in our District. I believe this district already acknowledges the need for variety in our current curriculums: the traditional classroom, project learning and Outer Range. The Board already understands the need to meet the various needs of our students. However, a classical curriculum is not being offered at this time.

Let me address several points.

1. Choice is the main issue. Is it right to deny parents the option of a classical charter school for their kids? Parents know best how their kids learn.
2. There is concern about money being taken away from the public schools. Ultimately, more money would come into the district. We need to make sure that money is not more important than the educational quality for our students. Having a classical curriculum option will bring new students into the district who currently are homeschooled or attend private schools. Already there has been over 200 families who have expressed interest in this charter, and the majority are homeschoolers. The district receives about \$10,600 per student/year. If the school brings in 200 new students the first year it would bring \$2,120,000 to the county, and the district would receive 5% or \$106,000.

3. One size doesn't fit all, and traditional public education does not work for all students. The classical approach is an option the district could offer our families.
4. The classical approach focuses on Logic, Latin, and the Socratic Method along with English, Grammar, Mathematics, and Science.
5. Charter schools use placement tests to make sure students are placed in the appropriate class level. This helps them to succeed, thus the gifted student is not bored and the struggling student is not frustrated.
6. A classical charter school in Montrose would bring healthy competition. For example, test scores for Colorado charter schools like Liberty and Peak-to-Peak are off the charts. This would raise the district's scores, and cause the rest of the schools to strive to do better.
7. There is a concern about teachers being licensed. Licensed teachers aren't necessarily good teachers, and non-licensed teachers aren't necessarily bad teachers. If a charter school ends up with a poor teacher (licensed or unlicensed), it can dismiss that person. MCA's teachers will all have degrees, be thoroughly vetted, and well-qualified to teach in their subject matter. All Special Ed teachers and Paras will be state certified.
8. A public charter school is made available to ALL families, no matter what income bracket. Charter schools don't get to pick who attends their school. It's open to

everyone, and if more families apply than spaces available, a lottery is held which knows no economic status, ethnicity or gender.

9. Finally, Governor Polis is a huge supporter of charter schools and founded New America Charter and co-founded the Academy of Urban Learning Charter School. Polis has been a major player in the bipartisan consensus that charter schools are good for Colorado families and good for Colorado.\* He has publicly opposed proposed changes to federal rules that could make it harder for charter schools to get start-up grants.\*\* He is all about school choice.\*\*\*

For more information, please go to [www.montroseclassical.org](http://www.montroseclassical.org). Consider writing to our School Board members to encourage them to vote for MCA.

**MCSB Board of Education Email Addresses:**

- Neisha Balleck: [District.A@mcsd.org](mailto:District.A@mcsd.org)
  - Ted Valerio: [District.B@mcsd.org](mailto:District.B@mcsd.org)
  - Alice Murphy: [District.C@mcsd.org](mailto:District.C@mcsd.org)
  - Tom West: [District.D@mcsd.org](mailto:District.D@mcsd.org)
  - Sarah Fishering: [District.E@mcsd.org](mailto:District.E@mcsd.org)
  - Jody Hovde: [District.F@mcsd.org](mailto:District.F@mcsd.org)
  - Stephen Bush: [District.G@mcsd.org](mailto:District.G@mcsd.org)
- Superintendent Carrie Stephenson [Carrie.Stephenson@mcsd.org](mailto:Carrie.Stephenson@mcsd.org)

Let's bring another school option for our Montrose families.

*Sincerely,  
Leah Vandersluis, Montrose*

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CRIME STOPPERS**

*see something, say something*

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Step outside to a meticulously fenced and landscaped yard, where a flagstone patio with a gently flowing water feature creates a tranquil retreat. Gather around the fire pit with a built-in bench for cozy evenings under the stars. Every detail of this mountain oasis has been thoughtfully curated to offer luxury, comfort, and a profound connection to nature. Whether entertaining guests or enjoying quiet solitude, this extraordinary home offers a unique blend of elegance and rugged mountain charm.



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Associate Broker

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

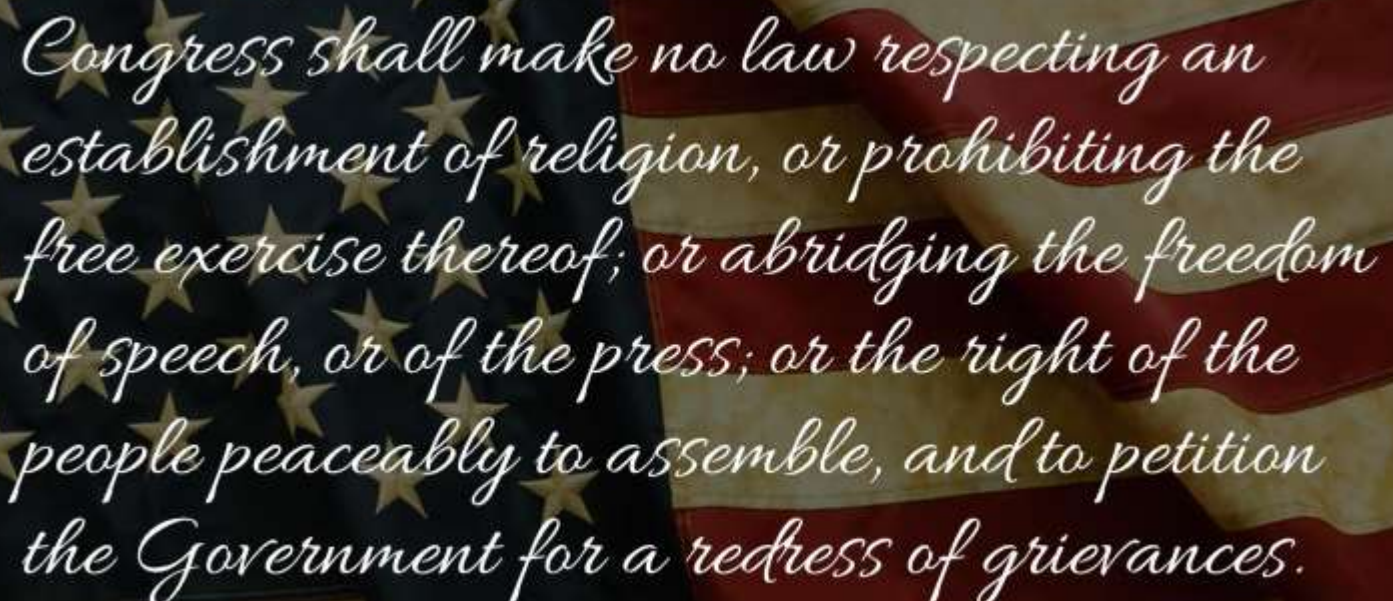
## MORE POSITIVE THAN NEGATIVE

*Editor:*

Well, the election is over, and life goes on. We republicans had plenty to celebrate. Trump was elected president, and it looks like we republicans will control the house and senate as well. And for the first time in three election cycles, we republicans did not lose any seats in the state house. In fact, we may have gained back three of the four seats we lost two years ago. And CD8 may go our way as well. Gabe Evan's holds a slim lead in that race. Two of the most liberal and disturbing ballot initiatives (131 and 127) were defeated. And the Montrose school district will not pick our pockets for an elaborate and extremely expensive new high school. So how did the democrats get this election so wrong? Open borders, high inflation, and high energy cost. Trump won in 2016 campaigning against open borders. Guess what? He just won his second term running against open borders. We citizens just spoke very loudly that we are not concerned with other people's personal choices (climate change, LGBTQ, women's reproductive rights). What we are concerned about is the price of everything is exponentially more expensive than it was four years ago. And that is a result of liberal policies and liberal politicians that have completely lost touch with reality. When we tax, paying citizens are struggling to make ends meet. And when we see millions of non-citizens invading our country and being handed our hard-earned tax dollars to put them up in expensive motels and provide for their every need at our expense. And when our concerns are ignored then we take our concerns to the ballot box and vote for representation that listens and responds to our concerns.

As a nation we are thirty-five trillion dollars in debt and growing exponentially. We cannot continue to spend money we do not have to support people who are not citizens and who have invaded our country for the free handouts and lack of immigration enforcement. We are a nation of laws and we citizens demand our laws be followed. We will no longer tolerate politicians who want to defund the police. Nor will we tolerate living in a society where criminals go about their activities unencumbered by the prospect of prosecution.

*Ray Langston, Montrose*



*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## WHEN DEMOCRATS LOSE, THEY BLAME VOTERS

### Editor:

Trump's election is a clear repudiation by ordinary Americans of every media lie, every elitist that demeaned the American people, and everything today's Democrat Party stands for.

Trump won overwhelmingly and unequivocally, including every swing state and the popular vote. The victory is just a reminder that the mainstream media is nothing more than a cog in a giant propaganda machine. Kamala was never relatable or cool. There was no joy in her campaign. Her nomination was handed to her without her receiving a single primary vote. She is the most unlikeable, fake, and unqualified person to ever run for president, even worse than Hillary Clinton.

When Democrats lose, they blame voters. They will do anything to avoid looking at themselves. Racism! Sexism! People posing as journalists, and entertainers whose opinions only matter to themselves, lectured people to vote for Kamala because of her race and sex, to completely avoid discussing things that matter – like policies, results, ability, or achievements.

A couple of examples: MSNBC's Joe Scarborough says that Kamala lost to Trump because blacks and Latinos are sexist and Latinos are racist. Barack Obama condescendingly accused black men of not voting for Harris due to their misogyny because he doesn't think they can think for themselves and see that Kamala is an empty suit. Women, particularly white women, didn't escape their accusations. Part of the unhinged inclination to blame women voters is that they view all women as a monolith, in favor of unlimited abortion. Even though at least half the female population find abortion abhorrent, in Democrats' minds women only care about abortion, so that's all they throw at them.

Democrats will do anything to avoid admitting that they had a disaster of a candidate. It is interesting that almost all the letter writers in our local papers ranted about Trump with hardly a mention of his

opponent. Ben Shapiro said it best: "You can argue against Trump, you can argue for him. But nobody can credibly argue in favor of Kamala Harris."

Trump supporters voted the way they did for reasons having nothing to do with race or sex. Kamala and Dems believe big government is the solution to all problems. They opened the border and caused massive damage to communities throughout the U.S. They never cared that Biden enriched himself and his family with kickbacks from our enemies. They continually built up the finances of Iran and their terrorist groups that pledge death to America and Israel. They force women to compete against men in sports and share their locker rooms. They falsely claim their inflation was caused by gouging instead of too much spending, too many regulations, and a destructive energy policy. The list is endless. I would never vote for someone like Kamala – and neither would the majority of Americans, both men and women of all races. Democrats not only ignored the people, but they held them in disdain. They still think we are stupid. People voted for Trump because of his policies. Democrats wanted us to forget that Trump has a four-year record of inclusion, economic success, and achievements on the world stage.

Writer J. B. Shurk wrote an excellent article last week titled "Women Deserved Better Than Hillary ... or Kamala." That Democrats party elites have forced Hillary and Kamala on the American people shows how little they actually think of women. We will one day have a female president – one who will rise to the top because she earned it. She will win on her own merits. Neither Kamala or Hillary have the disposition or ability to hold that office. They are unfit to lead. Democrats wanted Americans to forget how unlikeable Hillary is, the scandal-plagued years of the Clinton White House, Hillary's cover-up of the Benghazi fiasco, etc. They wanted us to ignore that Kamala is that rare

breed of speaker who says less and less the longer she talks. One has to wonder why Democrats see no value in supporting women with proven intelligence, courage, ability, and authenticity as their presidential candidates.

America rejected the lies of Trump's leftist foes and returned him to the White House.

They repudiated all the lawfare, sabotage, and demonization he has endured over the past eight years.

Trump won with a new coalition of voters who were told he was their enemy: the working class/unions, blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans, the Amish, Jews, young people, etc. Even CNN's Van Jones admitted that Republicans are now the multiracial working-class party. Unless Democrats are able to take a hard look at themselves and their party, and reject the leftist elites currently calling the shots in their party, they will continue to lose – and become increasingly irrelevant. I am thinking they will just double down on the nonsense they've been peddling for the last eight plus years.

I can't leave without a chuckle or two. Despite banking \$1 billion in campaign funds, the Harris team is now \$20 million in debt. A major share of those funds came from billionaires. They blew millions on celeb-filled concerts assuming Americans wanted to hear a bunch of out-of-touch entertainers rather than talk about their own concerns – like crime, buying groceries and paying the heating bill, illegals invading, and out-of-control foreign wars. The Trump campaign had a fraction of Harris' team's money and is completely solvent.

Speaking of those Hollywood stars, many of them promised to light themselves on fire, or at least flee the United States if Trump won. The Canadian Mounted Police have been on the lookout for the influx of fleeing celebrities, but have thus far seen no one. Hmm.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*



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## BOCC CHAIR THANKS ELECTION OFFICIALS FOR THEIR EFFORTS, BOARD OF HEALTH ADDRESSES FAILED ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) gathered for a regular meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 6. All commissioners were present; BOCC Chair Roger Rash opened the meeting.

He thanked County Clerk Tressa Guynes and her team for a job well done during the General Election.

"...That is a very stressful position in this political environment, it goes to show that the peoples' votes do matter. We appreciate everything they do."

BOCC Vice Chair Keith Caddy led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, followed with the Invocation by Pastor Preston Gordon of All Saints Anglican Church.

"Join me in prayer," Gordon said. "Living God we thank you for the gift of another beautiful day, thank you for this Colorado morning...we pray for this meeting this morning, we ask almighty God that you will send down your Holy Spirit here on these officials as they do their work over the next hour...and we especially want to pray for all of those this morning who are holding public office, all those who are newly elected in our nation. We thank you for the chance to be in a nation where we can vote for our leaders. And so we pray for each elected official who's waking up this morning and starting a new chapter...we pray for Rick Dunlap and Scott Mijares as they begin serving...we ask for your spirit of wisdom to empower each of these officials..."

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

### COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Frank Rodriguez had no changes to the meeting agenda. BOCC Chair Roger Rash asked to pull Consent Agenda Item 18 for further discussion, "Consideration and possible approval of the Chair's signature on the Veteran Service Officer Monthly Report and Pay Request for October 2024."

### CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioners voted to accept the Consent Agenda as written, with Resolution No. 53-2024 assigned to Consent Agenda Item 12 and with the removal of Consent Agenda item 18 to the General Business

Agenda.

### MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

Commissioners left regular session to reconvene as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority, and voted to approve two items:

-Renewal of the Lodging & Entertainment Liquor license for CAMPV LLC, doing business as CampV LLC, 31412 EE 26 Road, Naturita, Colorado, license #03-15199. All appropriate documents, reviews, inspection, background check and fees have been submitted pursuant to CRS 44-3-302; and

-Renewal of the Tavern Liquor license for Richards Agness A, doing business as Cedar Bowl Three Coins, 27802 CC Road - West 10th Avenue, Nucla, Colorado, license #04-53646-0000. All appropriate documents, reviews, inspection, background check and fees have been submitted pursuant to CRS 44-3-302. No concerns were reported by the Sheriff's Office or the Planning Department. Commissioners closed the session as the Montrose County Local Liquor Licensing Authority and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

### GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The BOCC voted to approve Resolution No. 54-2024 to acquire 4.07 acres of land from Rodney A. Patch & Constance M. Patch for Kinikin Road. This represents a budgeted expense in the amount of \$15,466.00; as reviewed by Counsel.

Commissioners voted to approve Resolution No. 55-1024 to acquire 10.19 acres of land from Zachary S. Prock & Jennifer D. Prock for Kinikin Road. This represents a budgeted expense in the amount of \$43,308.00; as reviewed by Counsel.

Having pulled Consent Agenda Item 18 for discussion, BOCC Chair Roger Rash said that the County and City are working in collaboration with local veterans to create the Veterans Memorial Park.

"...That to me was a big deal," Rash said, "Because there was a time when the City and County didn't work together, and we have overcome that. We work well with the City of Montrose and that's the way it's supposed to be, we represent all the

citizens and my vision of this when I got involved is that the City and County would work with the veterans, and there are some bricks that are available if veterans want to buy bricks...they are collecting donations to do that.

"We will work together with the City to come up with a final design...and get to a point where we can find out the cost...to me this could be a signature event for Montrose County, the City of Montrose and all our veterans...I know that the new board will support this and look forward to the opening celebration of this, it's a beautiful monument...the views of the San Juans will be spectacular. Our veterans can come there and heal and reflect...because they have sacrificed and their families have sacrificed..."

Commissioners voted to approve the Chair's signature on the Veteran Service Officer Monthly Report and Pay Request for October 2024.

**MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH** Commissioners left regular session to reconvene as the Montrose County Board of Health. They voted to approve minutes from the October 22, 2024 Board of Health meeting.

Also approved was Resolution 2024-01, concerning violations by the owners of real property located at 21835 Government Springs Road, Montrose, CO 81403 of Montrose County Board of Health Resolution Number 19-01 Governing the permitting, Performance, Location, Construction, Installation, Alteration and Use of On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems.

Commissioners closed as the Montrose County Board of Health and returned to regular session as the BOCC.

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT GENERAL BUSINESS

Commissioners voted to approve the Carlson Minor Amended Plat to Combine Lots [AM24-006] proposal to combine three lots at Parcel 399315304001; and The San Juan Meadows 2 Minor Coming Lot 1 & 2 Extension [EXT24-007] proposal to extend the time period to file an approved plat for recording at 376733212002, 357 6410 CT. With no further business and no executive session, commissioners voted to adjourn.

# CITY APPROVES INCREASED FUNDING FOR REGION 10 *From pg 1*

## CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

John Brown spoke. He reminded Council that on March 6, Montrose County passed a resolution declaring Montrose County as a non-sanctuary county. To date, the City of Montrose has not passed a written declaration that the City is not a sanctuary city.

Brown said that on March 19, "...we had over 400 people here in these chambers and the overflow, saying 'we want Montrose to be non-sanctuary.' Since that time, there has not been any information coming back from this panel to declare that we are, or we are not, putting it in any kind of resolution. I don't know what the problem is. If it's something that says we can't do it, we need to know why we can't do it. If it's something that somebody's got an objection to, put it out there so that we can understand. But right now, the program that was put out for this to be more open for the constituency of Montrose County has not happened.

"We are still in the dark."

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council voted to approve [minutes of the October 15, 2024, regular City Council meeting](#).

## ORDINANCE 2670 - SECOND READING

[Ordinance 2670](#) updates Title 6 Chapter 1 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, Colorado: repealing and replacing Title 6 Chapter 1 Section 10 (6-1-10), regarding unauthorized camping; repealing and replacing Title 6 Chapter 1 Section 12 (6-1-12), regarding sleeping on sidewalks, streets, curbs, parking spaces, alleys, public right of way or within doorways prohibited; and amending Title 9 Chapter 10 Section 1 (9-10-1), regarding park hours.

The passage of Ordinance 2670 has been hotly contested at every step, including on First Reading. On Second Reading, citizens Aleta Swallow; Patrick Crane; Evan Howard; Neil Platzer; Frank Jankowski; Jennifer Jones; and John Brown all spoke against the passage of the ordinance. Compelling reasons were cited, such as the lack of viable alternatives for people who have no place to call home, even in the coldest

months. One speaker said that the unhoused are obviously among society's most vulnerable.

Councilor Ed Ulibarri said that he knows a family afraid to use their own backyard because of unhoused people regularly partying in the vicinity. Ulibarri disagreed that the unhoused are more vulnerable than senior citizens are, and invited those present to attend a Nov. 7 city meeting on resources for unhoused individuals.

"There's an opportunity for people to go over there, get involved, put in your comments, and maybe address it somehow..."

Councilor Doug Glaspell said, "...six or seven weeks ago, the City of Pueblo did a cleanup in their community also. They had 35 beds available that were offered to the people. Not one person took one of those beds. They did not want to be housed."

City Manager Bill Bell said that he has never received any calls or communications from anyone in the community regarding what the city is doing on any of these issues.

"...As a reminder, it feels like ten years ago now...we set up a homeless coalition, we invited 500 to 600 people to the Pavilion Auditorium, we packed the house...as was mentioned this has been an issue facing our community for a very long time, the homeless issue," Bell said.

"But that isn't the issue we are talking about tonight. This is a camping ban ordinance...it has been illegal to camp in our parks for decades, so this is not a new rule. The only thing new about this is the enforcement teeth added on the third offense for mandatory jail time, and that has nothing to do with whether somebody is homeless or not...what we are addressing has to do with the...fear in our park system, has to do with people tearing up our stuff.

"Whether you're homeless or you're not homeless, you don't have the right to tear up other peoples' property. That is what we're dealing with..."

The City has now re-established the Homeless Coalition Roundtable, Bell said. "...We're leading that group...we do encourage representatives of the various churches...we are dedicated as a city to find an appropriate place, but we can't just shelter people...we have to deal with

the issues that are leading to be unhoused to begin with...we have a varying population of people who are unhoused in our community...we've talked with the representatives of Shepherd's Hand...they're doing a great job there...every unhoused person is different and their needs are different. But for the record, the city is working on it...we have tried as a city staff and as a group of elected officials here...and we're all committed to addressing this situation.

"But it's really important that we divide these two issues," Bell said. "We keep wanting to make tonight's camping issue about the homeless, and about the unhoused; it is not.

"It is about protecting our public assets, that are owned by the taxpayers, and all 21,000 residents of the City of Montrose have equal opportunity to access our parks and our trails and our open spaces, in a free manner and we owe it to everyone," Bell said. "So sometimes there's a vocal minority but we have to look out for the greater good, which is 21,000 people.

"This decision tonight has absolutely nothing to do with the unhoused and the homeless."

Also, the City cannot allow volunteers to help with encampment cleanup efforts, he said, due to safety concerns. "There's a liability issue there."

Bell said that those who need specific resources can call him and he will connect them with the help that is needed.

[Ordinance 2670](#) was passed unanimously on Second Reading.

## ORDINANCE 2674 - FIRST READING

Council voted to adopt [Ordinance 2674](#) on first reading, providing and appropriating funds for defraying the expenses and liabilities of the City of Montrose, Colorado, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025.

City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg [presented](#) the First Reading of the [proposed Budget for 2025](#).

All City employees have had input into the budget, Wittenberg said.

"I just want to reiterate again how blessed and grateful I am to have such a great team to work with...we started in January of this year...working through as a group..."

# CITY APPROVES INCREASED FUNDING FOR REGION 10 From previous pg

She outlined the process for creating the \$111.7M proposed budget for 2025, step by step and fund by fund.

### RESOLUTION 2024-19

Council voted to approve Resolution 2024-19, repealing and replacing Chapters 3-1-1, 3-1-2, and 3-1-3 of the City of Montrose Regulations Manual and adopting the 2025 fee schedule.

### FUNDING FOR REGION 10 MEALS PROGRAM

As previously discussed, Council voted unanimously to approve \$18,000 in funding toward the Region 10 Area Agency on Aging Delivered Meals Programs.

Region 10 Director Michelle Haynes was present for the discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem David Frank said, "I just wish it was more."

### RESOLUTION 2024-21

Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-21 authorizing the filing of a United States Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Cleanup Grant Application in the amount of \$2,000,000. The purpose of the grant is to fund the

remediation expenses associated with the hazardous waste and regulated building material that exists at the former Bullock Steam Electric Plant.

**LEONARD FARM ADDITION ANNEXATION**  
Mayor J. David Reed recused from consideration of the Leonard Farm Addition Annexation due to the potential for a conflict of interest.

Council held a hearing on the annexation of the Leonard Farm Addition. With Reed abstaining, Council voted to adopt Resolution 2024-20, findings of fact for the Leonard Farm Addition annexation.

Also approved with one abstention were Ordinance 2675 on first reading, for the annexation of the Leonard Farm Addition and Ordinance 2676 on first reading, zoning the Leonard Farm Addition as an R-3A, medium high density district.

Reed returned to Council Chambers.

### SEASONS SUBDIVISION FILING NO. 2 AMENDED PRELIMINARY PLAT

With Ullibbarri voting "No," Council voted to approve the Seasons Subdivision Filing No. 2 Amended Preliminary Plat in a four

to one vote.

### STAFF REPORTS

There were no staff reports.

### YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

Jordyn Simo said that Youth Council has some new ideas and will attend a National League of Cities Summit Youth Conference in Florida.

"It's a really good opportunity to increase those leadership skills...we're really grateful for the opportunity and we're really excited for all of the things we're going to learn in this conference.

"Thank you."

Councilor Ed Ullibbarri said that MADA sponsored a Courage for Cove event the previous weekend, and he thanked all of those who contributed to the benefit to help a young man and his family raise funds for his cancer treatment and travel, including City Council for purchasing tickets.

"In my opinion it was quite successful."

With no further business,

"We will stand adjourned," Mayor Reed said.



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**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author & Reporter

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



# CIMARRON CREEK COMMUNITY FALL 2024

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MARC CATLIN WINS COLORADO'S 5<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT



**Marc Catlin is currently Senator Elect for Colorado's 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District and finishing his term as Colorado's 58th District State Representative. Courtesy photo.**

the split counties of Delta, Eagle, Garfield and Montrose.

Catlin says, "It is an honor to be elected as the Western Slope's newest State Senator. This district is my home, and I am excited to get back to Denver to do the work of the 5th Senate District and the Western Slope. Our values need to be carried forward in the state senate. These issues are water, the cost of living, protecting productive agriculture, along with mental health and health care access. I will continue to represent the Western Slope way of life with common sense. I look forward to representing everyone in the 5<sup>th</sup> District, regardless of party. It's a privilege to be your state Senator."

Marc Catlin is currently Senator Elect for Colorado's 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District and finishing his term as Colorado's 58th District State Representative. Catlin is Vice Chair of the Agriculture, Water, & Natural Resources Committee, a member of the Capital Development Committee, and Ranking member of the Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee. Marc Catlin is a resident of Montrose, Colorado.

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— On Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2024, Marc Catlin was officially declared the winner of the election for Colorado's 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District. This was the most

contentious race in the state. Catlin came out on top, being elected with 52 percent of the vote.

The 5th Senate District consists of seven counties: Hinsdale, Gunnison, Pitkin and



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## UTE MOUNTAIN UTE CHAIRMAN MANUEL HEART TO SPEAK IN TELLURIDE NOV. 12

*Special to the Mirror*

TELLURIDE- The Telluride Institute has teamed up with San Miguel County, the Telluride Historical Museum and the Wilkinson Public Library, thanks to a grant from the Town of Telluride’s CCAASE, to host an evening for the community to hear from Ute Mountain Ute Chairman Manuel Heart.

Heart will speak on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 7 pm. Earlier in the day he will speak with local elected officials at the quarterly Intergovernmental meeting held in the San Miguel County meeting room in the Miramonte Building at 1:30 pm.

“Ever since San Miguel County made a formal apology to the Uncompahgre Utes for their forced removal from county lands, the community has been working to improve communications and relationships with local Ute nations,” said Institute Trustee Art Goodtimes. “Bringing Chairman Heart to speak to the town and county officials at the Intergovernmental is the first in a series of Indigenous speakers we hope to come and speak in San Miguel County. And since no formal observance of Indigenous Peoples Day last month occurred this year, we thought a public meeting for Chairman Heart to talk of tribal issues and for community members to ask questions was a good way to celebrate that day and to continue relationship-building.”

The session at the library will be free and open to the public, as will the Intergovernmental meeting.



Ute Mountain Ute Chairman Manuel Heart. Courtesy photo.



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## FOREST SERVICE OFFICES CLOSE FOR VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY

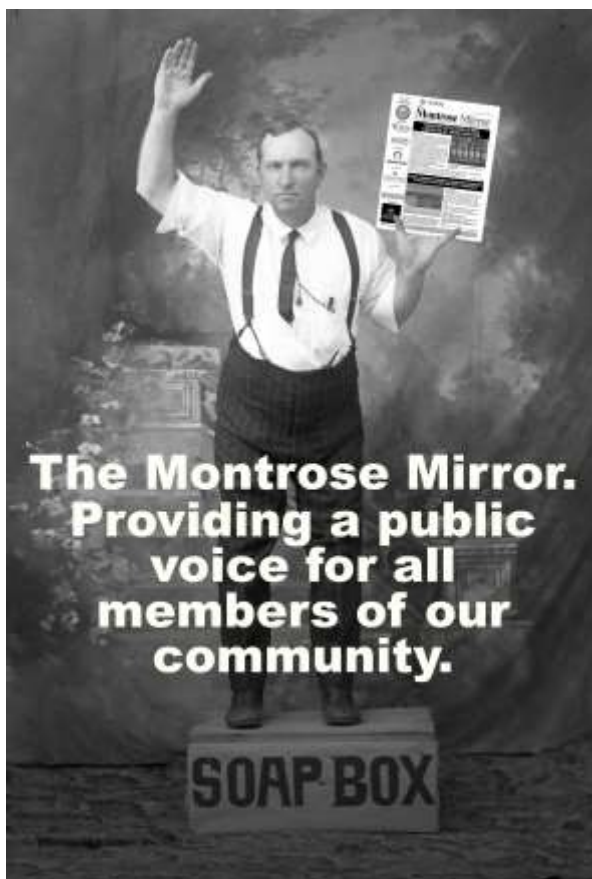
*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests’ Supervisor’s Office, along with all ranger district offices, will be closed in observance of the Veterans Day federal holiday, Nov. 11, 2024. Offices will resume regular business hours Tuesday, Nov. 12. Please plan accordingly for your GMUG National Forest’s needs.

While Forest Service offices will be closed, permits for firewood can still be purchased [online](#) or at any of the following locations:

- Paonia Flower Shop—201 Grand Avenue, Paonia, Colorado; 970-527-4664
- Desperado General Store—40486 D Road, Crawford, Colorado; 970-921-5665
- Gambles Work Wear—178 E. Bridge Street, Hotchkiss, CO; 970-872-8002
- Valley Ranch—57454 Highway 330, Collbran, Colorado; 970-487-3000

For information and updates on current fire restrictions, conditions, and recreation opportunities on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests, visit the [forest website](#). Connect with us on social media ([X \(Twitter\)](#) and [Facebook](#)).



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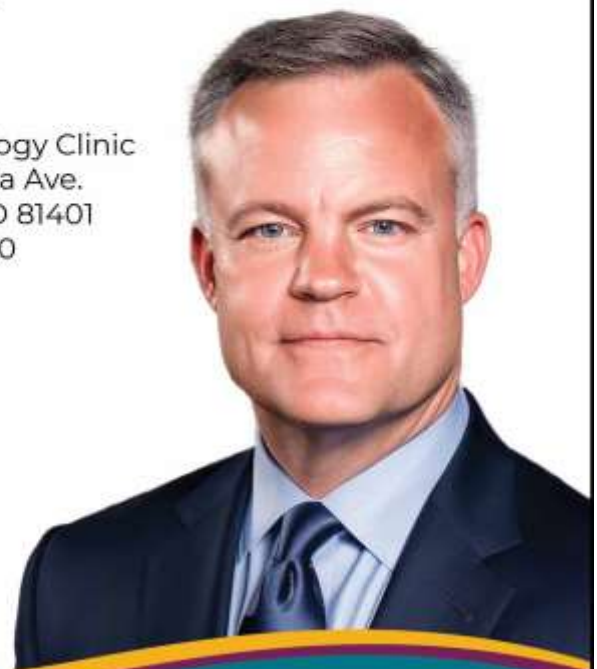
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## MONTROSE VETERANS MEMORIAL COALITION NOVEMBER 2024 UPDATE

### Letter to the Editor:

This past month the Coalition has been working with the city on the concept drawing. On Nov. 4 all the team members gathered at the Montrose County offices to approve the attached conceptual site drawing. The plan now will be sent back to Motley Architecture & Design to add construction details. Once that phase is complete the bid process will begin. Jim Scheid, city of Montrose public works director, said bids might be returned as early as the end of this year. The estimated cost will be determined when the bids are received. The estimate for beginning construction is early spring 2025, he said.

The footprint of the memorial displays the features we have published in past briefings. The first feature is our welcoming stone followed by six black granite panels on both sides of the center sidewalk.

We are currently looking for donations that will help buy these black granite stones engraved with veteran activities from WW1 through the current conflicts of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Donations towards these panels are tax deductible for federal income tax purposes and the Colorado Enterprise Zone credits. The panels are what makes this project a memorial. These panels are a one-time investment in this project, and each panel will cost around \$20,000. If you are interested in donating toward the tax-deductible panels, please contact us at the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans and ask for Amy at 970-765-2210, or visit [www.montrosevmc.us](http://www.montrosevmc.us) to donate online.

We are moving forward rapidly on this project and we appreciate you all for your donations for the tribute bricks and service seals. We are sorry we could not get the brick program going for Veterans Day



this year, but the new design for the memorial took more time than expected. The brick laying program will happen in the spring once the memorial is completed. By the way, the design include placement of nearly 900 bricks, and we have sold nearly 300 to date! Thank you for your continued support.

*Les Williams, MVMC BOD President*





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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA HEALTH VOLUNTEER CHAPLAINS HONOR OUTSTANDING HEALTHCARE WORKERS AT 5TH ANNUAL ST. LUKE'S CHAPLAIN SERVICE AWARDS

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— The Delta Health Volunteer Chaplains hosted their fifth annual Delta Health Chaplain's St. Luke's Recognition Awards on October 29, honoring and celebrating healthcare professionals who consistently demonstrate exceptional compassion towards patients, families, and colleagues.

Inspired by St. Luke, renowned as the author of the Biblical books of Luke and Acts, and presumed to be educated as a physician, the St. Luke's awards honor caregivers, nurses, physicians, and hospital staff for their outstanding efforts in healing the mind, body, and spirit.

This year's four nominees—Theresa Wrich, RN, Sabrina Ryan, LPN, Amber Medina, RN, and Janel Webb, RN, BSN,—were recognized for going above and beyond in showing compassion and promoting a healing environment. They exemplify dedication to their profession by meeting patients and staff where they are, incorporating their faith and calling into their service.

Of these nominees, two winners were chosen, Sabrina Ryan from the Delta Health Pulmonology Clinic and Janel Webb, Delta Health Quality Director, to receive the prestigious Healing Hands statue/award. Sabrina was recognized for her compassionate heart and doing what is right by her patients. She adapts to each patient and creates an environment where patients feel connected to her. Janel was recognized for her 19 years of service at Delta Health and her empathy and extensive knowledge when it comes to patient care.

Sabrina's nomination letter noted how she, "treats her patients as if they were her family. She reaches out to them if they've had a hard day, sends condolences for loss and is always going above and beyond with patient care." The letter recognized her ability to do right by her patients even if it means having hard conversations and discussions to make sure they are well informed and understand the risks.

Janel's nomination letter chronicled her journey at Delta Health. Starting off as a new graduate nurse on the Med/Surg floor, then ICU, House Supervisor, Director of ICU, the Director of Education and now also the Director of Quality. It noted her clinical competence and critical thinking skills that allow her to communicate clearly and compassionately with patients. "Janel has the ability to recognize the emotional and psychological challenges that patients face and provides support that goes beyond physical care," read the nomination letter.

The ceremony was opened by Pastor James Conley, followed by a prayer of innovation from Pastor Carol Layton and scripture read by Pastor Sherry Mitchem. The nomination letters were read for each person, and were presented with certificates from the Chaplains. During the ceremony, Chief Executive Officer, Jonathan Cohee, MHA, OT, expressed gratitude and appreciation for the exceptional work that our nurses and healthcare staff provide each day.

The fifth annual St. Luke's Chaplain Service Awards were a great reminder of the compassionate, quality care that the volunteer chaplains continue to provide. It was also a way to honor the staff of Delta Health for their work in providing remarkable care in a healing environment.

For more information about the volunteer chaplains at Delta Health, please visit [deltahealthco.org/volunteers/](http://deltahealthco.org/volunteers/) or call 970.874.7681.



***This year's four nominees—Theresa Wrich, RN, Sabrina Ryan, LPN, Amber Medina, RN, and Janel Webb, RN, BSN,—were recognized for going above and beyond in showing compassion and promoting a healing environment. They exemplify dedication to their profession by meeting patients and staff where they are, incorporating their faith and calling into their service. Courtesy photos.***





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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## JOIN US FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL CRAB CRACK – A SEAFOOD CELEBRATION TO BENEFIT LOCAL YOUTH

### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE– The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club invites you to the 10th Annual Crab Crack, a delicious all-you-can-eat seafood boil, on Friday, November 22, 2024, at the Montrose Pavilion Events Center from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This special evening supports local youth development programs.

The event will feature a hearty seafood feast with favorites like crab, shrimp, sausage, corn, and potatoes, perfect for seafood lovers and those seeking a fun night out. Attendees can also enjoy live music, a beer and wine garden, and participate in a live auction, with all proceeds directly benefiting the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club.

Crab Crack is a unique Montrose tradition that brings the community together to support youth programs that serve community children and teens. Individual tickets start at \$55. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Visit [bit.ly/crabcrack24](http://bit.ly/crabcrack24) for tickets and additional event details.

Join us in making a difference in the lives of Montrose youth by celebrating a memorable night of food, fun, and community. We look forward to seeing you there!

### About the Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club

The Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club is dedicated to inspiring and empowering young people to reach their full potential. Through safe, positive environments and programs that promote education, health, and personal growth, the Club plays a vital role in shaping the future of Montrose’s youth.

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA HEALTH CELEBRATES REMARKABLE NURSES: HONORING DAISY AWARD NOMINEES

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— Nine nurses at Delta Health were honored with nominations for The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses®, to recognize the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care they provide patients and families every single day, at a ceremony at the Hospital on Wednesday, October 30. This quarter’s DAISY nominees were the following nurses: Randi Altman, Julia Rohrbaugh, Leah Borgman, John Ruybal, Wendy Deuschle, Lacy Stockton, Chelsea Pomeroy, Mercedes Zunich and Dani Carson.

The overall DAISY Award winner for this quarter was Randi Altman, a Registered Nurse in the Delta Health Emergency Department. “Randi exemplified extraordinary skills and dedication by successfully placing a challenging IV for an infant using ultrasound,” read Randi’s nomination letter from Amy Sorenson, RN, CRFN, Care Flight. “Her achievement underscores the critical role of a nurse in delivering compassionate care and advancing clinical expertise. Without Randi’s intervention, the transfer process could have been significantly delayed, potentially impacting the timely delivery of definitive care for the child. This accomplishment truly highlights Randi’s competence, commitment, and invaluable contribution to patient care.”

The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s mission to recognize nurses who go above and beyond in the care of their pa-

tients. Nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues, and the quarterly DAISY award recipient is chosen through a select Daisy Committee and a scoring rubric recognizing the nurses’ P.E.T.A.L.S., (Passion, Empathy, Trust, Admirable attributes, Love and Selflessness). Applications are blinded to the committee and scored. Awards are then presented four times throughout the year to celebrate the nominees.

“Over the years, over 300 nominations have been received for Delta Health Nursing Staff and recognized at Delta Health for the Daisy Award,” said Dawn Arnett, BSN, RN, Director of In-Patient Services Med/Surg at Delta Health and DAISY Award Coordinator. “This was our final presentation for 2024, awarding our 24th Award with the “Healers Touch” sculpture. This completed our sixth year as members of the Daisy Foundation created by the Patrick Barnes family in 1999.”

The certificate that each honoree receives commends her or him as an “Extraordinary Nurse.” The certificate reads: “In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people.” Honorees receive a DAISY Award pin and daisy stems. The Daisy Award winner also receives a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called A Healer’s Touch, hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe. The Healers Touch sculpture represents the bond between



**The overall DAISY Award winner for this quarter was Randi Altman, a Registered Nurse in the Delta Health Emergency Department. Courtesy photo.**

nurses and their patients.

The DAISY Foundation is present in over 3,200 organizations across the world. Over 1 million nurses have been nominated, and over 100,000 nurses have received the award. Delta Health is proud to be one of these organizations. To nominate a nurse for a DAISY Award, go online to [deltahealthco.org/bee-daisy-awards/](https://deltahealthco.org/bee-daisy-awards/) and submit a digital nomination form. Nomination forms can also be found throughout the hospital.

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## CITY OFFICES TO CLOSE FOR VETERANS DAY

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— In observance of the Veterans Day holiday, City Hall, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Downtown Visitor Center, City Shop, Montrose Pavilion, and Police Department offices will close on Monday, Nov. 11.

Police Department offices will be closed but officers will be on duty and responding to calls.

The Black Canyon Golf Course will be open, along with the golf course snack bar. The Rusty Putter restaurant is closed due to renovations.

City residential trash customers who would normally receive service on Monday, Nov. 11, will instead be served on Tuesday, Nov. 12, and Wednesday, Nov. 13. Monday customers located south of San Juan Avenue will be served on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Monday customers residing north of San Juan Avenue will be served on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Recycling customers who would normally receive collection service on Monday, Nov. 11, will instead be served on Friday, Nov. 15.

Residents with questions about route adjustments are encouraged to call City Hall at 970.240.1400 or visit [CityofMontrose.org/Trash](http://CityofMontrose.org/Trash)

For information about the City of Montrose visit [CityofMontrose.org](http://CityofMontrose.org).



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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## CITY TO HOST A “CANDY LAND CHRISTMAS” HOLIDAY SEASON

### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE — The City of Montrose is excited to host a wide range of events to celebrate the upcoming holiday season with a theme aimed at drawing friends and family closer together. “Candy Land Christmas,” inspired by the beloved children’s game, is a theme that city organizers hope will inspire creativity on a community-wide scale.

Holiday festivities begin with the annual Tree Lighting scheduled for Friday, November 29, at 5:30 p.m. in front of the historic Elks Civic Building located at 107 South Cascade. This change in location is a result of the ongoing renovations to the historic Montrose County Courthouse.

Immediately following the tree lighting ceremony, Santa is expected to make an appearance from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to help open his cabin located on Main Street in the lot east of the Brooks and Brooks law office.

Other dates where Santa is expected to be in his cabin include November 30, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., December 14, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and December 20, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Kids can drop off their letters to Santa at the cabin anytime from November 29 through December 20.

“When we as a staff were thinking of a theme this year, we wanted to promote something that the kids could enjoy and would bring families closer together, and

Candy Land Christmas seemed like a good fit,” said City of Montrose Pavilion and Community Events Manager Katie Schroer. “Each year city staff from across all divisions gather together to brainstorm holiday events and promotions and fine-tune event details. There is something for everyone in Candy Land Christmas and we hope everyone in town comes out to help Montrose celebrate another wonderful holiday season.”

Residents wanting to get more buying power this holiday season are invited to participate in the city’s annual Montrose Bucks program. For every \$50 in Montrose Bucks purchased, customers will receive \$60 in return that can be spent at participating businesses throughout the community. The Montrose Bucks sale begins Saturday, November 30, at 10 a.m. in the Community Room inside the Montrose Public Safety Complex at 434 South First Street. The promotion is limited to \$400 cash (\$480 Montrose Bucks) per household.

For more information about the Montrose Bucks program and to see a list of local participating businesses visit: [www.cityofmontrose.org/Bucks&nbsp;](http://www.cityofmontrose.org/Bucks&nbsp;); City of Montrose Development and Revitalization Team, DART, coordinator Michelle Wingfield said the Montrose Bucks sale also falls on Small Business Saturday, when the post-Thanksgiving holi-

day shopping season begins, with the goal to patronize brick-and-mortar businesses that are small, local, and owned by our friends and neighbors.

“Small businesses are essential pillars of our community,” Wingfield said. “They create a sense of place that is unique to Montrose. Our hope with Small Business Saturday is that locals come out to enjoy the weekend while supporting our local businesses.”

The holiday events calendar culminates with the annual Parade of Lights, the illuminated tour of historic Main Street, scheduled for Saturday, December 7, at 5:30 p.m.

The groups that encompass the theme and have the most creativity will have a chance to win the first, second, or third-place prizes.

Make sure to dress warm as dozens of floats will make their way down Main Street in front of a horse-drawn carriage carrying Santa.

“From the annual Tree Lighting to Small Business Saturday to the community Parade of Lights, we are encouraging everyone to keep the love and joy of the holiday season with friends and family in mind while decorating their floats, homes, and businesses,” Schroer said.

See more information about Candy Land Christmas at [www.cityofmontrose.org/Holidays](http://www.cityofmontrose.org/Holidays)



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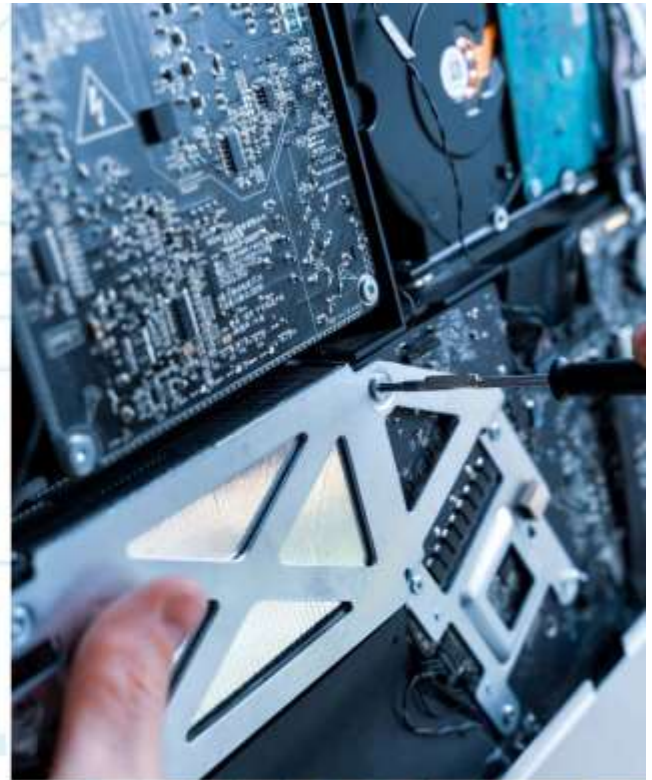
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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA HEALTH EXPANDS RADIOLOGY SERVICES THROUGH INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA – Starting Monday, November 4, Delta Health is partnering with a new radiology group, Inspire Radiology. This change will provide Delta Health and Delta Health patients with the quality radiology support patients deserve.

Inspire Radiology provides hospitals, healthcare systems, imaging centers and

specialty practices with on-site radiologist and teleradiology services. They have board-certified, specialty-trained radiologists who are passionate about improving patient outcomes.

Delta Health’s previous provider of radiology services was experiencing severe staff shortages that created inconsistent radiology support such as providing timely exam

readings, and timely on-site services.

“Inspire Radiology will provide in-house support 5 days per week and reading support 7 days a week, working in tandem with our own contracted provider, Dr. Charles Fowler,” said Kevin Fischer, MS, RRT, FAARC, Director of Radiology at Delta Health. “Inspire Radiology will also provide 24-hour teleradiology services, 365 days a year. This means that Delta Health’s staff, providers, and patients will have true radiology partners focused on quality patient care.”

With Inspire Radiology’s services, exams are read within 24 hours and STAT/critical exams will be read as quickly as 15 minutes. It also means the Delta Health team will have a radiology on-call 24 hours a day via phone to provide additional support. Inspire has a large team of specialty radiologists on staff meaning MRIs will be read by an MRI specialty radiologist, ultrasound scans will be read by ultrasound specialty radiologists, etc.

“Delta Health is committed to innovation and efficiency for our staff and patients, and partnering with Inspire Radiology ensures we do both of those things,” said Jonathan Cohee, MHA, OT, Chief Executive Officer for Delta Health. “Having our radiology partner means that we will provide the specialized support that our patients deserve.”

The Delta Health Radiology department provides a range of services including 3-D mammography, bone density scans, ultrasounds, x-rays, CT/MRI, PET/Nuclear Med scans, and more. With state-of-the-art medical imaging equipment, patients and providers receive the radiology support they need to make responsible, knowledgeable decisions about their health.

“Our department will continue to invest in new technologies, and partnerships such as Inspire Radiology, to provide our patients with the highest level of imaging services possible,” said Fischer.

To learn more about the Radiology Department at Delta Health, visit [deltahealthco.org/diagnostic-imaging/](http://deltahealthco.org/diagnostic-imaging/) or call 970.874.2214.

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# Picturesque HOME

Located in the highly sought-after Spring Creek area of Montrose County, this residence offers a peaceful retreat with unparalleled views. The property features ample space for vehicles and recreational equipment, including a 4+ car garage with a newer 681 sq ft addition ideal for a workshop, garage, or RV storage, complemented by a convenient 24' x 12.5' carport for additional storage needs..

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- Features:**
- ✓ 2,301 sq ft
  - ✓ 3 Bedroom
  - ✓ 3 Bathroom
  - ✓ 4 Car Garage
  - ✓ 3.236 Acres



*Michelle Klippert*  
Broker/Owner  
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## CPW SHOULD FIRST ACT WITH DUE HASTE TO END BOBCAT HOUNDING AND BAITED TRAPPING

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND LAKE — Leaders from Cats Aren't Trophies called on Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commissioners and staff leadership at Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to act with all due speed to end hound hunting and baited trapping of bobcats and lions.

"Voters most definitely did not affirm vicious and highly commercialized forms of trophy hunting and commercial trapping of our native cats by narrowly rejecting Prop 127," said **Sam Miller, Campaign Director for CATs**. "The majority of voters, including hundreds of thousands of 'No on 127', said serious-minded wildlife protection reforms should be instituted, with a hand off of the ball to Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

The vote was about choosing a pathway for reform, not about rejecting reform.

"When all votes are counted, nearly 1.5 million Coloradans will be on record in saying they want an immediate end to trophy hunting and commercial trapping of bobcats and mountain lions," said **Julie Marshall, Communications Director for CATs**. "So many 'no' voters want reform, but simply didn't feel comfortable doing it on the ballot. They want CPW to act, and that starts with having CPW end its unlimited allowance for killing bobcats and halting hounding and baiting of the animals."

How citizens feel about these methods alone is known, reported by the Colorado State University study published in [Society for Conservation Biology](#) just three months ago, which shows that 88.2% of citizens disapprove of hunting mountain lions with dogs.

In moving forward, the CATs citizen coalition with its many wildlife experts has revealed the most crucial points that cannot be ignored, especially by CPW commissioners or the Legislature that sets policy for all citizens of Colorado.

These include:

- Using baiting, commercial trapping, and hounding is no way to treat apex predators who deliver so many ecological and economic services to Colorado. No other big game animals in Colorado are baited or hounded, and none are shot during a period when mothers have dependent young.

- Random shooting and trapping of mountain lions and bobcats should not be mistaken for wildlife management. It's just a recreational and commercial killing opportunity for the very small number of people who killing cats. There is not a shred of evidence to support the notion that recreational killing of these animals does anything to reduce the remote chances of human conflicts with lions or bobcats.

- That policymakers should be guided by overwhelming evidence that mountain lions uniquely benefit the health and balance of nature and are a bulwark against the further spread of Chronic Wasting Disease in deer and elk.

"Colorado Parks and Wildlife cannot honestly describe hounding and baiting seasons as 'science-based management' and allow unlimited killing of bobcats for their fur or for trophies, and it's an insult for anyone to suggest that's what's happening," added Miller. "The agency operates at its peril by stonewalling on obvious reforms to protect wild cats. The vote was anything but a mandate on baiting trapping and hounding – it was a vote of deference to the agency to take action itself."

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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### **PATRICIA J. (PATSY LOVE) WALLACE**

***October 17, 1942 — November 2, 2024***



PATRICIA J. (PATSY LOVE) WALLACE, born

Oct. 17, 1942, passed away at home on November 2, 2024.

Patsy was born in Montrose, Colorado to Richard (Dick) and Roberta (Green) Love. She lived in Montrose until the time of her death.

Patsy graduated from Montrose High School in 1960 and married Ralph Wallace on June 10, 1961. They raised two children Danny Wallace, (Shirley Wallace) of Delta, and Sharla (Bob) Krebs of Montrose.

The marriage ended in divorce in 1984.

Patsy is survived by her children, three granddaughters Hillari (Terry) Southworth, Heather (Ted) Simpson and Haley (Chris) Sandoval and six great-grandchildren Rylee and Remi Southworth, Emma and Luke Simpson, and Ronan and Selah Sand-

oval. She was preceded in death by her parents, Stepmother Pennie Love, Brothers Danny Love and Gary Love, and Grandson Jeremiah Blassingame.

Patsy was blessed to have many treasured lifelong friends (you know who you are). She loved you!

Patsy was deeply loved and will be greatly missed.

Special Thank you to all our "girls" from HopeWest for taking such good care of her. We love you!!

Services will be held Thursday November 7, 2024 @ 10:00 am at Crippin Funeral Home.

Arrangements are being handled by Crippin Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to HopeWest

### **LARRY GRATER**

***September 24, 1947 — November 3, 2024***

LARRY GRATER passed away on November 3, 2024, at his home in Olathe, Colorado, at the age of 77. Born on September 24, 1947, Larry dedicated much of his life to his career at Recla Metal, a field in which he excelled due to his hardworking and diligent nature. Larry served honorably in the Navy, where he developed a reputation for his resilience and commitment. His experiences forged a lifelong appreciation for discipline and hard work. Beyond his professional and military life, Larry was profoundly devoted to his family and the great outdoors. He was a passionate hunter and fisherman, always cherishing the time spent in the woods or at a lake. These hobbies were more than pastimes; they were the ways he connected with nature and shared valuable lessons and moments with his loved ones. He was a kind, compassionate, and generous man,

always ready to lend a helping hand or share a word of encouragement. His love for the outdoors was paralleled only by his love for his family, with whom he enjoyed working, spending time, and creating lasting memories. Larry is survived by his loving wife, Linda Grater; children, Henry Grater, Tina Boutwell, Nicole Grater, and Justin Grater; grandchildren, Emily Grater, Miley Grater, Zach Boutwell and (wife) Samantha Warner, and Nick Grater, Kylie Grater; and great-grandchildren, Ezra, Heather, Gavin, and Gianna. He is also survived by his sisters, Ruth and Mariam, and numerous nieces and nephews. Larry was preceded in death by his parents Henry and Gladys, and siblings, Jacketta, Retta, Helen, Charlotte, Ray, Bobbie, Gene, and Billy. All who knew him will remember his life and legacy as a testament to his profound impact on their



lives. Memorial contributions can be made to Bank of Colorado in place of flowers.

# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## **DORIS CATHERINE (COZINE) RYSER** ***March 8, 1936 — October 29, 2024***

DORIS CATHERINE (COZINE) RYSER went home to her Lord and Savior on October 29, 2024, at HopeWest Hospice in Grand Junction, CO surrounded by her loving family. Doris was born in Washington, Kansas on March 8, 1936, to Vern and Irma (Ditmars) Cozine. She had an older brother, Hubert Cozine, who always watched out for her, and she adored him.

Doris attended school in Washington Kansas where she graduated in 1954. While in school, she was active in Pep Club and track and field.

Doris was raised in the Methodist Church. After moving to Montrose, she attended the Montrose Christian Church and later Grace Community Church. She instilled her love for the Lord in her children and grandchildren.

In 1956, she married Norman Ryser. They were married from 1956 – 1980. To this union, four daughters and one son were born. The family moved to Montrose, CO in 1965.

Doris was a dedicated homemaker while raising her children. When she was 55 years old, she earned her Certified Nursing Assistant license while working at Col-

orow Care Center and later did home health care for the elderly.

Doris was an amazing seamstress and loved to crochet, embroider and do needlepoint. She made many beautiful gifts for her family and others. She donated baby blankets to the hospital, and enjoyed participating in craft shows with her daughters. Some of her other interests were bowling, playing games, and watching Hallmark Movies.

Doris is survived by her five children, Teri Reed, Cathy Wehmeyer, Christa (Darin) Johnson, Jeff (Amanda) Ryser and Jenny (Ben) Truscott. Her fourteen grandchildren, Amy (Jamie) Dubs, Heath (Sara) McCombs, Joshua (Stacy) Johnson, James (Lindsay) Reed, Jesse (Jenna) McCombs, Jordan (Mallory) Johnson, Zachary (Lindsey) Johnson, Dustin (Ashley) Reed, Maranda (Spencer Sinclair) Ryser, Jeffrey (Carissa) Ronzio, Brianne (Aaron) Bras-sard, Cole (Jessica Christiansen) Ronzio, Jacob Ryser, and Elijah Truscott. She is also survived by 43 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren on the way in 2025, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her par-



ents, Vern and Irma Cozine, her brother, Hubert Cozine, sister-in-law, Wanda Cozine, and two sons in law, Larry Reed and Gary Wehmeyer.

A service will be held at the Montrose Church of Christ on November 16 at 10 am. In lieu of flowers, a donation to HopeWest Hospice can be made in her name.

*Now more than ever...*

*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**



## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### DALLAS DAVID ROBERTS

***March 25, 2005 — October 28, 2024***



DALLAS DAVID ROBERTS, 19, passed away on October 28, 2024, in Montrose, Colorado. Born on March 25, 2005, in Greeley, Colorado, Dallas grew up with a love for music and a strong faith that shaped his kind and caring spirit.

Dallas attended schools in Greeley, participating in soccer, football, track and field, NJROTC, and bull riding. In Montrose, Dallas played football and lacrosse. In November 2022, he moved to Montrose and

graduated from Montrose High School in 2023. He then pursued Early Childhood Education at Colorado Mesa University, where he felt called to work with children. Dallas was excited about his future as a teacher, eager to nurture young minds and make a difference.

An avid learner, Dallas shared his love for music and craftsmanship with his family. He built a guitar with his Uncle Dwight, played bass with his brother, jammed with his Papa Russ, and worked in the shop with his dad. Dallas was a loving child of God; he was fascinated by angels and constantly searching the word of God for peace, answers, and understanding.

Known for his sensitivity and compassion, Dallas's tender heart left a lasting impression on all who knew him. His faith, devotion to family, and dedication to his goals will inspire his loved ones to be the best, most authentic, and kindest versions of themselves. Dallas is survived by his father Elliott and Deanna Roberts; brother Preston Roberts; stepsister Alycia Shaffer and fiancé Jeff DeJohn; stepsister Sarah and Wes Marsh and niece Parker Jane; Grandparents Russell and Germaine Bryant; his Uncle Dwight Roberts; and a loving extended family. Dallas is also survived by

his mother Lori Roberts; Grandma Sharon Huffman; Uncle Chad and Aunt Julie Huffman, and his beloved cousins Victoria, Emily, and William Huffman.

Dallas was greeted in Heaven by his Grandpa David Huffman, Great Grandma Emma Fisher, Great Nana Weber, and Great Grandma Dora Bryant.

Dallas's life will be remembered on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at First Church of the Nazarene in Montrose, Colorado, with family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Bright Beginnings honoring Dallas's dedication to early childhood education or the Friends of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison Search and Rescue Team who brought him home to us.

The family extends its deepest gratitude to the Montrose Sheriff's Department, their Search and Rescue Posse, Black Canyon Forest Service and Rangers, and Montrose High School staff for their tireless support and kindness during this difficult time. We are grateful for the outpouring of love and prayers from family, friends, and the community. Dallas will be laid to rest with his Grandpa David in a private family service at Linn Grove Cemetery in Greeley, Colorado.



ISSUE 494 Nov. 11, 2024

# ART & SOL

## THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE: HORSE MEDICINE



By Wendy Videlock *an untouched expansive*

As a child growing up in the deserts of Tucson, the sandy washes that veined through town were the perfect place to learn to ride a horse. We rode with blankets, rarely with saddles, so falling off was frequent, and the sand was forgiving on our young bodies.

*stretch of snow, or the first warm breath and the first uncertain steps of an all-leg, newborn foal.*

The horses from the stable were mostly old and mostly swaybacked, but we didn't care. We were given riding time in exchange for brushing and currying those horses. This was a kind of paradise to us. And I learned a few things from those horses.

*The old horse with the cloudy eyes is often the one who is both feisty and wise. The stallion has no time for compromise. The lead mare is not be the final word*

*but she is the most calm horse in the herd. All that muscle comes miraculously of simple grains, grasses and sweet hay. A horse can hear the beating of your heart*

*from more than four feet away. I swear there's nothing more divine than a kind word, the call of the redwing blackbird,*

Years later when my husband was stationed in Germany, we lived in a tiny village in the Eiffel Mountains where I befriended a bay mare. She was the only horse in the village that wasn't spooked by my dog bounding into the pasture. The farmer glared in my direction, but tolerated this clumsy American bringing his gentle workhorse the occasional carrot.

*She lifts her great head and murmurs a low, soulful,*

*salutation that only a lover of horses can know.*

Wherever I go it seems there is always a horse or two willing to move closer along the fence line and say hello. Throughout my life this has been a great comfort to me. Because of their heightened awareness of non-verbal cues and energy, horses are well known as excellent therapy animals. They can spot fear a mile away and can sense gentleness coming, too.

When we moved to our home in Palisade many years ago, I was thrilled that there was a pair of horses living next

door. Both were geldings: one a sorrel and the other a pinto Tennessee walking Horse with a history of performing at local horse shows and county fairs.

Both of them became part of my daily life and I looked forward to chatting with them a few times a week—until one day, the elder horse, the sorrel, was no longer there.

The owner later told me that old sorrel had laid down the night before and given up the ghost.

*When the horse next door*

*finally died, I was sure I couldn't bear it*

*for the one left behind.*

Since then I've come to learn the particular way the horse grieves and how the horse craves company. I spend a lot more time hanging out with Scree than I did before, now that he's all alone. I sometimes slip a halter over his face and lead him for walks around the neighborhood. I make sure his pen is clean and that he has a salt lick nearby.

When I became ill a few years ago, the first thing I did when released from the hospital was make my way into his pen and wrap my weakened arms around him. He synchronized his breath with mine and

## **THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE** *From previous pg*

and we stood there together for a long time. I shall never forget those sacred moments I shared with him that day.

I leave you with a little poem of mine that somehow nuzzled its way into The Best American Poetry anthology a few years ago.

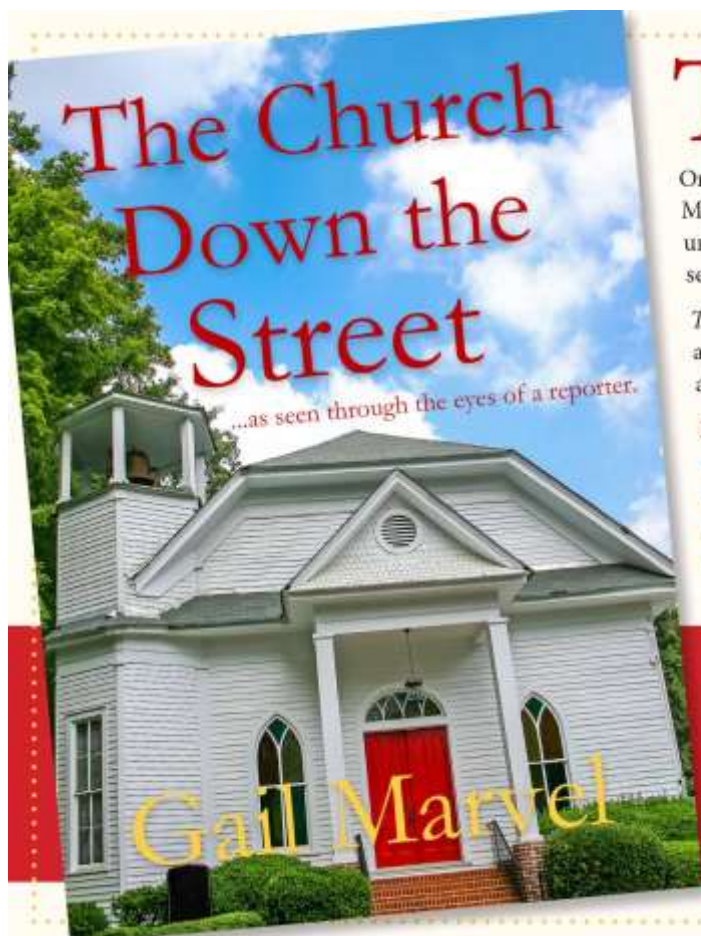
*How You Might Approach a Fowl:*

*like a lagoon, like a canoe,  
like you are part earth  
and part moon,  
like deja vu, like you  
had never been to the outer brink*

*or the inner Louvre,  
like hay, like air, like your mother  
had just this morning  
braided a dream*

*into your hair, like you  
had never heard  
a sermon or a harsh word,  
like a fool  
,like a pearl,  
like you  
are new to the world.*

**Wendy Vidlock serves as poet laureate of the Western Slope. Her poems and essays appear widely and her books are available where books are sold. Wendy believes that language is the invisible influence informing our thoughts, our perceptions and our ways of understanding ourselves and the world. Reach her at [westernslopeword@gmail.com](mailto:westernslopeword@gmail.com)**



**T**he *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).

**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author & Reporter



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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## DELTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM CELEBRATING OUR 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Celebration, Rediscovering Delta History, "The Movie". DCHS will be acknowledging their dedicated Volunteers, Board Members and Board President, Jim Wetzel. Save the date Monday, Dec. 9, 7 pm at the Delta Library CR, DCHS will be hosting Author & Historian, Dave Fishell. Dave will be presenting a fascinating program on the Fort on the Old Spanish Trail known as the old path. He will also present information on Gunnison's Expedition. This was Gunnison's first expedition west of the Mississippi and the first-time wagons had been introduced to western Colorado. The Delta County Museum will be open throughout the winter, Weds, by appointment only, Thursday, Friday 10-3 pm and Saturday's 10-3 pm will be Free Family Day at the Museum beginning Nov. 16. For more information [deltacountymuseum.org](http://deltacountymuseum.org).

*Delta County Historical Society (DCHS) and Museum courtesy photo.*

*Special to the Mirror*  
DELTA-Delta County Historical Society (DCHS) and Museum in celebration of 60 years of preserving and archiving history for the public's benefit is pleased to pre-

sent the following programs. Monday, Nov. 18, 7 pm at the Delta Library Community Room. The Historical Society will provide an encore of the 60-min video that was created for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## GMUG CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS AVAILABLE SOON

***Permits will be available over the counter and online Nov. 14***

*Special to Art & Sol*

DELTA— Christmas tree permits for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests will be available to purchase over the counter and online through [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) beginning Nov. 14, 2024. Information about designated cutting areas, cutting dates and types of trees that may be cut can be found [here](#).

Online permits will be available through [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) for the 2024 season. In person transactions may be available depending upon the ranger district. For more information on office hours and vendor options, visit our [website](#).

To purchase a Christmas tree permit, visit [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and search for Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Christmas Tree Permits. Carefully review the overview and need-to-know information before purchasing the permit. Visitors will also need to set up or log in to a [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) account to complete the transaction.

“Cutting your own Christmas tree is more than just a holiday tradition, it’s a journey that creates lasting memories,” said Chad Stewart, GMUG Forest Supervisor. “This holiday experience supports the resiliency of our national forests, transforming a tree into a cherished, handcrafted memory.”

Cutting a Christmas tree improves forest health. The permit system helps to thin densely populated strands of small-diameter trees. Local forest health experts identify areas that benefit from thinning trees that are the perfect size for Christmas trees. Removing these trees in designated areas helps other trees grow larger and can open areas that provide forage for wildlife.

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

### BLACK FRIDAY & SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

After Thanksgiving

November 29—30, 2024

9 am to 4pm

The 49th Annual

**BASEMENT  
BOUTIQUE  
CRAFT SHOW**



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Gifts of canned goods much appreciated to support Sharing Ministries



# MIRROR IMAGES: COURTHOUSE TIME CAPSULE



*On Thursday, Nov. 7, Montrose County officials welcomed community members to the opening of a time capsule found by Contractor Stryker & Associates while renovating the historic County Court-house. Photos by B. Switzer.*





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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## BENNY MANIBOG WINS CANTOR POETRY PRIZE

*Special to Art & Sol*

TELLURIDE- The Telluride Institute’s Talking Gourds Poetry Program is proud to announce the winner of the 7th Annual Cantor Prize for Poetry: Benny Manibog of Denver for his poem, *Honeycombs*.

“A hauntingly quiet poem that speaks of hunger and the history of a complicated Colorado geography,” explained Judge Juan Morales.

This year 68 poets submitted 320 poems in the Cantor contest. In addition to the first place \$1000 prize, the contest features five \$100 Outstanding Finalist prizes, plus four Honorable Mentions. Poems, photos of poets and bios can be accessed at <https://www.tellurideinstitute.org/2024-fischer-cantor-prize-winning-poems/>

The five Outstanding Finalists for the 2024 Cantor Prize are Erica Reid of Fort Collins with *The Joy of Flying Paper Airplanes*, Ginger Ayla of Trinidad with *Self-Portrait as Burn Out*, Marissa Grunes of

Boulder with *Erosion*, Carol Guerrero-Murphy of Denver with *Imperatives*, and Kathryn Jordan of California with *Fire Lookout*.

The four Honorable Mentions include Kelly Vande Plasse of Fort Collins with two poems: *One Snake* and *Singing Stone*, Everett Wilson of Crestone with *Peeling Grapefruit*, and Matthew Wimberley of North Carolina with *Self-Portrait with Magpie*.

The Cantor Prize is awarded annually to poets from Colorado on any subject or English-language poets from anywhere writing about Colorado. Past Cantor winners include Jane Hilberry of Colorado Springs, Renee Podunovich of Dolores, Mark Oreskovich of Pueblo, Madison Gill Silva of Montrose, Wendy Videlock of Palisade and Jacob Sheetz-Willard of Leadville.

“Our national poetry contests are the primary way poets can help us support the



*Benny Manibog of Denver. Courtesy photo.*

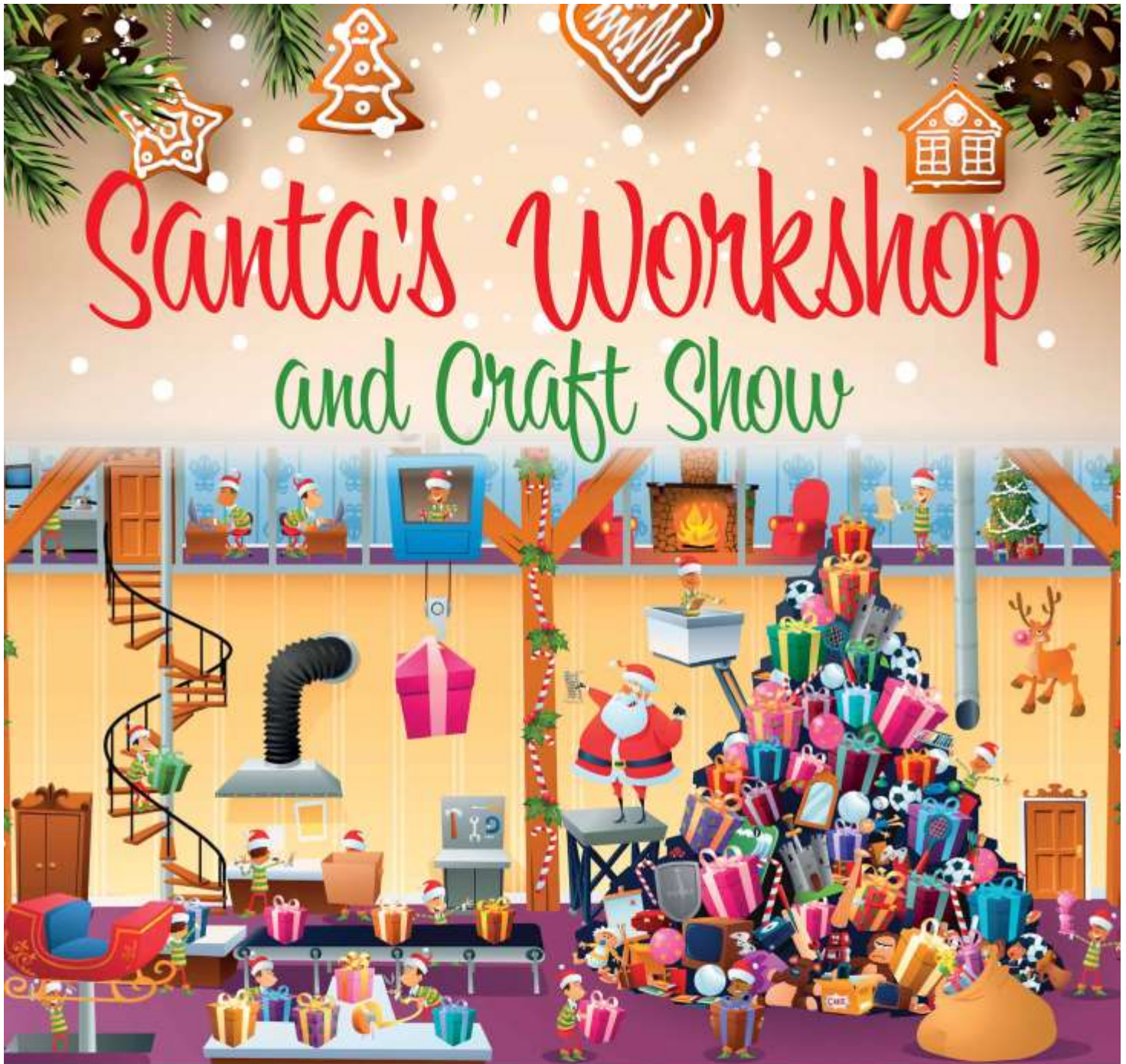
many poetry projects we do on Colorado’s Western Slope,” said Talking Gourd Director Art Goodtimes, “with the bonus that one might also win a prize. Additionally, we offer feedback on submissions, if desired.”

For more information on the Talking Gourds Poetry Program and its national Fischer and Cantor poetry contests, visit <https://www.tellurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds>

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# Santa's Workshop and Craft Show

**Friday, Dec. 6th • 9:30am to 6pm**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7th • 9am to 4pm**  
**Sunday, Dec. 8th • 11am to 4pm**

**Montrose County Fairgrounds Friendship Hall**

**For Vendor Information call**

**Debbie 970.531.2438 or email [montrosefootwear@aol.com](mailto:montrosefootwear@aol.com)**

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment.

**Contact Information:** (970) 249-2451

<https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/> Rec-  
tor: The Rev Preston Gordon, [pgor-  
don@allsaintsmontrose.org](mailto:pgor-<br/>don@allsaintsmontrose.org)

**Worship Service Times:** Sundays 9AM,

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

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

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

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

## BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Independent Baptist

112Main St.

P.O. Box 262

Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021

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

Pastor Gabe Skillo

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

## CELEBRATION CHURCH

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

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Phone:** (970) 497-4925

**Email:** [celebrationmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationmontrose@gmail.com)

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

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

**Worship Service Times:** 9am and 10:45am

**Senior Pastor:**

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

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

**Demographics:** Multi-generational

**Celebration Kids:** (age birth to 5<sup>th</sup> grade)  
programs offered both services.

**Student** (middle & high school) at 9am.

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

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

**Contact:** 970-633-0226

**Website:** [www.montroselutheran.org](http://www.montroselutheran.org)

**Email:** [montroselutheran@gmail.com](mailto:montroselutheran@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Tim Onnen

**Worship:** Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

## COMMUNITY SPIRIT CHURCH

**United Church of Christ (UCC)**

**Address:** 504 N. 1st Street (HAP Building)

**Office hours:** Call or text for appointment

**Phone:** 970-765-7070

**Email:** [spirit@communityspiritucc.org](mailto:spirit@communityspiritucc.org)

**Website:** [communityspiritucc.org](http://communityspiritucc.org)

**Current Pastor:** Rev. Wendy Kidd

**Worship service:** Sundays at 11am

**Mission:** Our commitment to a more inclu-  
sive and accepting world is steadfast, and  
we will continue to work towards a future

where everyone can live freely and au-  
thentically.

**Demographics:** We are a small congrega-  
tion of mostly adults and seniors, however,  
we are always ready to welcome families  
and children.

## COVENANT HEBRAIC FELLOWSHIP

**Denomination affiliation.** No affiliation

**Address Office hours** N/A

**Contact:** 720-951-9941,

[office@ccfmontrose.net](mailto:office@ccfmontrose.net),

[www.ccfmontrose.net](http://www.ccfmontrose.net)

**Name of current Senior Pastor.** Led by  
elders

**Worship service times.** 10AM on Satur-  
days with potluck at Noon. Children's  
Church will be offered as needed.

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.

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene

**Address:** 705 South 12th Street

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

**Contact Information:** Office Phone 970 249 -9213, [mncfirst@gmail.com](mailto:mncfirst@gmail.com), [www.montrosenazarenechurch.org](http://www.montrosenazarenechurch.org)

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook

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

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

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.*

**Demographics:** Our church consists of older 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, [info@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:info@fpcmontrose.com), [www.fpcmontrose.com](http://www.fpcmontrose.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

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

*support one another through spiritual growth, worship, and service in our community, country, and world. We also encourage children and youth to grow their relationship with Christ through our children and student ministries.*

## HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Denomination affiliation:** United Church of Christ

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

**Office hours:** By appointment

**Contact information:**

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

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

Website: [montroseucc.org](http://montroseucc.org)

**Current Pastor:** Rev. Wendy Kidd

**Worship service times:** Sunday, 10 a.m.

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

on life's journey.

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

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

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

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

**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Kevin Young

**Worship service times:**

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

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

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Affiliation:** Southern Baptist

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

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

**Contact information:**

Phone: 970.249.4887

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

email: [office@rosemontbaptist.org](mailto:office@rosemontbaptist.org)

**Senior Pastor:** Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

*matter what stage of life they are in.*

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

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

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

**Denomination affiliation:** Independent Spiritual and Interfaith Community  
**Address:** Services at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Montrose  
**Office hours:** Tues-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm, Home Office – 970-252-0908  
**Contact information:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908, [arlyn@spiritaware.org](mailto:arlyn@spiritaware.org), [www.spiritaware.org](http://www.spiritaware.org)  
**Name of current pastor:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn

Macdonald, Senior minister; Rev. Ruby Salaz, Assistant Minister. Spiritual Counseling available.  
**Worship service times:** In-person Sunday Unity Service at 11 a.m., (Social Time begins at 10 a.m.); Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m. Virtual Afternoon Service on Zoom at 2:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month; Chai Chats, a Wednesday morning midweek informal spiritual gathering at 10:30 a.m. at Pun Hill Himalayan Restaurant, Mont-

rose; 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. People of all ages are welcome.  
 There are currently no Sunday School or nursery services provided but craft supplies are available for youth.

## ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Denomination:** Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)  
**Address:** 2405 Sunnyside Road, Montrose 970-249-4868  
**Contact:** [ststephensmont-](http://ststephensmontrose.com)

[rose@yahoo.com](mailto:rose@yahoo.com)  
[www.ststephensmontrose.com](http://www.ststephensmontrose.com)  
**Rev. Dec.** Garrett Agajanian  
 St. Stephen's is a community of caring Christians rooted in the godly traditions of the past, focused on the challenges of the

present, hopeful for the future, continuing in the Faith once delivered to the saints, using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.  
**Sunday:** Holy Communion 10 am. Fellowship following service.  
 Children's nursery available (unstaffed).

## SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation: Southern Baptist  
 Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403  
 Office hours: Varies  
 Contact information:  
[email:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com](mailto:summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com)  
 website:  
[www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://www.summitchurchmontrose.org)  
 Senior Pastor: Interim Pastor

Worship service times: Sunday Worship is at 9 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!

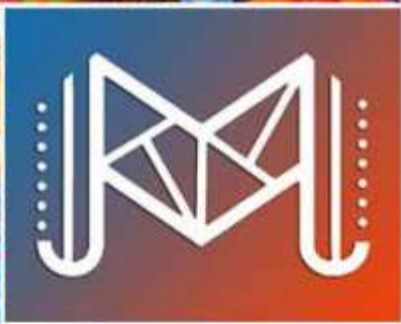
## VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

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

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

<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>
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# Paint Your Pet

**Thr., Nov. 14, Mosaic**  
**21 N. Cascade Ave.**  
**5:30-7:30 pm**



Take a picture of your pet. Send it to us. We will create a transfer for you to paint your pet on a canvas.

Detailed instructions. Lots of help. Everything provided plus snacks and a drink. \$45.  
Welcome Back, \$40.  
Group rate available.

With Kate Burke



**Our most popular class**

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<https://kathrynrburke.com/product/111424m>





**Saturday & Sunday, December 14th & 15th**  
**Saturday & Sunday, December 21st & 22nd**  
**Thursday, December 26th**  
**5:30pm - 8:30pm**

*Admission gate closes at 8:00pm*

- \* Illuminated Garden Paths & Displays \*
- \* Horse-drawn Wagon Rides \* Hot Cocoa \*
- \* Close-up Photo Op at the Horse Shed \*
- \* Santa in His Tipi \* Warming Fire Pit \*

**ADMISSION:**

Adults: \$8  
 Kids 4-17 years: \$4  
 3 yrs and under: FREE  
*No advance ticket sales.*

*Cash or credit card  
 at the gate.*

*A fundraiser for:*

**Montrose Botanic Gardens**

1800 Pavilion Dr - Montrose CO  
 info@MontroseGardens.org  
 MontroseGardens.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](http://www.valleyfoodpartnership.org). Year-Round Farmers Market, Saturdays 9am-1pm (Summer), every other Saturday 10am-1pm (Winter). Accepts SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks.

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

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

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

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

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

**MONTROSE AREA WOODTURNERS** 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](mailto:aheadaviation@outlook.com)

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

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

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

### MONTHLY

Nov. 11 -Veterans Day-Thank you to all who have served!

Nov. 12-The City of Montrose will begin its annual fall leaf cleanup on Monday, Nov. 12, with the annual collection service running through Dec. 5. Residents can use any brand of clear bags to collect leaves and place them on the curb for the city's pickup service. If scheduling is necessary, call 970.240.1480. The pickup service is free for City of Montrose utility customers. No yard waste other than leaves will be accepted.

Nov. 14-Come and see the lights, horses and Santa at the Garden of Lights starting December 14th. More details at [www.montrosegardens.org/garden-of-lights](http://www.montrosegardens.org/garden-of-lights)

Nov 14—Join Montrose County, the Colorado River District, and UVWUA for the sixth annual West Slope Water Summit on Nov. 14 from 8:30am to 2pm at the Montrose County Event Center (1036 North 7th Street). Doors open at 8 a.m. The West Slope Water Summit is free, open to the public, and includes lunch—registration is required. A livestream will also be available at [westslopewater-summit.com](http://westslopewater-summit.com) Lunch is provided with an RSVP. Attendees can register online or call 970-964-8701. Local water information and resources are available here.

Nov. 15-Montrose Republican Women 2024 Civic Awards Ceremony, Noon, Hampden Inn. Thanksgiving Potluck. Doors open 11:30am.

Nov. 15-16-On Nov. 15 and 16 the Shavano Conservation District Western Colorado Soil Health Committee and CSU Extension are pleased to invite the agricultural community to the first annual Western Colorado Farm and Ranch Innovation Expo. The Expo at the Montrose County Event Center (1001 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street) will be FREE and open to the public on Friday Nov. 15 from noon to 5pm and Saturday November 16 from 9am to 5pm. More information is available at [www.shavanocd.org](http://www.shavanocd.org).

Nov. 16-Montrose United Women in Faith Presents: Down Home Country Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 19 S. Park Ave in Montrose. We will have Craft Vendors, Bake Shop, Holiday Treasures, and Fresh Georgia Pecans. We have a new luncheon menu which includes Sloppy Joes, Chips, Cole Slaw, Drink and Cake for \$8. We have new vendors this year so come check it out!

Nov. 22-Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club Crab Crack fundraiser will be 6-9pm on Nov. 22. Dors open 5:30pm. For information and tickets click here.

# READER PHOTO SPOTLIGHT

## MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION AWARDS



MHS Division Award Winners include Sydney Bell, Marshall Metcalf, Damian Wilson, Amarii McKibben, Jaylee Good, Michelle Astacio, Joseph Montonati, Darinka Skybova, Isabella Lewis. Courtesy photo.



Landscape with a light dusting of snow. Photo is by Clare Leach



## Western History with Kate Burke

1 pm, Nov. 18th. Montrose Senior Center, 1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose

### Mountain-town Mayhem, Murder, & Madams

In the late 1880s & 90s, immigration and labor troubles were common problems much as they are now, often leading to violence. In the San Juan Mining district, murder was more often by dynamite than gunfire. Striking miners fled over the San Juans, leading to Ft. Peabody, the highest post in the U.S. The population was mostly men, miners who worked hard and sought female entertainment and companionship, finding it where enterprising madams offered a tantalizing menu of whiskey, women, and gambling—a combination almost guaranteed to cause conflict while yet a primary revenue source for growing communities. Bordellos boomed along with the mines and, in some cases, outlived them.



Ft Peabody, Imogene Pass

Big Tilly and the Treemont, Silverton

Madam and her girls in Ouray



Reservations, questions, call Grace 970-252-4884