

Please support our advertisers!

© Issue No. 621 Jan. 20, 2025

scott's  
printing & design

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



Alpine Bank

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



MONTROSE  
REGIONAL HEALTH

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

CENTURY 21

<https://the-res.com/>



NORRIS-PHILLIPS  
REAL ESTATE

[www.norris-phillips.com](http://www.norris-phillips.com)



CIMARRON CREEK

<https://cimarroncreekcommunity.com/>



<https://thehiddenlakecommunity.com/>



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

# the Montrose Mirror

## RE-1J ENROLLMENT DOWN; DIRECTORS APPROVE CALENDAR, CONSTITUENTS SPEAK OUT ON MCA, TITLE IX DECISIONS



Constituent Cindy Olinghouse, above, expressed concerns over the RE-1J Board of Education's recent denial of the Montrose Classical Academy's charter school application, as well as the RE-1J board's recent vote to allow changes to implementation of Title IX, which was passed in 1972 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. Meeting screenshot.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-In a session heavy with presentations, financial data, and policy discussions, the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14. Present for the meeting were Board President Sarah Fishing (District E); District A Director Neisha Balleck; District B Director Ted Valerio; District C Director Alice Murphy; District D Director Tom West, and District F Director Jody Hovde. Vice President Steve Bush (District G) was absent.

A number of constituents were present for the meeting as well.

Board President Fishing called the meeting to order and led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board voted to accept the agenda as presented.

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

RE-1J Public Information Officer Matthew Jenkins presented the Student Spotlight. Jenkins said, "Tonight, we celebrate the outstanding efforts of Olathe High School students,

[Continued pg 32](#)

## HOP FARMERS ADDRESS BOCC IN JAN 14 SPECIAL MEETING

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), including previously seated Commissioner Sue Hansen and newly-elected Commissioners Rick Dunlap and Scott Mijares, gathered for a Special Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Commissioner Sue Hansen welcomed all to the meeting, "...We had a really important swearing in ceremony this morning...looking forward to the new board and what we can accomplish."

Commissioner Scott Mijares led all in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pastor Buddy Cook of 1st Church of the Nazarene delivered the invocation. "...We remember those who are suffering today, we think of those involved in the fires in California...we pray that your grace and your...strength and your peace will go with them...be also with those who are

[Continued pg 23](#)



Hop Farm Owner Audrey Gellhausen, above, requested that special use permits on agriculturally zoned land be taxed as ag rather than commercially. Screenshot.

# UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Not Just a Better Deal. A Better Dealership!**  
**Montrose Ford-Nissan** SINCE 1986!

**Make Your Service Appointments Online**  
**ANY Make, ANY Model!**

**Or phone 970-249-4576 - The choice is yours - click or call!**

**We will not be undersold on tires! Backed by Ford's National Network of Dealers**

**Why Pay More?**  
**Montrose Ford offers all of this:**

- 17 major name brand tires
- 30-day price guarantee
- All makes and models
- FREE Alignment Check (with the purchase of your next set of tires)

**LOW PRICE TIRE GUARANTEE**

Valid on dealer-installed retail purchase only. Requires presentation of competitor's lowest price ad/offer or receipt by dealer's office within 30 days after purchase. For online quotes, guarantee applies only to new tires sold on retailer websites. Excludes tires sold to fleet parties on marketplace sites and any recalls. Limited time offers, subject to manufacturer changes without notice. See your Service Advisor for details.

### BEST of the Valley for 2024!

- BEST New Auto Dealer
- BEST Oil Change Shop
- BEST Auto Repair
- BEST Mechanic



Wes Abbott   Nick Klahr   Jimmy Steljes   Chris Menz   Erik Eckman   Billy Baxter   Marvin Howze   Manuel Vargas   Guillermo Barba



**970-249-4576**  
**MontroseFordNissan.com**

### 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.

For additional information and advertising opportunities, please contact:

Editor@MontroseMirror.com  
970-275-0646

- www.MontroseMirror.com
- www.Facebook.com/MontroseMirror
- www.Instagram.com/MontroseMirror
- www.Twitter.com/MontroseMirror

Copyright © 2010 - 2024. All rights reserved. Content may not be reprinted, distributed, or re-used without the permission of the publisher.



**MEMBER OF THE  
ONLINE NEWS  
ASSOCIATION**



# Reading to Rover Open House

January 22 - 3:30pm  
**Montrose Library Meeting Room**



Kick off the season of reading—meet the dogs and their Morningstar Therapy handlers!

Storytimes, crafts, and more this hour to learn about the Reading to Rover program.



No registration required for this special event.

320 S 2nd, [www.montroselibrary.org](http://www.montroselibrary.org)  
 Mon-Thurs 10-7, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5,  
 (970)249-9658, Option 3.

MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

## TO READ FULL PAGE VERSION OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE (BELOW) JUMP TO PG 58 IN THIS ISSUE

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE  
 MONTROSE COUNTY  
 SAFE STREETS FOR ALL  
 PLANNING PROCESS – PUBLIC MEETING NO. 4  
 February 6, 2025

Montrose County is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Planning Process for public transportation infrastructure around Montrose Regional Airport. The SS4A Planning Process includes a thorough public and stakeholder involvement program intended to foster public discussion and participation in the planning effort. This is the fourth public meeting for the Montrose County SS4A planning process, which will include the following topics for discussion:

- Topics to be covered:
- Presentation of refined and preferred alternatives
  - Based on findings from analysis and feedback received during Public Meeting No. 2 & 3
  - Refined cost estimates
  - Project prioritization
  - Identification of next steps for the public process

Additionally, an open discussion will be held to gather public and stakeholder input on transportation related safety projects in around Montrose Regional Airport.

WHAT: Montrose County “Safe Streets For All Planning Process” Public Meeting No. 4

WHERE: Public Works Meeting Room, 63160 LaSalle Road Montrose, CO 81401

WHEN: Thursday, February 6, 2025. 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.



# BEST OF THE VALLEY

- Daily Press

## 19 years RUNNING

2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006,  
 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011,  
 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016,  
 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020...

Your project. Our priority. We put it in print.

315 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Montrose, Colorado 81401  
 tel 970.211.2038

tel 970.249.2611 | fax 970.249.7068  
[www.scottsprinting.com](http://www.scottsprinting.com)  
[contact@scottsprinting.com](mailto:contact@scottsprinting.com)



#51 in Printing News' "Top 100" Small Commercial Printers in North America

TOP 100 SMALL COMMERCIAL PRINTERS 2020

### Commercial Offset & Digital Printing »

black and white, spot color, and full color printing, plus aqueous and UV coating capabilities

### Trade Bindery & Finishing »

collating, stapling, folding, trimming, scoring, embossing, die cutting, perforating, numbering, hole punching, laminating, ... to name a few

### Innovative Screenprinting »

traditional silk screen capabilities from single to seven color designs, plus simulated and 4-color process methods

### Custom Digitizing & Embroidery »

in-house digitizing with hundreds of thread colors to choose from, with single-head to multi-head capabilities

### Direct-to-Garment Printing »

direct digital printing in thousands of colors on multiple blends of garments

### Creative Design & Prepress »

in-house graphic design and prepress department utilizing the latest technologies and software

### Promotional Marketing »

AS7 certified distributor with access to thousands of promotional items available to market your brand ideas





 **631 SHERMAN ST  
RIDGWAY, CO**

## ABOUT US

We are a teaching studio specializing in fiber arts, or textiles, such as sewing, knitting, ice dyeing, and pattern design.

## OFFERINGS

- In-Person Classes
- Custom Classes
- Open Studio Time
- Studio Space Rental

2/1  
Soy Wax Batik  
Ice Dyeing



2/8  
Quilt As You Go  
Casserole  
Carrier



**LEARN MORE AT**

**CREATIVE COMMUNITY  
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**

[dragonflycreative.art](http://dragonflycreative.art)

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## CITY ANNOUNCES CLOSURES FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

### Special to the Mirror

**MONTROSE** — The City of Montrose will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. City Hall, the Downtown Visitor Center, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter, Montrose Pavilion, and the City Shop will all be closed.

Police Department offices will be closed, however, officers will be on duty and responding to calls. The Black Canyon Golf Course is closed for the month of January.

The Rusty Putter restaurant, located at the golf course, will also be closed Monday, Jan. 20. Trash and recycling schedules will be adjusted for the holiday. City residential trash customers who would normally receive service on Monday, Jan. 20, will instead be served on Tuesday, Jan. 21, and Wednesday, Jan. 22.

For trash routes normally scheduled for Monday, Jan. 20, residences south of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50 will receive trash collection services on Tues-

day, Jan. 21.

For residences north of San Juan Avenue and U.S. Highway 50, trash pickup will occur on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

Recycling customers who would normally receive collection service on Monday, January 20, will instead be served on Friday, Jan. 24.

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)

**HARNESS THE HEALING POWER OF NATURE**

Find out how with this informative and entertaining book that will change your brain, your body, and your spirit.

**Renaturing**

**RENATURING:**  
How To Gain The Librarians'

**Live better in 2025**  
Sick and tired of feeling sick and tired? The answer is right outside your door!

**Contact Author and Speaker:**  
[laurenhallruddell.com](http://laurenhallruddell.com)  
[agescapesnow@gmail.com](mailto:agescapesnow@gmail.com)

**Click here to find the book on Amazon**



# WHITEY'S

## HOME IMPROVEMENT, INC.

### Replacement Windows

- Vinyl Insulated Low E Glass
- Windows & Patio Doors

### Entry Door System

- Insulated Steel & Fiberglass • Many Styles

### Storm Doors

- Heavy Duty • Many Styles & Colors

### Exterior Siding - Low Maintenance

- Insulated Vinyl • Aluminum or Steel

### Eaves & Overhang Coverings

- Vinyl-Aluminum • Low Maintenance

### Seamless Rain Gutters

- 5" & 6" Aluminum, Steel, and Copper
- Over 30 Colors Available

### Gutter Leaf Guard

### Patio Covers & Lattice Pergolas

- Steel & Aluminum - Any Size
- Attached or Freestanding

### Mobile Home Improvements

- Roofing, Windows, Doors, & Siding

### Skylights & Suntubes

- Many Sizes & Styles

**Before You Buy, Give Whitey's a Try!**

**"Serving the Local Area Since 1947"**

**Montrose**

**970-249-9603**

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

**Delta**

**970-874-3665**

# RED HAWKS BOYS WIN 2, HOME & AWAY

By Cliff Dodge

## RED HAWKS 42, PALISADE BULLDOGS 38

The Montrose Red Hawks boys basketball team hosted the Bulldogs of Palisade High School last Tuesday at the fieldhouse and came away with a hard-fought 4 point victory 42 to 38. Neither team was able to get their offenses into gear as the initial quarter saw the Bulldogs outscore the Red Hawks 5-4. The home team found some offensive rhythm in the second quarter as they outscored the Bulldogs 18 to 10 to take a 7 point lead at the half way point of the game.

The third quarter saw the Bulldogs cut into the lead by a single point, 9-8. The visitors shaved another 2 points in the final stanza as they outscored the Red Hawks 14-12 to make the final score the Montrose Red Hawks 42, the Palisade Bulldogs 38.

Senior Caleb Ferguson led all Red Hawk scorers with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Junior Lane Pressler chipped in with 10 points and 6 rebounds while Junior C. J. Rocco assisted the Red Hawks win by adding 7 points to the final total. Senior Brekin Hutto contributed 4 rebounds to the Red Hawks defensive game. The Red Hawks added 7 assists, had 5 steals and only turned the basketball over 12 times to secure the 42-38 victory. The Red Hawks shot 44 percent from the field and 57 percent from the free throw stripe.



The Red Hawks battle on the boards. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

## RED HAWKS 52, GRAND JUNCTION CENTRAL WARRIORS 44

The Red Hawks basketball teams traveled to Grand Junction on Thursday and came away with a well deserved 52-44 victory on the Warriors home floor. The Red Hawks led throughout the contest and maintained an 8-point lead for the 52-44 victory.

Six Red Hawks dented the scoring column with Senior Caleb Ferguson amassing 21 points to lead all scorers. Sophomore Josh Hawks added 9 points, senior C. J. Rocco contributed 8 points while Brody Cooling and Junior Lane Pressler added 5 points to the win. Senior Brekin Hutto added his 4 points to the win total as well.

Caleb Ferguson was the master of the glass as he collected 13 rebounds to disrupt the Warriors offense. Senior Brody Cooling also helped on the backboards with 6 rebounds. The Red Hawks passed out 14 assists, had 5 steals and blocked 5 Warriors shots. The Red Hawks shot 46 percent from the field, and 63 percent from the charity stripe.

The wins improved the Red Hawks overall record to 12-2, and 2-0 in league play. The Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) has the Red Hawks ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the 5A standings. Next up for the Red Hawks will be a pair of home contests, Montezuma-Cortez on Tuesday and Durango on Friday. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the field house.

## FACTS & FICTION



What are the ways in which a resident of Montrose can get involved with their local government in a positive and productive manner?

The City of Montrose City Council and staff truly encourage all Montrose residents to become engaged and informed members of our community. We believe the best way for a citizen to contribute to society is to get involved at a level where they can get their hands dirty with projects designed to serve their community. Montrose has always been a community of "doers" and that is why we are able to accomplish what others cannot. When other cities across the state or country are telling people "No", we are finding a way to say "Yes"!

It is so easy to bring up all of the reasons why things shouldn't be done, or why they won't work, but we think about things in a completely different way. As a city team, we work hard to use our experience and expertise to make things happen, rather than to shut things down. It is such an exciting time to be in Montrose.

If you would like to make a positive impact in our community, please consider becoming a public servant in any of the following capacities:

Planning Commission, DART, Tree Board, Parks Ambassador, or Volunteer at our Visitor Center, Animal Shelter, Dog Park, Adopt-a-Street program, Community Events, et al.

Questions? Call Bill Bell, City Manager at 970-901-8580



901 6530 Road  
Montrose, CO 81401

MLS# 820211

*Home  
For Sale*  
**Cimarron  
Creek**

OFFERED AT :

**\$100,000**



**Property Features :**

- ✓ 3 Bedrooms
- ✓ 2 Bathrooms
- ✓ Carport
- ✓ 1,296 sq. ft. Home
- ✓ Breakfast Nook
- ✓ Washer/Dryer
- ✓ Club House



*Michelle  
Klippert*

**BROKER OWNER**  
CRS, GRI, SRES, SFR, ABR

**(970) 275-3016**

michelleklippertrealtor@gmail.com



Great affordable home in Cimarron Creek Community! Nice open space and large kitchen with island. Sunroom off of the kitchen makes the area very inviting. Very large custom closet off bedroom that allows for a lot of storage. All appliances are included in the sale of the home. Large shed in back yard for any storage overflow. Enjoy one of the nicest affordable manufactured home areas in Montrose.



# RED HAWK GIRLS CONTINUE WINNING

By Cliff Dodge

## RED HAWKS 38, PALISADE BULLDOGS 29

The Montrose Red Hawks girls basketball team hosted the Palisade Bulldogs on Tuesday evening at the field house and came away with a hard-fought 9-point victory, 38-29 over the Bulldogs. The first half of the game was dead even as the Bulldogs led by 1 point after the initial period, and were tied at 13-13 after two quarters.

The Red Hawks potent offense got into full swing in the third quarter as the home team outscored the Dogs 16-6 to establish a 10-point lead, 29-19, heading into the final canto. The Bulldogs outscored the Red Hawks 10-9 to make the final score Red Hawks 38, Palisade Bulldogs 29.



*A fierce fight for a rebound.  
Photo by Cliff Dodge.*

The Red Hawks were led in scoring by Junior Mayce Oberg who tallied 11 points while Juniors London Schafer and Lilly Nelson added 9 and 8 points respectively. Junior Maggie Legg and Senior Brooke Williams each contributed 5 points to the Red Hawks total. The MVP on the boards was Junior Lilly Nelson who scooped up 10 rebounds including 5 on the offensive glass. Mayce Oberg also added 5 rebounds to her 11 points. The Red Hawks passed out 9 assists, had 8 steals and only turned the basketball over 12 times.

## RED HAWKS 43, GRAND JUNCTION CENTRAL WARRIORS 13

The Red Hawks road trip took them to Grand Junction to take on the Warriors of Grand Junction Central High School on Thursday evening. The visitors made the most of their excursion as they defeated the Warriors 43-13. The offense was in high gear right out of the box as they outscored the Warriors 13-6 after one period. This fell apart for the Warriors in period 2 as they were outscored 11-0 and led 27-6 at half time. Things got no better for the Warriors in the second half as the Red Hawks outscored the Warriors 19 to 7 to make the final score the Red Hawks 43, the Warriors 13.

The Red Hawks had six players hit the scoring column with Juniors Lilly Nelson and Mayce Oberg each scoring 11 points. Junior Maggie Legg was also in double figures with 10 points. Lilly Nelson led the Red Hawks on the backboards as she captured 9 rebounds including 5 on the offensive glass. Help came from Oberg and Senior Brooke Williams with 6 rebounds each. Sophomore Kynsleigh Maestas helped out with 5 caroms. The Red Hawks passed out 4 assists, had 6 steals, and turned the basketball over 17 times. The Red Hawks shot 50 percent from the floor and 71 percent from the charity stripe.

The Red Hawks improved their overall season record to 13-1 and 2-0 in league play. The CHSAA has the Red Hawks ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the 5A classification. Next up for the Red Hawks, a pair of home games on Tuesday and Friday. First comes Montezuma-Cortez on Tuesday and then a visit by the Durango Demons on Friday. First tip scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

### THE GREATER MONTROSE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



"The Chamber helps me promote my business. I've made many valuable connections with other local companies through the Chamber."



DON MARTIN, Realtor/Auctioneer  
United Country Real Colorado Properties



JOIN TODAY | 970.765.0914 | [greatermontrosechamber.com](http://greatermontrosechamber.com)

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## INAUGURATION CELEBRATION TONIGHT

*Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**-On Jan. 20, the Montrose Republican Women will host a Trump Victory Gala Inauguration Celebration, 6-10pm, at the Association Venue in the Montrose Potato Growers Building on West Main. \$10 donation per person, cash bar.

# FMOB

WHAT IS AN FMOB?

FAMILY MEDICINE WITH OBSTETRICS

## Amber Angles, MD

*Family Medicine with Obstetrics*

Choosing an FMOB for your family medicine doctor with obstetrics (FMOB) means there's no need to visit multiple clinics. Dr. Angles provides the same standard of care, along with all recommended and optimal testing, as an OBGYN clinic. Once your baby is born, both you and your newborn can continue to see Dr. Angles, or your Delta Health FMOB for your future care.

In addition to providing birthing services at Delta Health Family Medicine and the prestigious, baby-friendly facility, Storks Landing, Dr. Angles welcomes all members of your family. Families in Delta County and the Western Slope can rely on the continuity of care Dr. Angles provides.

*Get In* TOUCH NOW!



970.874.5777

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

296 Stafford Ln, Suite A  
Delta, CO 81416



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## FOREST SERVICE OFFICES CLOSE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce the closure of all offices in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Jan. 20, 2025. Offices will resume regular business hours Tuesday, Jan. 21. Please plan accordingly for your GMUG National Forest’s needs.

While Forest Service offices will be closed, permits for firewood can still be purchased at any of the following loca-

tions:

- 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

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](#)).



# It's Your Business!

## Let's Grow Together. Advertise with The Mirror!

970-275-0646



### Unsure About Long Term Care Planning?

**Gain peace of mind with an consultation by a local care navigator.**

**PRESERVE AS MUCH INDEPENDENCE & DIGNITY DURING LATER YEARS OF LIFE**

**PROTECT LOVED ONES FROM THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND FINANCIAL TOLL THAT LONG-TERM CARE CAN HAVE ON A FAMILY**

Call 1-844-862-4968

Email: [advantage@voa.org](mailto:advantage@voa.org)

Contact us today for a no-cost consultation to learn more about local services.

**ADVANTAGE**  
Health Resource Center



# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## ALPINE BANK NAMES TWO DISTINGUISHED LEADERS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Special to the Mirror*

GLENWOOD SPRINGS— Alpine Bank has appointed Colorado State University President Amy Parsons and Attorney John Suthers to its board of directors.

The addition of Suthers and Parsons reflects the bank's continued commitment to Colorado, and to partnering with exceptional leaders who broaden our connection to the communities we support across the state.

"Alpine Bank is dedicated to fostering meaningful relationships and advancing opportunities for individuals and businesses right here in Colorado," said Alpine Bank President Glen Jammaron. "Amy and John's combined exper-

tise in law, leadership, and public service will provide valuable guidance as the bank continues to serve its communities with distinction."

Suthers, a lifelong resident of Colorado Springs, has a celebrated career in public service and law. He has served as district attorney for Colorado's 4th Judicial District, U.S. attorney for Colorado, and as Colorado attorney general.

Additionally, Suthers was the mayor of Colorado Springs for two terms, leading the city through significant growth and development. Currently, he practices law and serves as board chair of the Daniels Fund.

Parsons, the 16th president of Colorado State

University (CSU), brings a wealth of leadership experience from higher education and the private sector. She has held key roles including executive vice chancellor of the CSU System and vice president for University Operations at CSU.

A former litigation attorney, Parsons is also deeply involved with organizations such as the NCAA Committee for Infractions and the Colorado Business Roundtable Board.

"We are honored to welcome John and Amy to our board of directors," said Alpine Bank Founder & Chairman. J. Robert "Bob" Young. "Their proven leadership will only strengthen our mission to provide exceptional service to our customers and communities."

### Make **Integrated Dermatology of Montrose** your skincare destination of choice!



Spencer Hamner, PA-C  
*Se habla Español*



Carly Routzahn, PA-C

3480 Wolverine Dr.  
Suite F  
Montrose, CO

OPEN M-F 8AM-5PM

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

#### *Providing safe, sophisticated care featuring:*

- Precancer & Cancer Screenings
- Skin, Nail, & Hair Disease Treatment & Management
- Non-Invasive Repair of Damaged Skin
- MOHs Surgeries
- Cosmetic Procedures
- TeleDerm Appointments
- Parking Lot Check-Ins
- Monthly Specials



**INTEGRATED DERMATOLOGY** of Montrose

Call today at **970-252-7444** or visit us at:



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## CIRT ACTIVATED TO INVESTIGATE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

*Special to the Mirror*

MESA COUNTY-The Mesa County Sheriff's Office is releasing the following information on behalf of the 21st Judicial District Critical Incident Response Team. (CIRT) On Sunday, January 19, 2025, at 7:11 p.m., the Grand Junction Police Department was dispatched to the report of an assault that had occurred after the injured party was transported to the ER by a neighbor. Staff at a local emergency room called police to report they had an injured party in their ER who had been assaulted and sustained life-threatening injuries. Officers with the Grand Junction Police Department responded to an ad-

dress located in the 400 block of 28 Road in Grand Junction to investigate the assault.

Upon attempting to make contact, the suspect refused to exit the residence and fired a weapon at the officers multiple times. One officer with the Grand Junction Police Department returned fire. SWAT operators with the Grand Junction Police Department and the Mesa County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene. Over the course of several hours, multiple attempts were made to contact the suspect, with no response. SWAT operators made entry into the residence, where they discovered the suspect deceased.

This incident remains under investigation by the CIRT as they continue to conduct interviews of witnesses and process evidence over the next several days. Additional details will be released as appropriate, with sensitivity to the ongoing investigation.

As is standard protocol with any officer-involved shooting, the officer involved is currently on paid administrative leave. The Grand Junction Police Department will be responsible for releasing the names of the officers involved. The Mesa County Coroner's Office will be responsible for releasing the identity and cause and manner of death.



THE 25TH ANNUAL

# GERMAN DINNER

Montrose Masonic Lodge  
187 Rose Lane  
Montrose, CO

## SILVER STAR

## CHAPTER # 40

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

### 4:00 - 7:00

RESERVATIONS  
PREFERRED

# Guten Appetit

MENU:

- LOIN OF PORK & SAUERKRAUT
- GERMAN MASHED POTATOES
- RED CABBAGE
- GREEN BEANS WITH SPAETZLE
- YOUR CHOICE OF CAKE

\$20.00/ADULT

\$10.00/KIDS 10 AND UNDER

DINE-IN OR TAKE-OUT  
AVAILABLE

CONTACT JACQUI QUINT



(970) 615-0916 OR  
JACQUELINE.QUINT@GMAIL.COM



**LOT #1505 ONLY \$161,000**  
**FULLY FURNISHED!**  
**CIMARRON CREEK**  
 Welcome Home



**Where Quality Meets Affordability**

Our 5-star community offers large open common areas, scenic walk paths, playground, community center, dog parks, RV storage, and on-site management.

**Brand New Champion Home**  
 1064 SF, 3 Bed/2 Bath  
 Inviting layout  
**\$161,000**  
 (5% Down/25 Year Term)  
**\*Only 1,916.00 per month!\***  
 (\$1,240.00 Mortgage plus \$676.00 Lot Rent)  
 \*WAC. Estimated payment, rates and terms may vary based on credit history. Not all applicants will qualify. Subject to lender terms & conditions. Actual term, rate, APR, and loan amount may vary.\*

**Why rent when you can own for less?**



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

970-249-0493 MONDAY-SATURDAY 8 AM TO 5 PM 901 6530 RD MONTROSE, CO 81401  
 CHRISTY@CIMARRONCREEKCOMMUNITY.COM WWW.CIMARRONCREEKCOMMUNITY.COM



# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## BLM TO CHARGE FEES IN DOMINGUEZ-ESCALANTE NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION — The Bureau of Land Management has published a Federal Register Notice announcing a plan to charge fees at campsites in the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. BLM will use the profits to pay for maintenance and improvements at current and future sites. The national conservation area spans Delta, Mesa and Montrose Counties.

“We will use the fees we collect in the NCA to directly manage resources in that area,” said Zack Kelley, acting Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Manager. “Revenues will help us maintain public facilities and services; replace aging infrastructure; protect natural resources; improve visitor health and safety; and develop new recreational

opportunities.”

BLM will charge expanded amenity fees at existing and future Big Dominguez and Potholes campsites and special area fees at Gunnison River Special Recreation Management Area campsites. Day-use areas and dispersed camping areas will remain free and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

BLM Colorado Northwest and Southwest Resource Advisory Councils met March 30, 2023, at a combined RAC meeting where they discussed fee proposals.

The councils approved the fee proposal in a joint meeting May 02, 2024, using the Western U.S. Consumer Price Index to determine fees.

BLM will not start charging new fees until at least six months from today. Field offices will inform the

public before collecting fees.

Planned Fees:

-Expanded Amenity Fees -- \$20 per night for single campsites (up to two vehicles), \$20 per night for large capacity campsites plus an additional \$10 for each vehicle beyond the first two

-Special Area Fees -- \$20 per night for small groups (1-5 participants), \$50 per night for medium groups (6-14 participants), and \$100 per night for large groups (15-25 participants)

-Discounts: Interagency Senior Pass and Interagency Access Pass holders may receive a 50% discount on expanded amenity fees

The complete Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Business Plan, with detailed fees, locations and maps, is available on the BLM website.

### ATTENTION: NEW LOCATION!

## Trump Victory Gala Inauguration Celebration

January 20, 2025

6pm – 10pm

at

The Historic Potato Growers Building  
39 West Main Street - Montrose  
AKA

the  
**ASSOCIATION**

*The Community is Invited*

*Toast to Donald J. Trump our 47th President*

*Dance to live stream from Washington DC Inaugural Celebrations*

*Purchase Trump memorabilia and patriotic jewelry*

*Silent and Live Auction Items*

*Business Attire - Trump Regalia*

**\$10 donation per person**

*Cash bar open during event*

*\*Cash or Checks Only for Event\**

*Hosted by*

*Montrose Republican Women*

**OPEN**  
*for Business*

**It's Your Business!**

**Let's Grow Together. Advertise with The Mirror!**

**970-275-0646**

# CARING TOGETHER



You use. We donate. They benefit. Use your Loyalty Debit Card\*, and Alpine Bank donates a dime to Colorado community causes. Sign up for a Loyalty Debit Card today!

\*Alpine Bank debit cards are available with no annual fee to individuals with an Alpine Bank checking account.



## Alpine Bank

alpinebank.com • Member FDIC







# **MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE, INC**

P.O. Box 717

Montrose, CO 81402

## **2025 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE**

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> year of service to the citizens and visitors of Montrose County, and what a ride it has been. From horseback and flat fender jeeps to OHV's and 4-wheel drive vehicles, the Posse has utilized whatever resources were available to conduct search & rescue, wildland firefighting and other community services to assist the Sheriff, residents and visitors of Montrose County.

Throughout the years, the Posse has had the opportunity to work with multiple agencies from Montrose and neighboring counties, the State of Colorado and the Federal government on fires, lost persons, plane crashes, community events and other missions. This 'agency assist,' builds rapport and cooperation made evident when they reciprocate by assisting us in our missions.

The Posse consists of 42 dedicated individuals, between the West and East ends of the county. These highly trained volunteers are dedicated and ready 24/7 to serve the community with whatever emergency arises.

Our members' expertise has evolved over the years, embracing new technologies and techniques that assist us in areas such as search and rescue procedures, communications, and mapping/tracking capabilities. We also strive to keep current on first responder medical training, wildland firefighting techniques, emergency driving and other skills.

Last year, the BLM donated a 2003 International Type 4 fire truck to the Posse. The vehicle was used to fight the Bucktail Fire, but we quickly discovered that several components were outdated or ineffective. We received some funding to address the immediate problems but will need additional funds to complete the upgrade, conduct training on its use, and for ongoing maintenance.

Keeping up with those responsibilities, as well as maintaining our building and other vehicles, comes at a price. As a volunteer group, we are able to apply for some grants which provide a small portion of our operational budget. The remaining funds come from the community.

Your support of the Posse through this annual fund drive provides the much-needed resources for us to continue our mission. Any contribution will benefit the entire community. As a 501 (c)(3) charitable non-profit corporation, all donations are tax deductible. Please mail your gift today in the envelope provided.

The Posse appreciates and thanks all the members of our community for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Montrose County Sheriff's Posse

*'Celebrating 60 years of serving our community'*

# CENTURY 21

## BUYER-FOCUSED REPRESENTATION WITH INTEGRITY AND EXPERTISE



**LESLIE GORE, CRS**

*Associate Broker*

C: 970-275-3195

O: 970-249-7653

LeslieGoreRealtor@gmail.com



**DIANE HAYNES, CRS**

*Associate Broker*

C: 970-596-3521

O: 970-249-7653

DianeHaynes@outlook.com

DianeHaynesRealtor@gmail.com



### Choosing a real estate agent with the Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR) designation offers several advantages:

**Specialized Training:** ABR agents have received advanced training focused on representing buyers, giving them a deep understanding of the buying process and strategies to advocate for your best interests.

**Expert Negotiation Skills:** They are equipped with the skills to negotiate better terms, prices, and contingencies, helping you secure a more favorable deal.

**Market Knowledge:** ABR agents are well-versed in local market conditions, giving you insights into pricing trends, property values, and neighborhood information.

**Exclusive Buyer Focus:** Their primary focus is on buyer representation, ensuring you get unbiased advice and guidance tailored specifically to your needs.

**Legal and Ethical Standards:** ABR agents adhere to a strict code of ethics, ensuring that you receive professional and trustworthy service throughout the buying process.

In short, working with an ABR-certified agent provides specialized expertise, better representation, and a smoother home-buying experience.

**Call for an appointment today!**

# 2025 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## DREAM GREAT DREAMS IN MONTROSE! A COMMUNITY WIDE CELEBRATION

# M I L K

### Montrose

### Colorado

## JANUARY 20, 2025 | [mkdaymontrose.com](http://mkdaymontrose.com)

MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF TIME AND RESOURCES OF:



MONTROSE PRESS



MONTROSE CLASSICAL ACADEMY



MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT



Mike & Phoebe Benziger

Emily Schneider & Dr. Tom Waird



THE MONTROSEMIRROR  
Your Source for Local Business News and Information

# ABOUT MLK DAY MONTROSE INITIATIVE

A Collaborative Effort

We're glad you joined us for the inaugural MLK Day Montrose! This exciting initiative is a collaborative effort, bringing together local civic and business leaders, media representatives, area non-profits, and passionate community members. It's a fantastic opportunity to honor Dr. King's legacy while fostering unity and service in our community!

## OPENING CEREMONY 9AM - 9:30 AM | SAN JUAN BREWS

- Welcome - Tonya Maddox, Our Town Matters CEO
- National Anthem - Bailey Downing
- Invocation - Pastor Buddy Cook, Montrose First Church of The Nazarene
- Speaker Introductions: Dennis Anderson, Montrose Daily Press Publisher & Tonya Maddox, Our Town Matters CEO
- Guest Speaker: Senator Marc Catlin, Colorado General Assembly
- Guest Speaker: Mayor David J. Reed, City of Montrose
- Guest Speaker: County Manager Frank Rodriguez, Montrose County
- Closing Remarks



*"The time is always right to do what is right."* - DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Walk/March: 9:45 am-10:30 am

Start at Centennial Plaza

Join us for the inaugural Martin Luther King Jr. march/walk! This is a fantastic opportunity to honor the legacy of Dr. King and celebrate the spirit of unity, equality, and justice. Let's come together as a community to pay tribute to his incredible vision and commitment to civil rights. Bring your friends, family, and enthusiasm as we walk in solidarity, inspiring change and spreading love. Don't miss out on this meaningful event—let's make history together!

Community Service Projects Start 10:45 am-12:00 pm

Locations Around Town

Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day by making a difference in our community! This special day is not only a time to honor Dr. King's legacy but also an opportunity to engage in meaningful service. Whether you're signing up as an individual, gathering your family, or representing a business or organization, there are countless service projects happening throughout the city that need your helping hands!

Lunch & Humanitarian Awards: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

The Temple Events, 511 E. Main Street, Montrose, CO

FREE! Join us for an inspiring celebration at the inaugural Humanitarian Awards Luncheon as we honor the remarkable individuals in our community who embody the spirit of compassion and service! Just as Martin Luther King Jr. was known globally for his dedication to humanity, our local heroes are making a profound impact right here in Montrose! Award winners are:

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Joey Montoya Boese | Richard Fike   |
| Amanda Gerhardt    | Carol Parker   |
| Garey Martinez     | Kevin Williams |

Dr. Martin Luther King Remembrance Celebration: 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

Baldrige Hall, United Methodist Church, 19 S Park Ave.

Join us for an inspiring celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. There will be music and singing, sharing of quotes, and information on how to get involved in your community. All are welcome, and translation will be provided in Spanish. This event is non-partisan and interfaith.

Community Building Activities

Students' poster & art displays: 10:45 am - 12:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Our Town Matters, 501 E. Main St.

All students in grades K-12 are invited to display their original art (coloring pages, drawings, paintings, sculptures, photography and more for the community to see. The students displaying their art will have the ability to win a \$50 gift card! Also, the public, private and/or home school association of the participating students could also receive a donation of \$250 to be used on the program of their choice or to host a class/school party.

Children & Students MLK Education & Fun: 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Hosted by Montrose Classical Academy @ 501 E. Main Street

Join us for age appropriate storytime, films, crafts, coloring and other activities. Film screening: 3:30 pm

Film Screening: John Lewis: Good Trouble: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

HAP Community Room, 504 N 1st St.

The film offers an intimate account of legendary US Representative John Lewis' life, legacy, and more than 60 years of extraordinary activism. John Lewis was the teenage son of Alabama sharecroppers when he first met Martin Luther King Jr. and was one of the last surviving members of King's inner circle. A film by Dawn Porter. Film length 97 minutes.

Kindness & Community Storytime: 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Montrose Library, 320 S 2nd St., Montrose, CO

Poetry & Spoken Word performances: 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Healthy Rhythm Art Gallery, 33 N Uncompahgre Ave

Healthy Rhythm will host an Open Mic Poetry/Spoken Word event to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his legacy. Come and express yourself by sharing poetry, slam poetry, or any other form of word art. Experience the power of expression through words. If you're not interested in speaking, come enjoy this event and support the spoken word artists who speak truth to power on MLK Day in Montrose. Experience the power of expression through words.

Service Projects Continued 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## SAN MIGUEL COUNTY OFFERS FREE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT EVALUATIONS

*Special to the Mirror*

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY --- Did you know that in Colorado managing noxious weeds is a law? Noxious weeds are weeds that are not native to the state and weeds that cause large-scale environmental and economic harm. The Colorado Noxious Weed Act states that weed management is required that counties have the right to implement it, and that counties have the right to enforce it if management is not happening on private land.

"Management" means any activity that prevents a plant from establishing, reproducing, or dispersing itself. Although many noxious weeds do require herbicide management to eliminate them completely, the law does not state that you must use herbicides. There are other mechanical and other alter-

native methods to help control noxious weeds. If proper management does not occur and if you neglect to manage and reduce the noxious weeds present on your property, there can be repercussions under the law, including costs that could eventually take the form of a lien issued against your property.

Management should always aim to permanently eliminate the infestation for your property's land health, to protect the health of the environment, and to continue to protect the economic value of your home.

The San Miguel County department of Vegetation Control & Management offers free no-cost evaluations to inform you of the noxious weed species present (or absent) on your property. The department also provides cost-share funding to help defray the

cost of herbicides and assist with management plans that don't always have to involve herbicides.

As stated in the Colorado Revised Statutes §35-5.5-104, It is the duty of all persons to use integrated methods to manage noxious weeds if the same are likely to be materially damaging to the land of neighboring land-owners.

San Miguel County can help determine the best plan for your property.

Please contact Julie Kolb, Manager, County Vegetation Control & Management, at 970-327-0399 or email [ju-liek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov](mailto:ju-liek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov) to schedule your FREE evaluation and for more information on how to utilize the County's noxious weed management resources to benefit you and your property.

**NEW LISTING!**  
**\$499,900**



1500 Weminuche Ave.,  
Montrose, CO 81401

MLS - 820132

Listing Presented By:

**Holly Hensley**

970-208-4689

500 E. Main St.,  
Montrose, CO 81401

HollyMontroseRealtor@gmail.com

**CENTURY 21** Elevated Real Estate



- 3 Bedroom
- 2 Bathroom
- Open Kitchen
- 1,667 Sq. Ft.



# HOP FARMERS ADDRESS BOCC IN JAN 14 SPECIAL MEETING From pg 1

are continuing to recover in the eastern part of our country from the hurricanes, Lord may they also know that your presence is with them and you walk with them in this dark valley...we pray for our new leaders, we pray that you bless them, we pray you empower them, we pray that you enable them to serve this county well, and to give them wisdom and direction as they need...

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The podium for those who address the BOCC has now been moved to the side of the room rather than directly in front of the commissioners.

The BOCC heard comments from Billy Goat Hop Farm Owner Audrey Gellhausen, who requested that special use permits on agriculturally zoned land be taxed agriculturally rather than commercially. "...In the master plan, ag-1 goal and its actions clearly supports this request...these tax impacts are huge for Montrose farmers who are trying to survive by expanding into special use...I personally know other farmers who have recently quit farming because the market has not been not viable. I also know other farmers whose livelihood is seriously affected by the commercial taxation on special use permits...there is also a disparity between Montrose and Mesa counties, as our Mesa County neighbors do not have this burden...if Montrose producers are not given the support of their county that Mesa producers enjoy, it stifles com-

petition and growth potential of our local producers here..."

Joining Gellhausen was her partner Christopher Della Bianca, who requested that the board adopt or amend the zoning regulations for a brewery tap house to be added as a special use permit. Currently, the land must be zoned commercial to add a brewery, he said.

Wineries do have the right to place a winery on agricultural land, and to request a special use permit for a tasting room, he said.

"We're asking for the same thing," Della Bianca said. "...I think being able to add value to the product that we grow and have a brewery...would be nice...and the property stays in ag..."

Maintaining agricultural land and the viewscape is important to Montrose County, he said. "I think farmland is disappearing rapidly, and certainly around me being subdivided into little cookie cutter type things...I think anything the county could do to preserve agricultural land, to help farmers in that way, would be advantageous."

### **COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Frank Rodriguez had no changes to the Special Meeting agenda.

### **REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD/ ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Commissioners voted unanimously to name Commissioner Sue Hansen as Chair and Commissioner Rick Dunlap as Vice Chair of the BOCC.

The BOCC voted to approve the Annual Appointments and Commissioners meeting Calendar for 2025.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioners voted to approve Consent Agenda items, with Resolution No. 7-2025 assigned to item 2 and Resolution No. 8-2025 assigned to item 5.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Local business leader Tonya Maddox of Our Town Matters presented a proclamation recognizing January 20, 2025 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Proclamation.

BOCC Chair Sue Hansen said that Montrose is a generous and thoughtful community, and thanked Maddox for the proclamation.

Commissioner Scott Mijares noted that January 20 will also be Inauguration Day.

### **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Planner Kim Ficco presented the Mountain View Estates Large Tract Exemption [EX24-008] Proposal to divide one lot from an 83.60-acre parcel at Parcel 403901101002, which is zoned General Agricultural. Commissioners voted unanimously to approve.

"We had a peaceful transfer of power today," Chair Hansen noted, as commissioners left regular session to convene in Executive Session for legal advice pertaining to a pending special use permit, prior to adjournment.



# UNSUNG HEROES – THE MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL BAND



Director Vivian Ficco at work . Photo by Cliff Dodge.



The Montrose high school marching band. Photo by Cliff Dodge.

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-It's a cold January night in Montrose. The parking lot outside of the Lloyd McMillan Fieldhouse is crowded with parked cars. The area is alive with activity.

It's game time inside the fieldhouse as the Montrose Red Hawks boys and girls basketball teams prepare to take on one of their arch rivals on the hardwood floor. The teams are warming up. There is nothing better than a high school basketball game on a freezing night in a crowded gym rocking and rolling with home town spirit and lots of noise.

whom are here, in the stands getting ready to play the Star Spangled Banner before the game tips off.

Everyone rises, removes their hats and pays homage to the United States of America as the band pumps out those familiar lyrics. The band completes the playing of the national anthem and it's time for basketball.

Just as the players on the court who have put in long hours practicing, so do the 100 plus members of the marching band. These young people have been honored several times by the High School Activities Association for their excellence.

Where is the pep squad spirit coming from? Why from the Montrose High School marching band, most of

The leader of the pep band this evening is Senior Vivian Ficco, who mounts the step ladder so the band can see her as she and the band become a vital part of the proceedings.

The Montrose Rotary Club honors high school students each week by selecting a deserving student to be awarded the Student of the Week by the Rotary Club. It just so happened that Vivian Ficco, pictured here, was honored this past week by the Club as their Student of the Week. The band performs and keeps the audience entertained while the players on the court do the same. It would not be the same experience without the contributions of the high school band.

Congratulations to each and every member of the band, the Pep Club and our athletes. Without them it would be sort of dull, don't you think.

**249 8500** *ANONYMOUS*

Download The APP. **P3TIPS**

**MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIME STOPPERS**

*see something, say something*



# MONTROSE'S GOT TALENT 2025 COMPETITION

## SAVE THE DATES!

**AUDITIONS** Thursday, January 16th  
5:30pm ~ Montrose Pavilion

*register for your time slot now!*

[2025 REGISTRATION LINK](#)

**\$1,000**  
★ grand prize

★ student age competition

★ all talents welcome

Finals Held On  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH ~ 2:00PM**

*Montrose Education Foundation Fundraiser*

[montroseeducationfoundation22@gmail.com](mailto:montroseeducationfoundation22@gmail.com)

# Montrose Education Foundation, Inc.

Education is Our Future

## Sponsorship Opportunities

### MEF 2025 Montrose's Got Talent Show!

**February 8, 2025 (Saturday) - 2 p.m. Showtime**  
**Montrose Pavilion - 1800 E. Pavilion Place, Montrose, CO 81401**

#### **\$2,000 (Platinum) Sponsorship**

- ★ Logo included on banners
- ★ Annual MEF Sponsorship - All Events
- ★ Listed in advertising/promotions & recognition at the events  
(Includes MEF's website, Twitter aka X, Facebook, Ads, Poster Boards, Presentation & Emails.)
- ★ Listed in event programs

#### **\$1,500 (Gold) Sponsorship**

- ★ Annual MEF Sponsorship - All Events
- ★ Listed in advertising/promotions for the events  
(Includes MEF's website, Twitter aka X, Facebook, Ads, Poster Boards, Presentation & Emails.)
- ★ Listed in event programs

#### **\$1,000 (Silver) Sponsorship**

- ★ Annual MEF Sponsorship - All Events
- ★ Listed in event programs & advertising

#### **\$500 (Bronze) Sponsorship**

- ★ Talent Show Sponsorship
- ★ Listed in event program & advertising

*Secure Your Sponsorship:*  
**Patricia Cummings**  
**970.249.9438**  
**[PatriciaC@MontroseEDC.org](mailto:PatriciaC@MontroseEDC.org)**



***Deadline to be included as a Sponsor for the 2025 show is February 1st!***

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE VETERANS MEMORIAL COALITION TO PLACE FIRST BRICK ORDER SOON!

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Update from the Montrose Veterans Memorial Coalition board of directors:

“Since last month much has occurred concerning Montrose Veterans Memorial progress. The first down payment for the engraved black granite panels to PG Memorials went out at the end of December. These panels, the helicopter, and surrounding tribute bricks and benches will make this location a memorial. The MVMC has worked long hours compiling images for the panels which are historically accurate and high-end artistry, bringing honor to all who have served.

Attached is an image of the World War I panel to provide a good idea of what these panels will look like, and what thoughts they might provoke in the minds of our veterans, their families and the public at large. We have seven panels that will make the phrase, “a picture is a worth a thousand words,” come true.

Now briefly, ongoing efforts to get this memorial built:

Our brick vendor has set **Feb. 28** as the deadline to submit our brick order for the first honor ceremony which will take place around the end of June or first part of July 2025. After Feb. 28, MVMC will continue to take brick orders which will be laid during the second honor ceremony, depending on the number, perhaps

late Fall 2025. If you want to be in the first ceremony please get your bricks before this date. Go online to find the link to register for a brick. Cost is \$125. [tribute brick order](#)

- The panels are expensive making cash donations very important. Donations for the panels made online at <https://www.montrosevmc.us/donate.html> or in person (see below) will be a tax benefit in 2025. Colorado Enterprise Zone credits are still available for donations of \$500 or more.

- The MVMC, Montrose County and City of Montrose memorial team will be working to advance this project at a meeting the last week of January to determine final design, dates for setting milestones and developing costs.

- MVMC is actively pursuing in-kind donations for building materials. This is an opportunity for businesses to participate from start to completion of this honorable project. So far, we have received engineering, drafting, printing, electrical, architectural and other in-kind donations. Now we additionally are seeking donations for concrete, gravel, rock, landscaping materials, etc.

Contact me personally if you individually or your business would like to participate.

Thank you to the many donors who have supported us through this process – it



WORLD WAR I

*Courtesy image.*

keeps moving us along! If you would like to get in on the excitement, please visit [www.montrosevmc.us](http://www.montrosevmc.us) to donate now, or write a check to MVMC and drop it in the mail or in person at 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way, Montrose CO 81401.

The MVMC is a 501c3 and is eligible for Colorado Enterprise Zone tax benefits for donations over \$500.

Thanks again. We cannot do this without your help.

**249 8500**

*ANONYMOUS*

Download The APP. **P3TIPS** 

**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS**

*see something, say something*

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## BIDEN WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF JUST FADING INTO THE SUNSET

*Editor:*

This letter will be published on Trump's inauguration day, which will be viewed in many ways by many Americans as a new Independence Day. Independence from having to play make-believe that either Joe Biden or Kamala were competent enough to run this country --- as Americans' grocery bills became unaffordable, their towns were flooded with unvetted illegal migrants, their streets became more unsafe, and the world grew more dangerous. Though Biden would have been better off just fading into the sunset with his legacy as a failed president intact, he chose to indulge his delusions one last time in a "farewell address." His delusions are all he has left besides the millions of dollars he and his corrupt family received from foreign oligarchs.

With zero self-awareness, Biden warned us about an emerging oligarchy -- "a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of a very few ultra wealthy people." He can't possibly be talking about George Soros, the Nazi collaborator who shoveled billions into his Open Society Foundation and other groups to elect anti-police and soft-on-crime district attorneys and to fund left-wing candidates in virtually every state throughout the U.S. He can't be talking about Mark Zuckerberg who chipped in \$300 million to prevent Trump's re-election -- while claiming to be non-partisan. There was no "oligarchy" talk from Biden when Kamala was running for president and had 30 more billionaires backing her than Trump did. "Oligarchy" was not mentioned a week or so ago when Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to two people who would definitely meet the definition of an oligarch: the same Democrat mega-donor George Soros and the Carlyle Group chairman David Rubenstein whose net worth is \$4 billion.

Now that one billionaire by the name of Elon Musk has opted to join President Trump, Democrats are suddenly concerned about the influence of rich people. Nothing hypocritical or disgusting about that, right? Never mind that Musk came to this country as a (legal) immigrant and produces things of value like rockets, electrical vehicles, tunnels, Starlinks, and medical advances to help the blind and paralyzed. Equally surreal was Biden having the nerve to talk about "paying your fair share in taxes" with his tax evading, pardoned son watching from

the wings. Worse still, Biden praised himself about how wonderful his administration has been --- the one that brought us high inflation, intrusive and ever growing big government, abortion on demand up to the last day, intact males in girls bathrooms, the biggest military humiliation in U.S. history, the corruption of the DOJ and FBI with focus on lawfare, and the world's bad actors acting with impunity to the U.S.'s detriment. He even took credit for the sudden Hamas/Israel ceasefire deal -- as if the terrorists hadn't heard Trump's threat about there being "hell to pay" if the hostages weren't released before his inauguration.

We have had a figurehead president spending America into oblivion, supporting and bungling foreign wars, and leaving our borders wide open. That's just scratching the surface. The only remotely positive thing the Biden administration accomplished was to allow the American people to clearly witness the systematic destruction of America over the last four years. Polls show that most voters say that nothing Biden did helped them, and that Biden ranks among America's "worst presidents." Most say that since he became president, Biden has not enacted a single policy that made their life better. Unlike during Trump's first term, more American's now realize that everything the Left comes in contact with it destroys, much of it on purpose. When they hear Biden say in his farewell address that "I wish the incoming administration success" but see him do everything possible in the last months of his administration to make that success more difficult, they just want him to go away.

Another advantage to America is that eight years ago, D.C. newcomer Donald Trump tried to play nice with the GOP establishment and was repeatedly stabbed in the back.

Trump is now nominating a group of non-establishment individuals who share his America First vision and are not angling for approval from the Washington Post or the Washington elite. In spite of, as J.D. Vance put it, "Biden leaving the new administration with a dumpster fire," the Trump administration has a real chance of our returning to the principles that once made this nation the envy of the world. That will be in stark contrast to the Obama/Biden/Harris creeping socialism policies that diminished our national sovereignty and eco-

nomics viability. Trump's economic policies have proven successful in the past -- tax cuts for individuals and businesses, deregulation to spur innovation, and creating an atmosphere where businesses want to thrive here. It's not rocket science. His policies will insure that American interests guide our foreign policy, not the whims of global anti-American bodies like the UN. He will go back to strategic deterrence and peace through strength. He will continue to fight those who promise equality, but deliver mediocrity, and those who encourage big government dependency rather than individual initiative. What a welcome change.

Here are some things I either chuckled about this week, or at least found interesting: Surprise! Inflation news is not very encouraging. The Federal Reserve Board is admitting that inflation is not coming down, in spite of the massive increase in Fed Fund interest rates two years ago. (Oops.) The Los Angeles government health officials really have an understanding of the community's needs right now. The LA Public Health department issued an order prohibiting cleanup or removal of fire debris at destroyed properties until a hazardous materials inspection is completed by an authorized government agency. (Yep.) In Washington, the House passed the Preventing Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act. 145 Democrats voted against the bill to deport illegals convicted of violent crimes against women and children. (Not your grandma's Democrat party anymore is it.) The top national security official who led the DOJ's hoax investigation of the Trump campaign for supposed Russian ties warned Attorney General nominee Pamela Bondi to avoid "weaponization" of the Department of Justice. (No hypocrisy there folks.) Speaking of the Washington Post, their Pulitzer Prize-winning leftist, antisemitic cartoonist was arrested for possessing child pornography. This is the same cartoonist who repeatedly portrayed conservatives, particularly Trump, as sexual predators or people weirdly obsessed with child sexuality. (You can't make this stuff up.) Oh, and Biden and his media mouthpiece Jean-Pierre bragged about "We were able to beat Medicare." Pretty bizarre unless they were talking about the fact that they robbed Medicare of \$230 billion for electric vehicle tax credits.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*



**Where Luxury  
Meets Affordability**

Cimarron Creek is a community that offers new, upgraded, beautifully crafted, move-in ready manufactured homes. If you place value on a quiet neighborhood, camaraderie, and a sense of well-being, then Cimarron Creek is for you.

**Amenities**

- Large Open Common Areas
- Scenic walking trails
- Quiet, Peaceful Atmosphere
- Community Center
- Lending Library
- Fenced in playground
- Dog Parks
- Community Garden

**Most Homes Include**

8x8 Matching Sheds, Upgraded appliances, Garden Tubs, Electric tiled fireplaces, 8x16 Patios With Large Awnings; Large lots with grass, trees, built-in sprinklers



901 6530 Rd. #1000 Montrose, CO. 81401  
 970-249-0493 Open 8am-5pm Mon-Sat  
 manager@cimarroncreekcommunity.com  
 www.cimarroncreekcommunity.com

**MEET MONTROSE**

Beautiful Western Colorado community-elevation of 5,794 feet-is nestled within easy reach of a vast selection of experiences. Plummeting depths of Black Canyon National Park to the east; towering, majestic San Juan Mountains to the south; Expansive Uncompahgre Plateau to the west, lake-bejeweled Grand Mesa to the north; Montrose Rec Center (the newest, largest recreation center on the Western Slope) and expansive water sports park right in the middle of town. Montrose is surrounded by an endless variety of prospects for exploration and adventure. A little something for everyone-shopping, fishing, biking, photography, camping, swimming, motorsports-you get the idea!

Visit our associates at  
306 East Main Street in  
Montrose, Colorado.  
[www.Norris-Phillips.com](http://www.Norris-Phillips.com)



# NORRIS-PHILLIPS

REAL ESTATE

Visit our website to see  
current listings, request a  
showing, or schedule a tour!  
Sign up with an account to save  
searches and get new listings.



**DOUG PHILLIPS & MANDY NORRIS-SNELL**

*Owners/Brokers/Realtors\**

Team Doug Phillips & Mandy Norris-Snell  
Doug (970) 209-0135 - [DPhillips@montrose.net](mailto:DPhillips@montrose.net)  
Mandy (970) 209-6326 - [mandy@Norris-Snell.com](mailto:mandy@Norris-Snell.com)



**DARRELL & JULIA BOREN**

*Broker Associates*

The Boren Team  
Darrell (970) 768-3399  
Julia (970) 380-3783  
[darrellboren@gmail.com](mailto:darrellboren@gmail.com)



**JUSTIN & DANA GLEASON**

*Broker Associates*

The Gleason Team  
Justin (970) 275-5930  
Dana (970) 209-2451  
[danagleasonrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:danagleasonrealtor@gmail.com)



**JENNIFER WEBER**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (970) 589-2999  
[wnc601@aol.com](mailto:wnc601@aol.com)



**CAROL CRAWFORD**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (970) 596-4470  
[carolann@montrose.net](mailto:carolann@montrose.net)



**TERRI FLETCHER**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (970) 275-4679  
[terrifletcher1980@gmail.com](mailto:terrifletcher1980@gmail.com)



**KELLY LANDEN**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (970) 234-7918  
[Kelly@Norris-Snell.com](mailto:Kelly@Norris-Snell.com)



**HALLEY COMBS**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (480) 252-2063  
[havalonnec@yahoo.com](mailto:havalonnec@yahoo.com)



**ANN STALEY**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (970) 275-1219  
[AnnStaleyRealtor@gmail.com](mailto:AnnStaleyRealtor@gmail.com)



**SARA WOODWARD**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (303) 990-7271  
[saraewoodwardrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:saraewoodwardrealtor@gmail.com)



**KENZIE VANARSDALE**

*Broker Associate*  
C: (720) 361-7305  
[kenzievanarsdalerealtor@gmail.com](mailto:kenzievanarsdalerealtor@gmail.com)



RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • RECREATIONAL • FARM & RANCH



# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## RADON CAUSES LUNG CANCER: TEST YOUR HOME

*Special to the Mirror*

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY— The Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have designated January 2025 National Radon Action Month and encourage Coloradans to reduce their risk of radon-induced lung cancer. San Miguel County Public Health strongly urges county residents to test their homes for radon using a free radon test kit from the state or by borrowing the one of the county’s radon monitoring devices at no cost.

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas with no color, odor, or taste. Radon can easily enter homes and other buildings through small openings like cracks in foundations, openings around pumps and drains, and crawl spaces.

In Colorado, nearly half of homes have radon levels above the recommended limit, and more than 500 lung cancer deaths in the state each year are attributed to radon. Children can be especially susceptible to the harmful effects of radon due to their higher respiratory rate and relative proximity to the ground. Even pets can be susceptible to negative health effects from radon exposure. SMC PH encourages all residents to test because radon levels can vary from home to home.

“Any home can be affected by elevated levels of radon”, Grace Franklin. “We want everyone to reduce their risk of radon exposure by using our free testing program or by ordering free test kits from the State.”

January is a great time to conduct a radon test as doors and windows should remain closed for the duration of the test. The San Miguel County Public Health Department has a few radon monitor residents can borrow for testing.

If your home has high levels of radon, it’s important to take action to reduce your risk. Radon mitigation systems can reduce radon levels in any home. For those who cannot afford a mitigation system, Colorado offers a Low Income Radon Mitigation Assistance program to homeowners who qualify through a simple application process.

Homeowners who already have radon mitigation systems should retest their homes every two years to make sure the system is working properly. More information is available on the CDPHE website: [www.coloradoradon.info](http://www.coloradoradon.info).

Call 970-728-4289 or email [publichealth@sanmiguelcountyco.gov](mailto:publichealth@sanmiguelcountyco.gov)



Welcomes  
**DR. MICHAEL PAOLUCCI**

BOARD CERTIFIED GASTROENTEROLOGIST

### Medical School

University of Texas  
Medical School at Houston  
Houston, TX

### Internship/Residency

University of Texas  
Medical School at Houston  
Department of Internal Medicine

### Fellowship

University of Texas  
Medical School at Houston  
Department of Gastroenterology

### Office

3330 S. Rio Grande Ave.  
Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 497-5979



**Now Accepting  
New Patients**

# RE-1J DIRECTORS APPROVE CALENDAR OPTIONS From pg 1

who recently harvested 34 Christmas trees as part of a wildfire mitigation project on Log Hill Mesa. Their work not only helped reduce wildfire risks but also brought holiday cheer to local families by delivering fresh trees to those in need. This inspiring project highlights their dedication to community service and environmental stewardship—truly a job well done!

“Congratulations to Gifted and Talented students at Olathe Elementary School and Columbine Middle School for creating almost 200 Winter Holiday and New Years Cards for seniors at Montage Creek, Colorow Care Center, and Senior Apartment Community,” Jenkins said. “The goal of this second annual event was to remind our senior population that we care about them during the holiday season. This community project raised some great conversations among students on how a kind word and connection can help us all foster belonging in our community.”

Finally, “Get ready for the School District Spelling Bee!” Jenkins said. “Join us on February 5 at 6 PM in the Columbine Middle School Cafeteria for an exciting competition featuring the top three spellers from each participating school. Watch these talented students compete for the title of district champion in this fun and educational event.

“Don’t miss out on the spelling showdown of the year!”

## RECOGNITION

Johnson Elementary School Counselor Marcie Jaramillo has been awarded the January KREX Golden Apple Award, and Peak Virtual Academy has been recognized as the 48th-ranked middle school in Colorado by *U.S. News & World Report*.

## DONATIONS

- The Montrose Community Foundation donated \$250 to the Safety and Wellness Team for supplies for students in need;
- The Townsend Family Charitable Trust donated \$125,279 to be used to build a new Montrose High School;
- Joan Wofford donated \$15,000 to Outer Range for construction of a new Yurt.

## BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

There were no board advisory committee updates.

## 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 CALENDAR PRESENTATION

Executive Director of Academic Services Jessica Kalb presented the [2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Calendar Options](#). Option Two was the most preferred and Kalb recommended selection of Option Two.

District D Director Tom West said that he would have preferred the Board of Education to review calendar options first.

Noting that some staff are upset about the calendar options, “You’ll never make 100 percent of the people happy,” District F Director Jody Hovde said.

## SCHOOL SAFETY PRESENTATION

With Director of Operations James Pavlich also present, Safety and Wellness Team Leader Megan Farley delivered [the School Safety and Wellness Team Presentation](#).

## COMMUNITY INPUT

Constituent Lee Anne Riddoch spoke during the time for community input.

“...I am the regent of the Uncompahgre Valley Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the Revolutionary War (DAR),” Riddoch said. “We applied for and received a \$500 grant to purchase freedom sacks for fourth and fifth grade teachers when instructing students about the history of the Revolutionary War...our chapter includes the counties of Montrose, Delta, Ouray, and San Miguel...we chose five schools in the chapter’s area; we chose one school in Delta and four in Montrose...the four that we chose in Montrose County are Naturita, Olathe, Pomona, and Northside elementaries.

“We suggest that the freedom sacks are housed in the school libraries so that they can be checked out by the teachers and used appropriately...we ask that the Superintendent and your board will take this donation for your schools. I left a copy of our letter in the superintendent’s office...if you can just say yes, I’d like to take those things...”

“Thank you,” Fishing said.

Next to speak was Constituent Katherine Sharman. “...I’m on the Montrose Classical Academy Board. MCA and its supporters recognize that your school board is updating its [LBDR policy](#) to decide whether the school district is rural or urban tonight, and that these categories involve different time frames for reviewing charter applications. If you vote to define our school district in such a way that our charter must be reviewed this summer instead of this spring, it moves our date for opening our school, if approved, to Fall of 2027 instead of fall of 2026.

“Initially we wanted to open in Fall of 2025, but your five-to-two against our application this past December cancelled that plan,” Sharman said. “At the time of this vote, however, you encouraged us to reapply, so we proceeded to submit our intent to do so on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, expecting to turn in our application this spring with our new opening goal being fall of 2026. As you might imagine, the timing of your decision is somewhat loaded for us.

“The handling of taxpayer money has rightfully been a concern for this community, both for those who don’t want MCA and those who do,” Sharman said. “When we were rejected by your board, we really deliberated on whether to appeal to the state board of education or to reapply. We knew that an appeal would be costly for both sides...but especially for your school board, because your school board would be footing the bill, or in other words the taxpayers would be footing the bill for the case.

“Of course, we all have a stake in how taxpayer money is spent,” she said. “We see that this district highly prioritizes athletic programs, as can be seen in the proposed high school. And especially with the football team doing so well this past season, we are well versed in sports.

“Please see that for your board to change the timing on our board after our submission of our intent to re-apply, it is comparable to moving the goal posts after the game is on...we respect your efforts; please respect our efforts,” Sharman said.



## RE-1J DIRECTORS APPROVE CALENDAR OPTIONS *From previous pg*

"We have worked to comply with your demands, and in short, we ask you to practice good sportsmanship when you consider the timing for reviewing our application.

"Thank you."

Next to speak was Constituent Cindy Olinghouse. "...I am here this evening to express my great disappointment in the fact that you did not approve the...Montrose Classical Academy. I don't understand because they did their work thoroughly...I frankly don't understand.

"And I also want to continue to express my great concern at Title IX still, that we would put our girls at risk. They are a greater population than the specific population that is being addressed, and I think we have to be most concerned about what could happen to our girls.

"This is a New Year, and I wish you a happy new year," Olinghouse said. "But I also see this as a year of great change coming, and we'll have to see what that all means, and I thank you for your attention."

### CONSENT AGENDA

District D Director Tom West asked to remove Consent Agenda Item Four for further discussion; the board voted to approve Consent Agenda items, including Personnel Report, without Item Four-- Approve payment to Mesa County Valley School District 51 in the amount of \$26,803.66 for youth services catchment

fees.

After some discussion and explanations from staff, the board of education voted to approve Consent Agenda item 4.

### NEW BUSINESS

The Board voted to approve Board meeting Resolution 01-2025, Public Notice of Meetings of the MCSD Board of Education for 2025.

After hearing a detailed presentation by Finance Director Emily Imus including the Amended Budget Summary, the Board of Education voted to adopt Resolution 02-2025 Amended Budget Appropriation Resolution 2024-2025 and Resolution 03-2025 Use of Beginning Fund Balance Resolution 2024-2025.

Directors spent time in discussion as they considered the choice of calendars for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, which were developed through a collaborative process that began with feedback from each school's Building Leadership Team, composed of administrators and teachers.

The agenda states that, "using this input, two calendar options were created and shared via a district-wide survey for parents, staff, and students to vote on their preference."

District A Director Neisha Balleck moved to approve the preferred option.

The board spent time in discussion. District D Director Tom West said, "I would

just like in the future for the board to be able, because we get the calls...when you get those calls if you can't explain it, that's not good...I really did like that first calendar...people are going to call...just a little bit better briefing for us up front."

Board President Sarah Fishing said that board members can request information on any agenda item prior to the meeting. Superintendent Carrie Stephenson said that in the past, calendars were chosen in a non-collaborative process.

After further consideration, the board voted to approve the preferred option for calendars for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years.

The Board of Education then spent time reviewing revised board policies AC-R-1, ACA, BCA-E3, BDB, BEDA, DID, DN, GBA, GBEB, GBJ, GCE/GCF, JB, JF, JICA, JICDA, JICDD, JLCE, KDE, KDB, KDB-R, KDB-E, LBD and LBD-R on first reading.

### ENROLLMENT REPORT

Finance Director Emily Imus presented the Enrollment Report.

As of Jan. 9, District enrollment is 5,970, Imus said, "Eight students lower than last month, and 44 students lower than last year in January."

At the request of the board, Imus agreed to gather more information on the enrollment drop.

With no further business, directors voted to adjourn.

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

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## THE PEOPLE'S VOICE PREVAILS: HOW A COMMUNITY PRESERVED ITS PUBLIC LANDS

By Sean m. Pond

MONTROSE COUNTY-When I discovered in February 2024 that discussions about the proposed Dolores National Monument were happening behind closed doors – complete with private river tours for U.S. Senators – I knew our community deserved better. Even more disturbing was learning that environmental groups and federal agencies had been planning this for years without public knowledge. What began as a simple effort to spread awareness evolved into a grassroots movement that demonstrated the enduring strength of our constitutional republic. At our first community meeting, I made my public speaking debut with a promise: "I don't know what stage I'll have to stand upon to make a difference, but I'm damn sure going to find out." Today, I can say I kept that promise.

The victory we achieved wasn't just about stopping a monument designation. It was about proving that ordinary citizens still have a voice in how our public lands are managed. When our community learned about these closed-door discussions, the response was swift and decisive. Farmers, ranchers, and local business owners stood together. Outdoor enthusiasts and multi-generational families united in common cause. People who had never attended a public meeting in their lives suddenly found themselves calling senators and organizing petition drives. This uprising of civic engagement crossed

traditional political boundaries. We weren't motivated by partisanship, but by a fundamental belief that decisions about public lands should involve the people who live, work, and maintain them. Our coalition brought together county commissioners, state legislators, and citizens from across the political spectrum, all united by the conviction that public lands should remain accessible to all Americans. The process wasn't always smooth. But as our founders envisioned when they established this constitutional republic, engaged citizens can still shape policy when they unite for a common cause. Every phone call, every email, every signature on a petition contributed to a chorus of voices that couldn't be ignored.

Perhaps the most valuable lesson from this experience is that our republic doesn't work through silence. It requires active participation, persistent advocacy, and sometimes, the courage to challenge decisions made in back rooms. The Dolores National Monument victory isn't just about preserving access to public lands – it's about preserving the principle that in America, the people's voice still matters.

Make no mistake – this victory, while significant, is but one battle in an ongoing war. The environmental groups and NGOs pushing for restricted access will not stop their efforts. They will regroup, rebrand their initiatives, and return with new strategies to limit public land use. We

must remain vigilant and ready to mobilize again. Complacency now would risk everything we've fought to protect.

As I reflect on this journey, I'm struck by how many lasting friendships formed through this shared cause. People who might never have met are now bound together by their commitment to protecting our constitutional principles. This is what our republic looks like when it's working as intended – not as a spectator sport, but as a participatory endeavor that brings communities together.

Today, I make a new promise: I will find a platform and stage from which to continue the fight for land access, liberty, and freedom. The future is not written, and I will go where destiny guides me, always ensuring that the voices of liberty are heard in the halls where decisions are made.

Our success sends a powerful message to future generations: when citizens engage, unite, and persist, they can still influence the decisions that shape their communities.

But we must stay alert and organized. The forces seeking to restrict public land access are well-funded and persistent. They view this setback as temporary, and so must we.

Our victory in the Dolores National Monument proposal shows that our system of government still works, but only when We the People remain engaged and ready to defend our rights.

**UNRIVALED PLUMBING & HEATING**

- PLUMBING • HEATING
- BATHROOM REMODELING SERVICES

For \$50/month an UNRIVALED SHIELD MEMBERSHIP entitles you to: • No Trip Fees • 10% Off All Service • Priority Scheduling • Additional Discounts • and More!

**(970) 765-6252 • www.Unrivaled.Plumbing**

The Professionals You Need, When You Need Us. **Same Day Service Guaranteed.\*\***

\*Call before 3PM M-F for Service within 20 Min. of Montrose

**FULLY FURNISHED!**

**Lot #325**



Where Quality Meets

Affordability

Our abundant amenities include: Community Center, Fishing Lake, Basketball /Pickleball Courts, Dog Parks, Playground with Zip Line and On-site Management.

**Brand New  
Champion -York**

1179 SF, 3 Bed/2 Bath  
Split Floor Plan

**\$174,000**

(5% Down/25 Year Term)

**\*Only \$2,187.00**

**per month!\***

**(\$1,340.00 Mortgage plus \$847.00 Lot Rent)**

\*WAC. Estimated payment, rates and terms may vary based on credit history. Not all applicants will qualify. Subject to lender terms & conditions. Actual term, rate, APR, and loan amount may vary.\*



**Hidden  
Lake**

**More Information: 970-615-9412**

**julie@thehiddenlakecommunity.com**

**62650 LaSalle Rd Montrose, CO 81401**

**Why rent when you  
can own for less?**



LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK





PRESENTS

# JON SANDS

## POETRY IN MOTION

EMOTIONAL HISTORIANS WORKSHOP  
AND LIVE READING

WORKSHOP: 1:30 PM (DOORS 1 PM)

ADULTS \$20/YOUTH \$15 (LIMIT 20)

PERFORMANCE: 7:30 PM (DOORS 7 PM)

ADULTS \$25/YOUTH \$15

WORKSHOP & PERFORMANCE:

ADULTS \$35/YOUTH \$20

JANUARY 25, 2025

33 N. UNCOMPAHGRE AVE  
MONTROSE, CO

TICKETS AT  
HEALTHY RHYTHM ART GALLERY  
OR ONLINE AT  
[WWW.HEALTHYRHYTHM.NET](http://WWW.HEALTHYRHYTHM.NET)



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## PUBLIC FEEDBACK SOUGHT FOR ROUNDABOUT ART INSTALLATION



Welcomes  
**DR. WILLIAM SUMMERS**

**PAIN MEDICINE SPECIALIST**

### Medical School

University of Alabama  
School of Medicine  
Birmingham, AL

### Internship/Residency

University of Colorado  
Aurora, CO  
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

### Fellowship

Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN  
Interventional Spine

### Office

Spine & Pain Center  
3330 S Rio Grande Ave.  
Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 252-2584



*Now Accepting  
New Patients*

### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose is in the preliminary stages for installing a new public sculpture within the traffic roundabout at the intersection of N 9th Street and N Grand Avenue, and is seeking public input for the concept of the sculpture. A public meeting has been scheduled for Monday, Jan. 27, at 5:30 p.m. to gather additional input.

The survey found here takes only a few minutes to complete. Feedback via the survey will help guide city staff in shaping the theme and other key elements of the sculpture.

### Public Meeting: North 9th Street Roundabout Sculpture

A public meeting for the North 9th Street roundabout sculpture will take place on Monday, Jan. 27, at 5:30 p.m. at the Mexican American Development Association (MADA) building located at 17 N 6 St. Those wanting to offer input in person are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts on design options.

Spanish interpretation will be provided. An online survey is also available for those who would like to provide feedback but can't attend the meeting.

Survey link in Spanish: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RoundaboutSpanish&nbsp;nbsp;nbsp;>

Survey link in English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RoundaboutEnglish>

The City of Montrose completed the roundabout at the intersection of N 9th Street and N Grand Avenue in 2011 and has been working for years to improve both the traffic and pedestrian connectivity in the area. In 2021 the city invested in pedestrian connectivity improvements in this area by rebuilding failing sidewalks and new sidewalks to connect the La Raza Park neighborhood to the Uncompahgre River and the Colorado Outdoors community via the N 9th Street and N Grand Avenue roundabout.

More information about this project will be provided once it becomes available.

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





**Where Quality Meets Affordability**

Hidden Lake Community in the Uncompahgre Valley below majestic San Juan mountain range. Beautiful "lock & leave" community. Move-in-ready, owner occupied homes with curb appeal & upgrades.

Peaceful, relaxing, breathtaking views. Minutes from Montrose and close to Ouray & Telluride.

**Amenities**

- Fishing Lake
- Basketball/pickleball courts
- Dog Parks
- Enclosed playground w/zipline
- Community Center

**Most Homes Include**

- Refrigerator, range, microwave, dishwasher, washer/dryer connection, 2-Car Parking Pad, 8' x 16' deck under 20' awning, lawn maintenance, sprinkler system.



62650 LaSalle Road, Montrose CO 81401  
 970-615-9412 Open Mon-Sat 8am-5pm  
[julie@thehiddenlakecommunity.com](mailto:julie@thehiddenlakecommunity.com)  
[www.thehiddenlakecommunity.com](http://www.thehiddenlakecommunity.com)

**MEET MONTROSE**

Beautiful Western Colorado community-elevation of 5,794 feet-is nestled within easy reach of a vast selection of experiences. Plummeting depths of Black Canyon National Park to the east; towering, majestic San Juan Mountains to the south; Expansive Uncompahgre Plateau to the west, lake-bejeweled Grand Mesa to the north; Montrose Rec Center (the newest, largest recreation center on the Western Slope) and expansive water sports park right in the middle of town. Montrose is surrounded by an endless variety of prospects for exploration and adventure. A little something for everyone-shopping, fishing, biking, photography, camping, swimming, motorsports-you get the idea!

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## INAUGURATION DAY

Editor:

Some people may not realize what happens on inauguration day. True, it is the day when a new president assumes our highest position in our land, but it presents much more. In most countries a change of leadership is usually preceded by a war, revolution, coup, death of a king or queen, death of a dictator. We in America experience a totally different scenario. This will be the 47th time our nation has changed presidents after 249 years of being a republic. There will be people who object to our new president while others rejoice at the coming changes. We may change the way our country operates but the key factor is that our constitution remains in effect. Every president either elected or assigned (Gerald Ford) has sworn allegiance and to protect the citizens of the United States from enemies foreign and domestic. It shows the world that the United States of America remains strong after each and every change of the Commander-in-Chief. Regardless of your political leanings it is a time to unite for America, put the words "WE THE PEOPLE" into action. Roll up your sleeves, and take a roll to heal our country. It may have been a campaign slogan but it is now up to ALL of us to make it a reality. We can choose to be a democratic-American, Republican-American, Black-American, Irish-American or whatever you want to identify as but now is the time to come together as AMERICANS. America First should not be just a slogan but an act

of National Pride. I'm sure that there are those that want it to be something other than American.

If you doubt where you live, recite the Pledge of Allegiance slowly and listen to the words:

*I pledge Allegiance to the flag*

*of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.*

God bless America and God bless our President.

*John Brown, Montrose*

*DineOutMontrose.com*



**Pahgre's**  
970-249-6442

**Rib City**  
970-249-7427

**Stone House**  
970-240-8899

**Fiesta Guadalajara**  
970-249-2460

**Remington's at the Bridges**  
970-252-1119

**Alpen Confections**  
970-648-0609

**Jimmer's Steak & BBQ**  
970-252-1227



**WE HAVE CATERING OPTIONS: WEDDINGS, REUNIONS, FOOTBALL PARTIES, RECEPTIONS, OR YOUR EVENT**



**Beer Barn II**  
970-249-5550

**Receive The Mirror directly in your email!**  
**Sign up at MontroseMirror.com**



## Dine to Donate at Horsefly

**Date:** January 21st

**Time:** 11am - 9pm

Proceeds will be donated to  
**Sharing Ministries Food Bank**





# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE COUNTY WELCOMES NEW COMMISSIONERS



2025 Board of County Commissioners . Courtesy photo.

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE— Montrose County welcomed Commissioners Rick Dunlap and Scott Mijares, who were officially sworn into office earlier today. The ceremony, held at the Montrose County Public Works building,

was attended by community leaders, staff, and residents.

Commissioner Dunlap (District 3) and Commissioner Mijares (District 1) succeed outgoing Commissioners Keith Caddy and Roger Rash, respectively.

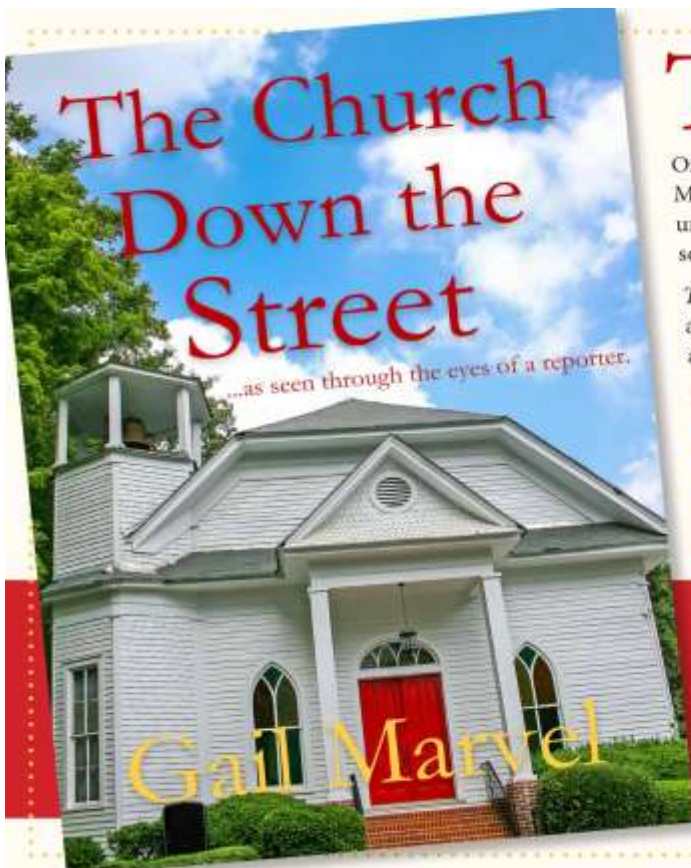
"I am deeply honored to serve the people of Montrose County," said Commissioner Dunlap. "My focus will be on addressing community needs, improving essential services, and ensuring a bright future for all."

Commissioner Mijares added, "I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Montrose County. As we move forward, I am committed to maintaining small town values while pursuing big town opportunities that will help our community thrive."

Following the swearing-in, the Board of County Commissioners elected Sue Hansen as its new chair.

"Stepping into the role of Chair, I look forward to working closely with my fellow commissioners. Together, we will focus on fostering growth and strengthening the future of Montrose County," said Commissioner Sue Hansen.

The Board of County Commissioners meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 AM in the Public Works BOCC room (63160 LaSalle Road). Meeting agendas are available online at [www.montrosecounty.net](http://www.montrosecounty.net).



**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 and wingedpublications.com.

**GAIL MARVEL**  
Montrose Author & Reporter





## About The Property

Come quickly to see this new home in Brown Ranch Subdivision. The 6" wide entry way welcomes you. The warm tones in the cabinetry as well as the quartz countertops throughout are a refreshing combination. Laminate and tile floors are another welcome bonus. The pantry & inviting work island extending from kitchen into the dining area are both so efficient. Notice the dual walk in closets in the main suite along with the 5 piece bath as well as the walk in closets in the guest rooms AND the wonderful tile detail in both. Outside you will find the 21 x 12 covered patio ready for entertaining and or relaxing. This home is on a cul'de'sac and just minutes from the busy-ness of Montrose.

### Amenities

- 3 Bedrooms
- Attached Garage
- 2 Bathrooms
- Patio/Covered Porch
- 1825 sq. ft.
- Irrigation Water



**CENTURY 21** Elevated Real Estate

500 E Main Street,  
Montrose, Colorado 81401  
the-res.com | (970) 249-7653

970-209-3934  
peg@pegevanoika.com

**Peg Evanoika**  
Broker Associate

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH PARTNERS WITH SAN JUAN HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION TO FORM *MONTROSE REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION*



**Montrose Regional Health has hired Kelly Anderson to lead the Montrose Regional Health Foundation. Courtesy photo.**

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE – Montrose Regional Health and the San Juan Healthcare Foundation have developed a new partnership to form the new Montrose Regional Health Foundation. This combined foundation continues the mission of supporting the healthcare needs of the Montrose community and surrounding regions, enhanc-

ing healthcare access, services and initiatives.

“This merger will maximize our impact, streamline fundraising efforts, and ensure a more robust and sustainable future for healthcare in our area,” said Jeff Mengenhause, CEO of Montrose Regional Health. “The combined foundation will focus on supporting MRH’s growing healthcare infrastructure, continuing to fund existing and new programs, advancing medical technology, and continuing to provide scholarships for students pursuing a career in healthcare,”

The Montrose Regional Health Foundation will continue to be deeply embedded in local communities, working closely with individuals, businesses, and civic organizations to raise awareness and funds for healthcare needs. The current goals for the MRH Foundation include developing a Grateful Patient program, researching the feasibility of a capital campaign, and developing the new combined foundation - while continuing to work closely with the Caring Friends Fund and grant giving through the San Juan Fund. Kelly Anderson has been hired to help lead the newly formed foundation, bringing years of experience and an entrepreneurial spirit to

assist in making the achievement of these goals possible. Kelly has been the Executive Director for the Grand Junction Symphony for the past 12 years and is the current Board President for the Delta Egyptian Theater.

“We are proud of the partnership we have developed with Montrose Regional Health Foundation, and this merger represents an exciting new chapter,” said Kathie Lower, San Juan Healthcare Foundation Board Chair. “Together we will have the opportunity to make an even greater impact on the future of healthcare for our region.”

The San Juan Healthcare Foundation has been improving healthcare in Montrose and the surrounding area since 1982 when a group of local citizens developed a mechanism to raise funds to help meet the healthcare needs of our communities. Most recently, the foundation donated \$500,000 to help fund the expansion of the San Juan Cancer Center.

This newly formed foundation will continue to improve healthcare in the region - another way Montrose Regional Health is *Caring for you like family*. To learn more about the MRH Foundation, call (970) 240-7396.

**SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING**

**970-249-8500**

ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL  
**CRIME STOPPERS**

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## MUSEUM OF THE MOUNTAIN WEST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECEIVES RECOGNITION

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE– The Museum of the Mountain West’s Founder and Executive Director Richard E. Fike was selected by *True West Magazine* as “Best Western History Collector” for 2025.

Recognition by the magazine was revealed in its January “Best of the West 2025” special collector’s edition available on national newsstands in January. Museum Founder and Executive Director Richard E. Fike commented, “I very much appreciate being honored again with this *True West* award because it affirms my lifelong goal of educating the public on the true historical stories and artifacts of the Western US. Since my first days of collecting in Skagway, Alaska, to a December 2024 acquisition in Denver Colorado, I continue to treasure the West and share it with the Museum of the Mountain West visitors from around the world to help save the past.”

Information on [truwestmagazine.com](http://truwestmagazine.com) notes that the magazine has been published since 1953; it has a vast monthly print and online readership of fascinated history enthusiasts and heritage travelers with articles about the myths, legends, and lore of the American West.

Step back in time at the Museum of the Mountain West “Where History Comes Alive” at 68169 Miami Road, Montrose, Colorado. For additional details, visit [www.museumofthemountainwest.org](http://www.museumofthemountainwest.org) or call 970-240-3400.



*Richard E. Fike. Courtesy photo.*



*Where Wallflowers Grow*  
A Coming of Age Memoir  
Gail Marvel

*Where Wallflowers Grow* is the coming of age story of a shy, introverted, 12-year-old girl. A 1960’s latch-key kid, Gail’s mom agreed to let her leave her home-alone existence and live in her grandma’s boarding house.

The Shelly Boarding House, located in rural southeastern Colorado, was home to male pensioners and Social Security recipients who themselves were loners and had nowhere else to go.

For three years Gail lived in this unconventional family environment where she comes of age, while the old-timers age in place.

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

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



# Lot #32

**BRAND NEW HOME  
COMING SOON!**

**\$110,000**

5% Down/25 Year Term

HSD16683AH

16 X 68 | 1020 SQ. FT | 3 BED 2 BATH

For More Information Call: 970-249-8266



### HOME FEATURES

- ◆ Argon Gas Low E Thermal Pane Windows
- ◆ Front Storm Door/Cottage Rear Door
- ◆ Vinyl Exterior Siding/Composition Roof
- ◆ Ecobee Programmable Thermostat
- ◆ e Built Insulation
- ◆ Tub/Shower in Primary & Guest Bath
- ◆ Shaker Style Kitchen Cabinet Doors
- ◆ Double Bowl Stainless Steel Sink
- ◆ 8 Foot Flat Ceilings
- ◆ Lino/Cordless Blinds throughout
- ◆ Ceiling Fan in Living Room/Can Lights
- ◆ Whole House Ventilation System

### COMMUNITY & AMENITIES

Mountain views, comfortable moderate climate & country setting.  
 Landscaped greenbelts, park area, private gardens & clubhouse.  
 Large home sites averaging 5000-5500 SF.  
 Near Ouray, Crested Butte, & Telluride, CO.



**\*ONLY \$1,531.00 per month!\***

(\$860.00 mortgage plus \$671.00 lot rent)

\*WAC. Estimated payment, rates and terms may vary based on credit history. Not all applicants will qualify. Subject to lender terms & conditions. Actual term, rate, APR, and loan amount may vary.\*



# END OF SEASON SALE



# Now UP TO 50% OFF

308 E. MAIN ST. • MONTROSE, COLORADO

## OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

### IS THE GOOD OLD BOY NETWORK ALIVE & WELL IN MONTROSE?

*By all appearances, conflicts of interest are everywhere & they're using your tax dollars to help themselves out!*

By David White

Let me start by saying that I already know that there are those that will read this letter/opinion piece and say "Oh here he goes again! This guy just can't get past government spending money on things that really don't matter to me" or "he's just picking on the same old people. So, what are we supposed to do about it?"

Maybe you're in the camp of those that are benefiting from the City's largesse and don't like being called out. That's happened before and an individual even threatened to sue me for writing about the facts associated with him and his family benefiting from receiving thousands of dollars from the City, making the argument that he's creating a beneficial economic use for the citizens through his business! He forgot that he's also creating beneficial use for his wallet using your money too regardless of the self-serving arguments used to justify having his hand out and in the government till.

Government, at many levels (local to federal) has long been in the business of loaning money out to various entities through forgivable loans or those with low interest rates to assist folks with things like buying a first home or starting a business or obtaining an education and many more. With these loans come many strings attached to them. The same holds true with grants. However, with the City of Montrose, outright giveaways of taxpayer monies may, if you're a part of the "in-crowd," come with even greater perks, like jobs with the City and other benefits.

One such example is found in the person of Sarah Fishering. Ms. Fishering (41), is a local activist and far from being a community wallflower, is involved in many aspects of our local society, some known to you and others not. Many of you reading this know of Ms. Fishering's position as the President of the Montrose RE-1J School Board. She is infamous for shouting down those who speak too long during the public comment period at

School Board meetings as well as being a strong proponent for the failed November 2024 ballot question regarding replacing Montrose High School with a new, \$198,000,000 facility that, with interest and other costs, would have netted out at almost \$400 million dollars while increasing property taxes by hundreds if not thousands of dollars per year on every property within the District's boundaries. She rules the School Board with the authoritarian manner of an old school Catholic school nun!

She has gained more attention of late as yet another driver in the education of our school aged children by coming out against the Montrose Classical Academy (MCA), a proposed new charter school with the goal of offering an alternative to traditional public schools with a curriculum that provides a well-rounded education in the liberal arts and sciences. All students at MCA would study literature, history, mathematics and the sciences, the fine arts, Latin, and physical education when schooled in the classical education curriculum, something we've strayed from for far too long.

Ms. Fishering, whom I find to be an interesting individual, has her roots in her native England. Post-secondary education included attending King's College in London and subsequently the University of Maryland in the U.S. ([\(14\) Education | Sarah Fishering | LinkedIn](#)). She and her husband, David Fishering, have a strong entrepreneurial sense with quite a bit of that English socialism so prevalent in the UK, thrown in for good measure.

You see, Mr. Fishering, who arrived with wife Sarah in Montrose in 2014, along with his father (a long-time local businessman), purchased the old Montrose Potato Growers Association complex at the corner of N. Grand Avenue and West Main Street in March of 2017 for \$250,000 under the name of High Oasis, LLC for which Greg Fishering is, in records available on line, found to be the owner. Today, they claim that over \$4 million dollars has been

spent on renovating and restoring the structures that make up their Storm King Distillery business and the recently opened business known as "The Association," a mix of drinking and eating establishments under one roof.

The investment by the Fishering's in our community is admirable. Saving these historic structures from collapse due to age and neglect is preserving a part of local history for the next generation. Where the basis for this story begins to come to light is when it is found that the resurrection of these structures came about in large part because of "incentives" from the City of Montrose as well as various "grants" obtained by the City on behalf of the Fishering's such as an EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) Brownfields Assessment Grant to the City (\$400,000 in 2014 and \$300,000 in 2017) that allocated some of these funds to this project; a Colorado State Historical Fund grant for \$250,000 ([Grant Secured To Help Renovation Of The Montrose Potato Growers Building](#)); an economic incentive for Storm King Distillery by the City of Montrose for "horizontal improvements" (curb, gutter and sidewalks, parking lot as well as other monies for the building); almost \$420,000 paid to Stryker Construction Co. for a sewer line and other infrastructure to include improving and paving an alley way and installing a parking lot for The Association site (the Fishering's have argued that others use the alley and park at adjacent businesses, however, the reality is that the main users are patrons of their businesses).

Further complicating the picture of a simple family business seeking government assistance for their project is the number of Limited Liability Companies (LLCs) that were formed just for this project. As previously mentioned, High Oasis, LLC is one such entity. Then comes High Mesa Spirits LLC DBA ("Doing Business As") Storm King Distilling Company; Black Peregrine Food and Beverage Services, LLC which obtained a liquor license from the City of

# IS THE GOOD OLD BOY NETWORK ALIVE & WELL IN MONTROSE?

## From previous pg

Montrose on August 20, 2024, allowing for the sale of liquor at “The Association” which is the “DBA” for Black Peregrine and which lists Sarah Fishing as its owner. There may be more, but you get the idea that this is a somewhat complex business structure, most likely designed the way it is due to the liabilities associated with selling alcohol to the public.

Now, back to Ms. Fishing. It turns out that Ms. Fishing is not only a private sector entrepreneur, but she’s also a public sector “contract” employee. You see, Ms. Fishing has been receiving \$10,000 per year from the City of Montrose as its Facilitator and Program Coordinator for the City’s Citizen Leadership Program known as Montrose University ([Montrose U Leadership | Montrose, CO - Official Website](#)) which is a joint venture that includes Montrose County Government. She has worked in this role for at least the last two years and is currently facilitating a leadership class for this year. In addition, travel expenses are also paid on her behalf when needed. Payment for her services comes from the Office of Business & Tourism Fund.

In a separate role, we find that Ms. Fishing is being paid for “Social Media” services being provided to the Montrose Police Department. She is in her third year of providing such services. She also provides, on occasion, “marketing services” to the Montrose Animal Shelter and Montrose University. Funds to pay her are coming from the voter approved “Public Safety Sales Tax Fund” for her social media campaigns with the police department and

the amount being paid varies by month, but based upon numbers I’ve seen, total close to \$30,000 per year.

So, is it just me, or do we have a conflict of interest here folks? Or is there a significant ethical and transparency issue here, or is it just me?

As if she and her family aren’t benefiting from the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been given to her for businesses that she identifies herself as having ownership of (The Association) and ownership in (by marriage – Storm King Distillery), the cherry on top of this smelly mess is found in check No. 142701 for \$300.00 issued by the City of Montrose on December 12, 2024, to Joshua Bunker for payment of services rendered to “provide live music at the grand opening celebration for the Potato Growers Building” (aka, The Association - [Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting | The Association](#)) and paid out of the City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism’s “Development and Revitalization Team (DART)” operating budget.

**How nice! NOT!** You talk about a lot of nerve...someone in City Management (most likely the DART group led by the City’s globetrotting business development guru Anthony Russo) authorized this expenditure and should be terminated for it in my opinion.

In closing, ironically and in light of the above revelations, one of the reasons given for denying the Montrose Classical Academy’s application to be established as a charter school within the Montrose RE-1J School District, led by Ms. Fishing and some members of the School Board,

was the following statement:

***“As noted by District staff and the DAC, the application does not clearly outline procedures for managing potential conflicts of interest among MCA board members, which could jeopardize transparency and trust within the community if not properly addressed.”***

***(NOTE: The MCA application does state that “Our conflict of interest policy for board members is included on pg. 209 of the application.”) [MCA Application Denial Resolution Table MCA Responses January 2025.xlsx](#)***

Really Ms. Fishing? Perhaps you and others should look in the proverbial mirror. What has been going on these last few years is nothing more and nothing less than a full-blown conflict of interest and a lack of transparency. There need to be consequences for all of this.

And, as if this information isn’t enough to make one’s blood boil, there’s more coming. This is just the beginning of peeling back the corruption, conflicts and good old boy network that lives and breathes in the halls of Montrose City Government. Tune in for more next week.

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

**WAKE UP...**

and smell the ~~coffee~~ **NEWS!**

The Mirror is the regional leader when it comes to business, fresh news and feature stories! Read the latest today ...

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





## THE REVENUE GENERATOR

**Did you know that we are a local company that offers the following services?**

- Digital Loyalty Systems
- Text Message Marketing
- NEW!** • Digital Mobile Coupons
- NEW!** • Waitlist System & Birthday Club (Restaurants/Delis)
- Database Builds for any Organization
- Help Wanted Broadcasts
- NEW!** • Text Reminder System (Physicians, Chiropractors, Massage Therapists, Mechanics, etc.)



Call/Text: **970-417-1516**

Email: **support@970vip.com**

Or Visit: **www.TheRevenueGenerator.com**  
and fill in contact form!





**Why Use an SRES®**

**A Seniors Real Estate Specialist® (SRES®) is uniquely qualified to help you take the next step.**

**Trust a skilled professional to ease the anxiety of selling your home.**

**SRES® designees have unparalleled training and experience in seniors real estate, including:**

- Helping you manage the financial and emotional challenges of selling a long-held family home
- Creating a customized plan to market and sell your property
- Understanding your unique needs and creating a customized plan to ensure your home meets those needs now and in the future
- Utilizing specialized knowledge in reverse mortgages, 401(k) accounts, and IRAs for your real estate transaction
- Connecting you with their vast network of movers, attorneys, home inspectors, and other experts to help you through the process



**Hello, I am your SRES,**



Peg Evanoika, SRES REALTOR

*Peg Evanoika*

Century 21 Elevated Real Estate  
 www.the-res.com | (970) 209-3934  
 Email: realtor@pegevanoika.com

**CENTURY 21**  
 Elevated Real Estate

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## WENDELL KOONTZ WAS SWORN IN FOR A SECOND TERM AS COMMISSIONER FOR DISTRICT 3, AND CRAIG FULLER JOINED AS THE NEW COMMISSIONER FOR DISTRICT 2

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA-The Delta County Board of Commissioners held a swearing-in ceremony last week, to mark an important milestone in local leadership. Commissioner Wendell Koontz officially began his second term representing District 3, while Craig Fuller joined the board as the newly elected Commissioner for District 2.

During the special reorganization meeting held after the swearing-in, Commissioner Koontz was also appointed as Chair of the Board for 2025, following the annual rotation of the position. He succeeds Mike Lane, who served as Chair throughout 2024. The board thanked Commissioner Lane for his exemplary leadership over the past year.

### **Wendell Koontz: Accomplishments and Vision**

Commissioner Koontz has spent his first term advancing key initiatives, including Delta County Fairgrounds infrastructure improvements, economic development projects, and health and environmental impact management. His leadership has fostered collaboration among community stakeholders and prioritized transparent governance.

As he begins his second term, Commissioner Koontz remains committed to building on this progress with a renewed focus on completing major projects such



*Delta County courtesy photo.*

as the Miners Trail and bringing the Fairgrounds master plan to life. In addition, representing our community on several vital boards that protect our watersheds, our hospital, and our public lands.

### **Welcome, Commissioner Craig Fuller**

Craig Fuller brings a wealth of experience and fresh perspective to the board. With a successful background as a small business owner in Delta County, he has been a dedicated community member, serving in roles such as the Orchard City Board of Trustees. That assignment afforded him the chance to see governmental workings up close. He oversaw the building of a new town hall and the expansion of the Town Park to include new soccer fields and a multi-use pavilion. Also, multiple committee assignments and the drafting and adopting of the annual budget to guide long-term goals of maintaining the town's water system and its roads. Fuller's

focus on improving resident satisfaction, working on ongoing infrastructure projects, and continuing fiscal responsibility will bring valuable insights to the board.

### **Community Involvement Opportunities**

The Board of Commissioners oversees various boards and commissions that allow residents to engage with and influence the county's future. These groups are vital in shaping policy and guiding decisions in planning, public health, and economic development. For more information about the boards and commissions and how to get involved, visit: <https://www.deltacountyco.gov/782/County-Boards-Commissions>.

### **Looking Ahead**

With this new leadership, the Board of Commissioners is ready to continue advancing initiatives that promote growth, sustainability, and community well-being throughout Delta County.

*Yes, WE'RE OPEN*

**It's Your Business!  
Let's Grow Together.  
Advertise with  
The Montrose Mirror**



# Vision Board at MOSAIC

## SATURDAY, Feb. 1st, 2-4 pm

With Kate Burke

### How do you envision your 2025?



We provide the board & art materials. You provide the vision.

Bring your own pictures, clippings, hopes, dreams.  
We'll have things to cut and paste onto your board.

Includes snack and adult or NA beverage.

Sign up in store or online [kathrynrburke.com/product/020125m/](https://kathrynrburke.com/product/020125m/)  
21 N. Cascade, downtown Montrose



**PRICE  
REDUCED!**



**Lot #148 ONLY \$72,000**



Affordable, quality community! Situated on the banks of the Uncompahgre River providing a country setting yet with all the modern conveniences.

Everything you would expect from a home in Colorado's San Juan Mountain region.

**Welcome Home !**

**2bed/1bath**

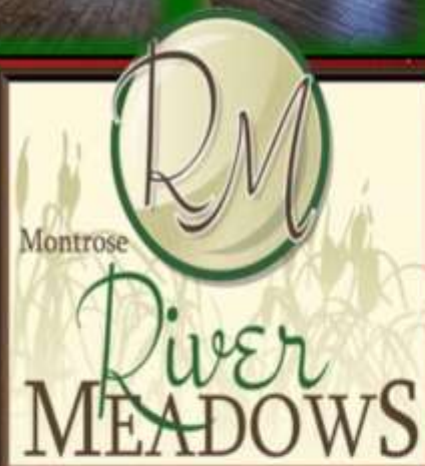
**860sqft**

**central A/C**

**large homesite**

**Charming home featuring a cozy yet functional layout.**

**Move-in ready**



**CALL OR EMAIL TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!**

**(970) 249-8286**

**manager@montrosrivermeadows.com**



62880 Lasalle Rd Unit 0, Montrose, CO 81401

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

25% OFF ALL  
LAZY ONE CLOTHING

UP TO  
SIZE 2X



**Lazy  
One**

HAPPY NEW YEAR \$  
HAPPY LAZY DAYS



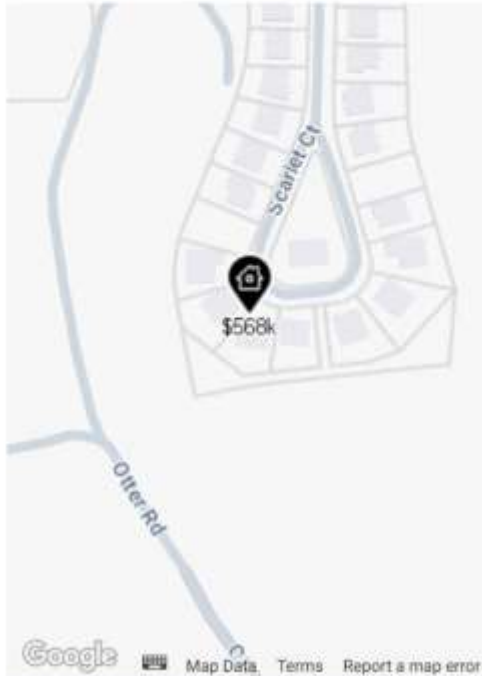
**Colorado-ology**

328 E. MAIN ST. • MONTROSE • 970.249.8323

ACTIVE: Offered at **\$568,000**

3848 Scarlet Ct, Montrose, CO 81401

# It's All About the Lifestyle



## Single Family

|                         |                                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Bedrooms:</b>        | 3                                     |
| <b>Total Baths:</b>     | 2                                     |
| <b>Living Area:</b>     | 1,668 sq ft                           |
| <b>Building Area:</b>   | 1,668                                 |
| <b>Lot Size:</b>        | 10,442 sq ft                          |
| <b>Garage:</b>          | 2 car                                 |
| <b>Year Built:</b>      | 2021                                  |
| <b>Tax Amount:</b>      | \$1,979                               |
| <b>Subdivision:</b>     | Brown Ranch                           |
| <b>School District:</b> | Montrose County School District Re-1j |
| <b>MLS #:</b>           | 819335                                |

Listing Courtesy of:  
Century 21

## Description

This Charming Custom-Built Builder's Home is a stunning example of custom craftsmanship, designed with both style and functionality in mind. From its inviting front porch to its thoughtfully designed interior, with cozy fireplace as the focal point, this residence offers all you need for comfortable, modern living. The inviting front covered porch adds classic charm and provides a welcoming entryway. The covered back porch offers the perfect evening retreat to be enjoyed year round. The efficient gourmet kitchen features high-quality cabinetry with soft-close drawers, and pull out shelves. Granite countertops and a range hood add elegance and durability, and a convenient pot filler at the gas range makes cooking a breeze. Open living area with soaring ceilings:



Presented by  
**Leslie Gore** | Broker Associate  
GRI, ABR, CRS, SRES  
Colorado Real Estate License: 40023928

Work: (970) 249-7653  
Mobile: (970) 275-3195  
Fax: (970) 249-8304

Main: [lesliegorerealtor@gmail.com](mailto:lesliegorerealtor@gmail.com) |  
Other 1: [michelleklippertrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:michelleklippertrealtor@gmail.com) Office:  
[www.The-RES.com](http://www.The-RES.com)



**CENTURY 21**  
500 Main St  
Montrose, CO 81401

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## GOODBYE JOE

Dear Joe,

Good bye and good riddance. Don't let the door hit your behind on the way out. But since you're leaving take the trash out. God bless America

Bob Stollsteimer, Montrose

## DEMOCRACY VS CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC

Editor:

If you listen to the media and politicians today, one would think that the US was formed as the world's most incredible democracy. And while that may be the narrative of the media and the desire of many politicians today, it is actually one of the most inaccurate and quite frankly irresponsible statements they can be making concerning our form of government in the USA.

### The Misconception

Due to the fact that we have elections in the US, on the surface, that, to some, makes it seem as though we are a democracy, but the reality is, what the founders gave us was something far better and much different. The similarities between Democracy and a Constitutional Republic end with the election of our Representatives by "We the People". In fact, the founders had almost no use whatsoever for democracy, even so much that they voiced their outright disdain for Democracy.

And though we hear the term democracy used constantly in reference to our form of government, the word does not appear in either the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States, our two fundamental founding documents.

Article IV, Section 4, of the Constitution makes it clear by stating it: "guarantees to every State in this union a Republican Form of Government."

In fact, the founders saw great danger in democracy. Tom Paine, considered democracy:

"the vilest form of government".

When describing the purpose of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, Virginia

delegate Edmund Randolph said:

*"The general object was to provide a cure for the evils under which the United States labored; that in tracing these evils to their origin, every man had found it in the turbulence and follies of democracy."*

Just thirty-eight years after the Declaration of Independence, John Adams warned:

*"Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy that did not commit suicide."*

John Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835 observed; *"Between a balanced republic and a democracy, the difference is like that between order and chaos."*

As late as 1928, the "Citizenship" chapter of U.S. War Department training manual TM 2000-25 expressed the opinion: *"Democracy has been repeatedly tried without success. Our Constitutional fathers made a very marked distinction between a republic and a democracy and said repeatedly and emphatically that they had founded a republic."*

One of America's notable historians, Charles Austin Beard, put it this way:

*"At no time, at no place in solemn convention assembled, through no chosen agents, had the American people officially proclaimed the United States to be a democracy. The Constitution did not contain the word or any word lending countenance to it."*

Why then, do some call us a democracy, and does it even matter? I believe you will see, there are stark differences and those differences dictate the contrast between a truly free country or one steeped in tyranny!

### What is a Democracy?

Democracy comes from the Greek words *demos* (people) and *kratos* (government), meaning rule by the majority. In a democracy, laws are created by political decision-makers without restraint by a fixed body of law, leading to rule by whim rather than reason. Rights in a democracy are often based on power and majority will, not on inherent, unalienable rights. Laws tend to be inconsistent and serve the interests of powerful groups rather than justice. Political factions use the law to gain power and suppress opponents. In a democracy, government is used to satisfy the immediate needs of the majority, sometimes at the expense of individual rights. This leads to a system where the majority imposes its will on others, and rights are conditional, often granted by the state and revocable at will.

### What is a Republic?

The word "Republic" comes from Latin, meaning "everybody's thing" or "interest."

The Declaration of Independence outlines republican principles: The Declaration of Independence contains the principles of republican government:

*"all men are created with equal, unalienable rights, that governments are formed by men to secure these rights, and that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."*

Our forefathers established the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights to further limit majority rule.

A republic's essence is the rule of law, which means the common or scientific law that is certain, unchangeable, and discovered through natural law. Human



# DEMOCRACY VS CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC From previous pg

Human nature doesn't change, so what was right yesterday remains so today and tomorrow. Courts enforce a higher law than political or man-made law, seeking truth, transcending politics, being reasonable, consistent, predictable, and reflecting natural justice. Government acts as a shield to punish abuses of freedoms, not the freedoms themselves. Peace officers protect everyone equally from force and fraud, while the military is used as a last resort to protect the nation.

Moral authority resides outside the political class, held to a high standard through public pressure. Government's purpose is to protect rights and defend freedom. Taxes, voluntary assessments, fund legitimate government functions serving the common good.

This form maximizes individual freedom and responsibility. Individuals are sovereign with sacrosanct rights, free to act without permission but must consent to impose. Everyone has an equal right to compete, succeed, or fail, subject only to others' rights. Republics reject the public interest doctrine of democracies, as John Adams articulated, *"You have rights antecedent to all earthly governments; rights that cannot be repealed or restrained by human laws; rights derived from the Great Legislator of the Universe."*

The government has limited power to carry out its functions, but is otherwise restricted. Political historian Thomas Molnar described the prevailing concept of 18th-century liberalism as the State focusing on public safety, using its armed forces only to restrain disorder and rebellion.

Power is decentralized, regulated by checks and balances, and ultimately held by the people through free elections, jury trials, and an armed citizenry. The law is neutral, with no exemptions; everyone is equal before it and fully accountable to an injured party.

Republican government is based on Tom Paine's premise. *"Government, even in its best state, is a necessary evil; in its worst state, intolerable."*

Thomas Jefferson's first inaugural address described republican government

as:

*"A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another . . . shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government."*

In a republic, government serves the people rather than regulating them, representing them rather than ruling them. When republican principles are followed, free markets emerge, leading to a growing middle class, abundance, harmony, liberty, and ethical behavior. The focus is on wealth creation rather than power accumulation as in a democracy.

### Why Not a Democracy?

John Adam's said;

*"Passions are the same in all men, under all forms of simple government, and when unchecked, produce the same effects of fraud, violence and cruelty. When clear prospects are opened before vanity, pride, avarice, or ambition, for their easy gratification, it is hard for the most considerate philosophers and the most conscientious moralists to resist the temptation. Individuals have conquered themselves; nations and large bodies of men, never."*

While the states were still colonies of Great Britain, Professor Alexander Fraser Tytler, wrote why democracies always fail:

*"A Democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of Government. It can only exist until the voters discover they can vote themselves largess of the public treasury. From that moment on the majority always votes for the candidate promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that Democracy always collapses over a loose fiscal policy, always to be followed by a Dictatorship."*

James Madison, the father of the Constitution, *The Federalist No.10:*

*"In a pure democracy, there is nothing to check the inducements to sacrifice the weaker party or an obnoxious individual. Hence it is that such democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general, been as*

*short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths."*

Plato warned, in *Republic*, that, as a rule, *"tyranny arises from democracy."*

This is why the founders of our nation avoided establishing a Democracy and opted for a Constitutional Republic instead.

### Why the Confusion?

Nothing new...

James Madison wrote in *Federalist 14:* *"The error which limits republican government seems to owe its rise and prevalence chiefly to the confounding of a republic with a democracy, applying to the former reasoning drawn from the nature of the"* Madison also attributed the confusion to some "celebrated authors" of the day when he said:

*"...in comparison the vices and defects of the republican, and by citing as specimens of the latter the turbulent democracies of ancient Greece and modern Italy. Under the confusion of names, it has been an easy task to transfer to a republic observations applicable to a democracy only."*

The term "democracy" became widespread during the Woodrow Wilson administration in 1912, alongside the 16th (income tax) and 17th (direct election of senators) amendments and the creation of the Federal Reserve, all of which centralized power within the Federal Government. Each of which undermined in its own unique way, the foundation on which our Republic was established.

The U.S. War Department manual from that time defined the difference between a democracy and a republic. However, in the 1930s, during the Roosevelt administration, copies were withdrawn and destroyed without explanation.

Confusion between the two forms of government still harms the nation and those who look to us as a model. Understanding this difference could resolve many divisions and lead to better leadership, with a government that is less intrusive and more responsive to our collective needs. The survival of our civilization depends on recognizing the distinction between a Constitutional Republic and a Democracy. *Michael J Badagliacco, "MJB" ~ Citizen, Montrose, Colorado*

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE  
MONTROSE COUNTY  
SAFE STREETS FOR ALL  
PLANNING PROCESS – PUBLIC MEETING NO. 4  
February 6, 2025**

Montrose County is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Planning Process for public transportation infrastructure around Montrose Regional Airport. The SS4A Planning Process includes a thorough public and stakeholder involvement program intended to foster public discussion and participation in the planning effort. This is the fourth public meeting for the Montrose County SS4A planning process, which will include the following topics for discussion:

**Topics to be covered:**

**Presentation of refined and preferred alternatives**

**Based on findings from analysis and feedback received during Public Meeting No. 2 & 3**

**Refined cost estimates**

**Project prioritization**

**Identification of next steps for the public process**

**Additionally, an open discussion will be held to gather public and stakeholder input on transportation related safety projects in around Montrose Regional Airport.**

**WHAT: Montrose County “Safe Streets For All Planning Process” Public Meeting No. 4**

**WHERE: Public Works Meeting Room, 63160 LaSalle Road Montrose, CO 81401**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 6, 2025. 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM**

**The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.**



# Get the Mirror

OUR NUMBER HAS CHANGED!

delivered fresh to your phone each week!  
We are working with **970VIP** to enable our text blast service!



Text **MIRROR** to **1-877-957-0831** to opt-in to our **NEWS TEXT** alerts!

By joining The Montrose Mirror VIP News Alerts, I agree to receive ongoing messages at the number provided. Consent is not required to purchase goods or services. Message frequency may vary. Reply HELP for help, STOP to cancel. Message & Data rates may apply. Ts & Cs / Privacy Policy @ [www.thevenuegenerator.com/terms\\_of\\_use.asp](http://www.thevenuegenerator.com/terms_of_use.asp) TEXT mirror TO 1-877-957-0831.

THE **MONTROSEMIRROR**

*Your Source for Local Business News and Information*

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## ANIMAL ADVOCATES SHOULD OPPOSE RFK JR.

By Jon Hochschartner

Anyone who cares about animals should oppose Robert F. Kennedy Jr., President-Elect Donald Trump's nominee for secretary of Health and Human Services.

Available evidence suggests he would block the development of cultivated meat. For those who don't know, the revolutionary protein is grown from livestock cells, without slaughter. Nothing has the potential to reduce more animal suffering and premature death.

The scale of human violence against our fellow creatures boggles the mind. We kill more than a trillion aquatic and land animals every year for food. To put that in a little perspective, only about 117 billion humans have ever lived, according to the Population Reference Bureau. When the nascent field of cellular agriculture is more fully developed, even low adoption rates of cultivated meat could save billions of creatures annually.

Unfortunately, the nominal opposition to the incoming fascist White House, the Democratic Party, is busy bowing and scraping, as they search for points of compromise with Trump. We see this lack of fighting spirit throughout the party's ideological range. Even so-called progressives, like California Representative Ro Khanna, are talking about how they might work with the made-up Department of Government Efficiency.

What this moment calls for is unwavering opposition to Trump and his cronies.

We've already seen one of the president-elect's nominees, former Florida Representative Matt Gaetz, who was initially chosen to serve as United States attorney general, forced to withdraw. They aren't invulnerable.

Kennedy, a bizarre, anti-vaccination conspiracy theorist, has a host of weaknesses Democrats should exploit to the fullest possible extent.

There are a great number of reasons to oppose his nomination. These include, as I've mentioned, the former Democrat's hostility to cellular agriculture. In addition to the potential animal-welfare benefits of cultivated meat, the new protein could significantly reduce our greenhouse-gas emissions and pandemic risk. After all, livestock farming is a leading contributor to climate change and the spread of zoonotic viruses.

In October of 2021, Kennedy wrote on Facebook: "Lab grown meat offers private corporations the opportunity to place intellectual property rights on meat development and thus create a financial windfall, at the expense of human health." Of course, there is no reason cellular agriculture needs to be the sole domain of private corporations. For instance, I'd love to see some type of public entity producing cultivated meat.

The health concerns Kennedy raises are bogus, like so much else the conspiracy theorist says. The protein has received regulatory approval from the Food and

Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture.

Unfortunately, if confirmed, Kennedy would oversee the former, which is why those who care about animal welfare and the development of this technology should be concerned about his nomination.

In a recent article for Heatmap News, a climate publication launched by former executives of The Week, Michael Grunwald reported a source close to Kennedy said it was unlikely the protein would be banned outright. Rather the potential cabinet secretary would leave industry players in permanent regularity limbo. Cultivated-meat companies have put on a brave face about the incoming administration, but it's not very convincing.

Democratic leaders need to stop wallowing in their sense of fear and helplessness. It's true; Trump will do tremendous damage to the country, which they won't be able to prevent. However, there will be some very bad outcomes Democrats can stop, if they can get their act together. My hope is Kennedy's nomination, which is controversial even amongst Republicans, will fall into this category, for the sake of animals and so much else.

**Jon Hochschartner lives in Connecticut. He is the author of a number of books, including *The Animals' Freedom Fighter: A Biography of Ronnie Lee, Founder of the Animal Liberation Front*. Visit his blog at [SlaughterFreeAmerica.Substack.com](http://SlaughterFreeAmerica.Substack.com).**



# CARTOON BY TIM JONES

WEEKLY CARTOON

## SOUR GRAPES by Tim Jones



## DineOutMontrose.com

**Premier Sponsor:**  
Montrose Farmers Market  
970-249-0705

Horsefly Brewing  
970-249-6889

Jimmer's BBQ,  
Burgers & Beer  
970-252-1227

Fiesta Guadalajara  
970-249-2460

El Jimador  
970-249-8990

Busy Corner White Kitchen  
970-323-6215

Delta: CB's Tavern  
970-399-3570



Alpen Confections  
970-648-0609

Remington's at the Bridges  
970-252-1119

Crash Burger  
970-249-0825

Coffee Trader  
970-249-6295  
970-787-9021

Tacos & Beer  
970-964-4448

Tacos & Beer on Main  
970-964-4999

Pahgre's  
970-249-6442

Lighthouse Eatery  
970-964-7570

Ray's Corner Cafe  
970-417-4340

Trattoria de Sofia  
970-249-0433

Rib City  
970-249-7427



Stone House  
970-240-8899

Sidelines Sports Bar  
970-765-0129

Amelias Hacienda Restaurante  
970-249-1881

Delta: Pour Ernie's  
970-546-0074



# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## ED HENRIE'S OPINION/EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS CONTINUE TO CONTAIN MISINFORMATION

*Editor:*

Henrie's CALIFORNIA TODAY IS A MICRO-COSM OF WHAT DEMOCRATS HOPE TO SEE IN AMERICA Editorial, January 13, 2025, as always, noted inaccurate information to politicize a disaster rather than focus on what can be done to help thousands impacted by this catastrophic event.

He notes, "Democrats never worry about being held responsible for their actions." Well it seems he never is held responsible for spreading untruths in the editorials he writes.

**MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS** in Henrie's quote: "Never mind the fact that he already cut California's wildfire prevention budget by 80%."

California Assembly Republicans posted a graph on X, the new propaganda machine driven by Republican misinformation, that indicated, SINCE 2021 (Newsom took office January 2019), Newsom had cut funding for fire prevention by 80%.

Well statistics don't lie but people can stretch the truth for their own benefit. It's like including only part of a quote completely changing the view of the person quoted.

**FACT:** Governor Newsom Press Office posted on X this information on fire resources that were acquired since Newsom took office in 2019 (<https://x.com/GovPressOffice/status/1877784201044656178>):

-CalFIRE budget went from \$2 billion to \$3.8 billion

-CalFIRE personnel grew from 5,829 to 10,741

-Budget for managing the forest ("raking the forest) went from \$200 million to an investment of \$2 billion plus \$200 million annually

-In 2019/2020, a one-time budget supplemental was injected to respond to the horrific fires in 2019/2020. So of course, when that **one-time supplemental went away** in 2021, the budget decreased to the level it had been prior to this one-time budget supplemental.

It is a sad time when California has to create a website "California Fire Facts" (<https://gavinnewsom.com/california-fire-facts/>) to dispel the false accusations of some Republicans who are

using an apocalyptic fire to push their political agenda. Such is the sickness of politics today. Social media and fake news such as FOX deliver unchecked falsehoods, and people believe what is posted or reported, irrespective of its truth, refuse to do their own research to validate the accuracy of these post, and repost them without regard to the truth. The falsehoods quickly spread, like the fires in California, without any way to extinguish them. These falsehoods divert needed resources from the real needs during catastrophes such as that playing out in California. Time and effort should be focused solely on stopping these fires, investigating at the appropriate time the cause(s) of these fires, and creating action plans to address mistakes and rebuild and enhance the resources used for future disasters such as that just experienced.

Personally, I commend the bravery of the firefighters who have worked to suppress these fires driven by hurricane force winds. Imagine our existing fire department trying to suppress fires on all four sides of Montrose while experiencing 70 mile per hour winds with no air support because of the winds. What about water. Have you ever tried to run the dishwasher, while watering the lawn, while taking a shower, and while running a load of laundry? The pipe has plenty of water coming through but is constrained by the volume of water you are asking it to deliver. At some point, the system is incapable of delivering the demand. And, what about those who lost their lives in this horrendous fire and those trying to determine if their loved ones survived? The rhetoric of name calling and blaming continues while these same people appear to have little concern for the thousands of Californians impacted by these fires and the lives lost.

**Additional False Statements by Henrie:**

**FALSE:** Henrie noted that "California ordered them (Oregon firefighters) to swing by Sacramento to submit to a DOT inspection THEN they will be able to drive 400 miles to the devastation"

**FACT:** "The Oregon State Fire Marshal and CalFire confirm that this rumor is false. . . The inspections that are occurring are planned routine safety checks with CalFire,

with all equipment passing the tests and heading on their way to fight the fires." *Dispelling Misinformation: Rocky Walker, Oregon firefighters are not being turned away from California fires*, officials say, Newswatch 12, KDRV.com, January 12, 2025, [https://www.kdrv.com/news/top-stories/dispelling-misinformation-oregon-firefighters-are-not-being-turned-away-from-california-fires-officials-say/article\\_4227afca-d136-11ef-a253-d7bf5cc7ebec.html](https://www.kdrv.com/news/top-stories/dispelling-misinformation-oregon-firefighters-are-not-being-turned-away-from-california-fires-officials-say/article_4227afca-d136-11ef-a253-d7bf5cc7ebec.html).

**FALSE:** Henrie noted that "These are the same legislators who wouldn't let insurers raise rates, so State Farm dropped 1600 policies in Pacific Palisades because they couldn't cover their financial exposure."

**FACT:** To induce insurance companies to provide **more** insurance coverage, the State Department of Insurance issued a new regulation that allowed insurance companies to pass on the cost of reinsurance to consumers but **limited that amount to the industry standard**. Before passing that rule, California was the only State that didn't allow the reinsurance cost to be passed on to insureds. Reinsurance was capped at "industry standard" and had little if anything to do with State Farm's withdrawal from the market. In State Farm's own words, they dropped 30,000 across California who lived in areas deemed to "present the most substantial wildfire or fire following earthquake hazards . . . In Pacific Palisade, more than 1,600 policies weren't renewed." Erik Ortiz, *Los Angeles Wildfires magnify California's 'insurance crisis' as homeowners face billions in losses*, January 11, 2025, NBC News, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/los-angeles-wildfires-rage-as-homeowners-battle-insurance-crisis-rcna186783>.

As Henrie's editorial submissions continue to contain misinformation about Democrats and politicize issues such as the California disaster, his rhetoric creates distrust and anger between the people of this community rather than bringing them closer to listen to opposing viewpoints in a rational manner and encourage Republicans, Democrats and Independents to work together to support bi-partisan decisions that help all of us.

*Sue Schmidt, Montrose*

# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## DID YOU VOTE IN THIS LAST ELECTION? WHY NOT?

By John Brown

MONTROSE-In the last 4 years 2019-2023 the amount of sales tax collected in the city of Montrose has increased almost 48%. That is an increase of almost \$9 Million Dollars! Where or what has all this money been spent on? Our population has increased as has our property taxes plus the home values that seem to have increased at an exponential rate. Last city council meeting our city council obligated almost \$9 million dollars to projects. The city council is going to expect us, you the citizens of Montrose, to approve a bond for \$54 million to build a new public works facility for our city's public works departments and maintenance facility. There is no question that a new facility is needed.

The old one at the South end of the airport between 6450 Rd and Townsend Ave and the San Juan Bypass was old 17 years ago When I came to Montrose. My problem is that the city has known that the facility was already aging and in need of replacement. During those years the city fathers should have been setting aside sufficient dollars to use for our aging infrastructure instead of going on a non-stop binge of spending money. I suggest you get involved in our city to see where your/our money is being spent. If you don't like the way they handle your money get involved.

This graphic represents the way our city citizens vote. During the most critical election in decades our voter turnout was

about 30-40 percent of registered voters city and county wide. This is disgraceful. A few people are electing our leaders because they have an agenda instead of what is best for our community. Don't like who is in office, don't like who is on the school board, don't like who is on the city council, then get informed and get involved and VOTE. Montrose isn't the quiet sleepy town of yesteryear. We are growing! Look around! We had values back then but now everyone new seems to want to bring into the mix what they left and give it to us. Citizens, you need to get involved in Montrose to preserve our way of life. Volunteer for any one of our local committees that help give our governing boards direction. If anyone ever says they are dissatisfied with who is in office, I always ask "did you vote?"

### NUMBERS

" DID YOU KNOW? WHERE DID IT GO? "

City of Montrose Collected Sales and Use Tax

|      |                                       |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| 2019 | \$18,265,827                          |
| 2023 | \$27,017,060. +47.9%, +\$8,751,233 in |
| 2024 | Not yet released Labels               |

Public records posted by City of Montrose

" DID YOU KNOW? IS THERE A TREND?"

Montrose City Elections

|       | Ballots mailed | Ballots received |                                  |      |
|-------|----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| 2012  | 8,257          | 5383             |                                  |      |
| 2014  | 10,252         | 5804             |                                  |      |
| 2016  | 10,300         | 3254             |                                  |      |
| 2018  | 11,321         | 3162             |                                  |      |
| 2020  | 12,204         | 5007             |                                  |      |
| 2022  | 13,674         | 3579             |                                  |      |
| <hr/> |                |                  |                                  |      |
| 2024  | 14,501         | 3626             | 6,244 more ballots mailed than   | 2012 |
|       |                |                  | 1,757 less ballots received than | 2012 |



**It's Your Business!**

**Let's Grow Together. Advertise with The Mirror!**

**970-275-0646**



# 2025 Cabin Fever Craft Show

Over 70 vendors for your shopping pleasure  
Hourly door prizes  
Free admission

Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> 9:30am-6pm  
Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup> 9am-4pm  
Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 11am-4pm

*Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fair Grounds*

For Vendor information  
call Debbie 970.531.2438 or  
email: [montrosefootwear@aol.com](mailto:montrosefootwear@aol.com)



# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## PAMELA DAWN WILTSIE

**March 11, 1970 — January 3, 2025**

PAMELA DAWN WILTSIE was born in Riverside California on March 11", 1970, to Robert and Tamara Westwood. Pamela grew up in numerous locations including California, Idaho, Montana and eventually Colorado. Pam was the last child born (the baby) of a family of five children, two males, Thomas and Robert and three females, Deneen, Cindy and Pam.

The Westwood family settled in Montrose, Colorado in 1984 and Pam went on to graduate High School from Montrose. Pam then met her first husband, Sabas Bravo, where they got married and had four children, Jose Carmen, Bethany Rosa, Cassandra Nicole and Dustin Javier. They raised all four children before later getting a divorce. Pam remained in good contact with Sabas even after that and continued to this day with a relationship with Sabes that allowed him into family functions for the sake of the children.

Pam began working at Passage Charter School where she tended to small infant children, and she cared for them while their parents went to school. Pam was heavily involved in Boy Scouts with her two sons Jose and Dustin and loved working with other children as well.

After a divorce, Pam moved to Delta in 2005, a single mom of four young children and then rekindled a relationship with an old family friend she knew, Robert Wiltsie. Robert and Pam were blessed with two children, Andrew Brian and Eli Matthew. Together Pam and Robert raised all six children for a time before things changed. Even though divorced, Pam still to this day remained a friend and on talking terms with Robert and they raised the children as best they could. Robert remained part of the family even now and was still family.

Pam was a CNA and worked at an elderly care center prior to getting a nurse's aide position with Garnet Mesa Elementary School. Pam loved working at Garnet, and she remained working there all the way till just a few days before Thanksgiving when her sickness caused her to have to quit her job. Pam loved caring for the children and saw many of them go from small children to young adults and loved Senior walk day when the new seniors would come back to Garnet to walk the halls.

Pam, or Ms. Pam as she was known at Garnet, was devastated to have to quit her job and loved all the children and her colleagues at the school. Pam was very sad to have left the school this year, since 2024 was the first year of both of Pam's young granddaughters, Daisy and Rosie, who were both going to Garnet and she would get to see them daily while

"working". Pam enjoyed volunteering and worked at the Cedaredge Food Bank for years and even served on the board of directors for them and helped organize and distribute food to people in need.

Pam worked a long time with Delta Special Olympics Chapter and served as a Special Olympics coach and organizer. She had several of her children and family who participated in Special Olympics, and she went to both local, State and even regional events. Pam even organized training events for the Special Olympics in Delta and was part of several parades for the Fourth of July where Special Olympic athletes participated.

Pam then met her beloved boyfriend Duane Morton in 2017 and by 2018, Pam and both her young sons moved to a small quiet country home West of Delta. Pam loved her dog Feather and together she and Duane along with his dog Buddy went on many adventures to see Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and other areas. Pam shared custody of her boys with Robert Wiltsie and Robert was even part of the home with Duane and Pam and included in camping and four wheeling trips. Pam loved being outdoors and seeing the wonders of the world. One special trip was the Rimrocker trail where Pam, Duane, Robert and the two young boys Andrew and Eli packed two ATVs and two RZR side by sides up with camping equipment and drove (little over halfway) from Delta 25 mesa to West of Highway 141 during Labor Day 2021. Living out of ATV's and RZR's for 4 days was a challenge but also fun and exciting. Pam's last camping trip was in October when they spent a week in Moab Utah and traveled on the Top of the World trail.

Pam volunteered for Praise Him Ministries in Ridgway, Colorado. Pam loved being involved in PHM functions like Night Vision and served with them for many years, helping out at nearly all the functions that PHM does during the year in Ridgway, Montrose and even Grand Junction, Colorado.

In September 2019, Pam was diagnosed with breast cancer and began a battle for her life which included multiple surgeries, chemotherapy, radiation treatment and multiple trips to Denver Anschutz Medical campus. In late 2021, early 2022, Pam had good news, and her cancer markers showed good, and it seemed she had won the fight. However, just after Labor Day in 2022, she was rushed by helicopter to Denver and then began a serious fight for more cancer which came back near her pancreas. From this day to January 3, 2025, Pam fought



courageously each and every day, continuing to work all the way till late November 2024. Pam began losing weight and struggled daily with pain, which progressed further around May of 2024. Pam wanted to go home one last time after leaving the hospital in Delta on December 26. Pam lost that battle after having a short stay back home after Christmas. Pam died in Hospice Care Center on January 3, 2025, with family surrounded near her. Pamela Dawn Wiltsie was a daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, lover, and friend to many people.

Pam was a most caring woman who always would help someone else before spending time or money on herself. Pam got to see six grandchildren born, Daisy, Brycen, Rosie, Amayla, Rylan, and Brayden.

Pam was preceded in death by her brother Robert, who was a daily fixture in Delta sweeping the streets and his mural can be seen on the Delta House.

She is survived by her parents, Robert and Tamara Westwood, her sisters Deneen Cook, Cindy Wiltsie, her brother Thomas Westwood, her children Jose Bravo, Dustin Bravo, Cassandra and Jordan Sauve, Bethan and Chris Bloom, Andrew and Eli Wittsie and her love Duane.

Pam touched so many lives and hearts with her time here on Earth.

She will be greatly missed by all who loved her so.

Rest in Peace beautiful girl, you are no longer in pain.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Taylor Funeral Service and Crematory.

# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## WENDY GAIL WINFREY

**July 16, 1962—December 19, 2024**

WENDY GAIL WINFREY (62) of Ouray, Colorado, passed away December 19, 2024 with her daughter, Kelsey, by her side.

Wendy was born July 16, 1962 in Bernice, Louisiana to John and Dorothy Morrow. She is survived by her daughter Kelsey Winfrey (Maribel) of Thousand Oaks, CA; mother, Dorothy Johnstone Morrow of Bernice, LA; sisters, Stephanie Lorick (Lee) of Houghton, LA, Mickie Morrow of Royse City, TX, Frances Fortson of Destin, FL and Rosemary Morales (Ken) of Baton Rouge, LA and nephew, Dusty Stephenson of Bernice. She is also survived by many nephews, nieces, great nephews and great nieces who she was so proud of and enjoyed spending time with.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bruce Winfrey; son, Nikalas Lee Winfrey, father, John Tom Morrow and brother John Lane Morrow.

Wendy married the love of her life, Bruce on October 17, 1980. She was fiercely loyal to those she loved and if you were her friend, you could count on her to have your back. Wendy spent her time lending a helping hand to those who needed it. She loved spending time with family and friends, and sharing a good laugh together. Wendy was a great baker, enjoyed camping and loved sitting around a good campfire telling stories.

A warrior in every sense of the word, Wendy faced her health challenges with grace and strength right up to her last breath.



## JAMES ALLEN DAVISON

**October 2, 1942 — December 20, 2024**



Jim was born October 2, 1942, to Gladys and German Davison on the family farm 25 miles south of Holly, Colorado, where he spent his childhood. At the age of 17 Jim joined the Army National Guard and was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., then to Fort Gill, Ok. for specialized training in communications.

He married Elaine Neuhold in 1964. To this union three children were born: Jesse, Kimly and Levi.

Jim worked many jobs and was a perfectionist at whatever he did.

He was an avid bow hunter with three animals in the Pope and Young record book.

Jim was preceded in death by brother, Wesley, sister, Frances and son, Levi.

He is survived by wife of 60 years, Elaine, son, Jesse (Kim), daughter, Kimly (Walt) and daughter-in-law, Joyce. Also surviving is his granddaughter, Kelsey (Josh) and great grandsons, Garrus and Gannon, a brother, Leo and sister, Maxine.

CELEBRATING LOCAL BEAUTY.



# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## ARTHUR "BILL" DUNCAN

### *September 22, 1942 — January 6, 2025*



ARTHUR "BILL" DUNCAN, age 82, passed away on January 6th, 2025. He was born in San Pedro, California, in 1942. He moved to and lived in Montrose, Colorado until junior high. He moved to Ventura,

California where he finished junior high and graduated high school.

Bill moved on to college at Ventura Junior College, then transferred to San Diego State and finished up his education by graduating from Western State Colorado with his Master's Plus. Bill went on to become an educator and school counselor for 30+ years in the Montrose and Delta School Districts. During the summers, Bill loved building and remodeling homes around the Montrose Area. Bill was the beloved son of Irma and Robert Duncan and the brother of the late Robert Duncan.

He is survived by the love of his life, wife, Shirley Duncan; as well as his son Rob Duncan (Wife Allison) and daughter Tammi Duncan; and his cherished grandchildren Lexi, Beau, Rylie, and Natasha. He also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, as well as grandnieces and grandnephews who will fondly remember him.

Bill was a diehard Denver Broncos fan and found joy in cheering on his favorite team season after season. He also enjoyed fishing and woodworking on many projects. Bill also enjoyed traveling with his wife for vacations and going places to cheer on his kids in their sports. He also enjoyed traveling to watch his grandkids in their many adventures and hobbies. Bill's memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. May his legacy bring comfort to all who mourn his passing.

The funeral service will be held Friday, January 24, 2025, at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Montrose, Colorado at 2pm. A private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations to be made to HopeWest Hospice Care, 725 S. 4th Street Montrose, Colorado 81401. Arrangements are in the care of Crippin Funeral Home, Montrose, Colorado. 970-249-2121.

*Now more than ever...*

*Thank you for reading*

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

ISSUE 504 Jan. 20, 2025

# ART & SOL

## MONTROSE EATERY TOASTY: TASTY NEW LUNCH/BREAKFAST SPOT



By Carole Ann McKelvey

MONTROSE -- A girlfriend and I recently tried the new comfort food eatery out at the Great Outdoors complex and it's certainly worth a try. Yummy!

Not only that, but this comfort food haven is owned by everyone's favorite, Horsefly. Now, the menu here is nothing like the bar atmosphere of the original on Main Street.

Toasty's is in a new, comfortable spot right next to Sophia's Italian bistro. And they've managed to squeeze in a lot of seating along with a sit-up bar. Comfortable atmosphere with good service and a fireplace area.

Now, it being a Horsefly venture you can expect to order beer or cocktails. For breakfast that might mean a Mimosa or Bloody Mary. Both delicious. I had a grapefruit Mimosa, my friend a bloody Mary (replete with enough garnishes to actually count as a snack).

I ordered a "Bennie;" there are several kinds, and I had the original eggs Benedict. So good! My friend chose a break-

fast bowl with potato, sausage, and egg. She pronounced it delicious, but said her egg was cold. I was surprised as mine was just great and "toasty". They have just opened so we'll give the timing a benefit of the doubt. Now they call it an "all day eatery" but open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Choices here aren't too many but appear pretty satisfying. Pricing okay.

**House Specialties:** \$7.39-\$14.99

Cast-iron pull apart, gooey rolls with cinnamon sugar; Doughnut holes with cinnamon sugar; Breakfast bowl with potato, sausage & egg; Chicken & waffles; Birria waffles with corn, beef, dipping sauce; Hangover fried rice, pork, onion, pepper, beans, rice; Shrimp & grits, corn grits, cheddar Jack, shrimp, egg; Corned beef hash, corned beef, potato, egg; Chilaquiles, egg, tortilla strips, green chile, cheese, avocado; Chile Relleno, relleno, potato; Chicken & biscuit, biscuit, fried chicken, gravy, green chile, egg.

**Originals:** \$7.99-\$10.99

Breakfast sandwich, egg, cheese, sausage, English muffin; Original platter, eggs, pork

belly, sausage or bacon, toast; Biscuits & gravy; Breakfast burrito, tortilla, egg, cheese, bacon, chorizo, green chili.

**Bennies:** \$11.95-\$16.99

Original Eggs Benedict; Crab Benedict; Chorizo; Veggie.

**Something Sweeter:** \$6.30-\$7.99

French toast (choice of Pina Colada, Toasty toast, Dulce de Lache); Pancakes, 3 buttermilk, original, blueberry, chocolate chip; waffles (extra for berries).

**Lighter Side:** \$4.99-\$8.99

Steel cut oats; Yogurt parfait; Fancy Avocado toast.

**Lunch:** \$4.50-\$16.99

Corned Beef P' Boy or wrap; Cordon Blue P'Boy or wrap; Shrimp P'Boy or wrap; Ahi tuna salad; Toasty burger; Chili Relleno burger; power bowl.

**From the Bar:**

Cocktails, beer from Horsefly or wine; sodas, juice, milk; or order from the Coffee Bar.

Toasty is open daily from 7am-2pm; 1341 Mayfly Drive, Montrose, CO 81401; Call (970)964-9886.

**SHAFFER**  
FARM & RANCH  
REAL ESTATE

**Western Colorado  
Farm & Ranch Brokers**

Burton Bullington (970) 596-4744  
John Fowle (970) 417-1666

[www.SHAFFER.land](http://www.SHAFFER.land)

Since 1990



**Thr., Jan. 30, 5:30-7:30 pm**

**Mosaic, 21 N Cascade Ave, Montrose**

**Alcohol Ink**

**Creative Color**

**with Kate Burke**

**Everything included plus  
adult beverage or soft drink.**



**Register online**

**\$45/pp. \$40/pp Welcome Back.**

**Sign up in store or online**

**<https://kathrynrburke.com/product/013025M>**



# 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://  
 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'S CHURCH OF THE VALLEY

**Name of Church:** Christ's Church of the  
 Valley

**Denomination Affiliation:** Non-  
 denominational Christian Church/Church  
 of Christ

**Address:** 10 Hillcrest Plaza Way. Mont-  
 rose, CO 81401

**Office hours:** Tuesday & Wednesday 9am-  
 noon and by appointment.

**Contact information:**

Phone: 970-249-0530

Email: [CCVMontroseCO10@gmail.com](mailto:CCVMontroseCO10@gmail.com)

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

**Name of current Senior Pastor:** Ken Law-  
 rence

**Worship service times:** 10:30 a.m.

**Mission:** Christ's Church of the Valley is a  
 loving and welcoming church whose pur-  
 pose is to help people to know and grow

in our Lord Jesus Christ to the glory of  
 God.

**Description:** CCV is a multi-generational  
 church family. While we are currently pre-  
 dominately seniors, we are becoming  
 more multi-generational.

**Sunday School & Childcare:** CCV has  
 adult Sunday School at 9 a.m. and Youth  
 Church during the 10:30 a.m. worship  
 service.

## 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.** Noon on Satur-  
 days. 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)

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

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

**Worship service times:**

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

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

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Affiliation:** Southern Baptist

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

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

**Contact information:**

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: [www.RosemontBaptist.org](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 kinder-

garten, in a kid-friendly room called Base Camp. We have communion on the first Sunday of each month and meet following services for a potluck brunch.  
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<br/><i>Mirror Editorial Staff</i><br/>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:<br/>Name of church<br/>Denomination affiliation<br/>Address Office hours<br/>Contact information (phone number, email address, website)<br/>Name of current Senior Pastor<br/>Worship service times</p> | <p>Please give a one sentence description of your church and its mission in the Montrose community.<br/>Brief description of your current church demographics (predominately family, youth, seniors, singles).<br/>Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?</p> |
|--|--|---|



# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## ANNABELLE HAWKINS EARNS DEAN'S LIST HONORS AT UTAH TECH UNIVERSITY

*Special to Art & Sol*

ST. GEORGE, UT-- Students at Utah Tech University in the Fall 2024 semester demonstrated remarkable academic prowess, with 1,208 students earning Dean's List honors.

Annabelle Hawkins of Montrose, CO, was among those honored, earning a spot on the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester. To qualify, students had to attain a semester GPA of 3.5 to 3.89 and complete at least 15 credits.

"Congratulations to our exceptional students whose dedication and hard work

have earned them a well-deserved place on the honor roll," Dr. Michael Lacourse, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Utah Tech, said. "Seeing our students embrace opportunities at Utah Tech and achieve excellence is truly inspiring. Their personal achievements exemplify the perseverance and resilience that define our educational community."

Utah Tech University is a premier open-enrollment teaching institution that offers nearly 300 academic programs at one of the lowest tuition costs in the Western United States. The University was built

upon a rich tradition of determination and generosity that is still embraced by the campus community today. With the motto "active learning. active life." Utah Tech provides personalized and engaged learning experiences that prepare students for rewarding careers and enriched lives. Outside of the classroom, students have the opportunity to enjoy the unparalleled opportunities for an active life that accompany UT's location in beautiful Southern Utah.

For more information about Utah Tech University, visit [utahtech.edu](http://utahtech.edu).

## JUSTIN HAWKINS EARNS PRESIDENT'S LIST HONORS AT UTAH TECH UNIVERSITY

*Special to Art & Sol*

ST. GEORGE, UTAH-- Students at Utah Tech University in the Fall 2024 semester demonstrated remarkable academic prowess, with 1,049 students earning President's List honors.

Justin Hawkins of Montrose was among those honored, earning a spot on the President's List for the Fall 2024 semester. To qualify, students had to attain a semester GPA of 3.9 or higher and complete at least 15 credits.

"Congratulations to our exceptional students whose dedication and hard work have earned them a well-deserved place on the honor roll," Dr. Michael Lacourse, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Utah Tech, said. "Seeing our students embrace opportunities at Utah Tech and achieve excellence is truly inspiring. Their personal achievements exemplify the perseverance and resilience that define our educational community."

Utah Tech University is a premier open-enrollment teaching institution that offers nearly 300 academic programs at one of the lowest tuition costs in the Western United States. The University was built upon a rich tradition of determination and generosity that is still embraced by the campus community today. With the motto "active learning. active life." Utah Tech provides personalized and engaged learning experiences that prepare students for rewarding careers and enriched lives. Outside of the classroom, students have the opportunity to enjoy the unparalleled opportunities for an active life that accompany UT's location in beautiful Southern Utah.

**SHAFFER**  
FARM & RANCH  
REAL ESTATE

**Western Colorado  
Farm & Ranch Brokers**

Burton Bullington (970) 596-4744  
John Fowle (970) 417-1666

[www.SHAFFER.land](http://www.SHAFFER.land)

Since 1990

REALTORS  
LAND  
INSTITUTE

OWNER MEMBER  
COP



*Winter Sale on NOW  
Up to 70% Off!*

All Men's Johnson & Murphy Shoes and Clothing 25% OFF

All Men's & Ladies' Slippers (Haflinger & Chaco),  
Robes and Pajamas 50% OFF

A Huge Selection of Ladies' Winter Wear 50% OFF

*D'Medici*  
Footwear & Clothing

316 EAST MAIN STREET IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN MONTROSE • 970.249.3668

# Decorate Wine Glasses

**Includes  
Winery  
Tour**

with machine-washable paint

**Sat., Feb. 8th  
1-3:30 pm**

Provided: 2 wine glasses, waterproof paint, demo & hand-on help.

Snack and complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.



**LA NOUE  
DUBOIS**

With Kate Burke

**Winery, 67289 Trout Rd., Montrose**

Register <https://kathrynRburke.com/020825wine>



HEALTHY RHYTHM ART GALLERY

PRESENTS



**THE POWER OF THE MIC**  
*A Spoken Word Open Mic*

**4TH TUESDAY EVERY MONTH**

**SIGNUPS AT 6:30, MIC AT 7:00**

SHARE UP TO 5 MINUTES OF POETRY,  
SLAM POETRY, COMEDY, STORYTELLING, ETC.

*ALL AGES WELCOME; SOME MATERIAL  
MAY BE FOR MATURE AUDIENCES*

**33 N. UNCOMPAHGRE AVE. MONTROSE**

**MORE INFO 970.417.3772**

**SPONSORED BY BOOM JEWELRY DESIGNS; G-YOUTH;  
SWEET MOON PRESS; & EMILY BOWMAN, LPC**  
*TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING AND EXPANDING THE ARTS IN  
MONTROSE, ANY AND ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED*

## Brought to you by the Professionals at **RE/MAX** Alpine View

|                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dee Holman.....970-209-0032       | Gary Cooper.....970-209-7710     |
| David Kienholz.....970-209-1430   | Aaron Tobler.....970-275-0780    |
| Chris Cooper.....970-270-3284     | Steve Zahnhiser.....970-765-1719 |
| Justin Covington.....970-275-4189 | Cheryl Larsen.....970-596-8801   |
| Nicole Goza.....970-209-2548      | Vicki Jones.....970-209-3018     |
| Mark Covington.....970-209-1956   | Office.....970-249-6658          |

1563 Ogden Rd Montrose, CO 81401



**Trust Success! We do Real Estate RIGHT!**

## SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### ONGOING-

**COLUMBINE QUILTERS** meet at Welcome Home Alliance Warrior Resource Center, 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way Montrose. 1st Saturday except for July at 9 am.

**FRIENDSHIP QUILTERS** meets at the Montrose County Events Center, 4th Thursday Jan - Oct, 3rd Thursday Nov - Dec, 9am.

**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.

### MONTHLY

Jan. 20-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-[www.mlkdaymontrose.com](http://www.mlkdaymontrose.com).

Jan. 20-Montrose Republican Women to host Trump Victory Gala Inauguration Celebration, 6-10pm, Montrose Potato Growers Building on West Main Street. \$10 donation per person, cash bar.

Feb. 4-April 11--The Montrose AARP Tax-aide site will be in operation from Feb. 4 through April 11 at the Senior Center in the Montrose Pavilion, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am – 2pm. Reservations are required and can be made now by calling 970-252-4889.

Feb. 5-School District Spelling Bee on Feb. 5 at 6 PM in the Columbine Middle School Cafeteria

Feb. 13-Greater Montrose Chamber of Commerce Business Expo 4-7pm at the Montrose Pavilion.

# MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION AWARD WINNERS



Montrose County School District News Release

MONTROSE-Division Award winners left to right are Vincenzo Mascia, Autumn Cerise, Fernando Gonzalez, Ezkial Jemming, Ethan Kurtz, Emma Braaten, Emerson Wesner, Laila Keep and Everett Wouters.



## The MOoving Company

WE'RE UDDERLY THE BEST!  
CALL US TODAY! 970-240-3106



### WE OFFER:

- LOCAL MOVING
- IN-STATE MOVING
- OUT-OF-STATE MOVING
- LABOR SERVICES
- PACKING SERVICES
- PACKING MATERIALS
- MILITARY DISCOUNT
- SENIOR DISCOUNT
- FREE ESTIMATES
- & MORE

[HTTPS://MOVINGCOMPANY.COM/](https://movingcompany.com/)