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the Montrose Mirror

RE-1J BOARD PREPARES TO EVALUATE SUPERINTENDENT

By Caitlin Switzer
MONTROSE-Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education President Sarah Fishing opened the regular work session of Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 5:30pm. In addition to Fishing and Board Vice President Eric Kelley, those present included District A Director Erik Westesen, District B Director Jacob Suppes, District C Director Alice Murphy, and District D Director Tom West. Also present was Executive Assistant to the Board Laurie Laird; District G Director Stephen Bush was absent.



Board of Education President Sarah Fishing takes notes during the work session of Aug. 22.

Fishing led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, and thanked directors for agreeing to the early start, "I wanted to be sure we had plenty of time to discuss the topic."

The work session agenda was limited to preparation for the upcoming evaluation of RE-1J Superintendent Carrie Stephenson, who was not present. Fishing took notes on a white board as she facilitated the work session, which lasted until roughly 8:40pm. She began with a list of qualities expected of a superintendent, including "exhibit visionary leadership; strategic planning; collaborative; fair; exhibits ability to

[Continued pg 20](#)

SARAH ABBOTT REPLACES COLLEAGUE JEFF HURD AS ATTORNEY FOR DMEA



By Gail Marvel
MONTROSE-The August 22, 2023, Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors Regular meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening meeting prayer, determination of a quorum, and approval of the consent agenda (Membership & Meter Report, Minutes from the July 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as corrected). All current members were present in person; however, there is currently one vacant seat on the board.

The Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, Aug. 22. On Aug. 16, DMEA attorney Jeff Hurd announced his candidacy for US Congress in Colorado's 3rd District; Hurd has been replaced by Attorney Sarah Abbott. (L to R) DMEA Director Enno Heuser, Attorney Sarah Abbott, and DMEA Executive Assistant Amy Taylor. Photo by Gail Marvel.

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

[Continued pg 23](#)

Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D : What is the Colorado River Drought Task Force?	Friends of Youth and Nature: Just 20 Minutes!	Opinion/Editorial: Commentary : by David White!
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FORMER ROCKY FORD OFFICER ARRESTED

Special to the Mirror

LAS ANIMAS – The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is sending out this release on behalf of the Rocky Ford Police Department and the Otero County Sheriff's Office.

On Aug. 22, 2023, law enforcement officials from the Rocky Ford Police Department, the Otero County Sheriff's Office and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation arrested George Ibarra, 41, on charges related to incidents that allegedly occurred while he was employed as a Rocky Ford Police officer. The arrest charges are tampering with evidence, official misconduct, and theft.

Mr. Ibarra was booked into the Bent County Sheriff's Office. His booking photo is unavailable at this time. Ibarra is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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COLORADO LEGISLATOR MEET AND MINGLE

Special to the Mirror

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

GRATEFUL FOR CLIMATE CHANGE INTEREST

Editor:

I was enthused at Monday's showing of the film "Nuclear Now" to about 40 or 50 concerned citizens at the Fox Theater. Although I haven't taken a position yet on the nuclear issue, I feel grateful to see so many of Montrose citizens highly interested in what we can do to address climate change and move away from fossil fuels. Even though we have an active chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby in our community, it is refreshing to see so many other inquiring and involved citizens concerned about such things as climate change, conservation, and sustainability.

Wayne Quade, Montrose



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

IMAGINE A BIKE PATH NETWORK TO RIVAL ANY IN THE STATE

To the community:

Ever since I moved here after retiring from a career on the Front Range a few years ago, I have desired a bike/rec path that could rival any in the state. I am imagining, wishing to exist, a bike path network as good as any in the Denver area or Summit County, or others in the state, on the western slope, a network extending from Grand Junction to Ouray, to Paonia, to BCNP. I think about it all the time. A good start would be completing the patchwork of paths between Montrose and Ouray. Then from Montrose to BCNP. And when the coal mine in Somerset eventually closes, converting that rail line to Grand

Junction into a bike path. The section thru Dominguez-Escalante along the Gunnison would be more spectacular than the path thru Glenwood Canyon.

I would love others in the area to contact their federal, state, and local leaders to also start envisioning such an amazing network. But as I said, a start would be Montrose to Ouray. There are small sections already there, but it's a long way from being connected all the way between Montrose-Ouray.

And, I was very disappointed to see that CDOT's upgrades to US550 south of Montrose are NOT considering bike lanes or separate path. May be too late to seek

funding from the IRA and Infrastructure bills for helping to expand a network between Montrose and Ouray, but sure would be nice if our leaders could find some funding thru these bills and what Colorado got and state funds like GOCO and local support.

In conclusion, I think a connected path here would put us on the Colorado bike recreation map. That is long enough for it to be an overnight adventure, thus lodging and restaurant tourism spending, not to mention it could become a bike commuting path between these communities, esp. with e-bikes on the rise.

Douglas Crawford, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

CITY HAS FOUND MONEY TO GREASE THE SKIDS OF VIRTUALLY EVERY BUILDING PROJECT AT COLORADO OUTDOORS SITE

Editor:

By now everyone has heard of the Colorado Outdoors Project located across from the Justice Center. You also might remember the City could not “afford” hiring more police officers or fund a police building without barely passed proposition 2A that now drops many citizens to their knees every time they purchase anything in Montrose. Why is this important to remember? Simply because your City Council under Bill Bell has found money at the drop of a hat to grease the skids of virtually every building project at the Colorado Outdoors site in the millions upon millions of dollars. All that money ostensibly comes from MURA, but the reality is that the MURA board is all of City Council with a few outside seats thrown on for cover. But never forget Bill Bell is the ultimate director of monies. MURA’s regular board meeting was set for Wednesday August 30 but was suddenly cancelled last week once more for “lack of agenda items”. REAL-**LY!** Well, with our medical community under attack by Bell et al below are some items that need to be discussed on an agenda.

** Hear comments from the medical community, private practices and the Montrose Memorial Hospital concerning the financial impact the two proposed medical facilities will have on their businesses and our community.

** Explain the “conversations” Bell, city council, and any other MURA board members have had in recruiting or promoting the two medical facilities.

** Explain who the persons/ownership/investors are in these projects and where the for-profit dollars that now support our medical practices will be shipped to their out of state profit centers?

** Each city council member and remaining MURA members should explain individually what they know, when did they know it, and did any of them ever talk with any individual or group of medical providers since being involved in this Colorado Outdoors project. City Council and Bell certainly have a hell of a lot of explaining to do to our medical community and the taxpayers of Montrose for their actions.

Dee Laird, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

I SUSPECT THERE IS SOMETHING MORE TO CITY DECISIONS THAN WE, THE PUBLIC, SEE

Dear Editor,

There seems to be some question about why the City Council is helping a new medical facility at Colorado Outdoors. I am, perhaps, a little puzzled. Barbara Bynum is our current Mayor. She is married to Kelly Bynum, MD, a successful surgeon at Montrose Regional Health. Why would she vote for something that might jeopardize her husband's career, at least in Montrose? I suspect that there is something more to the decisions than we, the public, see.

Rick Bleier, Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

FROM 'WHERE I SIT'

Editor:

As I listened to the political rubbish the other day it occurred to me that I knew better. You know, inflation, interest rates and all that. During my life in my 40's (during the Carter administration) the prime interest rate was in the 20%'s, there were, for more than ten years no mortgages under 8 ½ % and I made some very good money buying debentures of big companies at 50% OF FACE VALUE two years from maturity. Many folks struggled thru those several years; now folks just quote numbers they hear and bellyache about it. Interesting.

Onward: It is obvious that our city 'council HAS NOT the best interest' of our local businesses at heart. There have been so many loans and gifts given to existing businesses for renovations, new kitchens and the what-not that the guy that is doing it all on his own has difficult competing on this not so level playing field. There must be in excess of thirty such giveaways in the last five years. I am alarmed that few, if any, of our business people sound-off about the unfairness of it all.

Christian scripture says in part, "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find." Is this an early day prophecy of businessmen asking the council to share the public

purse? Obviously the taxes extorted from the citizens of Montrose yield far too much largess just based on the last several years levies. Wait till you see what council gets this year to cross the palms of their favorites in town. Property taxes having jumped into the ionosphere!

The latest but not the last (I am sure) million dollar debacle is the proposition that we need more medical offices in town. For crying out loud, the little village of Montrose is littered with medical and dental offices galore, rented from local landlords. And Bell, Bynum and associates thru MURA want to hatch more medical office space. This will leave the owners of these properties without tenants or rental income but tax and insurance bills to pay. This is outlandish! Is city council going to give these local landlords financial assistance to cover this out-flow.

Why does our elected city council allow an employee with no stake in this town to spend so much of our tax money on his pipe dreams and golfing buddies? When the city goes bankrupt paying off all MURA's non-performing debt he'll just close the door on his office and scam! In Colorado, of over 50 MURA (MURA) type messes, only one has been profitable. He knows it; some of the council know it and yet the Bell and Bynum couplet persist in

funding competition to our resident businesses.

The health care industry in Montrose is flourishing as it is. Healthcare in Montrose is the city's largest and most lucrative industry pumping millions of dollars into the pockets of our citizens, not taking from our public and shipping the profits to a far off state. (Two weeks ago I forgot to include the millions the Montrose Hospital devotes to indigent care.)

The public was apparently intent on visiting the MURA meeting scheduled for August 30th to discuss the two medical structures they are intent on building. Also apparently, word got out about that the medical community intended to attend in force. THE MEETING WAS CANCELLED. Now one only has to wonder why but it should not take much wondering. The big wondering I have is what great new plan is going to pop out of the woods after a month or two of NO MURA MEETINGS. Hmmmmmmm!

By the way, this whole medical business mess (with MURA) sounds more like MURA and its leaders are pursuing a vendetta than trying to develop a sound business model THAT MIGHT ADD VALUE TO OUR COMMUNITY. Mr. and Mrs. PUBLIC, just what have you to say about that?

Bill Bennett, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS POLICE OFFICER JASON HEWITT

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Officer Jason Hewitt of the Montrose city police force sharing the history of Montrose as presented to new officers recruited and hired. Officer Hewitt shares, with pride, the history and development of Montrose in such a way, new officers recruited from other parts of areas are as well versed in the town's history, culture and growth. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

AND THEY CALL LAUREN BOEBERT EXTREME

Editor:

I was born and raised in Montrose, CO. My late grandfather came here in 1925 to begin a Jersey Dairy farm south of town which my late father took over after he served in the Korean War and made it a Holstein Friesian dairy farm. My father was born and raised in Montrose and was 90 years old when he died.

I Keep reading and hearing that Lauren Boebert is 'too extreme' for western Colorado. Her Democratic opponent, Mr. Adam Frisch calls her 'Angertainment' and nearly unseated her in the last close election. Well, let's examine extremism on the part of Adam Frisch.

His father was an OB/GYN who worked for Planned Parenthood for the last five

years before he retired. It is no secret that Planned Parenthood is the nation's largest single provider of abortion services. Mr. Frisch graduated from UC Boulder in economics - neither Boulder nor the university is known as a bastion of conservative traditional values.

He worked in Manhattan as a currency trader for ten years - New York City is not known for traditional family values. He has traveled extensively all over the world. I have not had the privilege of such opulence. He lives in Aspen, CO. I cannot afford to live in Aspen, CO. Currently Mr. Frisch has fundraised 3:1 over Lauren Boebert. Who are his donors? What will he owe them?

Mr. Frisch does NOT represent my life-

style or my values! He is far too liberal for me and reminds me of someone who most likely had a Trust Fund growing up.

Conversely, I've met Lauren Boebert and she is from Rifle, CO. My late father was so impressed with her that he asked to have his picture taken with her. A picture he treasured until he died. Lauren Boebert works for Western Colorado and brings her results home to us - like getting millions approved in water and infrastructure projects for the 3rd District to benefit our entire community.

So the next time you hear that Lauren Boebert is 'too extreme' for Western Colorado consider the facts. In the LaBarr family, we love Lauren Boebert!

Martha S. LaBarr, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BICYCLISTS TO TOUR SOUTHWEST COLORADO

Special to the Mirror

SOUTHWEST COLORADO— The Colorado Department of Transportation and the Colorado State Patrol urge drivers to be

prepared to share the road during the annual Colorado’s Ride event held the last week in August. Approximately 175 bicyclists will be riding along several highways

and county roads between Silverton, Durango, Pagosa Springs, and Wolf Creek Pass. The event will take place over a 5-day period (August 28 - September 1) between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day.

Dates and Highway Locations:

August 28: US Highway 550 - Durango to Silverton

August 29: US 550, US 160 & CO 172 - Durango Loop

August 30: CO 151 & US 160 - Durango to Pagosa Springs

August 31: US 160 - Pagosa Springs to Wolf Creek Pass

September 1: US 160 - Pagosa to Durango

View times and exact course details on [Colorado’s Ride Course Description Webpage](#).

Safety Tips for Drivers and Riders

Motorists are encouraged to stay alert and share the road with cyclists:

Focus on driving and avoid using cell phones and other personal devices. Slow down and keep your eyes on cyclists and pedestrians.

Cyclists have a right to use all the roads in Colorado unless expressly prohibited.

Pass with care and keep track of cyclists in your rear and side mirrors.

Cyclists shall obey traffic laws - you’re a vehicle too!

Ride with the flow of traffic.

Ride single file at all times and pass other bicycles quickly.

Scan the road, anticipate hazards and communicate your moves to others.

Use hand signals to alert nearby vehicles to turns or lane changes.

For more information about Colorado’s Ride event, visit the event website:

www.coloradosride.com



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

TO SEE REAL CENSORSHIP, LOOK NO FURTHER THAN LIBERALS AND THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Editor:

Many liberals have such a total lack of self-awareness. Marge Morgenstern (MM 8/14) is oblivious to the fact that she just praised Kathy Riggle for trying to censor conservative writers to the Mirror because Riggle and her friends don't find the reading "pleasurable," in the same paragraph in which she compared concerned parents to Nazi censors for wanting to restrict children's access to sexually explicit material in our library. As is typical for liberal writers offended that conservatives have the same forum in the Mirror that everyone else does, Morgenstern denigrates writers she disagrees with ("Trumpies spewing their weekly cultist blather," "the same fact less garbage," etc.) These writers know they are not able to refute the "factless garbage" with facts or information of their own.

There is nothing un-American about parents protecting their kids. More and more parents are speaking out against their kids' exposure to divisive Critical Race Theory, pornographic materials in school libraries, and exploring with six-year-olds how they can change their sex. Morgenstern claims "Editing children's access to information" (in libraries) "lies with the parents," but liberals are OK with teachers concealing their discussions about sex

changes with six-year-olds from their parents? What is un-American is two generations of our children being subjected to unending socialist indoctrination and revisionist American history by "educators" who think they are smarter than parents. Pardon me if I laugh when Morgenstern suggests that our school system is teaching our children how to think versus what to think. Those same "educators" colluded with the Biden Administration urging the DOJ to treat protesting parents as "domestic terrorists," and dozens of parents were investigated by "our" FBI.

Let's talk about "book banning" and Nazis. Morgenstern equates parents wanting some help from library personnel in protecting their young children from sexually explicit material with "book banning." No parent is asking for a book ban, we are simply asking for our library personnel to stop PROMOTING these books. That a book is excluded from being viewed by minors in a library doesn't constitute a "ban." It is still available to adults in the library, as well as any bookstore in America. If an adult in the library wants to view "Gender Queer," which is a graphic novel with pictures showing (for example) teenagers performing oral sex on each other, that is available in the library. If the person really wants his child to read it, it is

available on Kindle for \$8.99.

For the record, it wasn't grassroots Germans, let alone concerned parents, who burned books in Nazi Germany. It was highly organized university groups closely controlled by a fully established Reich dictatorship. Morgenstern probably doesn't want to talk about the fact that the first thing any totalitarian regime does before taking control, even before banning books, is to take all the guns away from their citizens.

If Morgenstern wants to see real censorship, look no further than liberals and the Biden administration. Our university campuses are now virtual forward operating bases for intolerance, speech codes, and groupthink. The United States government has assumed George Orwell's "Ministry of Truth" role.

Most importantly, the desperate and preposterous indictments of Trump are a warning to all Americans. If the radical left succeeds in its plans for a one-party state, what is happening to Trump and other political opposition will be directed at anyone who opposes them. The state will dictate what gets printed --- and the Riggles and Morgensterns won't have to worry about conservatives writing letters to the Mirror anymore.

Chanda Ouimet, Montrose

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ANONYMOUS CALL

MONTROSE REGIONAL
CRIME STOPPERS

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PARADOX SOLAR ARRAY BACK ONLINE

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-The 1.1 megawatt (MW) Community Solar Array, owned and operated by San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) began sending its full complement of electricity through the connected power lines, after being wholly, and then, partially offline for a total of nine days. Initially, SMPA detected signs that a transformer connected to the array had problems. In response to this, SMPA shut down the array and called to have the transformer inspected and serviced. Because the solar generation at the array is supplemental, there were no power outages related to the event. "This event is a good reminder to subscribers that continuous operation of the facility is not guaranteed," said Freeman. "Solar equipment requires maintenance and, as the Paradox Array ages, it may need more maintenance yet." Fortunately, maintenance costs were factored into subscribers' initial lease of array space. "The contract stipulated that a certain portion of the generation revenue be set aside for just this sort of issue." Fortunately for the Community Solar Array subscribers, the issue was resolved relatively quickly and the repair was fully funded by the operation and maintenance account.

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RE-1J BOARD PREPARES TO EVALUATE SUPERINTENDENT ***From pg 1***

to build relationships; integrity and honesty; communication.”

Noting that the District’s current evaluation format “feels out of date to me,” Fishing said, “I think we could do better...it doesn’t really get to what we are asking our superintendent to do...we haven’t charged ourselves to look at this in a constructive way in a long time...at the end of the day the Superintendent is our only employee.”

District A Director Erik Westesen noted that many of the items listed were character traits. “It would help me to know...the actual job responsibilities.”

The Board of Education discussed the responsibilities of the superintendent. District D Director Tom West mentioned Student achievement; Kelley asked whether it was fair to hold the Superintendent directly responsible for student performance. “She empowers the teachers to teach the students.”

Fishing said, “She is very committed to student achievement.”

West said that accountability is also the superintendent’s responsibility, “...right now our test scores are not good...”

District B Director Jacob Suppes said, “Carrie should be holding principals accountable for hiring the right teachers.”

Fishing said, “We need to talk about how we measure that. Her role is to empower the structure that comes underneath her, to do the job she needs to do...she is supposed to lead the district in getting our students to achieve excellence.”

Financial stability should remain part of the evaluation, and the superintendent should supervise and communicate with those who report directly to her. Teachers are responsible for the climate and culture of the classroom, principals are responsible for the climate and culture of the school, and the superintendent is responsible for the climate and culture of the district as a whole, Fishing said.

West said that ensuring financial responsibility and a balanced budget are important, and that communication is an essential part of the superintendent’s job.

Westesen said, “She does have a responsibility to make sure that our community is informed and involved...she should be leading the way and constantly improving the curriculum...she should always be evaluating, improving, and implementing.”

Executive Assistant to the Board Laurie Laird said that everything that is not covered under “curriculum” falls under “operations.”

Westesen said that many parents and community members would like to have a voice in evaluating the superintendent.

Responsibilities of the Superintendent as listed on the white board included:

- Exhibits visionary leadership;
- Committed to excellence;
- Supervises and communicates competently with cabinet;
- Fiscal Management of the District;
- Creates and nurtures positive district climate and culture;
- Dedicated to transparent district-community relations;
- Strategically leads and implements curriculum planning.

The Board considered scoring methods, and evaluation feedback. If an evaluation finds a superintendent to be ineffective, the board is obligated to provide feedback, Fishing said.

Laird will provide data including district test scores to directors as needed for evaluation purposes, as well as employee retention data and personnel reports.

The Board of Education discussed specific bulleted points to add greater depth to the evaluation categories. The next meeting of the Montrose County School District RE-1J Board of Education will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 6:30pm.



8500

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[1] In order to be reimbursed you must have an existing account or open a new account with Alpine Bank and currently be employed as a teacher with the Montrose or Delta County School Districts. Reimbursement will be made within two weeks of presentation of valid receipts dated between 7/1/2023 – 10/1/2023.



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ABBOTT REPLACES JEFF HURD AS DMEA ATTORNEY From pg 1

manage their DMEA accounts.

Member Attendance

DMEA co-op members are afforded an opportunity to speak during Member Comments, which for this meeting was scheduled for 5 p.m. Delta resident Kent Cloward attended in person but did not have comments for the board.

District 2 Appointment

August 31st is the close date for applications to fill the District 2 seat. To date, two applications have been received.

Committee Chair Reports:

Finance-Audit-Rate Committee (FAR) – Damon Lockhart, Chair.

Lockhart said, “We have not had a meeting, but we have two upcoming meetings scheduled, September 26th and October 24th.”

Engineering – Construction – Energy Services Committee – Stacia Cannon, Chair.

Cannon said, “We did not meet for the month of August. We’ll discuss having a meeting in September.”

Member Relations Committee – Bill Patterson, Chair.

Patterson said, “No meeting. I’m not sure any are coming up.”

Executive Committee – Stacia Cannon

Potential meeting in September or October.

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

A PowerPoint presentation containing graphs, timelines, trends, and examples of targeted advertising accompanied Johnston’s written report.

Johnston said, “System Design is six to eight weeks out. We’d like to have it be two to three. The Pole Attachment Audit is completed, and invoices sent to those who are attaching to our poles. There is construction on the river crossing near Hotchkiss where there was flooding. Hydro generation is eight-megawatts. Charge Point [for electric vehicles] is definitely down. We don’t know why it is trending down, but it is up over 2021.”

Director Enno Heuscher said, “With Hydro, is there potential for two more drops?”

Staff responded, “There may be for one more drop.”

Johnston reported on vegetation man-

agement. The evaluation between contract crews and in-house crews continues.

In the area of Information Technology (IT), Homeland Security visited DMEA for cyber resiliency. Practicing cyber-hygiene, DMEA staff implemented two phishing tests in July. After wonky test results, they discovered they had caught themselves in the test. Johnston said, “The staff is looking for creative ways to keep everyone in line. Basically, we were hacking ourselves.” The test results for July were discarded. Board members, who themselves have been caught in a DMEA phishing test, enjoyed the moment of levity.

Johnston reported on the Customer Satisfaction Survey that is currently available, telephone answer rate, volume of email, finances, and activity in the field with Elevate buildout. Johnston said, “There will be a rate hearing next month for net metering on industrial accounts.”

In the area of staff recognition, four DMEA employees were acknowledged as having received awards. At the Montrose County Fair Junior Livestock Auction, DMEA purchased one steer, and pigs, goats, and lambs. After processing, 616 pounds of meat was donated to Sharing Ministries.

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

Background: On Aug. 16, 2023, DMEA attorney [Jeff Hurd](#) announced his candidacy for US Congress in Colorado’s 3rd District. Attorney Sarah Abbott, a Hurd colleague, is now the DMEA general counsel.

Abbott said, “The Board Policies will be considered in executive session. We’ve worked on various contracts. Because of statutory changes, contracts must be updated. There’s nothing new on regulatory or legislative issues.”

Johnston said, “We’re on track. All policy updates will be done by the end of the year.”

Informational Item Director Reports Western United Electrical Supply (WUES) Report – Jock Fleming.

Fleming said, “There is a meeting later this week. I’ll attend the meeting by Zoom.”

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

Lockhart said, “I’ll do an event tomorrow.”

Conference, Webinar, etc. Attendance Reports

Fleming attended the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) school. He said, “I attended five separate classes, two of which were Rate Making and Financial Decision Making.”

Patterson attended a showing of the Oliver Stone film “Nuclear Now.” He said, “There were probably 50-60 people there.”

Johnston said, “The premise was, could the Craig plant be utilized.”

Recess/Form Reconciliation

The board members, who are behind in some reports, took 15 minutes to complete and update forms (expense forms, reporting hours).

Member Comments:

There were no member comments.

Executive Session

-Confidential Corporate, Litigation and Regulatory Matters

-Policy Review

Policy 302: Information Security

Policy 303: Acceptable Use of Technology by Directors

Policy 104: Board Relationship with CEO

Policy 117: Donation and Contributions

Future Meetings

The next regular Board meeting will be at 3 p.m. on Sept. 26, 2023

The October meeting will be held at the Read office.

Executive Session Summary –Amy Taylor, Executive Assistant.

In an email Taylor summarized the action taken by the board after exiting the executive session.

Upon motion of Director Sanchez, seconded by Director Heuscher, the Board unanimously adopted revisions to Board Policy 302 (Information Security) as presented.

Upon motion of Director Fleming, seconded by Director Lockhart, the Board unanimously adopted revisions to Board Policy 303 (Acceptable Use of Technology by Directors) as presented.

Upon motion of Director Fleming, seconded by Director Williams, the Board unanimously adopted revisions to Board Policy 104 (Board Relationship to CEO) with a clarification regarding the

ABBOTT REPLACES JEFF HURD AS DMEA ATTORNEY

From previous pg

development of strategic plans.

Action on Board Policy 117 (Donations and Contributions) was tabled until a future meeting.

Dist. 1 - Bill Patterson, 970-209-1449, bpatterson@montrose.net

Dist. 2 -

Dist. 3 – Jacob Gray, 970-778-9512, jacob.gray@dmea.com

Dist. 4 – Emily Sanchez, 970-209-4582, emily.sanchez@dmea.com

Dist. 5 – Kevin Williams, 406-839-1603, kevin.williams@dmea.com

Dist. 6 - Damon Lockhart, 970-314-1071,

damon.lockhart@dmea.com

Dist. 7 – Enno Heuscher, 970-270-6523, enno.heuscher@dmea.com

Dist. 8 - (North Region) Stacia Cannon, 920-207-8831, stacia.cannon@dmea.com

Dist. 9 - (South Region) Jock Fleming, 970-275-1808, jock.fleming@dmea.com

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE POLICE OFFER GRANT PROGRAM TO FUND SECURITY UPGRADES FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— With the goal of helping local business owners better protect their properties from break-ins and thefts and deter crime from occurring both inside and outside of their businesses, the Montrose Police Department has created the Theft Reduction and Prevention (TRAP) grant to fund security upgrades to eligible businesses.

The Montrose Police Department recognizes that business owners want to protect their businesses from crime and the resulting bottom-line costs that are often passed on to consumers. Crime also takes an emotional toll on business owners, employees, and customers and creates frustration toward the criminal justice system.

The TRAP grant program is designed to award 2A Public Safety Sales Tax funds as an incentive for businesses in the City of Montrose to make safety and security improvements based on specific criteria and available funding. These safety and security improvements will support businesses in deterring crime from occurring on their property and will increase the likelihood of suspect detection should an incident occur.

Applications are due by August 31, 2023. To complete a TRAP grant application, [click the link provided.](#)

Requirements to participate in the program include:

- Priority will be given to businesses that can show a history of victimization due to crime-related events that equate to monetary loss, which were reported to the Montrose Police Department.
- Applicants will partner with the Montrose Police Department and undergo a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) survey that contains written recommendations for safety and security improvements.
- The application must be made by the property owner unless permission is granted, in writing, to the tenant by the owner.

Grant-funded improvements are meant to be permanent and lasting in nature.

- The maximum grant award without a required match is \$2,500 per project, per calendar year.
 - An additional add-on matching grant is available. The add-on grant requires a \$1:\$1 match by the applicant up to \$2,500. For example, a business could apply for a total of \$5,000 from the city if the business matched with \$2,500 for a total project cost of \$7,500.
 - Work must start within three months of the date of grant approval and must be completed within 12 months of grant approval. Extensions may be granted at the discretion of the city manager.
 - Applicants seeking to make exterior improvements on buildings that are designated on the City of Montrose Historic Register may need to get additional approval from the Montrose Historic Preservation Commission before the commencement of work.
 - All applicants must seek approval from the TRAP Grant Committee before starting improvements. The TRAP Grant Committee has the discretion to approve or deny applications for funding.
 - Applicants who are under contract but have not started improvements may be eligible for reimbursement.
 - Grant payments will be made directly to contractors upon completion of work once applicable invoices are submitted. The contractor will be required to submit a W9 form to receive payment.
 - For matching payments to be issued, documentation of proof of payment for the required match will be required, including receipts, invoices, copies of cleared checks, and assurance in writing from the property owner that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
- This program is designed for buildings that are already constructed and do not apply to new builds.

Grant-eligible actions include:

- Safety and security landscaping improvements or modifications
 - Wayfinding signage
 - Improved access control
 - Locks, gates, fencing
 - High-quality security cameras with 30-day video storage capability
 - Security alarm hardware and installation to include glass break and motion detectors
 - Noncommercial art
 - Entryway and exit renovation, wayfinding, and signage enhancements
 - Repair or replacement of windows and doors
 - Elimination of blighted conditions like dark alleys, broken fixtures, or inaccessible entryways
 - Other safety or security improvements suggested by the CPTED survey
- Actions not covered by the grant:**
- Anything not proposed by the CPTED survey
 - Any proposed element deemed inconsistent with city codes and/or zoning
 - Commercial signs
- Application requirements and completion:**
- Submit a fully completed grant application. [LINK](#)
 - PD staff will contact you to schedule a CPTED survey
 - Finalize your safety and security plan by working with certified CPTED officers, architects, engineers, and builders
 - Proof of at least two cost estimates is required for the application
 - Submit an online TRAP Grant application, which will be reviewed by the TRAP Grant Committee. If approved, begin work on the project within three months. Keep a detailed and accurate accounting of actual costs.
 - Within 12 months of approval, complete the project and submit a final report with photos, invoices, and receipts
 - If all grant requirements have been met, funds are distributed to the contractor(s)

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

4-H & COMMUNITY SHINE AT COLORADO STATE FAIR



Tony Frank at the Colorado State Fair. Courtesy photo.



Kathay Rennels at the Colorado State Fair.

By Tony Frank, Chancellor, Colorado State University System and Kathay Rennels, Interim VP for Engagement and Extension, Colorado State University

COLORADO-In biblical times, cities were located far apart without the transportation systems we enjoy today. So, when people gathered for large religious events, there were also frequently large commercial gatherings focused on trading goods. This is where the tradition of community fairs began. Indeed, the Latin root of the word “fair” means “a holiday with feasting.”

The first American state fair was held in 1841 in rural upstate New York—a showcase for recipes, agriculture, and the domestic arts. Three decades later, in 1872, the Colorado State Fair began in Pueblo.

We both grew up in small communities where state and county fairs were part of the rhythm of our years. To a kid who got excited when the vet truck rolled onto the farm (or the rendering truck), fairs were 100% pure magic. There was the arrival of the carnival and its set up, where this wonderland of rides and games literally exploded out of the prairie. There was the load-in of the animals and exhibits—more traffic than most of us ever saw. We got to spend the night on folding cots in the livestock barns—and generally nothing went wrong. Our parents gave us pocket money—unheard of! And packets

of ride tickets. You could buy and consume soda pop—in the morning! As 4-H club members, we’d show livestock, display ribbons, wander the exhibits, climb on the displays of all the newest farm machinery. There were tractors with cabs! And machines designed only for harvest—“combines,” they were called, and all of our dads just stared at them. And all too soon...it was load-out day. And back on the farm the next day, everything seemed so quiet.

Today, many visitors to state and county fairs are not there to exhibit or judge or exchange agricultural practices—they come for the phenomenal entertainment. But even for those growing up in urban and suburban areas, fairs can still have a powerful impact. While people are at county and state fairs, they are exposed—all around them—to evidence that their food wasn’t born pre-packaged onto grocery store shelves. Maybe they’re there for the great music performances or the rides, but they also stroll past exhibits and demonstrations that remind them, possibly subconsciously, that the BBQ they’re enjoying was once on the hoof. In an important way, our fairs can, at a minimum, stimulate curiosity that can lead to improvements in agricultural literacy.

And still today, the Colorado State Fair is the ultimate showcase for our 4-H youth—the 110,000 kids from across Colorado

who work hard all year long to build their skills in leadership, citizenship, and life by participating in 4-H. 4-H remains the largest youth-development organization in the country, and in Colorado—as in every state—it’s powered by a network of more than 10,000 adult volunteers and almost 100 professionals and staff. 4-H is delivered by Colorado State University Extension—part of our land-grant university commitment to help young people learn by doing hands-on projects in areas including health, science, agriculture and citizenship. We both believe that if you want to feel more optimistic about the future, you should spend time with a 4-H kid. (Doctors should prescribe that.) The Colorado State Fair gives us all a chance to enjoy that optimistic spirit as part of the great fair tradition—to join with people who are actively involved in raising and growing our food as they demonstrate the fruit of their labor, to learn what’s new, and to celebrate with others in a tradition dating back millennia. We encourage everyone in Colorado to visit the State Fair, learn more about what our 4-H youth are up to, grab some of your favorite fair food, and enjoy this once-a-year “holiday with feasting.”

(To learn how 4-H helped shape today’s CSU leaders, including Tony Frank and Kathay Rennels, visit [CSU Source](#).)

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LOCAL SPORTS BY CLIFF DODGE

MONTROSE RED HAWKS' SPORTS ROUNDUP



The Delta Panthers prevailed three matches to two in a tightly played Volleyball contest Aug. 22. Photos Cliff Dodge.

Volleyball: Red Hawks vs Delta Panthers

A near capacity crowd at the Lloyd McMillen Field House on Tuesday evening, August 22nd, saw a volleyball match that was not decided until the final serve of the fifth match. The Delta Panthers prevailed three matches to two in a tightly played contest.

The Panthers won the first match and the third match while the Red Hawks prevailed in the second and fourth matches. This set up the pivotal fifth and final match which was won by the Panthers 15-13. The Red Hawks trailed 2 matches to one heading into the fourth match and sprinted out to an 11-1 lead. The Red Hawks continued to put the pedal to the medal and tied up the match with a 25-10 victory.

The fifth and final match started badly for the Red Hawks as they trailed 4-1. The match ebbed and flowed until the Red Hawks caught the Panthers 11-11 with the final four points hanging in the balance. The Panthers utilized their middle and outside hitters to keep the Red Hawks unbalanced with precision shots just inside the base line. The Panthers prevailed outscoring the Red Hawks 4-2 down the stretch to win the match 3-2.

The next match for the Red Hawks will be on Tuesday, August 29th when Palisade invades the Field House. The first serve is

Fruita-Monument Wildcats

The home field advantage did not turn out well for the Montrose Red Hawks boys' soccer team on Tuesday afternoon. The Fruita-Monument Wildcats took advantage of several errors by the Red Hawks to sneak out a hard-fought 3-2 road win.

Head coach Cassie Snyder said, "I think we played solid offense. We had lots of scoring opportunities, lots of chances to put the ball into the back of the net. We need to be a little calmer. We had several opportunities to score but missed."

Snyder suggested that defensive lapses got the Red Hawks into trouble. The defense made a major error early in the game which resulted in the Wildcats scoring on a penalty kick. The Red Hawks tied the game soon after but were unable to overcome the Wildcats.

Coach Snyder described the Red Hawks play in the second half. "We were not making the greatest decisions in front of our net. We suffered from a lack of tracking from our mid-fielders which gave them lots of space to operate in. Ultimately our issues were a lack of engagement and intensity defending as a team."

Up next for the Red Hawks will be a trip to Glenwood Springs on Tuesday, August 29th. "Glenwood is all that matters. We already have lost one out of our 15 games

scheduled for 6:30 PM.

Soccer: Red Hawks vs

Snyder said, "and we must learn from our mistakes, getting better and not letting these mistakes happen again."

Softball – Durango Doubleheader & Delta rain out

The Red Hawks game with the Delta Panthers scheduled for Thursday in Montrose was the victim of another rain out. The Red Hawks are now 1 win, 1 loss and 1 tie overall, and 1-1 in league action.

The Red Hawks had their hitting shoes on as they pounded out 15 runs on 11 hits. Addyson LeBlanc, Aubrey Good and Adie Blowers all had two hits to lead the Red Hawks. Blowers had a triple and drove in a pair of runs while LeBlanc chipped in a double and two runs batted in.

Junior Baeli Minerich pitched a complete game shutout giving up three singles to the Demons.

The second game did not go so well for the Red Hawks. They found themselves down 6-0 in the second inning. Andie Blowers started on the mound for the Red Hawks. The Demons hit pop ups and bloopers that fell where the Red Hawk were unable to defend.

The Red Hawks were down 2 runs in the seventh inning and had runners on base. The Hawks pushed across one run and the tying run was cut down at the plate after an outstanding relay to the catcher preserving the Demons one run victory, 8-7.

The Red Hawks play host to the Rifle Bears on Tuesday, August 29th. The first pitch of the doubleheader is scheduled for 3 PM.

LOCAL SPORTS BY CLIFF DODGE

RED HAWKS FOOTBALL DROPS OPENER TO PALMER RIDGE 28-27



Varsity Football Coach Brett Mertens.

By Cliff Dodge

MONUMENT-The Montrose Red Hawks traveled to Monument, Colorado, for a Thursday evening tilt with the Palmer Ridge Bears, losing by a single point 28-27. The 2023 edition of Red Hawks football learned early on that the road is a difficult place to play (and win).

The Red Hawks seized control of the game as the first half ended scoring in the closing seconds to establish a 19-7 ad-

vantage.

The Bears took the second half kickoff and marched 85 yards in seven plays to cut the Red Hawks lead to 19-14.

The Red Hawks took the ensuing kickoff and kept the ball for eight plays and ended up punting into the end zone for a touchback.

The Bears then drove 80 yards in 9 plays mixing the run with pinpoint passing to take the lead 21-19 with 23 seconds remaining in the third quarter.

The fourth quarter saw the Red Hawks unleash their offense as they marched 80 yards in ten plays with Senior Austin Zimmer scoring the touchdown on a 10 yard run. Coach Brett Mertens went for a two point conversion and was successful, making the score 27-21 in favor of the Red Hawks.

The Red Hawks attempted an on-side kick but were unsuccessful as the Bears took over in Montrose territory. 5 plays later the Bears scored on an 8 yard touchdown pass. The successful extra point gave the Bears their 28-27 lead.

The Red Hawks took over at their own 20 yard line with 5:16 left in the fourth quar-

ter. Montrose moved the ball out to the 36 yard line and faced a 4th down to keep the drive alive. The Bears recovered the Red Hawks fourth down fumble and took over with just over 2 minutes left to play. Coach Mertens said, "I thought we had the first down had we not put the ball on the ground. Had we maintained position who knows how things would have worked out."

The Bears were shut down by the Red Hawk defense and their field goal try was no good, giving the ball back to the Red Hawks. Unfortunately the Red Hawks could not move the football and turned it over on downs as the Bears ran off the final 1 minute and 15 seconds to seal the Red Hawks' fate.

The Red Hawks return home on Friday, September 1st to take on the Fruitamonument Wildcats.

Coach Mertens said, "The Wildcats beat us last year and our kids remember. They are a big, physical team that loves to run the football. We need to make adjustments and control the line of scrimmage in order to be successful."

The kickoff is scheduled for 7 PM.

RED HAWK GOLFERS PLACE SECOND IN MONTROSE RED HAWK TOURNAMENT

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The Cobble Creek Golf Club played host to the annual Montrose Red Hawk Golf Tournament played on Friday, August 25th. The home-standing Red Hawks (217) placed a very close second place to the first place Grand Junction Tigers (215).

Seventeen teams teed off at 9 AM including three teams competing under the Red Hawks banner. The Montrose teams finished 2nd, 5th and 15th. Other top finishing teams included Montezuma-Cortez (3rd), Durango (4th) and Montrose 2 (5th).

The medalist honors went to Thayer Plewe of Montezuma-Cortez who shot a 66. Top finishers for Montrose included Jake Legg (71), Noah Richardson (72), Liam Beshoar (73), Caleb Caskey (74) and Kyden Adams (75).

The next action for Coach Steve Skiff's charges will be a road trip to the Country Club of Colorado Springs. Cheyenne Mountain High School will provide the competition.



LOCAL SPORTS BY CLIFF DODGE

COACH'S CORNER: BRETT MERTENS Varsity Football Coach – Montrose High School

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-Brett Mertens grew up in northeastern Colorado in the town of Merino. He graduated from Western State College and went into coaching. Mertens has been coaching for the past sixteen years including the past eight years as the head football coach here in Montrose.

Last season's Red Hawk team lost their first two games and then were undefeated throughout the rest of the season until the quarterfinal game of the 4A state tournament. This year presents a similar schedule and a very difficult path to the championship round.

When asked about the task ahead Mertens said, "I have always believed that you need to find out what kind of a team you have and playing a tough schedule will give you that answer. If we play a soft team we learn very little. If we play a tough opponent and even if we lose, we gain valuable experience and can make the necessary adjustments to correct our deficiencies. I will take the tough opponent every time. Palmer Ridge is that very tough team and this game will be a learning experience for the Red Hawks."

Mertens has a good stable of running backs and wide receivers who are returning. Fullback Blake Griffin rushed for over 2,000 yards last year and returns to lead the offense. The offense relies heavily on the running game and the success of the run will be dependent on the growth and development of the offensive line. Mertens admitted that the Red Hawks do not have the number of large bodies up front but believes his blockers will be more than adequate to turn the running game loose.

Mertens said that the defense was hit by graduation, and is confident the defensive unit will step up. He is most pleased with the play of his linebacking corp. Mertens also mentioned good speed in the secondary where he expects improved play from his safeties and corners.

Mertens explained that the Red Hawks offense will be led by three year starter Gage Wareham. He said the Red Hawks will lean heavily on the expertise Wareham brings to the huddle on every play.

The schedule includes Fruita-Monument and Erie in addition to our league opponents, Falcon, Coronado, Mesa Ridge and Pueblo West.





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SCREENINGS from 6:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Walk-ins allowed; make appointment for faster service

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TRAFFIC HOLDS NEXT WEEK FOR I-70 IN GLENWOOD CANYON

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO—The Colorado Department of Transportation and Xcel Energy will continue one or two days of safety-critical helicopter operations in Glenwood Canyon next week. Work is anticipated on Tuesday, August 29, and possibly Wednesday, August 30. Motorists can expect the same limited 10-minute traffic holds as this week for eastbound and westbound Interstate 70. The holds are necessary during helicopter operations, and have gone smoothly this week. Crews are conducting work for replacing power poles. Work hours will continue to be only 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Holds are not allowed during morning and evening commute times. The Glenwood Canyon recreation path, rest areas and river access will not be affected by the helicopter operations.

A short westbound lane closure will be in place on Tuesday and Wednesday for other power pole replacement work. That work will take place near Mile Point 128 for Holy Cross Energy. No additional traffic impacts are anticipated for the work near MP 128.

Traffic Impacts

On Tuesday Aug. 29, and possibly Wednesday, Aug. 30, eastbound and westbound traffic will have 10-minute traffic holds.

Limited holds will be allowed 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Holds will not take place during the morning and evening commute.

Short westbound lane closure at or near Mile Point 128.



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THIRD ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Put together your team of up to 8 people for a fun evening of Trivia and competition. There are a limited number of tables available so get your teams together and register quickly. Prizes will be awarded. This is a fundraiser for Altrusa International of Montrose to help support all the wonderful projects we do for our community.

DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

TIME: 5:30pm – 9:00pm

PLACE: Montrose Elks Lodge, 801 S Hillcrest Dr, Montrose

COST: \$25 per person due at registration (includes Dessert/Snack Bar)
The Elk’s cash bar will be available

Team Name: _____

#1 Contact ph # _____ (*) Email: (*) _____

Players names:

1 (*) _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____

Please complete one form per team.

Please be sure to be seated before our start time of 5:30pm.

No outside food or drink will be allowed.

Questions? Please contact Gail at 970-275-0751 or Lori at 970-275-6522

Please make checks out to Altrusa International of Montrose and mail along with the completed application to: Altrusa of Montrose, PO Box 3184, Montrose, CO 81402. Or call one of the contact people above and we can meet to obtain registration form and check(s).

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

BACKROOM CITY COUNCIL DEALS SMELL OF COLLUSION AND CORRUPTION *More Evidence Comes to Light Surrounding the Giveaways of Taxpayer Dollars.*



Courtesy photo by David White.

By David White

MONTROSE-I have had several people ask me about what can be done about the freewheeling spending that the City Manager (Bill Bell), the Assistant City Manager (Ann Morgenthaler) and the Manager of the Development & Revitalization Team (DART) (former City Councilor Anthony Russo) continue to advocate for in the community through giveaways to private and non-profit businesses and which our “progressive” City Council almost always rubber stamps when the time comes for another hand out. The answer is quite simple...vote out your Democratic Socialist City Council in the next municipal election in April of 2024 or recall all of them now.

To the point of today’s article: Reading through the City’s website, we find that **DART** touts its programs as “...**a modern approach** to the city’s efforts to foster business growth in Montrose.” (Development and Revitalization Team (DART) | Montrose, CO - Official Website (cityofmontrose.org)) In reality, what they’re referring to as a “modern approach” is “**corporate welfare.**” Critically speaking, this corporate welfare program being run by our City officials fits into a practice by wealthy corporations and individuals whose philosophy is based upon the concept of “**privatizing profits and socializing losses.**” This concept and practice refer to the idea that **corpora-**

tions want to reserve financial gains for themselves and pass along losses to the rest of society, potentially through lobbying the government for assistance.

(Corporate welfare - Wikipedia). And that, my friends, is exactly what your City Government has been doing with your tax dollars.

Two weeks ago today, on these pages, I wrote that the Montrose City Council, their/our City Manager and favored City local construction contractor (Stryker & Company) were going to try and justify spending \$556,786 of your tax dollars at their Council meeting on August 15th on one of their “pet” economic development projects – the privately owned (by Telluride developers and investors) “boutique” Rathbone Hotel in downtown Montrose. This expenditure was on top of the \$500,181 they’d already spent to rebuild and restore the exterior facade on this property, bringing taxpayer “investment” into this private venture to a staggering \$1,056,967.00.

Justification for coming to the public trough a second time came in the form of a letter from the contractor, Stryker & Company and Clay Bales (the Telluride developer) wherein they, in a memo to City officials, argued that neither of them “**could foresee the abatement, structural and civil improvement costs that this building would require, without time and evaluation...including asbestos and mold remediation.**” As I said two weeks ago

and am saying again, if that’s the case, why would anyone buy a building without knowing what they were buying? **UNLESS** they were assured that the City Council and its Manager (both of whom are desperate to transform our City into a progressive utopia) would prop the deal up with your money.

And that my friends is the truth of the matter. Bales, through Stryker & Co. and no doubt with the City Management’s blessings and assurances, had already spent the money **BEFORE IT WAS VOTED ON AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL** at the August 15, 2023, Council Meeting! The asbestos removal that

Council voted to pay for was complete or nearly complete by August 15th (see the attached photo taken the day of the City Council meeting). Xtract Environmental Services (out of Greeley, CO with an office in Grand Junction, CO) was the contractor and the beneficiary of City tax dollars being used to pay for the asbestos abatement services. They were also given almost \$51,000 in a similar fashion by the City Council in another deal two weeks prior to this one to remediate asbestos in a private office building project being constructed on South Townsend Avenue by a private business owner.

This information came from a source close to the deal as well as through public records. The City, through a series of private and public meetings (the public meetings were held in Executive Session by the City Council), struck a deal to give away more money to this project as well as delay the developer’s purchase of the Historic Montrose City Hall for yet another hotel/restaurant project by a year to keep that project from cratering...a project that now has put the taxpayers at risk to an even greater extent than existed before the August 15th financial giveaway vote. While these shell games involving millions of dollars of YOUR money go on for projects like Colorado Outdoors (under the control of the City Council cloaked as the board of directors of the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority) to include “flex” buildings on the grounds to

BACKROOM CITY COUNCIL DEALS SMELL OF COLLUSION AND CORRUPTION *From previous pg*

house public businesses that compete against private businesses; parking lots, landscaping, lighting, etc. for hotels, apartment buildings, medical offices, etc.; \$100,000++ commercial kitchens for local restaurants; renovations to and construction of apartments in a downtown building owned by the Mayor's husband's business partner and many, many others are all examples of the collusion and corruption so blatant in City government today. While your City Manager travels the city and country in an \$80,000 2022 Ford Expedition XL Limited MAX paid for with your tax dollars and receives a salary and benefits package worth an easy \$200,000, he, his staff and your City Council are advocating for a **6%-20% ANNUAL INCREASE** in your trash and recycling rates over three (3) years for this City operated enterprise.

Their "pick your poison" survey (voting on the survey closed on Friday, August 25th) is worth reviewing as there is no option given for privatizing said services or opting out of these services as many communities do when it becomes too expensive for them to continue to offer them. In our case, is their justification for these huge increases really warranted? On the surface it would appear that they are, however, without dumping millions of dollars into speculative ventures, perhaps they wouldn't be in this position of inflicting more burdens on its citizens. ([Trash and Recycling Services Survey | Montrose, CO - Official Website \(cityofmontrose.org\)](#)) On top of the coming increase in trash service fees will be a wastewater (sewer) fee increase as well as a new

"stormwater" fee that we'll all be adding to our monthly bills further pressuring the finances of the citizenry and diminishing their discretionary income which is needed to keep the various City funded restaurants, brew pubs and other similar ventures afloat. Not much thought has been given to this it appears.

The stormwater fee is an interesting subject and little discussed, however, the City Council did award a consultant a contract to study the matter. The results of the consultant's study were presented at the August 14th City Council Work Session. Here's a synopsis of the results:

"Carollo Engineers Representative Cody Berg presented the results of the Stormwater Utility Fee Study that was conducted this summer.

The options presented for discussion are the culmination of several months of research and work performed by Carollo Engineers under a contract awarded to the company in October 2022.

This study was initiated to provide a recommendation for rate fee structures for the City Council to consider, based on benchmarks in the industry and structures used by other agencies within the state of Colorado.

One approach recommended in the study would be to implement a monthly stormwater fee based on a property's impact on the stormwater system. The stormwater utility fee structure would provide a predictable and sustainable funding source to properly maintain and update the stormwater system.

Berg said the study examined similar-sized cities across the Western Slope and the

State of Colorado, as well as cities that have complex and robust stormwater systems.

The study compiled rate structures, benefits and challenges in municipal stormwater collection systems.

The next steps for the council and staff are to consider options for possible rate structures and decide whether to create a city storm drain master plan to help gauge where investment is needed.

Again, all of this comes on the heels of the City's ongoing giveaways as described in this and previous editorial pieces.

Virtually every decision that comes from City Staff and City Council comes from supposedly arm's length entities like the MURA board, the DART board and many others. The problem is that they all have City Council or City Staff members on their boards driving the discussions and decisions in the direction that results in **"privatizing profits and socializing losses."**

Knowledge is power as they say. Please read up on what is happening locally. You can't fix the Denver or Washington, D.C. swamps, but you can certainly impact and change, for the better, the Montrose swamp.

Mr. White is an active citizen & community servant as well as a business owner, entrepreneur, former Montrose City Councilmember and Mayor as well as a two term County Commissioner and has served on many boards and commissions during his career. He & his wife are the parents of six children and have 10 grandchildren & 1 great grandchild.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CPW SEEKS INPUT ON FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF STEAMBOAT LAKE PARKS



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Special to the Mirror

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS- Colorado Parks and Wildlife is seeking input on a draft management plan for Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake State Parks, located near Steamboat Springs.

Public comment opens Thursday, Aug. 24, and ends Saturday, Sept. 30. Visitors can read the draft plan and comment by visiting [Engage CPW](#).

“While we call them a state park, they really are your parks,” said Julie Arington, Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake State Parks Manager. “Your input and feedback on the management plan plays a crucial role in both the management of the park for recreation and protection of the natural resources for visitors now and future generations to come.”

The plan is intended to address how we deal with our challenges, such as rising visitation, limited staffing, and environmental conditions for maintaining facilities while continuing to provide a connection to the outdoors for as many people as we can and protect the natural resources of the parks.

Once approved, the Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake Management Plan will serve as the guiding document, providing a framework for the management of park resources and visitor experiences for the next 10 years.

Steamboat Lake State Park

One of the true jewels of Colorado, Steamboat Lake State Park has something special for everyone. Whatever your preference, well-deserved relaxation and recreation awaits you. Hahn's Peak frames the breathtaking scenery of this premier park offering family fishing, camping, picnicking, trail and boating recreational opportunities. A full-service Marina and swim beach provide amenities for active water play.

Winter comes alive with snowmobiling, ice fishing, and peaceful cross-country skiing or snow-shoeing in a valley surrounded by snow-capped mountains. Ten cabins down by the Marina welcome adventurers for a cozy night.

To learn more about Steamboat Lake, visit our [website](#).

To learn more about Pearl Lake, visit our [website](#).

Colorado is home to world-class state parks, more than 960 species of wildlife and 23 million acres of public lands, ranging from wetlands to forests, canyon landscapes to mountain lakes. Join us in keeping Colorado, Colorado.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

THE WAY PEOPLE GIVE AWAY THEIR POWER IS BY THINKING THEY HAVE NONE ...Alice Walker

Editor:

<https://www.cityofmontrose.org/FormCenter/City-Council-9/Citizen-Interactive-Session-Request-63>

The above link is your power, the next interactive City Council work session is Sept.18th 9-10am.....submit questions early ,so that staff may have research com-

pleted for your question. Thanks in advance, it's your right to be informed by our city council.

The link to the City Council page on the website is below.

<https://www.cityofmontrose.org/301/City-Council>

You can also get there by going to the city website at www.cityofmontrose.com, then selecting the "City Government" tab at the top of the page, then selecting the "City Council" option lower down on the left side of the page.

A link to the form is on that page and the form can be accessed at the link below:

<https://www.cityofmontrose.org/FormCenter/City-Council-9/Citizen-Interactive-Session-Request-63>

Lynn Stockton, Montrose



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GENEALOGY CENTER OPEN

Special to the Mirror

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



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JUST 20 MINUTES!

By Anne Janik,
Friends of Youth and Nature

COLORADO—It's a new school year, with potentially lots of changes for your children: starting elementary, middle or high school, or maybe a new school altogether; figuring out class schedules; getting to know teachers or a new friend group; feeling overwhelmed with assignments and new routines. This time of year can be stressful for young people. Here is a great antidote: 20 minutes outside!

Our friends over at [Generation Wild](#) compiled a fantastic list of ideas for quick 20 minute activities to get kids active and outdoors. A few minutes outside can work wonders for your kids' stress levels and overall feelings of well-being.

Here are just a few of the 20 ideas for 20 minutes outside from Generation Wild: -"Host a mud party." Get a big bucket of dirt and water and make mud pies, try mud painting, or just squish the mud between your toes. Let your kids' imagination flow.

-"Add water and chill." Fill a baby pool with ice and water, then add marbles and try to fish them out with your toes.

-"Camp in your backyard." Sleep under the stars, but in the convenience of your backyard. Make s'mores!

-"Go on a color scavenger hunt." Search for things outdoors that match targeted colors. This could be plants, animals, or whatever else you see outside!

-"Make sun prints." Place colored construction paper outside in the sun. Make a design on top of it with the things you find in nature—leaves, sticks, rocks and other stuff. Then let it sit out, and in a few hours, the sun will turn it into a wild creation.

-"Go on a safari." Hide toy animals outside, and let your kids enjoy the challenge of finding them all.

For the complete list go to: generationwild.com/20ideaslist.

It's not always easy to get kids to turn off the computer or put down the game controller. So how do you get them to play outside? Here are a few tried-and-true strategies that will actually help get them off the couch and out the back door.

Try relocating their favorite indoor activity to the outdoors. Nudge them to read, draw, or play with their favorite toy outdoors in the fresh air. Being in an outdoor environment is an entirely different experience—it may encourage them to "play" in a new way.

Make outdoor time into family time.

Sometimes kids just want to spend time with their parents and other loved ones. Taking walks, having picnics, and making park visits together are all great ways to incorporate Mother Nature into your family routine.

A little variety can spice up outdoor time.

We have the best backyard here on the Western Slope of Colorado, so consider exploring a bit farther—farms, forests, mountains, and lakes. This gives kids different ways to experience and think about the outdoors. The same place can be completely transformed during different parts of the year or even different times of the day.

The more the merrier! Kids inspire other kids. Adding a friend to the mix might be just the nudge needed to inspire their inner adventurer to come out. This strategy is especially effective with older kids.

Playing outdoors makes for more capable, knowledgeable, and self-sufficient youth. And, an independent youth is a safer one. Start your kids' outdoor independence by taking small steps, like playing in the backyard while you observe them. Before you know it, they will be running all over the neighborhood, just like you used to do.

If we all spend a little more time outdoors in our neighborhoods, we'll make more friends, know more about one another, and create communities that parents and kids feel comfortable in. It's a simple idea that will benefit everyone.

For older kids and you, time outdoors is invaluable in helping to reset thoughts and priorities and dispel frustrations or anxieties from work or school and recharge yourself. A run or bike ride along a river or a walk with a friend can be revitalizing and a brief escape from troublesome issues. Encourage your teen to engage in an outdoor game like Frisbee golf, Ultimate Frisbee, or try a new outdoor sport



A few minutes outside can work wonders for your kids' stress levels and overall feeling of well-being. There are lots of quick hacks to get your kids outside for 20 minutes- like hosting a mud party! (Photo Credit: Shutterstock.com\Christin Lola)

like climbing or paddling with a SUP.

You don't have to have all the ideas.

That's where Generation Wild comes in. Follow Generation Wild on Instagram and Facebook, and you will get all kinds of ideas and inspiration to get your kids outdoors.

Check out "The List" of 100 things every kid absolutely has to do before they are 12 (generationwild.com/the-list). The list has some great ideas for time outside, like digging up worms, dancing in the rain, skipping rocks, tubing down a creek, catching a crawdad, and more. If you are a kid at heart, you may be surprised at how many things you can already check off!

Through Generation Wild, you can also connect with more than 250 incredible partners around the state that host outdoor activities and youth programming. *Friends of Youth and Nature's* website also has a list of providers who engage kids in outdoor programs and environmental education activities by county (Delta, Mesa, Montrose, and Ouray). There's a lot to discover out there. While you are having so much fun playing outside with your kids, think of all the benefits they are getting from hanging out with you in nature. *Friends of Youth and Nature is a non-profit that promotes opportunities for youth and families to get outside, experience outdoor activities, and explore nature. Follow our outdoor news blog and receive monthly tips on connecting your children to nature. Learn more, visit: www.friendsofyouthandnature.org*

Annual Holiday Crafts & Bazaar

**FRIDAY, NOV. 3RD
9:30AM TO 6PM**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH
9AM TO 4PM**



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"Eye of newt, and toe of frog ..."

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20784 6840 RD., MONTROSE, CO 81403

Situated on a spacious 3.665-acre lot, this custom home offers a serene setting with plenty of wildlife, and features a brick and stone facade with wood-trimmed windows, and a thoughtfully designed layout with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, and an office. The living room boasts a cozy fireplace, and there is also a fireplace in the owner's suite, which is a true retreat with double sinks, a soaking tub, and a walk-in shower (all elegantly tiled), and a large walk-in closet to accommodate your storage needs. The bathrooms and kitchen have granite countertops, and the kitchen is equipped with gas stove top, double ovens, a large pantry, beverage cooler, custom cabinetry, and a beautiful island. Adjacent to the kitchen, you'll find a cozy breakfast nook. The formal dining room provides an elegant space for hosting special occasions. The home is filled with natural light, thanks to the large windows and high ceilings. Lovely hardwood flooring throughout most of the home, with carpeting in select areas and tile. There is a covered back patio surrounded by the beauty of nature. An irrigation and sprinkler system is included, keeping your landscaping lush and vibrant. An attached three-car garage and a 24x30 ft detached shop with a 12 ft door and 220V power and insulation covers all your needs. Check out this beautiful home with its spacious lot and convenient location. Schedule a showing today and make this tranquil oasis your own.



LOT 2 BANNER ROAD • OLATHE CO 81425

This is a fantastic opportunity to own a pristine parcel just waiting for your dreams to be built on. Eight acres with 7.9 shares of UUVWUA irrigation water, offering a picturesque variety of Mountain views are at every turn. To the south you will see the grandeur of the San Juan Mountain Range, to the west The Uncompahgre Plateau. Look north to the amazing and colorful Grand Mesa. The East shows off the beautiful West Elks, and the southeast the fascinating Cimarron range. Create a beautiful building site, equestrian property, or hobby farm. This parcel and lot 2 have successfully been farmed raising corn, sunflowers, and hay. The location is convenient to Delta, Olathe, and Montrose. Montrose has an expanding and convenient regional airport with daily flights to major hubs. Medical facilities are located both in Delta and Montrose, and a short drive to a larger city of Grand Junction. The simple "covenants" literally are for an irrigation schedule, and state that no manufactured homes are allowed. True modulars (IRC-built), system-built, barndominiums (shop with living space), and stick-built are welcomed.



PRICE ADJUSTMENT



LESLIE GORE | GRI, CRS, ABR
Associate Broker
C: 970-275-3195
O: 970-249-7653
LeslieGoreRealtor@gmail.com



DIANE HAYNES | CRS, GRI, E-PRO, REO
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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

SUMMER SEASON REQUIRES PEOPLE TO SHARE THE ROADS *Colorado State Patrol Warns Drivers to Stay Alert*

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Colorado State Patrol

COLORADO— Heading into the final weeks of summer, the Colorado State Patrol is sending a stern reminder to motorists and pedestrians that roadways are often more congested during warmer months with longer daylight hours. Looking at Colorado State Patrol crash data from 2022, injury and fatal crashes involving pedestrians increased dramatically in July with the peak months being August and September.

“Whether these numbers are due to kids returning to school or our desire to soak up the last few weeks for a warm bike ride or evening walk, troopers saw dozens of crashes involving pedestrians during this same time last year,” stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “Drivers and pedestrians are responsible for ensuring that we share the roads so everyone can get to their destination safely.”

This has prompted the Colorado State Patrol to launch a three-month campaign, “Look Again, CO!” directed towards pedestrians and drivers to educate and build awareness about safety around school zones, crosswalks and all forms of roadways. A particularly important message to motorists will focus on speeding in neighborhoods and areas designated for pedestrians.

Looking at fatal and injury crashes involving pedestrians or bicyclists investigated by the Colorado State Patrol neighborhood streets or rural roads were the most common locations where crashes occurred. Wednesday through Saturday had the most pedestrian/bicycle crashes with the highest frequency of crashes occurring during the 7 a.m. hour, the typical lunch hours 11 – noon, and the 7 p.m. hour.

“Staying alert is a key component in solving this community problem,” stated Chief Packard. “Do not allow technology, other people or food to take your attention away from where it needs to be when you driving, walking or biking on a road. Look, listen and watch out for each other!”

Troopers continue to take a low-tolerance approach to the top fatal crash factors, including lane violations while launching a yearlong campaign called “Drive Safe.” This campaign reminds people to control their lane position based on their current driving environment.



FOR SALE



1815 Otter Pond Cir
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Features.

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Welcome to this exclusive home located in the charming Otter Pond Subdivision, where tranquility and natural beauty abound. This property boasts an exceptional feature, being one of the few homes that borders the picturesque pond. Enjoy the luxury of a private dock and paddleboat, providing you with the opportunity to immerse yourself in the peacefulness of the water and watch ducks gracefully land on its surface. Nestled within the Otter Pond Subdivision, this home offers a prime location, with direct access to the pond. Embrace the scenic landscape and enjoy the soothing sights and sounds of nature right from your backyard.



MICHELLE KLIPPERT

OWNER/BROKER

Cell: 970-275-3016

michelleklippertrealtor@gmail.com



(970) 249-7653
 500 E Main St, Montrose, CO

COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

CONSTRUCTION ON HISTORIC ALPINE TUNNEL BEGINS

Special to the Mirror

GUNNISON— The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests' Gunnison Ranger District in partnership with the National Forest Foundation (NFF) announce the start of reconstruction work on the Historic Alpine Tunnel road and Palisade Wall. Construction began Aug. 21 and will continue through the fall season as weather allows. National Forest System Road #539 - Alpine Tunnel road from Sherrod Loop to the west portal and National Forest System Trail #298 – Williams Pass Jeep trail will be closed during construction for public health and safety.

Rock masonry crews will reconstruct the approximate 100-foot section of the Palisade Wall and Alpine Tunnel road that received extensive damage due to an avalanche in 2016. This project is made possible by funding prioritized for deferred maintenance projects through the Great American Outdoors Act.

The Alpine Tunnel Historic District earned its place on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996 due to its significance as North America's highest and longest narrow gauge railroad tunnel. The Alpine Tunnel road has gained popularity with Off-Highway Vehicle enthusiasts interested in witnessing the magnificent sights and trail-blazing high elevation engineering.

"The Alpine Tunnel Historic District is a substantial piece of Colorado history," said Dayle Funka, Gunnison District Ranger. "It's important that we recognize its significance and preserve it for future generations. We are grateful for the Great American Outdoors Act funding that provides an amazing opportunity to help address these critical restoration needs."



Alpine Tunnel photo by Chad Wellman.



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

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CO 133 CULVERT REPAIR PROJECT TRAFFIC IMPACTS *Week of August 28 - Sept.1 2023*

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL--Crews do not anticipate any traffic impacts next week as work continues on excavation and placement of the culvert pipe.

-The project team will be off the highway from midday on Friday, Sept. 1-Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

-The temporary highway bridge will continue to move traffic while the construction of the new culvert takes place.

-It is anticipated that all work will be completed by mid November, 2023.

Travel Impacts

The temporary bridge has two lanes and the speed limit is 40 mph. Commercial motor vehicle traffic is restricted to 85,000 lbs and 11-foot width.



Excavation and placement of the new 72" culvert pipe at Mile Point 16 on CO 133. Courtesy photo.



READ ALL ABOUT IT

IN  **THE**

MONTROSE MIRROR

Alcohol Ink & Drink x2

21 N. Cascade Ave., Montrose CO



Paint Fall



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5:30-7:30 pm.
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Prior experience recommended
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COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

DEL KINKEL

September 12, 1928 - August 24, 2023

Longtime Montrose resident Del Kinkel, born September 12, 1928, passed away on August 24, 2023, at the age of 94 at Elk Ridge Health and Rehab with family by his side. Del was born in Pueblo, Colorado, to Walter and Cora Kinkel. He graduated from Central High School in 1947 and, at the age of seventeen, joined the Marine Corps. He was honorably discharged in 1949 and recalled to serve in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged again in 1952. He married his high school sweetheart, Zerma Deane McBeath, on Dec. 31, 1949. They were happily married for 65 years until her death in 2014. Del and ZD started their life together in San Diego, CA, at the El Toro Marine Base.

After his discharge they returned to Pueblo. He had an entrepreneurial spirit and a penchant for business, including managing a grocery store, owning a radio station and Del's Kwik Shake in Pueblo, CO. He sold real estate and worked in savings and loans. He was offered a managerial position at the Montrose Savings and Loan in 1965 and moved his family to Montrose. He started First Mortgage Corp., from which he retired after many years. Del was very active in the Montrose commu-

nity, serving on the Montrose City Council for six years (two as mayor), and spent over 65 years as a member of Masonic Lodge, Rotary and Elks. He also enjoyed acting in the Magic Circle Players. Del's passions were golf and football. He was an avid Denver Broncos fan, and any spare time was spent on the golf course. He was a lifelong Republican, very patriotic and so very proud of being a Marine veteran.

Del was fiercely devoted to his family and proud of all. He loved meeting daily with his friends for coffee. He loved people and his dogs and enjoyed joking around with everyone. He was a lot of fun and full of life. Del had so much integrity and would give the shirt off his back. Del is survived by his daughter, Rhonda (Andy) Palmer and son, Brian (Kathi) Kinkel of Montrose; granddaughters Cheyenna Davis of Hitchcock, TX, Ashley (Patrick) Salazar of Delta, CO, and Mickala (Jace) Cline of Montrose; great granddaughters Kelsey (Chase) Wilson of Hitchcock, TX, Maliya Salazar and Abby Salazar of Delta, CO, and great grandson Ryan Cline of Montrose, CO. He had one niece, Char Hunt of Ft. Collins, CO, grandniece Kris Sitzman, grandnephew Rick Koshak of Ft. Collins, CO, and two



nephews, Stephen Bartell of New Rochelle, NY, and Gregg Bartell of New York, NY. We will all deeply miss Del's love, guidance, and humor. The family would like to thank Hope West Hospice and Elk Ridge for their compassionate care. Donations in Del's honor may be made to Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans. Mr. Kinkel's family is being assisted by Crippin Funeral Home & Crematory or Montrose. (970) 249-2121

Now more than ever...

Thank you for reading

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

ISSUE 433 Aug. 28 2023

ART & SOL

WHAT IS THE COLORADO RIVER DROUGHT TASK FORCE?



Photo courtesy of Hall & Hall, 2023

By Lauren Hall Ruddell, Ph.D.

COLORADO-How is a river like a wolf? When there is a stakeholders group formed of diverse parties that are bound to disagree on almost everything, at least at first. Like the wolf debate, similar interests will come together in regular meetings to make recommendations to the state assembly for water management planning.

The Colorado state legislature created the task force last year to bring together representatives from agriculture, water managers from Front Range cities and Western Slope towns, environmentalists, Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute representa-

tives, and industry. The 17 members will meet 10 times until Dec. 7, when it will submit a report of recommendations to lawmakers ahead of the 2024 legislative session. How did this come about?

During Colorado's 2023 legislative session, [Senate Bill 23-295](#) passed the state legislature with near-unanimous support in both the House and Senate and was signed by Governor Polis on May 20, 2023, officially creating the Colorado River Drought Task Force.

The Task Force is comprised of voting members representing water users on both sides of the Continental Divide and one non-voting chairperson. Along with

the perspective provided by a Tribal Sub-Task Force, the group will develop actionable recommendations for the 2024 General Assembly on steps the state can take to protect the Colorado River and all who rely on its water. These recommendations, due no later than Dec. 31, 2023, should address how the state can provide effect tools for Colorado water managers responding to drought – tools that protect local agriculture and communities while maintaining Colorado's interstate commitments on the Colorado River. If this sounds like Mission Impossible, the next few months will tell. In these early days, hopefulness is the main theme.

"We really have a big responsibility here, a huge opportunity," Kathy Chandler-Henry, an Eagle County commissioner and chair of the task force, said during the online meeting. "We don't want to recreate the wheel (and) do a lot of things that haven't been done before."

As you probably know, the Colorado River begins in Rocky Mountain National Park and flows through the western U.S., where itself and its tributaries form the Colorado River Basin. The basin supplies about 40 million people with water, but its future has become increasingly uncertain.

It must be noted that recommendations made by this Task Force do not supersede foundational documents which have been developed through extensive stakeholder engagement both by the state and the conservation districts. These documents include the 2023 Colorado Water Plan, and the Upper Basin

Continued next pg

COLORADO RIVER DROUGHT TASK FORCE *From previous pg*

Demand Management Storage Agreement (DMSA), among others.

Members gathered for the first meeting on July 31 and shared hopes that they would find common ground as they collaborate on possible policies, tools, and solutions to help respond to the Colorado River crisis, which has been depleted by a 20-year megadrought and overuse. Some members shared worries about accomplishing the goals by the December deadline.

This task force will consider how the state might be affected if the Colorado River and its reservoirs drop to critically-low levels. The federal government has recently threatened to step in and make water cuts necessary to prevent that eventuality. An historically wet winter has bought the Upper Basin states some time, but after a very dry summer, the issues are once again rearing their cracked and wrinkly heads. The task force will also tackle the specter of Upper Basin States (Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico) of responding to legal challenges by Arizona, Nevada and California, should they decide they aren't getting enough water.

"My greatest fear about the task force is that we know that the lower basin is going to be watching, other states in the Colorado River Basin are watching," said Lee Miller, general counsel of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District. "That we don't give them fuel to divide us more or use it against us in the negotiations for the interim guideline extension."

Miller is referring to a negotiation process that started in June and will go through 2026. By the end of it, the states and tribes that share the Colorado River, along with Mexico, will be expected to agree on a new set of guidelines and strategies on how to prevent the Colorado River and its reservoirs from crashing in the face of climate change, drought and overuse.

Like the wolf debate, this conundrum pits rural vs. urban stakeholders, and north vs. south stakeholders against one another. Nevada, Arizona and California have proposed their own plan that could possibly keep enough water in the river for the next three years, something the federal government and the upper basin states are considering in detail. Further conflict

arises through overdue tribal provisions vs. everybody else's use.

Upper Colorado River Commissioner Rebecca Mitchell, who was recently appointed as the state's first full-time Colorado River representative and negotiator, is a member of a subcommittee that will focus on tribal water issues. She has stated that the current guidelines on how managing the Colorado River and Lake Mead and Lake Powell "aren't working for us right now, and they really have not worked for the tribes ever."

Rancher Bill Fales told the Colorado Sun he feels that other states will be coming for Colorado's water very soon. And urban regions will be close behind.

"California will start it, but when they demand more water from Colorado, Denver is not gonna be helping us out," he said. "Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Fort Collins are going to dictate the [state's water] policy. It's going to protect them, not us."

Agricultural producers like Mr. Fales have historically taken comfort in the seniority of their water rights. According to Colorado water law, the age of a water right signifies its strength. Even in dry years, water users with the oldest rights still get to use their full amount. As confirmed by Dave Kanzer, Director of Science and Interstate Matters for the Colorado River Water Conservation District, many of Colorado's major cities, namely Denver, Aurora, and Colorado Springs, rely on relatively new, or vulnerable, water rights for their drinking supply from the Colorado River. But there's a constitutional loop hole that may undermine the principle of 'first in time, first in right'. Cash rich and water poor cities like Denver could end up buying older water rights from agricultural producers and using them for municipal purposes. If this happens on a large scale, it could eventually, permanently dry up some western Colorado farms and ranches. Or, those cities could ask the state not to apply Colorado water law strictly in order to safeguard the health and safety of urban populations. The Colorado state constitution already prioritizes domestic water use over irrigation in times of shortage. One wonders who is then going to grow their crops for them?

The results of this debate could have sig-

nificant impacts for western Colorado generally. Jim Holway, Director of the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, said water shortages in agriculture could affect far more than the farmers and ranchers themselves. "The future of agriculture is the future of rural portions of these seven basin states. If we can't address the challenges around agriculture, if we can't find a way to maintain an agricultural economy, we're going to hollow out much of the rural areas of the West." Apparently, that's putting it mildly.

Anyone familiar with the Los Angeles/Mono Valley and Owens Lake eco-disasters has a sense of what could happen under a worst case drought scenario in less than a decade. And it's not just a matter of food production. The relationship between water and poverty has become a growing concern for governments the world over.

There's even a theory system to assist in forecasting and modeling such negative outcomes in order to prevent them. The Water Poverty Index (WPI) factors the effects of social and economic variables, especially those related to water resources and supply facilities, capacity, efficiency, and environmental quality. Using this framework can provide a theoretical basis for integrated water resources management, and through integrated management, achieve the goal of human-water harmonious coexistence. But as we know, local governments are often hesitant to follow such lofty social and environmental aspirations on behalf of voters and constituents not directly benefitted by the actions recommended by such tools.

After you read this article in *The Montrose Mirror*, if you want to be able to participate or simply stay abreast of the Task Force's developments, the next three meetings are Sept. 14, Sept. 28, and Oct. 12. A public comment box has been promised at the website: <https://crodroughttaskforce.com/>.

As has been mostly true with the wolf reintroduction public participation process, your voice matters, so let your representatives and the task force members in general know your thoughts before the December deadline passes.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE ADULT EDUCATION CENTER CELEBRATES 50 YEARS WITH OPEN HOUSE SEPT. 20

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Adult Education Center is celebrating its 50th year of serving the Montrose community and beyond. We are having an open house Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 3 – 7 pm. We'd like anyone who has previously been a part of the program whether as student, staff, volunteer and/or supported us in any way to attend. The community is also invited. Our current location is in the basement of Zion Lutheran Church (701 S. Junction Avenue). Entry is from the back parking lot (off S. 7th Street).



MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Member of the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains and the Anglican Church in North America. Address: 2057 S. Townsend, Montrose, CO 81401.

Office Hours: Varies and by appointment
Contact Information: (970) 249-2451 <https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/>

Priest: The Rev Preston Gordon.

Worship Service Times: Sunday, 9AM, Holy Eucharist. Wednesdays, 11AM Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing.

Wednesday, Noon, Multi-denominational Community Prayer Hour.

There are multiple Bible Studies during the week.

All Saints Anglican Church is Biblical, Anglican and Orthodox. The order of service is from the Anglican Church in North America Book of Common Prayer (2019). Music is a combination of traditional hymns, contemporary, and more modern songs.

Children's Christian Education Program is conducted during the 9AM service. This is a

family-sized church that welcomes all individuals and families. We are currently comprised of families and singles, ages 13 to 90. Fellowship time follows each Sunday Service with a fellowship meal following the service on the 3d Sunday.

Welcome home to a family celebrating Christ, in fellowship, growing in the truth of God's Word, with worship in the Anglican tradition. Mission statement: Restoring Hope.

Mission statement: Restoring Hope.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021
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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, Montrose, CO 81401

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: (970) 497-4925

Email: celebrationmontrose@gmail.com

Website: <https://celebrationmontrose.org/>

Senior Pastor:

Pastor Brandon Mathis

Church Description/Mission: Celebration Church makes disciples that make disciples. Our core values include the Scripture, discipleship, community, service, prayer, love, and unity.

Demographics: Multi-generational

Celebration Kids: Nursery (Birth-4 years old) 8am, 9:30am & 11am
Celebration Kids (Ages 5 – 10) 9:30am & 11am

Discipleship: Students (Ages 11-18) 9:30am Sundays

Adult D2 Classes: 9:30am & 11am Sundays

Other Discipleship Opportunities:

Youth Night: First & Third Wednesdays of month 6pm

Celebration Groups (all ages): Sundays – Fridays various times & locations

Seasons Young Adult (Ages 18-26) Celebration Group: Thursdays @ 5:30pm off campus location

Celebrate Recovery: Friday nights @ 6:30pm

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Denomination: Christ Lutheran Montrose
Affiliation: Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Address: 1980 N. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401

Contact: 970-633-0226

Website: www.montroselutheran.org

Email: montroselutheran@gmail.com

Pastor: Tim Onnen

Worship: Sundays at 9 AM

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

find friendly people gathered in a welcoming environment being comforted and encouraged by the forgiveness and love of Jesus, and sharing that with one another.

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Denomination: Church of the Nazarene

Address: 705 South 12th Street

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

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

Pastor: Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

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

disciples in Montrose Colorado and around the world.

Demographics: Our church consists of 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, [\[form@fpcmontrose.com\]\(mailto:form@fpcmontrose.com\),](mailto:in-</p>
</div>
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www.fpcmontrose.com

Pastor: Jesse Mabanglo

Worship Service times: 9:30AM, Student Worship at 6PM. *We strive to encourage, challenge and support one another*

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

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Denomination affiliation: United Church of Christ

Address: 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

Office hours: By appointment

Contact information:

Phone number: (970) 249-9047

Email address: office@montroseucc.org

Website: montroseucc.org

Current Pastor: Rev. Wendy Kidd

Worship service times: Sunday, 10 a.m.

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

on life's journey.

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

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

MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Denomination Affiliation: United Methodist

Address: 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401

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

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

roseumc.org

Current Senior Pastor: Rev. Kevin Young

Worship service times:

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual

9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

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

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

ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

Affiliation: Southern Baptist

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

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

Contact information:

Phone: 970.249.4887

website: www.RosemontBaptist.org

email: office@rosemontbaptist.org

Senior Pastor: Rolland Kenneson

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

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

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

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

matter what stage of life they are in.

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

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

SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

Denomination affiliation: Independent Interfaith

Address: Meeting at Lions Park Community Building, 602 N. Nevada, Montrose

Office hours: Tues-Fri, 9 am to 4 pm,

Home Office – 970-252-0908

Contact information: Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, 970-252-0908,

arlyn@spiritaware.org,

www.spiritaware.org

Name of current pastor: Rev. Dr. Arlyn

Macdonald, Senior Minister; Rev. Catharine Gates, Associate Minister. Spiritual counseling available.

Worship service times: In-person Sunday Unity Service at 11 a.m., (Social Time begins at 10 a.m.); Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m. Virtual Afternoon Service on Zoom at 2:00 p.m.; Chai Chats, a Wednesday morning midweek informal gathering at 10:30 a.m. at Pun Hill Himalayan Restaurant, Montrose; Thursday Empowerment Circle at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. Everyone is wel-

come. The Spiritual Awareness Center is an interfaith spiritual community welcoming spiritual seekers and people of all faiths, providing a safe place to explore and nurture the individual's unique connection to the Divine through Unity services, classes, family and community projects, including the Great Community Give-away and Wellness Fair. People of all ages are welcome. There are currently no Sunday School or nursery services provided but craft supplies are available for youth.

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Denomination: Anglican-Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)

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

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

rose@yahoo.com

www.ststephensmontrose.com

Rev. Dec. Garrett Agajanian

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

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

Sunday: Holy Communion 10 am.

Fellowship following service.

Children's nursery available (unstaffed).

MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY From previous pg

SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

Address: 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

Office hours: Varies

Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

email: summitchurchmontrose@gmail.com

website: www.summitchurchmontrose.org

Senior Pastor: John DeSario

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

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

Lord. Summit Church has people of all ages!

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

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

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

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

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE

Denomination Affiliation: Independent Baptist

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-12pm

Contact Information: Phone (970) 249-

6874; email at info@vbcmontrose.org;

website: vbcmontrose.org

Current Pastor: Roland Kassales

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

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

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

Church Directory

Mirror Editorial Staff

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

information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

Local Immunization Providers

Visit www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations for updated information on immunization providers.

Questions? Call (970) 252-5011



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Hidden Lake

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www.TheHiddenLakeCommunity.com



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

MCA TO FEATURE ARTIST CHERI ISGREEN IN SEPTEMBER



Montrose Center for Arts is thrilled to host Cheri Isgreen as the Featured Artist during September. Courtesy images.

Special to Art & Sol
MONTROSE-Montrose Center for Arts is thrilled to host Cheri Isgreen as our Featured Artist during September. Cheri, a signature member of the Colorado Watercolor Society, is known for her use of light,

and luscious color. Before becoming a professional artist, Cheri was an art educator. She taught the gamut of media, styles, and subjects, giving her the strong range she draws upon today when creating her watercolor and mixed media compositions. Upon retirement from teaching, Cheri changed focus to develop her personal vision in watercolor. Stir Gallery in Colorado Springs gave Cheri her first one woman show in 2012, pointing her on the path she

follows today. In 2013 she entered her first art competition, receiving two patron awards and People’s Choice. In 2014 Cheri embarked on a year-long traveling exhibition, “High Point,” a benefit art show raising over \$2K for nonprofits. Cheri feels strongly about “paying it forward.” Cheri’s show - The Virtue of Small Things - will open First Friday at 4:30pm on September 1 at Montrose Center for Arts. This solo show features paintings and sculpture in watercolor and mixed media. Visitors to MCA will find the ideal artwork for your niche spaces. Best sizes and prices for gifting. Montrose-Montrose Center for Arts is proud to announce that Cheri Isgreen will offer a workshop at MCA. One of her favorite subjects to paint is birds. Join Cheri, Saturday Sept. 16, from 10:30-12:30, as she guides you step-by-step to completing your own bird masterpiece! Details and sign-up may be found on MCA’s website [montrosecenterforarts.com] and on MCA’s Facebook page.

Our aim is true

the montrose mirror



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

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THE POWER OF THE PEN: HISTORY ALIVE CHAUTAUQUA

Special to Art & Sol

GRAND JUNCTION-The Museums of Western Colorado and Colorado Humanities invite you to join them for a two-day event that celebrates the power of the pen and the stories that shaped our world. This year's History Alive Chautauqua will feature actors portraying five renowned authors: Ernest Hemingway, Edgar Allan Poe, Mary Shelley, Nellie Bly, and Rachel Carson. Come learn about their lives and their contributions to literature, journalism, science, and social justice. All events are free and open to the public. History Alive events will take place September 8-9, 2023. See below for a complete schedule. Most presentations will be held at Love Recital Hall at CMU, 1221 N 12th St, Grand Junction, CO 81501.

This event is made possible through the generous support of Edward & Lois Gardner, Colorado Mesa University, the Grand Junction Arts Commission, and Sig and Bobbi Alpha. Don't miss this chance to experience the power of the pen and witness history come alive!

Friday, September 8, 2023

10am Edgar Allan Poe Presentation – Mesa County Public Library Central Branch

Noon Mary Shelley Presentation – Colorado Mesa University, Love Recital Hall

1pm Rachel Carson Presentation – Cross Orchards Historic Site

3pm Ernest Hemingway Presentation - Mesa County Public Library, Fruita Branch

Friday, September 8, 2023 Evening Performance – 6-9pm at Love Recital Hall, Moss Performing Arts Center, Colorado Mesa University

Young Chautauqua performances by Julia Stephen as Helen Hunt Jackson and Madalyn Dietrich as Amelia Earhart. Mary Shelley portrayed by Susan Marie Frontczak, and Edgar Allan Poe portrayed by Brian Fox-Ellis.

Saturday, September 9 in Room 128, Moss Performing Arts Center, Colorado Mesa University

9: Doors Open/Coffee

9:15 Lecture: "From Adversity to Advocacy: How Rachel Carson Overcame Hardships to Write Silent Spring" by Katie Knutson

10:15 Lecture "Hemingway's Fight for the Full Use of Language" by John Dennis Anderson

11:15 Young Chautauqua performance – Harper Without as Eliza Hamilton

11:30 Lecture: "Telling Classic Tales of Terror: Bringing Scary Stories to Life!" by Brian Fox-Ellis

12:30 lunch break

1:30 Young Chautauqua Performance – Oliver Cabot as John Rott

1:45 Lecture: "Censorship and Suppression in the Era of Frankenstein" by Susan Marie Frontczak

Saturday, September 9, 2023 Evening Performance – 6-9pm at Love Recital Hall, Moss Performing Arts Center, Colorado Mesa University

Nellie Bly portrayed by Kathy Applebee, Grand Valley History Players; Rachel Carson portrayed by Katie Knutson, and Ernest Hemingway portrayed by John Dennis Anderson.



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COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

JLTV NOW AVAILABLE ON SPECTRUM ON THE WESTERN SLOPE

Special to Art & Sol

COLORADO Jewish Life Television/JLTV, the nation's largest and most robust 24-7, English language, Jewish-themed television network, is pleased to announce that Spectrum has added JLTV to its channel line-up on the Western Slope of Colorado. Spectrum video customers on the Western Slope can now watch JLTV on Spectrum Channel 172 or 469.

While Spectrum currently offers JLTV in nineteen states, Spectrum is now making JLTV available throughout its national footprint, expanding distribution in fifteen states and introducing JLTV in twenty states. JLTV is launching throughout Spectrum's footprint in the State of Colorado during the month of August.

More cultural than religious, JLTV welcomes viewers of all faiths to enjoy its high-quality, thought-provoking programming. On the original programming side, JLTV proudly produces:

-*Air Land & Sea*: This award-winning, historically-driven global travel series uncovers the triumphs and tribulations of the Jewish people over the centuries, highlighting both secular and sacred sites.

-*Bubbies Know Best*: This multi-generational dating show features three Jewish grandmothers, who find the perfect dates for our Jewish and non-Jewish mates. The award-winning series has taken the nation by storm, with the Bubbies appearing on *Access Hollywood*, *Steve Harvey*, *TMZ* and more.

-*Generations*: Already creating buzz around the world before its Fall 2023 premiere, this series reveals sometimes heartwarming, sometimes heartbreaking stories of our celebrities' families through deep genealogical research and detailed DNA analysis.

As for acquired programming, among other fan favorites, JLTV proudly broadcasts:

-*Fauda*: *The New York Times* ranked this action-packed thriller from Israel the 8th best international series of the last decade.



Bubbies SJ Mendelson, Linda Rich, Bunny Gibson (left, center, right). Courtesy photo.

-*Prisoners of War*: *The New York Times* named this Israeli series, the inspiration for Showtime's *Homeland*, the #1 best international program of the 2010s.

-*Servant of the People*: This rip-roaring comedy from Ukraine stars current Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, named *Time Magazine's* 2022 Person of the Year.

At a time when the nation is experiencing unprecedented spikes in antisemitism, JLTV is a welcome antidote that entertains, educates, and informs its multi-faith audience about the Jewish cultural and religious experience in the United States, in Israel and around the World. JLTV's programming crosses across multiple genres - including children's, cooking, classics, comedy, drama, exercise, history, inspiration, lifestyle, news and talk, travel and so much more.

Brad Pomerance, JLTV's Executive Vice President, said: "We thank Spectrum for adding JLTV to its Channel Line-Up on the Western Slope. Spectrum is demonstrating its support for diverse voices by

providing their massive platform to amplify engaging, entertaining, and informative content by and about the Jewish community."

Renee Rockford, President/CEO of Jewish Colorado, said: "Expansion of JLTV into Colorado is important to making Jewish life and Jewish community accessible through multiple avenues to residents statewide. We applaud this effort by Spectrum and look forward to the open and honest sharing of information that makes our community a stronger and more inclusive place to live." For more details about JLTV's availability on Spectrum, please see the attached flyer, which is available for general distribution.

About Jewish Life Television:


Jewish Life Television/JLTV is the nation's premier 24-7 English language, Jewish-themed television network and is available in over 50 million homes through Charter/Spectrum, Comcast/Xfinity, Cox, DirecTV, and other video operators. To find JLTV's channel position in any community, sign onto www.jlvtv/channels.

Mosaic, 21 N. Cascade (downtown)



DIY Fall Wreath

5:30-7:30 pm. Thur. , Sept. 14



All materials
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with Kate Burke

Plus Cash bar open all evening for extra inspiration.

Demonstration & Instruction. Includes tools, grapevine wreath, and and lots of great materials. We can also weatherproof it for you.

Doubles Discount: \$5 OFF if you pre-register online for 2 persons, same ticket.

Register kathrynrburke.com/091423wreath



SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING-

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

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP For anyone who has lost a loved one. Join at any time. Meets every Tuesday from 6:30-8:30pm for 13 weeks beginning Aug. 1st. (Aug. 1 thru Oct. 24) at Rosemont Baptist Church 1598 E. Niagara Rd. Montrose, CO 81401

Register at: RosemontBaptist.org/events/griefshare or call at (970)249-4887

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

RIDGWAY FARMERS MARKET at Hartwell Park, May 26-Oct. 13-Fridays from 10am to 2pm. Please note that during the second week of August, the market will be held on Thursday, August 10th not Friday, August 11th due to the Ridgway Rendezvous.

RIDGWAY TRUE GRIT WALKING TOUR

Re-live the exciting days in 1968 when Ridgway was transformed into Fort Smith, Arkansas and John Wayne, Henry Hathaway, Robert Duval and Glen Campbell came for the filming of True Grit. A guide will escort you to downtown filming locations and share insights about Ridgway's film history and little-known facts and anecdotes about the Duke. The tour was recognized by True West as Readers Choice for Best Historic Town Tour. Meet at Ridgway's Hartwell Park gazebo. **FREE!** Details: 469.682.9710 (Donations are welcome.) **3 pm every Friday from June 2 to Sept 1; 11 am Monday, September 4, 2023; 12 pm and 2 pm Saturday, September 23, 2023**

SATURDAY: FREE TRAIN RIDES: Free rides every Saturday through mid-October, 9 am - 3 pm, at the Ridgway Railroad Museum, 200 N. Railroad St, Ridgway.

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

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

MONTROSE AREA WOODTURNERS second Saturdays 9 am. 17800 - 6400 Rd in Montrose. Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Information: Al Head 970-209-0981 or aheadaviation@outlook.com

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

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

THE HEALING COLLECTIVE OF WESTERN COLORADO welcomes local practitioners, who focus on healing the whole being. Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month and both are from Noon-1 pm, upstairs at the Mother Earth store on Main Street . We support one another with our practices, business, and personal needs. For more information please contact Erin Easton at ErinKEaston@gmail.com

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

MONTHLY

Aug 2- Sept 6-Mindful Communication-A six-week class teaching you how to use mindfulness to communicate effectively and peacefully so that we can all be heard even if we think differently. Wednesdays 7-8pm \$100/6 week class. Contact: 719-293-4600.newleafmindfulness.com/group-classes

Sept. 6-The Montrose County Historical Society presents Officer Jason Hewitt of the Montrose city police force sharing the history of Montrose as presented to new officers recruited and hired. Officer Hewitt shares, with pride, the history and development of Montrose in such a way, new officers recruited from other parts of areas are as well versed in the town's history, culture and growth. The program starts at 7 pm. Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023, in rooms 1 and 2 in Montrose County Events Center. Admission is free, the public is invited. Light refreshments may be available.

Sept. 9-The Community is Invited to attend a **Colorado Legislator Meet and Mingle** Saturday, Sept. 9, 1pm at the Montrose County Events Center - Meeting Rm #4, 1036 N. 7th Street, Montrose. Senators Perry Will- SD5, Cleave Simpson- SD6, HD58 Representative Marc Catlin. Each will give a legislative update and discuss their plans for 2024.

Sept. 16-17-The much-anticipated Tribute to Aviation, the signature event hosted by Montrose Regional Airport, is officially set for Sept. 16-17, 2023. This crowd-favorite event is back this year after a break for a major airport construction and remodel project at Montrose Regional Airport. Tribute to Aviation is one of the largest static displays in the western United States featuring both military and civilian aircraft. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Vendla Stockdale at vstockdale@montrosecounty.net or 970-964-2479.

Sept. 20-Montrose Adult Education Center is celebrating its 50th year of serving the Montrose community and beyond. We are having an open house Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 3 - 7 pm. We'd like anyone who has previously been a part of the program whether as student, staff, volunteer and/or supported us in any way to attend. The community is also invited. Our current location is in the basement of Zion Lutheran Church (701 S. Junction Avenue). Entry is from the back parking lot (off S. 7th Street).

Sept. 21-West Region Wildfire Council's next All Areas Meeting will be on Sept. 21 from 1-3 pm at the Uncompahgre Room, 2505 S Townsend Ave in Montrose (south end of the north / BLM building).



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