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# the Montrose Mirror

## CITY OF MONTROSE HELD WORK SESSION, REGULAR MEETING AND UNNOTICED 'EMERGENCY' MEETING LAST WEEK



Mayor Barbara Bynum, at right, took a parting shot at longtime city municipal court Judge Richard Brown at the regular council meeting on Tuesday, March 5. "I encourage you to stay and see how your local government works if you want us to do stuff..." Bynum said. Meeting screenshot.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council met for a special meeting at Noon on Monday, March 4, entering executive session for the annual evaluation of the City Manager and the Municipal Court Judge. Council convened again at 6pm on Tuesday, March 5 for a regular meeting.

Mayor Barbara Bynum called the regular meeting to order; all councilors were present, as well as Youth City Councilor Hunter Barton. All joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem J. David Reed requested one addition to the meeting agenda, an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the City Attorney concerning pending litigation.

### CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Olathe Farmer John Harold

**Continued pg 40**

## COMMISSIONERS APPROVE RESOLUTION REQUESTED BY CONSTITUENTS, DECLARE MONTROSE AS A NON-SANCTUARY COUNTY

By Caitlin Switzer  
MONTROSE-The Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 6. BOCC Chair Roger Rash called the meeting to order; Vice Chair Keith Caddy led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Sue Hansen was absent. Delivering the invocation was Pastor Jeremy Jensen of Crossroads Victory Church. Jensen said, "...Father we thank you Lord for our great land, we thank you for our nation, we thank you for our state, and we especially thank you for our county...and our area...I thank you for our leaders this morning, and I pray that you give them all wisdom to deal fairly and justly with all the issues at hand ...we pray that all actions that are done in this place would be done so with morality, and uprightness, and Lord with a cooperative spirit of unity...we



Retired 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and City of Montrose Municipal Judge Court Richard Brown, who said he spoke for several local veterans, addressed the BOCC on March 6. Brown expressed concern that VA funds have been diverted now by border security and ICE, to help pay for illegal aliens—and taken away from veterans. Meeting Screenshot.

**Continued pg 14**

# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Join us! Montrose Republican Women meet Friday, March 15 at Hampton Inn Montrose. Noon - 1:30p - Doors open at 11:30a - Brown bag lunch. Sandy Head, Executive Director of Montrose Economic Development Corporation, will give an update on issues, projects, and our economic outlook.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREWFEST AND PARADE

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-On Saturday, March 16, the Black Canyon Homebrewers Association & Horsefly Brewing are hosting a St. Patrick's Day Brewfest and Parade. Non-motorized Parade starts at 11:30 at Centennial Plaza in Montrose and ends at the festival site — Junction Avenue next to Horsefly Brewery. Parade participants will get \$5 off and early entry into the brewfest (12:30). Admission for the unlimited tasting brewfest will be \$35 beginning at 1pm and ending at 4pm. Non-drinkers and adults 18-20 will be admitted for \$20, accompanied children under 18 are admitted free. Music by Union of None and food options will be available for purchase.

For more information email [info@blackcanyonbrewers.com](mailto:info@blackcanyonbrewers.com).

# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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

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

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# RED HAWKS GIRLS GOLF TEAM OPENS AT PALISADE

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-Brooke Brennecke, the head coach of the Montrose Red Hawks girls' golf team, is very excited as the golf season gets underway.

The head coach is a homegrown talent having been raised here in Montrose, graduated from Montrose High School, earned an Applied Sciences degree from a business school in Denver, and returned to Montrose as the Red Hawks girls golf coach.

Brennecke suggested that the Red Hawks need to bond as a team and have each other's backs. In addition, she wants to take this team to the state tournament in May and she wants her team to have her top three players in the mix in every tournament. She also wants all of her players to relax and enjoy playing the game.

Brennecke then described each of her

players.

-Glada Amundson (Senior) team leader, makes sure all players are ready for tournament play, gives it her all each tournament, forgets poor shots, has great potential in the sport.

-Sydney Bell (Sophomore) good potential to become better, she is striking the ball very well this year; her score will improve this season.

-Autumn Cerise (Sophomore) our new player this year, never played before, is hitting the ball well and enjoying learning the game.

-Paola Cortez (Junior) also a first-year player, just picked up the clubs three weeks ago, great swing, and good improvement in a very short time.

-Hailey Geary (Junior) very driven, dedicated to the sport, hates bad shots but comes back each time, wants to be better

each time out. Injured last year but healthy today and looking forward to the season.

-Abigail Hines (Junior) has shown improvement over last year, hits the ball straight, understands her mistakes and corrects them while on course.

-Selah Mason (Senior) Loves the game and is willing to work hard to improve, retains information from the coaches and strives to improve each time out.

-Abigail Savcha (Sophomore) loves the sport, has a great attitude, works with the Club Pro at Black Canyon to improve, and wants to continue playing at the next level.

The Red Hawks will travel to Grand Junction on Monday, March 11 to take on the Palisade Bulldogs in a 9-hole, par 3 tournament as a tune-up for the season and league play which commences on April 1.



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## FLAG RALLY CONVOYS IN MONTROSE AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Editor:

Kudos to Pam and Ron Brown for their organizational skills regarding the Flag Rally Convoy. In regard to their mission statement and the quote "support of 2A, Our Troops, Our Veterans, Our Elected Officials, and the USA. Fly your flags". I love this statement and would like assurance that BIDEN and Gay Pride flags would be welcome to join this convoy as "there is an invitation for others to decorate their vehicles and join the Flag Rally Convoy."

Thank you,

Phoebe Benziger, Montrose



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# TRUMP, BIDEN WIN COLORADO PRIMARIES, CRUISE TO SUPER TUESDAY VICTORIES AS HALEY DROPS OUT OF THE RACE

By Gunnison Clamp

NATIONAL-The Super Tuesday Primary Elections on March 5th saw both the Republican and Democratic Parties hold elections in 15 states, Colorado among them. It was one of the first in an array of elections to be held in Montrose this year, among the others are the elections for City Council, County Commissioners, Congressional Primaries, and of course, the November General Election.

In Colorado, former President Donald Trump took the majority of the Republican Party's delegates, beating former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley by 30 percentage points. Incumbent Joe Biden handily took the Democratic Party's primary, earning about 84% of the vote. In second, with nearly 9% of the vote was a "noncommitted delegate" option, for voters who chose not to select any of the candidate options.

Following the elections, Nikki Haley suspended her Presidential campaign as the margin between herself and Trump became too large to overcome. The with-

drawal comes after losses across most of the board, including her home state of South Carolina. At her withdrawal in Charleston, she declined to endorse Trump.

The withdrawal of Haley effectively guarantees a rematch of the 2020 Presidential race, something not seen in nearly 70 years.

The last Presidential rematch occurred in 1956, when Incumbent Dwight D. Eisenhower beat Democrat Adlai Stephenson II by nearly 400 electoral votes.

This year, Montrose County Republicans voted for Trump over Haley 72% to 24%, about a 10-point higher margin than the Colorado totals of 63% to 33%. In the last Presidential Primary, Trump defeated hopeful Bill Weld 95.8% to 1.8% in Montrose County, and 92.2% to 3.7% across the state.

Participating Democrats in the County cast 87% of ballots for Biden, with the uncommitted option coming second with 5.7%. Minnesota Congressman Dean Phillips was a distant third at 2.7%. Biden lost

the 2020 Primary in both Colorado state and Montrose County to Bernie Sanders.

Trump and Biden won their Primaries everywhere that held a Super Tuesday election, save a few upsets.

Nikki Haley outdid Trump in the state of Vermont by about 3,000 votes, in an "open primary", in which voters could choose to vote for the party's ballot of their choosing, even if they are registered with the opposing party. She also took the District of Columbia, earning 19 delegates.

And in an odd turn of events, Maryland businessman Jason Palmer took the victory in the American Samoa's Democratic Caucus. A total 91 votes were cast in the territory's election, Palmer earned 51 to Biden's 40, taking home three delegates. The Presidential Election takes place on November 5th this year.

Neither candidate has reached the official party nomination threshold quite yet, and debates are yet to be determined, though former President Trump has said he will challenge Biden "Anytime, anywhere, anyplace."



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- Past Board Member CASA of the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

### More About Rick

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- Resident of Montrose County for 42 years.

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## **MONTROSE CITY MANAGER BILL BELL'S LUXURY RIDE(S): *How's that new GMC Yukon Denali doin ya?***

By David White

Our city, since shortly after the arrival of the current City Manager (Bill Bell) in 2011, has been on a path that is clearly socialistic in nature. He has convinced most members of the City Councils that have served us during these last 13 years to accept this type of government cloaked under varying names such as economic development, affordable housing, progressivism, industrial models of government investment in the private sector (i.e., Legal Plunder), etc.

He and these Councils have received accolades from their peers and other governmental entities for leading the City in these directions. Unfortunately, they are too caught up in their illusory world to recognize the struggles that most of us face daily when it comes to surviving in a community that cannot support its citizens with good paying jobs, housing and other necessities as they continue to believe that "investing" in minimum wage enterprises such as hotels and restaurants are somehow going to pull us through the tough economic times that will eventually hit our economy.

Nothing more than their elitist attitudes toward we, the citizens is more in your face than their ongoing catering to Mr. Bell and his proclivity to give away taxpayer monies to

such ventures as well as catering to his penchant for luxury vehicles and the finer things that this life has to offer.

By contract, Mr. Bell was originally given an auto allowance in his employment agreement to be used to offset his use of his personal vehicle for City business. He soon decided that he needed to have a vehicle provided to him by the City of Montrose for not only business but also personal use. His request was granted by the City Council several years ago.

All the vehicles the City has purchased for him, with City Council approval, have been large, luxury SUVs. A Chevy Tahoe was an early favorite and then came the Chevy Suburban's. 2022 brought with it a brand-new Ford Expedition XL Max (MSRP of \$80,000) loaded with every option. Toward the end of 2023 came the latest luxury ride in the form of a fully loaded beautiful sage green GMC Yukon XL with the top-of-the-line Denali package also with an MSRP of \$80,000. Apparently, the taxpayer bought and paid for 2022 Ford Expedition had left Mr. Bell stranded a couple of times and had other issues, so he asked the City Council to let him trade it in and they did. How nice.

If you see Mr. Bell's Yukon Denali (wearing a government license plate number DMH-218)

rolling into Montrose High School as he drops his child off many mornings on his way to his four day a week job or at the doctor's office or maybe pulling a trailer with a boat, camper or whatever toys he owns on his way out of town for a vacation, just remember that you're paying for the gas, the insurance and the depreciation on this year's ride.

With the City's penchant for giving away \$100,000++ commercial kitchens, paying for parking lots and landscaping at new developments where the owners can darn well afford to pay their own way, etc., maybe luxury SUVs are next up to "incentivize" investing in Montrose.

Wake up City Council. Wake up Mr. Bell. Show us what it's like to live like the rest of us in your socialist utopia in the making! But you won't. Like all good elitists, you're too good for us lowly working-class stiffs. What's next, a corporate jet? Wouldn't surprise me one iota.

*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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## COACH'S CORNER: BRIAN SCHWERDTFEGER, RED HAWKS TRACK/FIELD COACH

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-A cold wind was blowing from the southwest as the Montrose Red Hawks track and field team practiced for their first meet of the season in Delta next Saturday. Head coach Brian Schwerdtfeger commented "Next Saturday will be our first meet as we travel up to Delta. Delta is usually even more windy than here in Montrose so this will be a good test for the entire team."

Anticipation and excitement described the workout as Coach Schwerdtfeger expressed his feelings. "I am really excited for this season. We have a bunch of good, excited kids who want to work hard and that is by far the best first thing we have got to have is to want to work hard. Here today we are working out and attempting to get that first mark. Now they know what they have to do to get better. Our first meet is a week from now so they need to better today's first mark and begin to make themselves better."

The coach explained that the team has a number of new kids so this is exciting. "We also have a lot of good, varsity-

experienced kids and we just want to expand on what they did last year, which is super cool."

Last season the Red Hawks had a strong group of sprinters and a very talented group of runners who dominated the relay races. Schwerdtfeger explained, "We did lose a couple of senior sprinters from last year that gave us a lot. They are competing at college this year so we have some very big shoes to fill. We have kids that are ready to step up. These kids are working hard and some have even gone to indoor meets on their own and have been working really hard and I am looking for them to step in and fill those shoes."

Regarding the Red Hawk jumpers, Schwerdtfeger said, "We have a couple of state placers back on the boys side and the girls side and they are looking super strong in the early going. I am very excited to see what they can accomplish this season. To see where they are this early in the season makes the coaches excited because the sky is the limit."

The coach explained that the Red Hawks have a great throwing team, one of the

best throwing teams on the west slope if not the state.

"Our kids are working hard. We had the fortunate opportunity last year to take four of our discus throwers to the state meet out of the top 14, which is unheard of. Our kids are looking good on paper, so now they have to come out and perform on the pitch. It will be interesting to see how much improvement can be made toward the end of the season."

When asked about his distance runners or the lack of same from the previous year, Schwerdtfeger explained, "Last year we just didn't have a lot of distance kids so we ran the 1600 but none of the longer races. Cross country coach Anderson has worked hard and gotten a lot more of his kids to come out and run the longer distances for the track team this spring."

"The Delta track meet will be a good test for us. I just told the kids to find their individual marks and then work to better them each week, each time out. You are competing against yourself in the long run whether there are eight lanes filled or you are the only thrower, runner or jumper."

## RED HAWKS BASEBALL OFF TO 3-0 START

By Cliff Dodge

MONTROSE-The 2024 edition of the Montrose Red Hawks baseball team came charging out of the gate as they jumped on Severance High School 12-7 on a cold and windy Thursday afternoon. Tournament baseball returned to Montrose as the Red Hawks opened the young baseball season with a bang.

Eagle Valley was the next opponent and the Red Hawks bats continued to boom as they scored 13 runs in a six-inning game. The Red Hawks pushed across four runs in both the third and fourth innings to cement the victory. The Red Hawks had their hitting shoes on as they pounded out 25 base hits in their first two games.

The Demons of Glenwood Springs provided the opposition for the Red Hawks on Saturday afternoon. The home team pushed across a single run in the bottom of the first inning and the score stayed that way until the top of the fourth inning when the Demon's Jackson Gary stroked a long home run over the left field fence to tie the game at 1-1. Brekin Hutto led off the 5<sup>th</sup> inning with a sharp single. The next two Red Hawk batters laid down bunts for base hits moving Hutto to third who then scored the second Red Hawk run on a pass ball. Things got out of hand for the Demons in the sixth inning. The Red Hawks sent 11 batters to the plate and scored 7 runs on a combination of hits, errors and bases on balls. The Red Hawks Gage Wareham pitched a complete game scattering 5 hits over his 7 innings of work. Wareham also had three hits to lead the Red Hawks offense.

The Red Hawks now sport a 3-0 record and will travel to Roaring Fork on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> for their next action. The next home contest will be on Wednesday, March 14 when the Red Hawks host University High School with the first pitch scheduled for 3 p.m.



**Red Hawk Jackson Barnett prepares to hit away vs the Glenwood Springs Demons.**



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## WOLVERINE REINTRODUCTION BILL INTRODUCED THROUGH COLORADO LEGISLATURE

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER - Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and a bipartisan group of legislators joined together on Monday to announce legislation that would give the agency the authority to reintroduce the North American wolverine to Colorado.

Colorado wildlife officials considered the restoration of wolverine, along with Canada lynx, in the 1990s. However, due to complexities, the wolverine restoration plans were delayed in favor of lynx restoration. After lynx restoration was deemed a success, CPW returned to the idea in 2010 and completed a plan for reintroduction informed by partners and stakeholders, but that was halted because of uncertainty surrounding a federal listing decision.

Because the wolverine has been listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act, [SB24-171](#) states that reintroduction of wolverines would not begin until a final rule designating the North American wolverine in Colorado as a non-essential experimental population (known as a 10(j) rule), had taken effect.

“Colorado is the right state to take on this work,” said CPW Director Jeff Davis. “The North American wolverine requires a high-elevation habitat with persistent, deep snowpack, and Colorado has some of the best remaining unoccupied wolverine habitat in the lower 48 states. This legislation would put us on the right path toward a successful wolverine reintroduction effort in Colorado.”

“Wolverines are one of the last native species missing from our state,” said House Sponsor Representative Barbara McLachlan. “The time is right to enhance Colorado’s wildlife diversity with a threatened species. We will be a better state for it.”

“Colorado has great unoccupied wolverine habitat, and we have the opportunity to conserve a species that has been missing from our state in addition to supporting the species by increasing their population capacity across the Western U.S.,” said Senator Perry Will.

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# COMMISSIONERS DECLARE MONTROSE AS A NON-SANCTUARY COUNTY *From pg 1*

lay these agenda items at your feet and we ask God that you give them wisdom..."

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Constituent Brian White stepped forward to speak but was told that there was a place on the agenda for the item he was to address. No other speakers stepped up to speak on non-agenda items.

**COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Jon Waschbusch had no changes to the meeting agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioners voted to approve Consent Agenda items, with Resolution No. 15-2024 assigned to Consent Agenda Item 5; Resolution No. 16-2024 assigned to Consent Agenda Item 17; and Resolution 17-2024 assigned to Consent Agenda Item 19.

**MONTROSE COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY**

Commissioners left regular session to convene as the local liquor licensing authority and voted to approve the renewal of the Fermented Malt Beverage and Wine (Off Premises) License for Newberry's Store & Rock Shop, 82119 E. US Highway 50, Cimarron, Colorado, license #04-01094 based on findings.

All appropriate documents, reviews, and fees have been submitted pursuant to CRS 44-3-302. No concerns were reported by the Sheriff's Office or the Planning Department.

**GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

Commissioners considered adoption of Resolution No. 18-2024, declaring Montrose County as a Non-Sanctuary County and "setting priorities and expectations in response to immigration influx." Citizen

Brian White, who originally requested the resolution, read it into the public record. Commissioners voted to approve Resolution No. 18-2024.

BOCC Chair Roger Rash said, "We're going to take care of our citizens first and foremost. And it's about time that government does that, because our border is a sieve, and those people are just flooding across it with the help of our own government, and I find that just absolutely despicable. We're not taking care of our veterans, we not taking care of our own homeless people, and we're allowing this..."

Vice Chair Keith Caddy said, "There probably isn't a human in this room that doesn't have ancestry that immigrated to the United States in the proper way. And that's the bottom line, is legal immigration, going through the correct process to become a citizen of the United States. And I say citizen, because I believe in what it says on the Statue of Liberty, you know, bring us your massive hoards or whatever it is...the people breathing to be free. But do it legally, do it correctly. When our government has invited people here who shouldn't be invited here, I think it puts a burden on everybody in the United States, and it's not good."

Also addressing the board was Retired 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and City of Montrose Municipal Judge Court Richard Brown, who said he spoke for several local veterans, some of whom were in attendance.

"...I just want to commend you for taking this up...VA funds have been diverted now by border security and ICE, to help pay for illegal aliens—and taken away from veter-

ans...We presented a resolution to the city council last night...we just wanted you to know that you've got the support...of all of us, we'll certainly go to bat for you any time, because we can tell you're going to bat for us. And we hope we get the same consideration from the city...we're behind you, 100-percent, thank you so much..."

Rash asked the veterans in attendance to please stand and be recognized, and all joined in a round of applause for their service.

"You guys have defended this country 100-percent."

Caddy (a retired Montrose Police Officer) said, "This is pretty unique; Judge Brown's usually setting up here and I've been down there when you're talking to me. This is different."

"I'm a little nervous about that," Brown said.

Commissioners voted to approve of Resolution No. 18-2024 declaring Montrose County as a Non-Sanctuary County and setting priorities and expectations in response to immigration influx.

As the veterans in attendance filed out of the room, Caddy said, "You're always welcome here."

Commissioners voted to approve a proclamation for Red Cross Month, March 2024, as well as the Best Connections Answering Service service agreement providing after-hours phone coverage for the Montrose County Case Management Agency, effective March 1, 2024 at a monthly rate of \$30 plus \$1.95/minute, as approved by counsel.

With no further business, commissioners voted to adjourn.



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## OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

### LET'S KEEP OUR GOVERNANCE BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE: VOTE FOR LOU STARK

*Dear Editor,*

I have been blessed to live in Montrose for almost 50 years and in that time, I have seen the area change and evolve. It has been a pleasure to call Montrose my home. I have a concern regarding the upcoming County Commissioner Elections and our choices.

There have been allegations that Scott Mijaras has only very recently changed to the Republican party for the sole purpose of running for County Commissioner; although, when asked about this he denies it. Becoming a Republican is not my issue... the denial is problematic if this is true.

Honesty and openness are important. Please investigate your candidates. What concerns me hugely with Scott Mijaras and Scott Riba both running is: the talk; the suggestion; the possibility; the rumor of the two Scotts rigging the vote (voting together) and taking control of the County Budget. A dangerous and unacceptable move.

Moving forward, I believe that this would be devastating for Montrose County because I believe that transparency could cease; honesty could be a thing of the past. The discussion of issues and openness could end as could fairness, candor,

and integrity. If this happens my fear is that our voices will not be heard unless it aligns with theirs.

This will undo the success that Montrose County has had over the past decade. We don't need the "the-good-ol'-boy" mentality returning to our politics.

We need good, intelligent, honest people. Please, no bad politicians.

Lou Stark is kind, capable and qualified to step into this position. Let's keep our governance "By the People, For the People". Lou Stark has my endorsement.

Sincerely,  
*Chris Peak, Montrose*

### VOTERS SPOKE LOUD AND CLEAR EXERCISING THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE FOR DONALD TRUMP

*Editor:*

As citizens of the United States one of our most precious rights and responsibilities is the right to freely vote for our individual choice of candidates running for public office.

In an unprecedented move Jena Griswold, our Democrat Secretary of State, violated her oath of office by unilaterally attempting to disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of Colorado voters by declaring that Donald Trump was ineligible to be on the Colorado ballot absent any due process.

That attempt was affirmed by four Democrat appointed Colorado Supreme Court Justices, (Melissa Hart, Monica Marquez, William Hood, Richard Gabriel). Last week the US Supreme Court ruled in a 9-0 unanimous decision against that affirmation. On Super Tuesday 517,884 Colorado voters spoke loud and clear exercising their right to vote for Donald Trump, and also voicing their rejection of Jena Griswold and the four constitutionally challenged Colorado Supreme Court Justices.

The SCOTUS decision made it clear that Griswold and the four Colorado Justices

were nothing but Democrat political activists.

If by some remote possibility Griswold ever seeks further political office she should be soundly rebuked by Colorado voters. The SCOTUS decision also tainted all past and future decisions by these four Colorado justices. At some point in the future these four justices will be up for Judicial review by voters. When that time arrives voters can express their displeasure with these justices by voting DO NOT RETAIN.

*Dee Laird, Montrose*

### CULTIVATED MEAT IS ONE OF THE SOLUTIONS TO THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE

*To the editor,*

I was happy to read supportive comments made by Iceland's prime minister about cultivated meat. For those who aren't familiar with the term, cultivated meat is grown from livestock cells, without slaughter. It has the potential to dramatically reduce our greenhouse-gas emissions, pandemic risk and the suffering we inflict on animals.

"Cultivated meat is one of the solutions to the climate challenge," Katrín Jakobsdóttir said. "The Icelandic authorities are determined to pave the way for the adoption of new solutions in Iceland and we are eager to see the development of [a European Union] regulatory framework for cultivated meat."

Instead of attempting to ban this new protein, as some American politicians have, our leaders should help advance the technology behind it. For instance, cultivated meat is currently too expensive to mass produce. This can be rectified with increased public funding for cultivated-meat research, which legislators should support.

*Jon Hochschartner, Granby, Connecticut*





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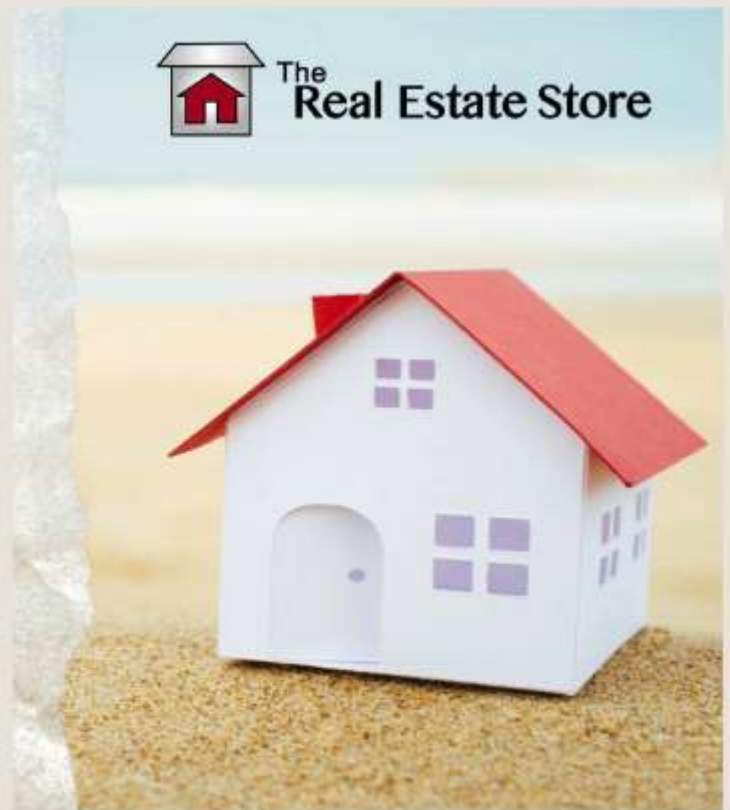
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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## I FIND SOME OF THE LANGUAGE USED IN THE RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE MONTROSE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO BE VILE

*Editor:*

Let me make myself clear. I am not supportive of sanctuary cities. With that, I find some of the language used in the resolution passed by the Montrose County Commissioners to be vile. The county's resolution says, "those that enter the country illegally can **pose a significant public health and safety risk to a community when there is an increase in crime, communicable disease**, and accelerating demand and unsustainability on public infrastructure such as services, public safety, schools, and the justice system." Sue Hansen said, "the resolution was but a gesture, and had no real impact or weight concerning any issues pertaining to immigration.

"She also went on to say, "Honestly, resolutions are pretty much symbolic." Sym-

bolic of what I ask? If resolutions are nothing more than symbolism why adopt them?

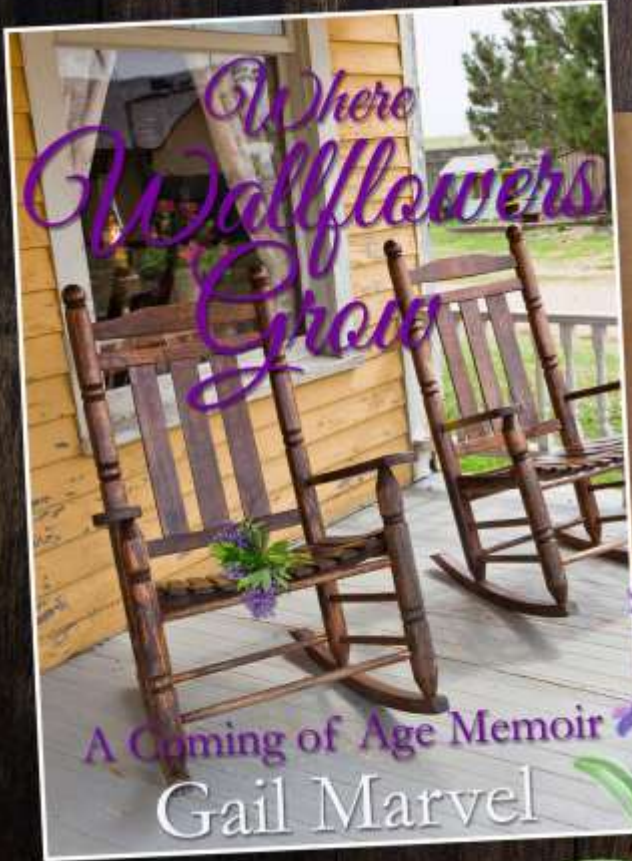
The next day, the Montrose City Council held an emergency meeting to adopt a similar resolution. Mayor Bynum was the only councilor who dissented. She said this is nothing more than political showmanship. I agree with her.

There is no doubt the killing of Laken Riley was a tragic event. The tragedy is highlighted because the **accused** is an illegal immigrant from Venezuela. The vile part of the County's resolution is it follows Trump's playbook. Trump will have you believe that these invaders are rapists, drug dealers and murderers. Some may be but not all are. Show me the numbers Mr. Rash; how much of the increase in crime can be attributed to illegal immigration?

Does the County Health Department have any data supporting your claim of an increase of communicable disease due to illegal immigration?" These unsupported assertions are nothing more than political feces.

If you believe social media, which many do, our country is under invasion. Invasion to me means we are being attacked by a foreign army. So, I ask, where are the tanks, the aircraft, the armada of war ships? We are not under invasion; just more political feces. I ask, what is with the timing of these local resolutions? Could it be we are in the middle of another election cycle?

We need to live beyond the political rhetoric used by both political parties if we are going to survive as a nation. God help us.  
*Dave Stockton, Montrose*




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

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## CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS NEW LOCATION FOR VETERANS' MEMORIAL, UPGRADES TO BLACK CANYON GOLF COURSE



Mayor Barbara Bynum opened the work session by explaining what a work session is. Meeting Screenshot.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-All councilors were present for the regular Montrose [City Council Work Session](#) of March 4.

As she has done previously, Mayor Barbara Bynum opened the work session by explaining what a work session is.

"Our work sessions are set up as a time for council to work with staff on issues that may be coming to us in the future; we don't take votes at work session and therefore we don't allow public comment, but we do have some guests who are going to join us for a number of items this morning, so when I say we don't take public comment that would exclude our guests talking to us about their particular issues. Okay, with that we'll go ahead and get started. We jump right in. The first item is our Montrose Veterans Memorial Plaza Property Evaluation."

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Works Director Jim Scheid presented all three of the work session discussion items, starting with the Montrose Veteran's Memorial Plaza Property Evaluation. The City had previously considered a location at Cerise Park in cooperation with the local veterans Coalition, but the site reportedly did not work out due to pre-existing GOCO restrictions.

"We had five different properties that we evaluated," Scheid said. He reviewed pos-

sible locations on Sunset Mesa, and several locations along Niagara Road near the community Garden. He also reviewed a site adjacent to the Pavilion and the Botanic Gardens, near the parking lot. Scheid displayed a matrix of the various sites, with positive and negative aspects. "There's slight issues with a lot of them..." The botanic garden site has many positives, including parking, accessibility, access to electricity, visibility, and compatibility with neighboring uses.

Rather than discuss the ways in which most of the sites were not compatible, "We could just talk about the botanical garden site," Scheid said, noting that the site meets the positive requirements of the project. "If there were not any other major concerns, I think this would be the site we could propose to move forward with."

The next step is project design, Scheid said.

Mayor Bynum commented on the "synergy" with the nearby Pavilion.

Councilor Dave Frank said that available parking is a positive, "I really like this site, I think it's a good one."

"I think this site provides us with a lot better security too," Councilor Doug Gaspell said.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will help define financial contributions, Scheid said. "We'll move forward with working on an MOA and bring that back for further consideration."

**Background-**A memo from Scheid to Council states, "At the work session on March 4th, 2024, we will be discussing City properties that have been evaluated by staff that could be utilized for a Veteran's Memorial Plaza in the future. There were five City owned properties evaluated. Several categories were considered in the evaluation like, acreage, parking available, electrical/water source, accessibility, fit with surrounding uses, and visibility. We would like to review and discuss the evaluation matrix of the properties with City Council to determine if the City Council would like for staff to continue forward with this project and create a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Veteran's Coalition and other interested supporters of the project."

Scheid presented information on the Pub-

lic Works Facility and Rio Grande Extension Design Award Recommendation. Council will be asked to authorize spending \$800,000 for the design and initial site cleaning for the Public Works Facility and Rio Grande Ave Extension. This will include a contract with Blythe Group for an initial amount not to exceed \$700,000.

City Engineer Scott Murphy was also present for the discussion. Murphy said that design of the Rio Grande Extension should be complete in 2024. There would likely be a roundabout at Oak Grove intersection, and Ogden Road will likely be a roundabout with a stub for future expansion up and over the Hogback, "Obviously that's not in any current scope."

Murphy said, "...We want to get it designed the whole way...a really big priority of the project is to make the public works facility a great transition (from) being what is kind of an industrial area into a more commercial and residential areas that are being further eyed further to the south, to make this really inviting, make it integrate well with the trail, parks amenities, things of that sort we plan to develop kind of concurrent in the whole area..."

**Background-**A memo from Scheid to Council states, "In November of 2023, the City entered into an agreement to purchase property near the intersection of Rio Grande Ave and Oak Grove Rd for the purpose of construction of a Public Works Facility and to secure the last piece of right of way needed for the eventual extension of Rio Grande Ave. The closing on this property is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2024... The design and site clearing for this project has been included in the 2024 budget. The 2024 Capital Fund Budget includes \$550,000 in 465-6050-962-000 and \$250,000 in 460-6515-962-000 for a total of \$800,000. for this combined project. The not to exceed amount for design in 2024 of \$700,000 plus the amount of \$100,000 for site cleaning and preparation comes to the budgeted amount of \$800,000 in 2024. The remaining design and site preparation will be proposed in the 2025 City budget."

Also up for discussion was the 2024 Black Canyon Golf Course Renovation Award Recommendation. Council will consider authorizing

**Continued next pg**

# CITY LOOKS AT UPGRADES TO BLACK CANYON GOLF COURSE *From previous pg*

authorizing the expenditure of 257,345.45 for a renovation and upgrade at the Black Canyon Golf Course (BCGC) including a contract award to Stryker and Company Inc. in the amount of \$214,772.72.

Council spent time in discussion. The next big project at the Golf Course will be irrigation replacement, City Manager Bill Bell said, "And that's a multi-million-dollar project...as well as the irrigation replacement in the entire park system...it's going to be significant."

The intent is to use this year's budget and complete the renovation project in 2024, Scheid said.

**Background**-A memo from Scheid to Council states, "The purpose of this project is to replace the aging roof and HVAC mechanical system at the Black Canyon Golf Course pro-shop and restaurant facility. The roof condition has caused some

deterioration of the wooden structure beneath which is requiring repairs and the HVAC system will also require additional structural members to be added in the roof framing.

The roof shingles and any worn decking will be replaced with similar materials. The HVAC mechanical system has been completely redesigned to heat and cool the building as well as provide improved make-up air needed for the kitchen exhaust hood more adequately. This project also includes an electrical service upgrade to accommodate the growing electrical needs of the restaurant.

The City of Montrose issued an RFP for this project in December of 2023 and received one proposal from Stryker and Company. The bid price is within the range that was expected for the project and the city has a positive work history with

Stryker and Company."

### GENERAL CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mayor Pro Tem J. David Reed wished Mayor Barbara Bynum a happy birthday, Reed also thanked city staff for clearing roads after the sudden spring snow storm. Crews were out by 5am the day of the storm despite a lack of storm predictions. "It was a lot of snow to handle, a lot of wet snow...," Public Works Director Jim Scheid said.

Councilor Doug Glaspell said he has heard positive comments concerning snow removal other than that in his own driveway.

Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler presented Bynum with a piece of carrot cake as it was Bynum's birthday and offered everyone else chocolate cake. "I think we should all sing to you," Morgenthaler said.

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**Birdwatching:**

**Fruitgrowers Reservoir**



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## EASTER WEEK EVENTS AT MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The following events will be taking place at the Montrose United Methodist Church at 19 S. Park Ave.

Thursday, March 28th 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29th 7 p.m. Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31st 8:30 a.m. Easter Service

9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

11 a.m. Easter Service

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## FROM WHERE I SIT: “IS ENOUGH, ENOUGH? SATURDAY MARCH 9, 2024 MDP ARTICLE, “A FAMILY DIVIDED”

*Editor:*

Is the local GOP having a few problems? As always what we know is important BUT what we don't know is far more enlightening! My research has shown that the local GOP is NOT DIVIDED. Not even close. Division would indicate that a split of at least 30/70 in the Montrose Central Committee vote as well as a similar split in those who attend the meetings. Such a split is not evident in the least.

Further my research has revealed just the opposite. Our Central Committee, by all the rules for its governance, is not divided. What seems to be in place is that an unwelcome guest has entered the house of the Montrose GOP and by a loud disruptive voice and the same from a couple of supporters, have created an illusion.

Should Mr. Dunlap believe he is being treated unfairly then it is long past time that Mr. Dunlap go before the Central Committee and explain to that governing body precisely what he thinks is unfair AND back that accusation (those accusations) with fact, not innuendo or simply his thoughts. Statements that a fair pre-election process is not being conducted or that it is not in accordance with the Central Committee's rules is simply promoting rumors and add nothing of value to the process. Furthermore specifics as to how such actions or inactions of the GOP Central Committee untruthfully harm his candidacy need to be addressed. Innuendos or good ole boy 'golly geees' are of no use.

Mr. Langston was certainly referred to in the MDP article with concerns. One wonders how, without specifics, any solution to his comments might be had. Perhaps it is time for the Montrose County GOP Executive Committee to go into session and review the events of the recent Caucus. I suggest that they have a lawyer and the state GOP Chairman present.

*Bill Bennett, Montrose*






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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## TROOPER TIPS - MARCH 2024-HELP US HELP YOU

By Sergeant Patrick Rice

COLORADO-Last year, I was assigned to one of the nation's busiest and most dangerous stretches of Interstate 70. I-70 meticulously winds through the Colorado Rockies as it traverses the nation. In many locations across the country, when trouble falls upon President Eisenhower's Interstate system, the detour is a minor inconvenience at best. Back up a couple of miles, take an exit, find a surface street, and hop back on. No problem, right? Somebody in the car probably needed a potty break anyway. But when I-70 between Grand Junction and Denver goes down, you're looking at massive delays, hours or even days long. Passenger cars might be able to sneak around on Highway 40 through northern Colorado, or if you're aware of the closure soon enough maybe you can take Highway 50 to the south. Commercial vehicles often have to detour to Wyoming or New Mexico to continue their trips. When this happens, most of them park and wait out whatever the trouble may be. You can imagine the lost revenue to businesses nationwide when trucks are parked for days on end. That figure is in the millions within hours of the interstate closing. You can rest assured the troopers in this area understand the importance of having this American artery moving cars at the nation's pulse, not just for the trucking industry but for all of you heading to grandparents' birthday parties and cousins' weddings that will never happen again.

Crashes close the mountain passes more than anything else. Proactive traffic enforcement and trooper visibility help keep those crashes down. When crashes occur, we utilize variable message boards, Facebook, X, Twitter, and the CDOT app to inform the public of the latest information. We work tirelessly to clear crashes from the road as fast as we can to get you moving again. Sometimes, we have trouble getting resources to the crash because of

backed-up traffic. You may hear of a westbound crash and wonder why eastbound is closed. It's likely because we must bring tow trucks to the scene using eastbound lanes and against traffic flow to clear the road as fast as possible. We are trained and seasoned professionals at removing crash scenes safely and quickly. I know sometimes from the driver's seat of your family car with limited information, it may feel different, but I assure you we want the road open too.

Help us keep the road open in the first place, and help us if it closes. When you see us on the side of the road doing that pesky proactive traffic enforcement, please slow down and move over for us. If you have never stood on the shoulder of an interstate before, you have no idea how terrifying it can be. We place an enormous amount of trust in the motoring public every time we get out of the car, and nearly all of us can testify it is impossible to jump out of the way of a vehicle when it drifts onto the shoulder at interstate speeds.

Every member of the state patrol knows of fallen comrades because drivers failed to slow down and move over. Should one of us or our patrol cars be struck, I assure you the road will be closed for an extended period. In addition, if we contact you for not moving over and slowing down, you will face a trooper explaining a \$170 ticket and how it aligns with an agency-wide zero-tolerance policy.

If the road is closed and you're stuck in line, check the CDOT app for updates and stay in your lane. When impatient motorists turn the right shoulder into a third lane, we can't get resources to the crash, and now everyone waits even longer. Here's a trooper tip you can live with: Watch your mirrors while you wait. When you see emergency services coming behind you, determine which way they want to go. In the mountains bridges can restrict the right shoulder; sometimes, the



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

best thing for us to do is "part the seas." You will see us straddling a center line and hoping drivers in both lanes move to their respective shoulders.

This strategy can provide the widest gap for first responders and get everyone moving again. Finally, please don't be that guy that jumps ahead after we part the seas. More emergency vehicles will likely be coming, and now you're in the way, and everyone around you is in disbelief that this is your first time sitting in traffic behind a crash.

*Trooper Tips is a monthly article written by a Colorado State Trooper and offered to news outlets for print.*

*Due to recent staffing changes Trooper Tips has been less consistent in recent months but will now be authored by Sgt Patrick Rice and sent in the first calendar week of each month. Thank you for taking the time to read Trooper Tips and offer it to your audience. Our goal is to bring the community and law enforcement closer together, improving the lives of Coloradans and visitors, as well as making our jobs a little safer.*

# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## CSP ENFORCES EXCESSIVE SPEED

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO- It's not that that troopers are fun wreckers or that we want you to take longer to get where you're going. It's all about saving lives, and troopers understand better than most that speed makes stopping more dangerous. In 2023 the Colorado State Patrol investigated 4,476 crashes where speed was the leading factor. Fifteen percent of those crashes involved an injury or fatality because when you combine speed with an uncontrolled and immediate reduction in velocity, bad things occur. Inside every crash involving excessive speed is multiple additional crashes. Your heart and lungs slam into your ribs. If you're not wearing a seatbelt, your head stops upon contact with the windshield. That bunt cake from last Christmas in the backseat becomes a missile through the car as you careen into the weeds and thickets off the shoulder before the vehicle finally stops moving entirely.

Bent bumpers and wrinkled paint are not the only victims of excessive speed and sudden stops. Seatbelts, airbags and crumple zone technology on cars are designed to make up for our lack of good discretion when it comes to speed and sudden stops, but they can only do so much. They cannot slow every impact that occurs inside your car.

At 40 MPH an average driver responds to a hazard and brings their vehicle to a stop in 139 feet. At 50 MPH it takes 198 feet and at 60 MPH you will travel 268 feet before stopping. As speeds continue to climb this stopping distance will also continue to increase. You will cover 439 feet before reacting to a hazard and stopping your car at 80 MPH, nearly 1 1/2 football fields. These stopping distance equations use numbers that represent an average response time. If there are factors that influence that reaction time, we can grow the stopping distance exponentially. This is why managing your speed, following distance and distractions are all so important when driving.

The Colorado State Patrol is asking that drivers think beyond the fines, points and increased insurance premiums associated with a speeding ticket, and consider the hazards that will forever change their lives when driving. Build in time to stop on your own accord by slowing down, providing adequate following distances and avoiding distractions.



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## AMERICA'S JUSTICE SYSTEM IS NOW A HAMMER WITH WHICH TO NAIL ENEMIES OF ONE POLITICAL PARTY

*Editor:*

I read a letter in the GJ Sentinel from the president of the American Association of University Women encouraging readers to celebrate International Women's Day, which was March 8th. The writer had some good comments about "ensuring women's and girl's rights" and "doing what you can to support and advance women." Interestingly, there was no mention of the biggest threat to women's rights today --- the domination of women's sports and the invasion of their locker rooms by mediocre male athletes identifying as women. Women's rights groups across this nation have shown their true colors and how little they value women by totally ignoring this critical issue. They will go through the motions of advocating for women's rights if and only if a more woke "victim" group's feelings doesn't come into play. Then you're on your own girl. Since I know nothing about AAUW, I will not try to lump them in with other women's rights groups, but I find the omission concerning.

The nation had the pleasure of hearing Biden's first campaign speech this week. It was referred to as a SOTU speech, but those speeches are supposed to tell Congress and the American people how we're doing in terms of the economy, national security, etc. Biden attacked his election opponent, Republicans, the Supreme Court, and more than half the country --- and then called for non-partisanship and civility. In addition, from foreign policy to the economy, there was almost no subject in which the president didn't blatantly lie to the American people. Here are a few of his lies, out of a list of more than thirty.

Biden "accidentally" confused jobs recovered after Covid lockdowns with actual new jobs created, claiming his administration "created 15 million new jobs". He contended he "fixed student loan programs to reduce the burden of student debt for nearly 14 million Americans." False. He illegally transferred the responsibility for paying back those loans to individuals who never attended college or had already paid off their loans. In spite of the fact the national debt has increased by more than 6 trillion since he took office, Biden bragged about cutting the national deficit by over one trillion. He falsely claimed Trump's tax cuts "overwhelmingly benefited the very wealthy." Data produced by the IRS has verified that "on average all income brackets benefited substantially from the Republican tax reform law, with the biggest beneficiaries being working and middle-income filers, not the top 1 percent." Referencing his "Inflation Reduction Act", Biden claimed "nobody earning less than \$400,000 will pay an additional penny in federal taxes."

In fact, that act not only does nothing to bring the economy out of stagnation, but will raise billions of dollars in taxes on Americans making

less than \$400,000. Biden claimed there are 1,000 billionaires in the US with an average tax rate of 5%. There are only 735 and the left's favorite "fact-checker" PolitiFact rated Biden's claim false.

The richest pay a tax rate of more than 20%. He blatantly lied that the Senate border bill contained "the toughest set of border security reforms" and would "bring order to the border." The bill would have only exasperated the ongoing border invasion and given political cover for Democrats. Using figures provided by Hamas, Biden repeated Hamas' obvious propaganda by saying "most" of the people killed in Gaza "are not Hamas." Biden claimed he personally brought the cost of insulin down to \$400 per month for seniors. The truth is Trump had already lowered insulin prices via executive order. On his first day in office, Biden reversed that order, causing prices to shoot up. Then, he signed his own order, for which he now takes credit. I could continue --- lies about Trump's NATO comments, January 6th demonstrators, inflation, Big Pharma, Corporate taxes, election laws, Trump's comments on the Iowa school shooting, the second amendment, Biden's "teaching career", etc. He of course didn't mention his disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal. That had to be brought up by an aggrieved Gold Star dad, who heckled Biden during his speech and was subsequently hauled off in handcuffs.

Having just paid my property tax bill, I am reminded that our Democrat governor and legislature are no different from Washington Democrats. My bill increased 60% from the prior year complements of Bidenomics and Polis' unwillingness to do anything about skyrocketing property taxes. First Polis lied about a great "property tax reduction" bill that would have in fact eliminated Colorado taxpayer TABOR refunds and done nothing to reduce property taxes. When voters shot that down, Polis and company passed another bill without the TABOR subterfuge that also did almost nothing to reduce our property taxes. In the last couple of weeks, Colorado Senate Democrats killed a Republican sponsored bill that would have actually put a cap on skyrocketing Colorado property taxes. Though Colorado Democrats are completely numb to the financial pain felt by homeowners and small business owners and have no remorse about doing nothing about it, they will still lie, posture, and project to give the illusion they actually care about anything other than their tax and spend policies.

Those are the same Colorado Democrats that tried to keep Trump off the ballot. While most Americans are just trying to live their lives and struggling with property taxes, inflation, unaffordable rent/mortgages, and watching the border turn to chaos, the left spends their day obsessed with Trump. Because they know that

Trump's prosecution/persecution is key to Biden's reelection hopes, the left fantasizes about destroying one of the few politicians who actually does anything for working class Americans. Fortunately, the Supreme Court slapped Colorado down in a 9-0 ruling. The clear message is: 1) states don't get to remove presidential candidates for obviously partisan reasons, and 2) you don't accuse someone with a crime that he has not, and never will be, charged with or convicted of.

It is pathetic to see the lengths supposed "journalists" go to in order to protect the corrupt Biden, all the while targeting Trump for eight years with endless lies and false investigations. Read the several recent columns by Colorado Newline editor Quentin Young on the opinion pages of the MDP. Not so suddenly, the Supreme Court can now only be legitimate if it rules in favor of the left. And our democracy is "endangered." I say not so suddenly because the self-styled guardians of "democracy" have spent years delegitimizing conservative members of the court with repeated smears and ginned-up non-controversies. Our democracy is now "threatened" because the duly elected president nominated justices, and then the duly elected Senate confirmed them --- as prescribed by the Constitution. Talk about projection. It's OK to call the Supreme Court corrupt, but questioning the actions or integrity of the political appointees in Biden's DOJ is to attack the very heart of democracy?

Here is what you won't read on the pages of either the GJ Sentinel or the Montrose Daily Press. There are clear differences between legitimate investigations and political witch hunts. When a politician uses government jets to fly his son around the world collecting millions from foreign adversaries because the son gives access to the politician, that is corruption that every journalist and justice official should legitimately pursue. When Trump gets convicted for fraud in New York when there are no losses or victims, and no one else would ever be charged, that is political. When numerous Democrats have repeatedly challenged election results without being charged with insurrection or for trying to overturn an election, but Trump is, that is political.

When Biden and Hillary, who have no legal authority to take classified documents, are not charged with crimes but Trump is, even though Trump had the authority to declassify those documents, that is political.

America's justice system is now a hammer with which to nail enemies of one political party. That system is taking normal, everyday activities in which millions of Americans regularly engage and turning them into crimes. It is hard to see that as anything other than a true threat to democracy.

*Ed Henrie, Montrose*

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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION TO MEET MARCH 13 - 14

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*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – At a hybrid meeting in Denver, the Parks and Wildlife Commission will open for final consideration on modifications to the federal duck stamp requirements and the Harvest Information Program, the season dates for small game and migratory game birds, and regulations related to SB23-276, Chatfield State Park Water Quality Fee.

The Commission will open for annual review on regulations to modify disqualification factors for participation in the Landowner Preference Program and implementing SB23-059, Local Access Funding to State Parks and Wildlife Areas.

The Commission will also discuss 2025-2029 Big Game Season Structure (BGSS) staff recommendations and receive public comment on BGSS.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wed., March 13 and recess at 4:50 p.m. The Commission will reconvene at 8:30 a.m. on Thur., March 14 and adjourn at 4:55 p.m. The meeting will be streamed live on CPW's YouTube page.

Additional agenda items include:

Department of Natural Resources Update

Department of Agriculture Update

Financial Update

Wolves Update

GOCO Update

2024 Non-Motorized Trail and Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Funding Recommendations

Colorado Lottery Overview

Staunton State Park Update

CPW's Social Science (Human Dimensions) Research Program

Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative Update

Update on Implementation of HB 23-1036 (Nontoxic Bullet Replacement Hunting Program)

Draw Process Workshop

A complete agenda along with all materials for this meeting can be found on the CPW website for public review. The public is encouraged to email written comments to the commission at

dnr\_cpwcommission@state.co.us. Details on providing public comments for hybrid meetings are available on the CPW website.

The Commission meets regularly and travels to communities around the state to facilitate public participation. Anyone can listen to commission meetings through the CPW website. This opportunity keeps constituents informed about the development of regulations and how the commission works with Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff to manage the parks, wildlife and outdoor recreation programs administered by the agency. Find out more about the commission on the CPW website.



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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO TAXATION DIVISION RELEASES TIPS TO HELP TAXPAYERS PREVENT FRAUD

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO-Prevent fraud this tax filing season with advice from the Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR), Taxation Division.

The Division offers the following tips to help ease taxpayers' minds as they prepare to file state income tax returns. The top security tips are:

**Carefully choose a tax preparer.**

**Be prepared for paper checks.** Colorado income tax refunds that are requested to be direct deposit may be converted to paper checks instead to combat fraud.

**CDOR may mail correspondence to verify Taxpayer Identity.**

**CDOR may delay refunds in efforts to detect and prevent refund fraud.**

**Be aware of tax scam alerts via phone call, text messaging or email.**

**Prevent personal identity theft.**

**Use Revenue Online.** File returns and communicate to DOR using the state's free tax filing web service. Revenue online is a great, legitimate resource when it comes to communicating with DOR.

Coloradans who believe their tax identification number has been stolen and some-

one has filed a Colorado tax return under their Social Security Number (SSN), should first report the suspected identity theft to local law enforcement and then the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The CBI is available 24 hours per day via their Identity Theft & Fraud Hotline at (855) 443-3489.

The Taxation Division wants to prepare Coloradans with the necessary information to prevent tax fraud this tax filing season and encourages taxpayers to follow the IRS guidelines in order to ensure a refund is filed correctly.

Call the Taxpayer Helpline at (303) 205-8262 for additional assistance Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For more information please visit our website at the [Tax Fraud Prevention](#) web page.



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## **CITY OF MONTROSE WORK SESSION, REGULAR MEETING AND UNNOTICED 'EMERGENCY' MEETING From pg 1**

thanked council and staff, including Deputy City Manager Ann Morgenthaler and Community Development staffer Chris Ottinger, for upgrades to the Brown Center, which houses the Lighthouse Homeless Shelter and migrant agricultural workers.

"The city did a nice job, an excellent job," Harold said. "From Lighthouse...and from the migrants, I thank you."

Also addressing Council was retired attorney Ken Hodson. "What I'm here to talk about are the baleful effects of illegal immigration, on towns such as Montrose," Hodson said. He offered his hometown of Auburn, Washington, and Oxnard, California, where he had visited family for 40 years, as cautionary examples. "At the beginning of my familiarity with these two towns, they were very much like Montrose is today, intact, law abiding, very appealing...unfortunately, both my hometown and Oxnard have been overrun by illegal immigration. That, and other unfortunate policies, have rendered them unsafe and unappealing. You would not want to live there.

Hodson said, "I had the benefit of seeing the State of the City presentation a few nights ago, and this morning I was at a DART meeting. And the optimism and energy and plans, which is wonderful to see. I can tell you from personal experience that if this town, this relatively little town, ever becomes a magnet for illegal immigration you can kiss all of that goodbye...you won't be spending the money the way you think you want to spend it, you won't be planning the projects that you think you want to plan. That will all go away."

A city has to stay in its lane, Hodson said. "A city is not a charity; a city is not a church. I know of no charter provision I ever read that authorizes expending scarce city resources on illegal immigrants at the adverse affect on lawful city residents. They are your sole concern. You are to be commended for having such a wonderful town; let's hope you can keep it that way."

Next to speak was retired Judge Richard Brown, who most recently worked as Municipal Court Judge for the City of Montrose, "Coincidentally this is our topic as

well, I don't know this gentleman but just coincidentally we're talking about the same thing," Brown said. "...there's a lot of veterans here. You can see 'em on the back row...we've had meetings at the Wounded Warrior Center...that's been a hot topic for a long time. The reason is because we have found out, unbeknownst to us, since last July the federal government has been taking funds away from the V.A., from the veterans, and spending it on services for illegal aliens...the bottom line is we actually feel like we've been sucker punched in the gut by this, by the very government we all served.

"...This whole business of illegal immigration is almost a senseless topic...we should be talking about lawful immigration; there shouldn't even be such a thing as illegal immigration," Brown said, "Over the last three years there's been upwards of 10 million illegal immigrants come into the country. Well, you do the math and see what's gonna happen with that...the impacts are tremendous--on crime, on schools, housing, medical resources, the air we breathe, water, everything...there's upwards sometimes of 30,000 people a day coming across the border, bigger than the city of Montrose. Just think what it takes to house those people, to take care of 'em...we would like you to put this on the agenda to pass a resolution...put this on the agenda, bring it up for a vote of the council...I just took it upon myself to draft a resolution for Montrose..."

Bynum cut in, "Thank you very much, we appreciate you leaving that with the City Clerk, thank you very much for your comments..."

Bynum then raised her voice as she said, "I encourage you to stay and see how your local government works if you want us to do stuff..."

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council votes unanimously to approve Consent Agenda items, including minutes of the February 20, 2024, special City Council meeting, and the February 20, 2024, regular City Council meeting as well as the rescheduling of the April 2, 2024, regular City Council meeting to Monday, April 1, 2024, at 6 p.m.

### **ORDINANCE 2660 - FIRST READING**

Council considered Ordinance 2660 on

First Reading, designating the E.J.

Mathews Mercantile/Calloway Bros. building, with the historic address of 346 East Main Street, as a City of Montrose Historic Property

Pursuant to § 11-3 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose.

Bynum carefully explained the process as though teaching preschool, "...We do two readings for all ordinances.

"So ordinances is a fancy way to say a law, a new local law. And so tonight we'll see it for the first time as a vote, we'll take public comment, we'll vote on every ordinance a second time and we'll take public comment a second time, before we vote a second time, at our next meeting."

Planner II William Reis presented Ordinance 2660 and discussed the property as well as the process leading up to the proposed designation.

Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2660 on First Reading.

Said Mayor Bynum, "We sure look forward to seeing that gem restored and brought back to life for our Main Street."

**Background-A memo from Reis to Council** states, "On February 27, 2024, the City of Montrose Historic Preservation Commission considered an application for historic property designation of the E.J. Mathews Mercantile/Calloway Bros. building, located at 346 Main St., according to Section 11-3 of the Montrose Municipal Code. The commission voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council for approval as a historic property."

Extensive information on the building, which housed the former Daily Bread Bakery, is included in a [planning services memo](#) from Reis to the Historic Preservation Council on Feb. 27.

### **MOVING MONTROSE FORWARD SURFACE TREATMENT CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 2**

Council considered Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$1,289,120.09 to A-1 Chipseal's Moving Montrose Forward Surface Treatment Contract for completion of the 2024 surface treatment scope of work. "That's a really big number," Bynum said when introducing the item.

City Engineer Scott Murphy discussed the change order; council voted unanimously to approve.



# CITY OF MONTROSE WORK SESSION, REGULAR MEETING AND UNNOTICED 'EMERGENCY' MEETING

## From previous pg

The final action item was approval of \$245,413 in expenditures for construction of the Ogden Road Sidewalk Extension Project, including the award of a construction contract to Haynes Excavation in the amount of \$231,913.00 and a survey support contract to Del-Mont Consultants in the amount of \$13,500. Council voted unanimously to approve.

**Background-** A memo from Murphy to Council states, "In support of the Residences at Dry Cedar Creek affordable housing project currently being constructed immediately northeast of the Community Recreation Center, the City has partnered to construct a connecting pedestrian sidewalk along the southern side of Ogden Road between the Ogden/Woodgate Roundabout and the apartment complex. The project will include the relocation of some conflicting utilities, clearing of the area, construction of an embankment to support the sidewalk, and construction of the sidewalk itself."

### STAFF REPORTS

City Finance Director Shani Wittenberg presented the Sales, Use & Excise Tax Report remotely, as well as the Fourth Quarter Budget Review.

Youth City Councilor Hunter Barton gave

an update on Youth Council activities.

"Our big project right now is we're partnering with Sharing Ministries and we're doing a two-week food drive...we'll be starting this food drive on the 11<sup>th</sup> and going to the 25<sup>th</sup>, at these various locations we'll place one of the barrels with a sign on it..."

Confirmed locations are City Hall and the Visitor Center, Peer Kindness, and the Library, Barton said.

In other business, Youth City Council will participate in a legislative trip to Denver.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Doug Glaspell commended staff for the recent State of the City presentations.

"Overall, I think it was really well received and appreciated by our community,"

Mayor Bynum said.

Councilor Ed Ulibarri praised public works staff for doing a great job removing snow after the recent heavy storm.

Councilor J. David Reed moved to enter executive session for a conference with the city attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice/potential litigation. Council voted to enter executive session.

Present for the executive session were City Manager Bill Bell, Deputy City Manager

Ann Morgenthaler, City Attorney Chris Dowsey and Assistant City Attorney Matthew Magliaro, as well as Deputy Police Chief Tim Cox.

### MARCH 7 EMERGENCY SESSION

On Thursday, March 7, the Montrose City Council called for an "Emergency Session" at 2:45pm, for the purpose of discussing the migrant issue facing Colorado.

The meeting was not properly noticed, as reported in the *Montrose Daily Press*, which was apparently notified prior to the session, "...Frank clarified the meeting was not triggered by an actual emergency, and was only called an "emergency meeting" because it was called on short notice and therefore didn't meet proper public meeting notice requirements.," the Press article states.

According to the Press report by Kylea Henseler, Katharhynn Heidelberg, and Jeremy Morrison:

"The council voted 4-1 in an emergency meeting March 7 to go non-sanctuary... Mayor Barbara Bynum, the lone 'no' vote, called such a resolution "political showmanship."

No resolution or attachments for the "Emergency" meeting are included in the Emergency Meeting Packet.



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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## COLORADO STATE TROOPERS RECOMMEND DRIVING THE SPEED LIMIT

*Special to the Mirror*

COLORADO – Online experts claim that one of the biggest things you can do to change your luck is to keep things fresh and change your routine. With March coming in as the highest month for speeding citations issued by troopers in 2023, Colorado State Troopers are suggesting all drivers drive the posted limit to improve the safety of the community and the luck of anyone in your path.

Last year, Colorado State Troopers issued 46,624 speeding citations statewide, with March seeing the highest amount of citations (4,754), followed closely by April (4,566) and then May (4,373).

“An obsession with speed will eventually land you in hot water with fines, points on your license, possible court dates and more. And, these are the easier consequences of acting recklessly behind the wheel,” stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “When crashes happen and speed is involved, your chance of a serious injury increases dramatically. Last year, speed was the number one cause for injury crashes in Colorado.”

Citations were issued around the state, but the top five counties where speeding citations were issued by Colorado State Troopers in 2023 were:

- El Paso County (3,667)
- Jefferson County (2,890)
- Weld County (2,667)
- Mesa County (2,192)
- Eagle County (2,183)

To avoid speeding, plan your departure times based on anticipated traffic volume, construction zones and weather conditions. Don't be tempted to speed because others around you are engaging in risky behavior. Colorado State Troopers will be enforcing speeding laws for your safety and others around you.

For more information about the [this topic], please visit the [FAQ, website, article]. To learn more about the Colorado State Patrol follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



*Troopers continue to take a low-tolerance approach to the top fatal crash factors, including lane violations, impaired driving and speeding, while launching a yearlong campaign called “Drive Safe.” This campaign celebrates positive driving behaviors and encourages all of us to drive like a trooper is riding with you.*

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# COLORADO NEWS BRIEFS

## CBI RELEASES FINDINGS FROM INTERNAL AFFAIRS PROBE INTO LABORATORY TESTING

### Colorado Bureau of Investigation

LAKEWOOD-The Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has announced the findings of an internal affairs investigation into a former CBI DNA scientist accused of data manipulation of DNA test results.

A thorough internal investigation initiated in September 2023, has revealed that Yvonne "Missy" Woods manipulated data in the DNA testing process, posting incomplete test results in some cases. This discovery puts all of her work in question, and CBI is in the process of reviewing all her previous work for data manipulation to ensure the integrity of all CBI laboratory results.

CBI brought in third-party investigative resources to protect the integrity of the inquiry.

"Public trust in our institutions is critical to the fulfillment of our mission," said CBI Director Chris Schaefer. "Our actions in rectifying this unprecedented breach of trust will be thorough and transparent."

A separate criminal investigation initiated late last year in the Woods matter is still underway. CBI continues to cooperate with our law enforcement partners across the state.

In addition to these ongoing efforts, CBI is currently engaged in a comprehensive audit of all DNA analysts to ensure the accuracy and completeness of its entire catalog of records. The audit will ensure compliance with CBI's policies and procedures and laboratory integrity.

CBI will continue reviewing and instituting improvements to lab policies and testing protocols to prevent this type of manipulation from occurring in the future.

CBI Forensic Services has maintained regular communication with its accreditation body throughout this entire process. This

collaboration and transparency has ensured the actions have not affected the CBI's accreditation status.

In the course of our exhaustive audit and review process, CBI discovered indications that an analyst employed by the Weld County Sheriff's Office at the Northern Colorado Regional Forensic Laboratory may have also manipulated DNA testing data. CBI referred this case to the Weld County Sheriff's Office for further investigation. This case is separate from the Woods case.

Highlights and timelines from CBI's internal investigation can be found below.

### Internal Investigation of Yvonne "Missy" Woods Highlights

**The CBI Internal investigation, dated February 26, 2024, determined that Woods:** Omitted material facts in official criminal justice records

Tampered with DNA testing results by omitting some of those results

Violated CBI's Code of Conduct and CBI laboratory policies ranging from data retention to quality control measures

In September 2023, CBI became aware that DNA sample testing performed by Yvonne "Missy" Woods, a 29-year veteran of the CBI crime lab, may have deviated from standard operating procedures.

On October 3, 2023, Woods was placed on administrative leave, and an internal investigation was initiated by CBI Director Chris Schaefer. Woods performed no additional laboratory work and retired on November 6, 2023.

As part of the internal investigation, CBI collaborated with members of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to ensure independent evaluation of the scientific and technical issues involved.

From October 3, 2023 to present, CBI's

Quality Management team has been reviewing all of Woods' work. At this time, 652 cases have been identified as affected by Woods' data manipulation between 2008 and 2023. A review of Woods' work from 1994 to 2008 is also underway. CBI's DNA forensics team identified the following types of manipulation in Woods' work:

Deleted and altered data that concealed Woods' tampering with controls

Deleted data that concealed Woods' failure to troubleshoot issues within the testing process

Failed to provide thorough documentation in the case record related to certain tests performed

These manipulations appear to have been the result of intentional conduct on the part of Woods. The review did not find that Woods falsified DNA matches or otherwise fabricated DNA profiles. She instead deviated from standard testing protocols and cut corners, calling into question the reliability of the testing she conducted. According to CBI's policies and procedures, Woods should have conducted additional testing to ensure the reliability of her results in these affected cases. The CBI has a high degree of confidence in its analysts and laboratory integrity and the level of ongoing scrutiny is high.

Based on the results of this investigation, CBI is evaluating and implementing process and procedural changes that will enhance the integrity of its testing processes and their results. CBI will provide more information regarding these changes once this process is complete.

Because this is an active criminal investigation no further information can be provided at this time.

**The Mirror:  
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# REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## CANADA THISTLE IS NOXIOUS WEED OF THE MONTH

*Special to the Mirror*

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY --- San Miguel County's noxious Weed of the Month for March is the Canada thistle.

Cirsium arvense is a perennial also known as creeping thistle or field thistle. Given its classification as a noxious weed not only in the county, but the entire U.S., it may come as little surprise that some of its other names include lettuce from hell

thistle, cursed thistle and stinger-needles. Those who've had an inadvertent bare skin encounter with this prickly menace can confirm that it stings.

Like many of the county's noxious weeds, Canada thistle — while not pleasant to touch — is a pretty plant. It can grow rather tall with flowers ranging from white to purple. Look for its flowers June through August. It produces up to 5,000



Canada thistle. Courtesy photo.

seeds per plant with many of those seeds remaining viable for over 20 years. The seed heads on a Canada thistle are easily recognizable as fluffy, white tops. Along its stalk, alternating leaves are dark green on the top with a lighter underside. Seedlings are present in spring and fall.

Canada thistle's impacts on the environment are considerable. It's an aggressive perennial with an extensive root system that can spread up to 15 feet laterally. Because it reproduces by seed and rhizomes, cutting is not an effective way of controlling it. It is highly invasive and severely reduces pasture capacity and desirable forages.

San Miguel Vegetation Control & Management urges all county residents to manage any Canada thistle infestations with elimination in mind. It takes a community to eradicate Canada thistle and all invasive weed species.

For more information about noxious weeds, please contact Julie Kolb, Manager, Vegetation Control & Management at [julieksanmiguelcountyco.gov](http://julieksanmiguelcountyco.gov).

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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$60,000 IN IMPACT GRANTS TO LOCAL NON-PROFITS



*Special to Art & Sol*

MONTROSE-Montrose Community Foundation, in conjunction with the City of Montrose awarded a total of \$60,000 to local nonprofits through the Community Impact Grants program. A reception was held for the local nonprofits on Wednesday February 27, 2024.



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# OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

## ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS & THE CITY AND COUNTY OF MONTROSE “NON-SANCTUARY” RESOLUTIONS

### *Why bother saying anything at All if you don't mean it??*

By David White

At the regularly scheduled Montrose Board of County Commissioners meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, the BOCC passed (on a 2 out of 3 vote – 1 Commissioner was absent) a one page “NON-Sanctuary” County resolution that closes with the following statement:

**“THE MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, declares that Montrose County is NOT a sanctuary county and will not open shelters or provide services, other than emergency services, to illegal immigrants that may arrive in unincorporated Montrose County. Montrose County will continue to prioritize the needs of our local citizens.”**

The very next day, March 7th, in an “emergency meeting”, the City of Montrose City Council passed (on a 4-1 vote – Mayor Bynum opposed) a similar resolution to the County’s with wording apparently not too different from the County’s resolution. (As of this writing, a copy of the resolution has not yet been made available to the public.)

These resolutions have been coming for some time as local citizens grow increasingly concerned about the issue of illegal immigration affecting our nation and our cities, to include Montrose.

At the Montrose City Council meeting this last Tuesday, March 5th, retired Phoenix, AZ attorney and now Montrose resident, Ken Hodson, summed up what many of us are feeling about illegal immigration via his public comments. He stated that he grew up in Auburn, WA and spent 40 years visiting family in Oxnard, CA. Both were nice small towns like Montrose. Today, they are overrun with illegal immigrants. Both are unsafe and unappealing. You would not want to live there, he said. Neither can fight off the effects that have come from illegal immigration. Other comments he made are worth noting:

**“I can tell you from personal experience that if this town, this relatively little town, ever becomes a magnet for illegal immigration you can kiss it goodbye. You**

**won't be spending the money the way you think you want to spend it. You won't be planning the projects that you think you want to plan. That will all go away. How to avoid that? Well, by coursework early on, a city has to stay in its lane. A city is not a charity, and a city is not a church. I know of no Charter provision I ever read that authorizes expending scarce City resources on illegal immigrants at the adverse effect on lawful City residents. They are your sole concern. You're to be commended on having such a wonderful town. Let's hope we can keep it that way.”**

Next came retired Montrose District Court Judge & Municipal Judge Richard Brown. His comments were focused on the resources being taken away from veterans by the Veterans Administration under the current administration in Washington, DC whereby they are redirecting funds to be used to provide services to illegal immigrants. His comments, in part, were:

**“There's a lot of veterans here (tonight) you can see them on the back row (of Council Chambers). I've had meetings at the Wounded Warrior Center. Last Thursday there was probably three to four dozen up there at least and that's been a hot topic for a long time and the reason is because we have found out, unbeknown to us, that since last July the Federal Government has been taking funds away from the VA, from the veterans, and spending it on services for illegal aliens. We looked at each other in disbelief. We thought this can't be! Well, it is so. It's going on. We've had conflicting reports about whether or not it's going on locally as on the Western Slope. We hope not. We've been assured that it's not but we're not quite sure about that and so the end result is that to a veteran it was unanimous. Everybody wanted to do something. State something. Well, I happened to be there, so I was selected as the sort of voluntary, involuntary spokesman here. And so, the bottom line is we**

**actually feel like we've been sucker punched in the gut with this by the very government we all served.”**

To see all the remarks in more detail, visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yF\\_YSyT\\_8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yF_YSyT_8)

Despite these very valid concerns by local citizens and many, many more as well as the perception that our local officials are listening to us, the citizens, what was the first thing most of them did after passing these two resolutions? They **BACK PEDALED!** What the heck is going on here? Are we all too stupid to see through what's happening? Why, once again, is taxpayer money being wasted on staff and public relations spin if they don't mean what they say they mean? Here are some examples of public statements made in local publications about these resolutions: David Reed, Mayor Pro Tem of Montrose and candidate for reelection to the Montrose City Council, was quoted as saying to Ja'Ronn Alex, a reporter for KKCO, Channel 11 TV in Grand Junction in a televised interview on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> (<https://www.kkco11news.com/2024/03/09/montrose-is-non-sanctuary-city/>) that **“...the declaration will not have a massive impact on the lives of those in Montrose. ...this is really more symbolic in nature, it really has no legal standing or effect...”** **“...it does not provide any new, you know, arrows in our quiver to deal with the situation. But it's really a response to our citizens letting them know that we share their concerns.”**

In a Montrose Daily Press story dated Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, Councilor Dave Frank made the following statement:

**“Montrose has not ever been a sanctuary city, and we have no intention of being one,” said Dave Frank, adding a resolution has no practical effects and will not impact any services or funding the city already offers its residents and non-profits. “To a large degree this is just political theater, and I'm not really happy with it,” he said.**

Councilor Doug Glaspell, who made the

## **ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS & THE CITY AND COUNTY OF MONTROSE NON-SANCTUARY” RESOLUTIONS**

### **From previous pg**

motion to approve the resolution, said ***the city isn't doing anything to stop legal immigration, and said "what we're trying to do is step ahead of people being bussed here."***

Mayor Barbara Bynum (Democratic candidate for State Senate District 5), the lone City 'no' vote on the non-sanctuary City resolution, called it ***"political showmanship."***

Montrose County Commissioner Sue Hansen said in a separate MDP article on March 6th that ***"Montrose's resolution was primarily meant to send a message to officials in Denver and that such resolutions have little practical impact: Honestly, resolutions are pretty much symbolic."***

(<https://www.montrosepress.com/news>)

Unless the City and County leadership puts in place solid enforcement measures and mechanisms, all of this is, just as

Mayor Bynum said, political showmanship. Why bother voting on any of these measures? To make some citizens feel better by thinking that their elected officials did something that's going to make a difference for once on this subject.

While I admire the goals of the community members that have spoken out and asked for some show of effective political will to slow down illegal immigration (I doubt you can prevent it altogether), these resolutions are without teeth and without, at the end of the proverbial day, effective local means to control a probable future influx of illegal alien immigrants.

I would encourage the community to keep the pressure on both the City and County to do something that isn't symbolic. That takes courage on their part and no doubt will bring scorn upon them by the bleeding hearts who can't see past the

long-term implications of the invasion that is taking place at both our northern and southern borders.

In closing, please read this recent 10-page report by the House Judiciary Committee on the crisis at our southern border. You will be most enlightened.

<https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2024-01-18-new-data-reveal-worsening-magnitude-of-the-biden-border-crisis-and-lack-of-interior-immigration-enforcement.pdf>

***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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WEEKLY CARTOON

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# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## ANNUAL BENEFIT FOR THE UNCOMPAGHRE RIVER AND 18TH ANNUAL F3T FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL- On March 16 don't miss the 8th Annual Benefit for the Uncompahgre River and 18th Annual F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour at Ouray County's 4H Events Center, 22739 US-550, Ridgway, CO. Come out and celebrate all things fly fishing with an array of short films from destinations worldwide, all while raising awareness for the Uncompahgre River Watershed. Enjoy Pizza, Prizes, Brews and more. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Films start at 6:30 pm. Info and ticket link: <https://fishrigs.com/blog/>

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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### FRANKIE PASCO SPADAFORA

***April 16, 1933 - March 1, 2024***



FRANKIE PASCO SPADAFORA passed away in his home, with his son Randy by his side on March 1, 2024 six weeks before he would have celebrated his 91st birthday. He loved celebrating his birthday and wished for 10 more!

A proud Italian, Frank was born in Price, Utah on April 16, 1933 to Pasco Spadafora and Louigena "Jean" Vetere who immigrated from Cosenza, Italy at the age of 8. He was the second born of six children and the only son of the couple. He lived and attended school in both Green River and Price, Utah. Frank played basketball for Green River High School and served as class president his senior year until he was drafted into the Army.

Frank met Betty Ann Kochevar at a neighbor's party on Ragged Mountain, Colorado and learned she worked at a drug store soda fountain in Paonia. His trips back and forth to the mountain now included a stop for ice cream or a soda in Paonia! They wed on 2/25/53 and the two of them left for boot camp at Ft. Ord California five days later. The war ended before he com-

pleted his time at Ft Lewis, Seattle so he returned home to help his father with the sheep.

He and Ann had two sons who grew up helping on the ranch as well as with Frank's hunting/guiding business on the mountain. This venture thrived and Frank was able to build a large hunting lodge and hire friends and many of his nephews to help guide the elk and deer hunters. The Spadaforas built a home and lambing sheds in Montrose and purchased grazing properties in Utah and Peach Valley for the sheep. He was very active in the Woolgrowers Association and was famous for his barbecued lamb on a spit.

After both of his parents died, Frank's life took a different direction. He and Ann moved to Las Vegas where they worked for a cousin at his casino, counting money and teaching the kitchen how to cook his lamb stew, beans with bacon, spaghetti sauce, and cheesecake. Ann and Frank retired when they were both 81 years old and moved back to Montrose to be closer to their sons and family in 2014.

After Ann passed less than a year later, Frank spent his days missing her and working jigsaw puzzles and visiting with other veterans at the Wounded Warrior Center. He also enjoyed day trips to Grand Junction to take his sister Charlotte shopping at Sams and out for lunch, attending musical jam sessions, taking a few classes to brush up on his harmonica skills, and playing bingo every Tuesday night at the

Elks lodge with Ed and LeAnna. He never won a big pot but he always "came close"! He became friends with many of his neighbors and enjoyed taking them out for dinner and being invited to their homes. He loved spending a few days in Las Vegas with Randy and his wife, Kellie, as well as special times with them in Hotchkiss helping Randy with a small herd of sheep and helping Kellie pick, eat and can fresh vegetables from the garden. A day trip to Green River for Melon Days or a family reunion brought him much joy. He jumped at the chance for a car ride to just about anywhere. Oldest son, Ed and his wife LeAnna will especially cherish their annual Christmas Light Tours with him. No matter where he was or what he was doing, Frank was almost always singing a song or humming a tune.

In addition to his sons and daughters-in-law, Papa Frank is survived by his grandchildren Jonathan and his wife Sandi, Taylor, Cameron and his wife Katrin, and Kelsey as well as great-grandchildren Andrew, Ali and Avery.

Frank and Ann will be laid to rest together at a private family graveside service in Green River, Utah where most of Frank's friends and family are buried. A celebration BBQ will be held in his honor later this spring at Randy and Kellie's home in Hotchkiss. The family wishes to thank Heidi's Chateau and Hopewest Hospice for the loving care Frank received over the past several months.

*Now more than ever...*

*Thank you for reading*

**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**

## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### **LAURA JEAN (APPELHANZ) CASTLE** ***September 11, 1975- March 4, 2024***



Lifelong Montrose resident, Laura Jean (Appelhanz) Castle passed away unexpectedly, on Monday, March 4, 2024. She was born September 11, 1975, to Tony and Marion (Myers) Appelhanz, at St. Mary's Hospital; in Grand Junction, Colorado. She was the youngest of four children. She was named after one of Tony's favorite Jazz songs "Laura".

Her grandma Mary Appelhanz was born on the same day. She always laughed after meeting her husband that if she would've been born seven minutes later she would have been born on his grandma Thedus's birthday.

Growing up on the family farm/ranch she was always a helping hand, from irrigating to working cows. She loved riding bikes on the family farm, and learned to tie her shoes early, as her sisters refused to do it for her. Laura showed both horses and market steers in 4-H. She was honored to be named Chapter Sweetheart for the Montrose FFA Chapter in 1992-1993. In 1993 she graduated from Montrose High School, and then attended Mesa State College. Laura then went to work with her dad, Tony from 1995-2016 at Base Products, as bookkeeper and loader operator. Many truck drivers always said that she could load a truck better than some men.

Laura met the love of her life Jared Castle and they were married June 23, 2001. A few years later on June 12, 2006, they were blessed with their son Tanner, the

second love of her life. They went on many adventures from traveling to AQHA horse shows, hunting trips in Oklahoma, touring old coal mines, and offroading with friends. Many trips were taken out of state to either visit her brother Matt's family, attend her niece Doren's graduation, or nephew Tom's wedding. Their favorite place to go as a family was the Cabin House up on Big Piney on the Castle's private property.

Some of her hobbies included antiquing, hunting in Big Piney or on the family farm, and gardening. She enjoyed cooking, and was actually a phenomenal cook, her husband and son were well fed. Tanner and Laura both loved to draw and paint, and watch Bob Ross together, always remember-- "There are no mistakes, just happy accidents."

Laura had a passion for horses and loved the show world. One of her crowning moments was placing 8th in Western Riding at the Level 1 Championships in Las Vegas in 2017 with her mare Martina. She enjoyed showing with her horse show family, like her bonus niece Hayley. This coming spring she was excited to start her show season. Her heart was made of gold and everyone seemed to know it, including the animals. Any animal that was in need became the new family pet. This included Tanner's 4-H show animals. She enjoyed helping him with show pigs and horses, but the steers, those were her favorite. Laura enjoyed helping her nephews Kolt and Tyler, as well as members of the Oak Grove Jolley Ranchers 4-H club, and anyone else in the barn that may be in need. She was the go-to person for the livestock kids if they needed to show a horse on short notice, a sheep stand was always the perfect stand in for a horse. Laura was a show mom. She enjoyed seeing the kids learn and succeed. Not a bad thing could be said about Laura, everyone knew that you could rely on her for whatever you may need. She wouldn't hesitate to be there for her family and friends, even if it meant putting her life on hold for them. She was an active member of the Uncompahgre Cattlemen's Association, serving as

Secretary and a member of the Uncompahgre Cattlewomen's Association. The last few months she spent her time between being a stay-at-home Mom and a teller at Home Loan State Bank.

Laura was preceded in death by her parents, Tony and Marion Appelhanz, fathers-in-law Richard Castle and Jim Muller, grandparents John and Mary Appelhanz, Robert and Christine Myers, Emmett and Thedus Castle and Marion and Wanda Linsacum, and cousins Bobby Myers, Yvonne Alves, Jared Stadelmen, and Chandra Castle.

Laura is survived by her husband of 22 years Jared Castle and their son Tanner of Montrose, Mother-in-law Dianna Muller also of Montrose, brother Matt Appelhanz and wife Mary of Anchor Point, AK, sisters Amy Vandyke and husband Terry of Clifton, CO, Tracy Reed and husband Bret of Montrose, CO, brother-in-law Shawn Castle of Montrose, CO, her bonus sister Jodi Reed and husband Bryan of Montrose, CO. Nieces and Nephews Sarah (Dan) Ravin, Thomas (Grace) Appelhanz, Doren Vandyke, Adrienne Appelhanz, Chance Vandyke, Anthony Appelhanz, Lyndsay (David) Craig, Sebastian Appelhanz, Caleb Appelhanz, Katrina (James) Dile, Tyler & Kolt Reed and bonus niece Hayley Reed. Great Nieces, Gracelynn Craig, Rosslynne and Sienna Dile. Aunts and Uncles Eleanor Schlauger of Grand Junction, CO, Kathy Appelhanz of Montrose, CO, Eddie Appelhanz of Montrose, CO, Shieley Myers of Mancos, CO, Virginia Stadelmen of Elko, NV, Marvin Hermanns of Cortez, CO and Wes (Renne) Myers of Greeley, CO, Danny (Brenda) Castle and Randy (Rhonda) Castle both of Montrose, CO. As well as numerous cousins, other extended family and friends. A Celebration of Life will be held March 13, 2024 at 10 am at Calvary Chapel at 2201 S Townsend Avenue Montrose, with burial to follow at Grand View Cemetery. There will be a lunch to follow at the Montrose Elks Lodge at 801 S Hillcrest Dr. A viewing will be held Tuesday March 12, 2024 from 5-7 pm at Crippin Funeral Home 802 E Main St in Montrose with a Rosary to follow.

## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

### **DOROTHY (LISSE) GROVE**

***March 13, 1935- February 26, 2024***

DOROTHY GROVE was born March 13, 1935, and passed into eternal life on February 26, 2024. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Chuck, and leaves behind her loving children, Beth (Paul) Kelly, Jewel (Juan Carlos) Alejos, Laurie Hill, Kristy (Roger) Henderson, Sherry Grove, and Rick (Lorrie) Grove, her grandchildren - Sean (Kim) Kelly, Brian Kelly, Alexandra (Hunter) Gits, Gabriela Alejos, Dylan (McKenzie) Hill, Logan Hill, Payton Grove, Zoe Grove, Erika Henderson, Jason Henderson, and her great grandchild Adelina Gits.

Dorothy was born and raised in Ohio and graduated from The Ohio State University where she met Chuck. She worked as a teacher at the Ohio School for the Blind before retiring to raise her family. Dorothy and Chuck moved often for his role as a school superintendent, ultimately finding

their home in the mountains of Colorado and Wyoming. In each community where they lived, Dorothy involved herself in organizations and programs that made life better for its residents. Dorothy was an avid supporter of the arts. She recently was a member of the Pinedale WY Fine Arts Council, and previously served on the Moffat County Council for the Arts and Humanities, and the Colorado Council for the Arts. Dorothy also had a soft spot for teenagers and was a founding member of Teen Court in Moffat County.

Dorothy loved animals, and ascribed to the philosophy that if one was good, ten were better. She surrounded herself with dogs, cats, and a variety of rabbits, ducks, and other miscellaneous animals. Dorothy fell in love with horses at a young age and became an accomplished rider. Later in life, she enjoyed the neighbor's horses

grazing from her home in Pinedale.

Friends are invited to join the family for a mass being offered for the repose of Dorothy's soul at 10 a.m. on March 13 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Montrose, CO. The mass will also be

livestreamed at [stmarymontrose.org](http://stmarymontrose.org). There will be a vigil on Tuesday, March 12 at 7 also at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Montrose, CO.. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Dorothy's name can be made to these organizations in Pinedale, WY that she loved so dearly: Pinedale Fine Arts Center, Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, or Rendezvous Pointe Senior Center.



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

# COMMUNITY OBITUARIES

## ALEXANDER GRINDLAY

ALEXANDER GRINDLAY, 88, formerly of Port Washington, NY, passed away on March 3, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. His departure has left an immeasurable void in our lives, and his memory will be forever etched in our hearts.

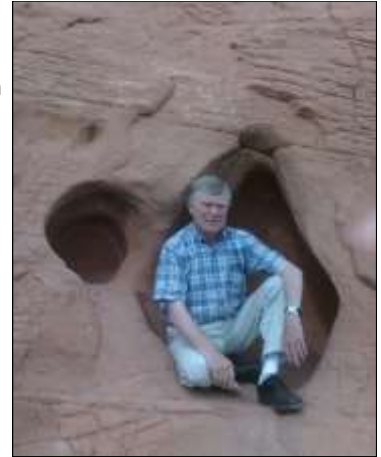
Alec shared 64 wonderful years with the love of his life, wife, Nancy (Buhrendorf) Grindlay. He is survived by his three daughters, Nancy Grindlay and Lew Abrams of Crested Butte, CO, Beth and Wes Walton of San Francisco, CA, and Amy Iozzo of Las Vegas, NV ; His three grandchildren, Garrett, Wesley and Ethan.

Alec was born in Glasgow, Scotland, the son of the late Alexander and Jessie (Wanless) Grindlay. He is predeceased by his sisters, Margaret and Eleanor.

Alec was a graduate of Lehigh University where he received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He earned his master's degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics from University of Washington. Alec worked in both private and public sectors. His final job was as a computer scientist at the Department of the Navy. He retired and moved to Montrose, CO so he could enjoy camping, hiking, and fishing. His other interests were ballroom dancing and traveling with his wife Nancy.

Funeral services for Alec will be held on Wednesday, March 13, at 4:30pm at St Stephen's Anglican Church, 2504 Sunnyside Rd, Montrose.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to HopeWest Hospice, 3090 N. 12th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Crippin Funeral Home is assisting Mr. Grindlay's family.



## BETTY JOAN (SANBURG) DONLEY *December 18, 1932-February 29, 2024*



Betty was born to Clifford and Alice (Elicker) Sanburg on the dining room table of her grandmother's house at the homestead in Olathe, CO. She passed at her home surrounded

by her large family on February 29 (Leap Day) 2024. Betty graduated from Montrose High School with the class of 1950. After graduation she worked at the phone company, Mountain Bell, where she was an operator. On February 5, 1953 she married the love of her life Fritz Donley. With

him she gained two sons, Fred Donley III and Melvin Donley. Over the next sixteen years they added four daughters to make the family complete. Betty worked alongside Fritz on the sheep ranch in Shavano Valley and the Uncompahgre Plateau until Fritz's death in January 2008. She continued working on the ranch with the help of her family until she was no longer able. At that point her large family kept her busy enjoying grandchildren, great grandchildren and other family members. As long as she was able, she could be counted on to help with anything her family needed. She was always the one who brought desserts to any family function. She was famous for her Pound Cake and homemade cookies. She is survived by her stepson

Melvin (Donna) Donley, daughters Jan (Joe) Crane, Beth (Ray) David, Joy Donley, Laura (Wade) Hogan, 18 grandchildren, 38 great grandchildren with one on the way, several great-great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Fritz Donley, her parents, an infant son, stepson Fred Donley III and wife Donna Donley, grandson Ryan Anders and three siblings. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hope West Hospice ([hopewestco.org](http://hopewestco.org)) or the Western Slope Wool Growers (13621 5875 Road, Montrose, CO 81403). A celebration of her life will be held at the Montrose Christian Church on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 1pm. A reception will follow at the church.



ISSUE 460 March 11, 2024

# ART & SOL

## THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE: POETRY REMINDS US HOW PRESENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER

By Wendy Videlock

WESTERN COLORADO—As a perennial student and a life-long teacher I've noticed in the last few years that more and more people are coming to believe that poetry has tremendous value in their lives.

There could be many reasons for this, but in large part it seems that people are turning to poetry, not just for the pleasure and enchantment it offers or even for the magical way it builds community, but as a wisdom practice and a healing modality.

Poetry can be many things, of course, but ultimately a poem is an appeal to slow down. We often think that our fast-paced lifestyle is something new to our time, but the poets have been entreating us to slow down for thousands of years.

The tradition of wisdom poetry, or mystic poetry, sometimes known as ecstatic poetry, goes back to the roots of the art. Of course the roots of poetry are in song and the earliest poems we have are anonymous, but the mystical quality is unmistakable.

Probably the most well known of the mystics today is the Persian poet, Rumi, who lived in the 1200's and is today one of our best selling poets. This popularity is largely due to contemporary translations by Coleman Barks, who has transformed Rumi's lengthy, whirling-dervish ghazal lines into bite-sized nuggets of wisdom like this:

*Why do you keep knocking  
when the door is wide open?*

Nayyirah Waheed asks that we perceive ourselves, not as separate from nature, but as nature:

*If  
the ocean  
can calm itself  
so can you.  
you are both  
salt water  
mixed  
with air.*

Mary Oliver, perhaps one of the most beloved of American poets, insists we silence our inner critic and get on with the business of living *our one, wild and precious life*:

*You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert  
repenting.*

*You only have to let the soft animal of  
your body  
love what it loves.*

William Blake, another poet of the mystic tradition, asks us to reconsider our understandings of attachment, impermanence and presence:

*He who binds to himself to a joy  
Does the winged life destroy—  
He who kisses the joy as it flies  
Lives in eternity's sunrise.*

Naomi Shihab Nye expounds on that same theme of non-attachment:  
*Before you know what kindness really is  
you must lose things,  
feel the future dissolve in a moment*



West Slope Poet Laureate Wendy Videlock.  
Courtesy photo.

*like salt in a weakened broth.  
What you counted and carefully saved,  
all this must go so you know  
how desolate the landscape can be  
between the regions of kindness.*

Haiku is perhaps the poetic form most conducive to embodying the power of presence. The Japanese poet Ryokan, re-frames a misfortune, (translation RH Blyth):

*What the thief left behind:  
the moon  
at my window.*

Issa, another haiku master, won't let us forget that a sense of humor is essential to any wisdom practice, (translation Robert Haas):

Continued next pg

# THE BAREFOOT LAUREATE From previous pg

*Mosquito at my ear—  
does he think  
I'm deaf?*

Wordsworth reminds us that even the structures we humans build in this world can create landmarks and landscapes which might deepen our understandings of beauty:

*Dull would be he of soul who could pass by  
A sight so touching in its majesty:*

*This city now doth, like a garment, wear  
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,  
Ships, towers, domes, theaters and temples lie*

*Open unto the fields, and to the sky...*

Danna Faulds takes us from our frenetic monkey-minds back to our deeper consciousness:

*Forgive yourself.*

*Now is the only time you have to be whole.*

*Now is the sole moment that exists.*

*Perfection is not a prerequisite for anything but pain.*

*Now is the time you have to be whole.*

Marianne Williamson provides a touch of modern psychology to the ancient ways of the mystic:

*Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.*

*Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.*

*It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.*

When we find ourselves utterly distraught and feeling helpless in the face of horrendous cruelty in the world, Judyth Hill employs an effective use of anaphora, ex-

pounding upon one of the many ways the practice of presence might begin:

*Wage peace with your breath.*

*Breathe in firemen and rubble,  
breathe out whole buildings and flocks of red wing blackbirds.*

Derek Walcott has a way of creating a tone that insists our various difficulties will eventually lead to grace and self-acceptance:

*The time will come when, with elation  
you will greet yourself arriving  
at your own door, in your own mirror  
and each will smile at the other's welcome,  
and say, sit here. Eat.*

*You will love again the stranger who was yourself.*

*Give wine. Give bread. Give back your heart  
to itself.*

William Stafford, too, has a palpable interest in making sacred the present moment:

*Starting here, what do you want to remember?*

*How sunlight creeps along a shining floor?*

*What scent of old wood hovers, what softened*

*sound from outside fills the air?*

*What can anyone give you greater than now,*

*starting here, right in this room, when you turn around?*

There's no question that anxiety, melancholy, and isolation have been with us since the beginnings of civilization and are

integral to the human experience. There's also no question that the arts have been with us all along.

It's heartening to see a modern population opening to what the poets have known for thousands of years— mainly that crafting something beautiful from tragedy, loss, and chaos is what we do to remind ourselves of our humanity, to provide ways of processing our complex and mixed emotions, and to cultivate a deeper kind of perspective in our lives.

I'll leave you with a few words from Irish poet and teacher, David Whyte:

*Put down the weight of your aloneness  
and ease into*

*the conversation. The kettle is singing  
even as it pours you a drink; the cooking pots*

*have left their arrogant aloofness and  
seen the good in you at last. All the birds  
and creatures of the world are unutterably*

*themselves. Everything is waiting for you.*

**Wendy Vidlock is poet laureate of the Western Slope. She's authored five books of poetry, a book of essays and an illustrated children's book. Her poems and essays appear in O Magazine, New York Times, Best American Poetry and elsewhere. Wendy believes that language is the invisible influence that forms our thoughts, behaviors and perceptions. She teaches and advocates for the arts across Colorado. Reach her at [westernslope-word@gmail.com](mailto:westernslope-word@gmail.com)**



249

8500

ANONYMOUS

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**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS**

*see something, say something*

# COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

## ECKERT CRANE DAYS FESTIVAL



Courtesy photos.

### Special to the Mirror

ECKERT-The 24<sup>th</sup> annual Eckert Crane Days Festival will be held March 22-24, 2024. All events are free.

The Festival begins March 22 at 6 p.m. at the Grand Mesa Arts & Events Center in Cedaredge. Evan Phillips, biologist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, will present a program entitled, *Taking a Closer Look at Sandhill Cranes*.

March 23 and 24 experienced birders will be at Fruitgrowers Reservoir from 9 am – 6 pm with binoculars and scopes to help you identify the birds and their behaviors. Western States Ranches north of the

causeway on Hart’s Basin Road will host a barbecue on Saturday at noon.

Witnessing the lift-off, descent, and behaviors of sandhill cranes is an experience of wonder and delight. Each year our group of cranes begins their journey at Bosque del Apache in central New Mexico where they have spent the winter.

Mid-March they head north to Monte Vista, CO, then to Delta County. After foraging in the nearby cornfields during the day, the cranes fly onto Fruitgrowers Reservoir at dusk. They roost in shallow water to protect themselves from night predators. The next morning the cranes wait until the temperature has warmed up enough for them to catch the thermals that enable them to gain altitude. One crane gives the signal, then one by one the others follow in queue. They glide

over the Grand Mesa, not stopping until they reach their breeding grounds in southern Idaho. They return to New Mexico in the fall.

To keep up-to-date on local crane activity during the months of March and April, visit the *Eckert Crane Days* Facebook page. We encourage you to enter information on your sightings, including bird counts and photographs, to help all of us stay current.

Eckert Crane Days is a family event, so make sure to ask for a youth packet for your school-aged children.

For more information on the Black Canyon Audubon Society, its projects and membership, visit <https://www.blackcanyonaudubon.org>

For information on Kids Audubon, visit <https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/activities/audubon-for-kids>

### Fruitgrowers Reservoir

Directions: From Delta, drive east on CO 92 to CO 65. Take CO 65 north to Eckert and make a right on North Road. Take North Road east until you see the reservoir.

**SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING**



**970-249-8500**  
ANONYMOUS CALL

**MONTROSE REGIONAL  
CRIME STOPPERS**





# April at Mosaic

with Kate Burke  
21 N. Cascade Ave., Montrose



My classes

All My Mosaic Creative Classes  
Thursday, 5:30-7:30 pm.

Demonstration  
and Instructions.  
All materials provided

Includes adult beverage  
or soft drink. And snack.

Sign up in store or online.  
Scan QR code to register.

## Decorate & Light

### Garden Gnome Home



April 11



# Paint Pouring

April 18

# Abstract Alcohol Ink

April 25

<https://kathrynrburke.com/education/>

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment.

**Contact Information:** (970) 249-2451  
[https:// www.allsaintsmontrose.org/](https://www.allsaintsmontrose.org/) Rec-  
 tor: The Rev Preston Gordon, [don@allsaintsmontrose.org](mailto:pgor-<br/>
  don@allsaintsmontrose.org)

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

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

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

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

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

## BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Independent Baptist  
 112Main St.  
 P.O. Box 262

Olathe, Co 81425

Tuesday-Friday Phone: 970-808-1021  
[www.biblebaptistchurcholathe.com](http://www.biblebaptistchurcholathe.com)

Pastor Gabe Skillo

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer 7 p.m.

## CELEBRATION CHURCH

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

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

**Office Hours:** By appointment

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

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

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

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

**Senior Pastor:**

Pastor Brandon Mathis

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

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

**Demographics:** Multi-generational

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

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

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

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

**Contact:** 970-633-0226

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

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

**Pastor:** Tim Onnen

**Worship:** Sundays at 9 AM

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

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

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

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**Denomination:** Church of the Nazarene

**Address:** 705 South 12th Street

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

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

**Pastor:** Buddy Cook

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

Wednesday: Prayer Boot Camp - 7 PM

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

*disciples in Montrose Colorado and around  
 the world.*

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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTROSE

**Affiliation:** Presbyterian

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

12PM **Contact:** 970-249-4732, [in-](mailto:in-<br/>
  form@fpcmontrose.com)

[form@fpcmontrose.com](mailto:in-<br/>
  form@fpcmontrose.com),

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

**Pastor:** Jesse Mabanglo

**Worship Service times:** 9:30AM,

Student Worship at 6PM. *We strive to en-  
 courage, challenge and support one anoth-*

*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 minist-*  
*ries.*

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

## HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Denomination affiliation:** United Church of Christ  
**Address:** 611 South Hillcrest Drive, Montrose, CO 81401  
**Office hours:** By appointment  
**Contact information:**

Phone number: (970) 249-9047  
 Email address: [office@montroseucc.org](mailto:office@montroseucc.org)  
 Website: [montroseucc.org](http://montroseucc.org)  
**Current Pastor:** Rev. Wendy Kidd  
**Worship service times:** Sunday, 10 a.m.  
 Hillcrest Congregational UCC is a welcoming, open and affirming church, open to all no matter who you are or where you are

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

## MONTROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Denomination Affiliation:** United Methodist  
**Address:** 19 S. Park Avenue Montrose CO. 81401  
**Office Hours:** M-Thu, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
**Contact Information:** 970-249-3716, [office@montroseumc.org](mailto:office@montroseumc.org), [mont-](http://montroseumc.org)

[roseumc.org](http://roseumc.org)  
**Current Senior Pastor:** Rev. Kevin Young  
**Worship service times:**  
 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Virtual  
 9:45 a.m. Christian Education & Fellowship  
 11 a.m. Sanctuary  
 Montrose UMC is a leader in being fully inclusive, loving, and just servants of

*Christ. Our church family welcomes people from various cultural and faith backgrounds: single, married, remarried, with or without children, from diapers to dentures.*  
*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey we invite you to come discover hope, joy, peace, purpose.*

## ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

*matter what stage of life they are in.*  
**Children's services:** *We have a fun Sunday School for children from four years old through youth. We provide Children's Church during the Sunday Worship Services where children four years old through 9 years can learn to be worshippers of Jesus.*  
*We provide a nursery for children under four years old with paid staff providing excellent care during Sunday Morning Bible Study and Worship Service.*

## SPIRITUAL AWARENESS CENTER

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

**Name of current pastor:** Rev. Dr. Arlyn Macdonald, Senior minister; Rev. Ruby Salaz, Assistant Minister. Spiritual Counseling available. **Worship service times:** In-person Sunday Unity Service at 11 a.m., (Social Time begins at 10 a.m.); Quiet Meditation at 10:30 a.m. Virtual Afternoon Service on Zoom at 2:00 p.m.; Chai Chats, a Wednesday morning midweek informal gathering at 10:30 a.m. at Pun Hill Himalayan Restaurant, Montrose; Thursday Empowerment Circle at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. Everyone is

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

## ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

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

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

# MIRROR CHURCH DIRECTORY *From previous pg*

## SUMMIT CHURCH OF MONTROSE:

### Denomination affiliation:

Southern Baptist

**Address:** 10977 60.75 Rd. Montrose, CO 81403

**Office hours:** Varies

### Contact information:

phone number: 970-275-7026

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

website: [www.summitchurchmontrose.org](http://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](mailto:info@vbcmontrose.org); website: [vbcmontrose.org](http://vbcmontrose.org)

**Current Pastor:** Roland Kassales

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

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

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

### Church Directory

#### Mirror Editorial Staff

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

### information to the Montrose Mirror:

Name of church

Denomination affiliation

Address Office hours

Contact information (phone number, email address, website)

Name of current Senior Pastor

Worship service times

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

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

Do your church services include Sunday School and childcare?

## Local Immunization Providers

Visit [www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations](http://www.montrosecounty.net/immunizations) for updated information on immunization providers.

**Questions? Call (970) 252-5011**



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SERVING MONTROSE, OURAY,  
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SURROUNDING COUNTIES





By Carole Ann McKelvey

RIDGWAY -- My son and I got to try the new Kismet restaurant in Ridgway the other day and it did not disappoint. Set your sights on Beef Karma, Falafel, or Chicken Shawarma. Or hey, just get your fix with a delightful appetizer menu.

Kismet in Ridgway is here and is it good. I don't know about you, but I've always loved a great hommos or baba ghanoush, or falafel!

One of my favorite haunts was near DU in Denver, the venerable Israeli-style food dished up at the stellar Jerusalem.

Now the Western Slope has a spot that rivals the DU connection.

Kismet restaurant has opened with limited hours (8-2) but I'm betting they will soon be extended. It's right up the street from the Sherbino Theater. Stop in for a cuppa and an appetizer or more.

I chose to try the Mediterranean salad. (Romaine, tomatoes, cucumbers and feta cheese, \$11). So good! Could have added a protein, but chose not to. My son, Ian, dove into an appetizer plate loaded with tubule, hommos, Sammy's Zaba Ghanoush (with zucchini, not eggplant), rice, Greek veggies, tzatziki, picked veggies, falafel, zaatar roasted pumpkin seeds, and tahini with feta cheese.

Of course, since I wasn't driving, I had a glass of beautiful red wine. Ian (the coffee freak) had a latte. Our server Melissa was great!

# FINALLY! MEDITERRANEAN FOOD HAS COME TO RIDGWAY & IT'S YUMMY!

This would be a nifty place to load up on some pre or post hiking/sledding fare. Menu isn't long, but it's long on flavor:

**Entrée:**

Pita loaded with choice of protein, Delish dishes and toppings, \$12; Salad with choice of protein, romaine & organic greens, tomatoes, cucumbers and feta cheese (\$17); Mezze with turmeric basmati rice paired with a choice of protein, delish dishes and toppings (\$18).

**Proteins:**

Choose from chicken shawarma (marinated chicken stewed in warm spices & herbs); Beef kofta meatballs (minced beef seasoned with green onions and garlic, herbs & spices; or Falafel (ground garbanzo beans mixed with herbs and spices then deep-fried).

**Delish Sides:**

This is where it gets interesting: Tabouli salad, hommos, tzatziki, Greek veggies, that zucchini zaba ghanoush!

**Toppings:**

Add what you want with choices of tahini garlic sauce, lemon garlic dressing, yogurt Fattoush dressing, harissa hot pepper sauce, zaatar roasted pumpkin seeds, picked veggies, Kalamata olives, or feta cheese.

**Soup and salad:**

Greek salad, large (\$11) or small (\$7); lentil soup, large (\$8) or small (\$5).

**Kids menu:**

Kiddo friendly kid's plate with small serv-



ing of kofta, chicken shawarma or falafel, or hommos with rice, and pita, cucumbers and carrots.

**Assorted sides:**

Chicken Shawarma; Beef kofta meatballs; falafel; Mediterranean stew; Greek veggies; hommos; tubule; rice; taazati; or zaba ghanoush (From \$2-6)

**Pitas and such:** pita bread, pita chips, pita with zaatar spice & olive oil; whole Romaine lettuce leaves. (\$2-4); Extra toppings available from \$2.50 each.

Assorted beverages including beer and wine. (prices vary)

**Don't forget dessert:**

Baklava or other delectable Greek style treats. Prices vary.

Kismet is located at 618 Clinton Street, Ridgway, CO, United States, Colorado, call (970) 626-8705.

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# SAVE THE DATE! LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING-

**MONTROSE FARMERS MARKET** (970) 249 0705 Centennial Plaza, 433 S. 1st St. Montrose, CO 81401  
www.valleyfoodpartnership.org. Year-Round Farmers Market, Saturdays 9am-1pm (Summer), every other Saturday 10am-1pm (Winter). Accepts SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**THE 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](mailto: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

**Feb. 1-April 12**-AARP Foundation Tax-aide in Montrose – Feb. 1 - April 12, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am - 2pm at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center. Free income tax preparation for anyone, free of charge, focused on individuals over 50 or low/moderate income. Appointments are required, call 970-252-4889, M-F 9-2. More information about the program is available at: [taxaide.aarpfoundation.org](http://taxaide.aarpfoundation.org)

**March 15**-Join us! Montrose Republican Women meet Friday, March 15 at Hampton Inn Montrose. Noon - 1:30p - Doors open at 11:30a - Brown bag lunch. Sandy Head, Executive Director of Montrose Economic Development Corporation, will give an update on issues, projects, and our economic outlook.

**March 16**-8th Annual Benefit for the Uncompahgre River and 18th Annual F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour at Ouray County's 4H Events Center, 22739 US-550, Ridgway, CO. Come out and celebrate all things fly fishing with an array of short films from destinations worldwide, all while raising awareness for the Uncompahgre River Watershed. Enjoy Pizza, Prizes, Brews and more. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Films start at 6:30 pm. Info and ticket link: <https://fishrigs.com/blog/>

**March 22-24**-The 24<sup>th</sup> annual Eckert Crane Days Festival will be held March 22-24, 2024. All events are free. **Fruitgrowers Reservoir** Directions: From Delta, drive east on CO 92 to CO 65. Take CO 65 north to Eckert and make a right on North Road. Take North Road east until you see the reservoir.

**March 28**-Montrose United Methodist Church at 19 S. Park Ave-7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service.

**March 29**- Montrose United Methodist Church at 19 S. Park Ave-7 p.m. Good Friday Service.

**March 31**-Montrose United Methodist Church at 19 S. Park Ave- Sunday, March 31st 8:30 a.m. Easter Service; 9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt; 11 a.m. Easter Service.



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# MIRROR IMAGES: OUT & ABOUT



*Montrose County Election Drop Box Photo is by Harry Switzer.*

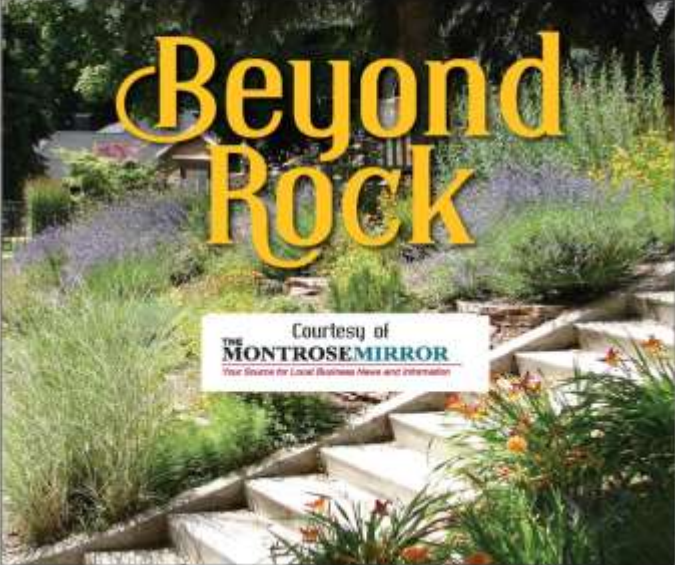
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